

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

In this Newsletter

Welcome!	1
Your contributions welcomed	1
Researchers news	2
Areas of interest	2
Guild of One Name Studies	3
Origin of the name	3
The heraldic connection	4
The medieval connection	6
A crime of the times	7
Ancient crimes	7
Modern crimes	8
Military matters	9
My personal interest	9
Index of Army deaths from the GRO	10
War memorials	11
An unusual cemetery	11
An emigrant at home	12
Glenisters in business	14
Glenisters in the street	15
In the files	15
A sticking point	16
Can you help?	16
Feedback	17

*Published by Andrew Glenister
5 Graeme Court
Eastmead Avenue
Greenford
Middlesex
UB6 9RE
England*

Phone (from within the UK) 081-578 8351 (from outside the UK) (+44) 81 578 8351

List of researchers

Mr R A Aldworth

7 Marston Court, Lansdown Close, Walton on Thames, Surrey, KT12 3NT, UK

Mrs Patricia Clahane

1674 Porto Bello Road, RR #1 Waverley, Halifax County, Nova Scotia, BON 250, Canada

Mrs Joyce Culling

11 Lisburn Lane, Tuebrook, Liverpool, L13 9AE, UK Phone: 051 228 7771

Mrs Carol Ann Currie

609 Churchill Avenue, Milton, Ontario, L9T 3A4, Canada Phone: (416) 878 8387

Mrs Valerie Fermer

3 Wheatsheaf Cottage, March Green, Edenbridge, Kent, TN8 5PN, UK Phone: 0732 865363

Mr Andrew Glenister

5 Graeme Court, Eastmead Avenue, Greenford, Middlesex, UB6 9RE, UK Phone: 081 578 8351

Ms Kathleen Glenister

59 Northwich Road, Weaverham, Northwich, Cheshire, CW8 3BD, UK

Mr Leslie Glenister

1 Fernhill Road, Begbroke, Oxford, Oxfordshire, O X5 1RP, UK Phone: 08675 77234

Mr Malcolm Glenister

307 Marvels Lane, Grove Park, London, SE12 9PU, UK Phone: 081 857 0485

Mr Peter Glenister

2 Sutton Gardens, Luton, Bedfordshire, LU3 3AF, UK Phone: 0582 572709

Dr Ruth Glenister

HC Box 302, Hagaman, New York, 12086, USA Phone: (518) 842 5391

Mr Mark Glinister

52 Rufford Road, Poulton, Wallasey, Wirral, Merseyside, L44 4BY, UK

Ms Karen Heath

41B Lawn Lane, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, HP3 9HL, UK Phone: 0442 258785

Mrs R Leontas

4 Lakefield Road, Wood Green, London, N22 6RR, UK Phone: 081 888 3149

Mrs D Manthey

1279 North 85th Street, Wauwatosa, Wisconsin, 53226, USA Phone: (414) 453 8781

Mrs B Thomas

36 Faraday Road, Croydon South, Victoria, 3136, Australia Phone: (03) 725 6245

Mrs M Wright

17 Warren Heath Road, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP3 8TA, UK Phone: 0473 728948

Welcome!

Welcome to the first Glenister Information Newsletter (can I call it GIN?) for people interested in tracing the Glenister family.

The mission of this newsletter is to assist in research of the Glenister family history. To achieve this the newsletter will:

- act a clearing house for relevant information
- publish information on areas of interest to Glenister researchers
- draw attention to sources of information which may be useful
- address other items as appropriate

I publish the newsletter only as a sideline to my own research into the Glenister family. I do this in the hope that others will benefit from my efforts, and will feel motivated to share their own research (particularly with me!). I do not have a regular publication schedule, but two or three times a year should be possible. This of course depends on the amount of time I have available, the amount of useful material I have available, etc. Should you wish to not receive the newsletter, please let me know.

In defining the scope of the newsletter, I have adopted a simple rule to include only people who bore the name Glenister, either by birth or by marriage. Within the definition of the name Glenister I have included any spelling variations (eg Glanister, Glennerster, Glinister).

Of course, rules are made to be broken, and I have a second rule which tells me when I can break the first rule. Although I generally omit the parents of females who marry Glenister males, or any offspring of married natural Glenister females, the second rule allows me to make exceptions for cases of special interest. For instance, I will include information relevant to people who are researching the Glenister family although they need not necessarily be part of it.

Your contributions welcomed

This newsletter is intended to act as forum for any topic relevant to tracing the Glenister family, and to stimulate comment and discussion to further the research.

I have put this first newsletter together from bits and pieces of research and correspondence received over the years, so parts of it may be familiar to some of you already.

I welcome any contribution for articles for the newsletter from any reader! Please send them to me at the address below. I will act as publisher, editor, typist, etc. If there is a flood of incoming articles I may hold some over for future newsletters.

Researchers news

This newsletter follows on from my initial letter of October 1991 in which I asked the then known Glenister researchers to list their interests and areas they can provide assistance. I have collated the replies, and attach an updated list. Some people did not reply to the initial letter and I will consider that they are no longer interested parties, unless I hear from them otherwise. I will send future editions of the newsletter only to interested parties.

Since the October 1991 letter, yet more researchers have been "discovered": Mrs Valerie Fermer, Mr R Aldworth (no first name!), and Mr Leslie Glenister.

I spotted Val's name in the "interests" book at the PRO Census Office. When I contacted her to talk through her interest, I was amazed to find that she shared the same ancestors as Ruth. Indeed, Val and Ruth are fourth cousins, one generation removed.

I received Mr Aldworth's name from Dorothy Manthey; Dorothy had contacted Mr A in 1984 and wondered if he was still interested. Mr A does not actively research Glenister that much, as he has four other names to "do" first! He did however pass on information on the Glenister families that he had (all from the Amersham area), and will keep an eye out for any further useful bits.

Leslie Glenister is Malcolm's brother. They share the interest in family history, with Malcolm concentrating on their immediate family, which originated from the Hastings area, while Leslie concentrates on the other Glenisters throughout the UK.

Areas of interest

Of the specific interest areas reported by researchers, the most popular are

- Aylesbury (Ruth, Val)
- Caddington (Dorothy, Rosemary, Peter)
- Chesham (Andrew, Rosemary)
- Hastings (Malcolm, Dorothy)
- Hemel Hempstead (Carol Ann, Andrew, Karen)
- West London (Malcolm)

Many of these centre on that small part of the country where Herts, Bucks, and Beds come together, with Middx not too far away. I find it annoying that this relatively small area should be jointly owned by 3 counties. It means that I have to visit 3 County Record Offices to establish full coverage of the area. So far, the Glenister family seems to have originated from this area, although there are other important areas which are not currently the subject of active research. These include

- Luton
- Royston

- St Albans
- City of London

Each of these areas has some significance, either because of the large number of Glenisters there, or because of the early mention of Glenister in the area.

Guild of One Name Studies

I have registered my interest with the UK Guild of One Name Studies (GOONS). So far I have not received any information from GOONS, but the Guild's quarterly journal was due to be published in November, so perhaps there are some production delays. One of the benefits of joining GOONS is the publication of my interest in the journal; I hope this will bring in some useful contributions from other members.

Origin of the name

The origin of the name Glenister has always been of interest to me, and, I expect to many researchers. I am often asked if the name is Scottish, probably from the "Glen" prefix. The attendant at my local petrol station, on seeing the name on my credit card, remarked that it reminded him of a scotch whisky, along the lines of "Glenlivet" and "Glenfiddich"!

The following article provides food for thought.

Extracted from "Notes and Queries" published 25 February 1933, supplied by Malcolm Glenister.

Glenister - What was the origin of this family; and what armorials does it bear? Is the name a corruption?

The family, or one branch of it, has been settled along the south coast for four generations and it is known that the great-grandfather, the first settler, came from Scotland.

In addition, it is said in this south-coast family that its ancestors were somehow connected with the MacIain MacDonalds of Glencoe in Argyllshire, and that they figured in the massacre of Glencoe, 1692. There was, however, no sept of the MacDonald clan named Glenister; the original inhabitants of Glencoe were Hendersons, said to have been there for about three hundred years before King Robert the Bruce granted to the Lord of the Isles, in acknowledgement of his support at the battle of Bannockburn, lordship over Glencoe and Appin. Prima facie, then, it does not appear to have been the MacDonalds of Glencoe with whom the Glenisters' ancestors were connected.

On the other hand, may they not have been connected with the neighbouring Argyllshire clan of MacGregor, the senior clan of Clan Alpine as claiming descent from Gregor third son of King Alpine about 787, and originally seated, since the

conquest of Argyllshire by King Alexander II, in Glenorchy, Glenstrae and other places? A sept of Clan MacGregor was the MacLeisters (anglice, Fletcher), who were arrow-makers (fletchers) to the clan, and were the original inhabitants of the lands in Glenorchy called Achallader and Baravurich, with their stronghold at Achallader Castle on Loch Tulla (the ruins of which are still to be seen, I believe) until "the '45", whereafter they removed to Dunans (quaere, the location of this place).

The MacLeisters were allies of the Stewarts of Appin; their Achallader property appears to have marched with Glencoe, and they were know in Gaelic as "Clann-an-leisdear".

Is it possible that the Glenisters were originally MacLeisters; and that "Glenister" is a corruption of "Clanleister" or "Glenleister"? Alternatively, is it a form of Glenstrae, one of the MacGregor properties?

The following armorials (quaere, all the tinctures) are borne or used by the south coast family. Arms: Party per fess indented, gules and argent, in chief a lion passant (? of the second). Crest: A boar passant (? proper). Motto: Pro Patria.

Can these armorials be identified?

Extracted from "Notes and Queries" published 1 April 1933.

Glenister (clxiv. 137) - Burke gives for Glenester, Per fess dancette gules and or, in chief a lion passant argent, a crescent for difference. Crest, A boar passant sable charged with a pale argent thereon a leopards face proper.

Also noted in Burke, the arms for Glincester

Gules on a chief dancette or a lion proper sable.

The heraldic connection

I came across an entry in "History and Antiquities of Hertford" by Robert Clutterbuck published in 1827 which mentioned a Glenister memorial in Royston parish church. The memorial was located

at the west end of the south aisle

and was described as

Arms: per fess indented (dancette), in chief a lion passant..., impaling, ..., a chevron between three escallops ... Crest: on a wreath, a lion passant.

(The ...in the original indicate the omission of the tincture (colour) of the arms)

When I visited the church in 1980, the memorial was not in the location described, nor

anywhere to be found in the church or church yard. Enquiries to the vicar also drew a blank.

For further information I wrote in May 1990 to the College of Arms, London, the authority on all matters relating to arms and heraldry. I received the following reply from Thomas Woodcock, Somerset Herald:

A search has been made in the College's official records and I must at once report that there are no entries of your surname and the arms are a slight variation of those recorded in the late fifteenth and early sixteenth century for a family named Gloucester. These arms are blazoned "gules on a chief indented of five points or a lion passant sable". This coat is identical to that used by the family of your name except that a chief occupies the top third of the shield whereas per fess is a division across the centre of the shield. In many representations of arms it might be difficult to tell whether the division of the shield was a large chief or a high per fess division.

The entries which attribute these arms without a crest to a family named Gloucester commence with an entry in a roll of arms known as the Colour on Collour Roll of circa 1450. This is in a manuscript numbered Vincent 164 on folio 222. It is followed by shield number 2183 on the Domville Roll of circa 1480. The arms then appear in a manuscript of circa 1520 numbered L1 on page 287 and another manuscript of the same date numbered L2 on page 226. The arms are also in an early sixteenth century manuscript known as Prince Arthur's Book in part 4 as shield number 120. Unfortunately none of these entries give more than the name Gloucester. The arms are not those of the City of Gloucester so they must relate to a family with the surname but no pedigree was subsequently entered.

Between 1530 and 1689 the Heralds went round the counties of England and Wales approximately every 30 years recording the arms and pedigrees of families of gentry resident in each county. This system was known as the Heralds' Visitation and the Heralds visited Hertfordshire on 1572, 1634, and 1664. On none of these occasions did a family of Glenister establish a right to arms.

Since 1672 the complete text of every grant of arms has been kept in a consecutive series of volumes now numbering 154 and each containing between one and two hundred grants. There is no grant to anyone of your surname. Before 1672 the College relies on the notebooks of the Kings of Arms and Heralds which record approximately ten thousand further grants. Again there are no Glenister grants. Between approximately 1550 and 1700 the Heralds organised funerals and records of these funerals form part of the College's official records. No funeral was organised for anyone named Glenister.

Since the end of the Heralds' Visitation system it has been for the families to come to the College of Arms to record their pedigrees. Approximately twenty thousand have been recorded but there are none for families of your name.

I have no doubt, however, that the arms were taken from some manuscript armory which attributed them to Gloucester and they were simply misappropriated by a family of your name. The very simple crest of "a lion passant" tends to support this view as crests granted in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries tended to be much more complicated and the Gloucester family did not have a crest.

This seems to be a definitive rebuttal of any official grant of arms! I have no doubt that various Glenisters "adopted" (or, to use the Herald's word, "misappropriated") arms at various stages. The arms referred to in "The Scottish connection" above, probably fall into this category.

I know of one official grant, made since my letter, to Professor Tony William Alphonse Glenister, in February 1991. Tony is descended from the same Hastings root as Malcolm, and has an interest in the family history. Tony is a surgeon, and the dean of a medical school, he also finds time to be an honorary surgeon to regiments of the Army, and honorary surgeon to HM the Queen, for which service he has received the CBE. Tony is also the author of a book on "Anatomy and Physiology for Nurses." Tony has been in contact with Ruth by letter, and has met Malcolm to exchange notes on the family history.

Perhaps Tony could be persuaded to write a future GIN article about the process of receiving a grant of arms?

The medieval connection

Extracted from "The Genealogical Monthly", Volume 1, published 1913, and seen by Ruth Glenister in the Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah, USA. The article relates to the monument in Royston church.

Note - family of Glenister appears to have been settled in Hertfordshire and parts adjacent for centuries. The name of William Glenister appears in a list of benefactors to the Guild of Our Lady in Cambridge (in the archives of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge). The list is said to be of the time of Edward II and contains such names as "Ricardus le Flexmongger" and "Abraham le Hatter". In Dowsing's Journal Richard Glenister appears as a churchwarden of Kingston in Cambridgeshire in the times when "we brake down a crucifix, seven ora pro animabus etc". Royston is on the borders of Cambridge and Hertfordshire, and in 1713 Edmund Glenister was sheriff for Cambridgeshire. Further notes will appear concerning this family.

There was no author noted, and no further volumes were found. (Suspicious?)

Edward II reigned from 1307 to 1327. None of the Glenister points in this article have been verified as yet (eg the document in Corpus Christi archives, the name of the Sheriff) and it is obviously important to follow these up. Should this document be found to be true, this will provide the earliest known mention of the Glenister name.

A crime of the times

I've often thought that to have your name recorded you have to be either very good or very bad. So far I haven't found any very good ancient Glenisters, although I have found a good number of sound, honest citizens. I've also found a few not so honest citizens, as the following articles illustrate.

Ancient crimes

Extracts from "Calendar of Quarter Session Records" Volume VII 1724-1730, edited by William Le Hardy MC TD FSA, published by Buckinghamshire County Council 1980.

From the Preface to Volume VII

Stealing of trees and timber seems to have been fairly common; Thomas Glenister of Winslow and Thomas White of Grandborough destroyed the trees of Rev James Edward (sic). Glenister seems to have made tree felling a hobby and at the next Session he was bought up for trespassing in Whaddon Chase and with threatening the keeper. Ann Miller of East Claydon spinster cut down Elm and Ash trees planted in "a walk in the grounds of John Rattock and Thomas Snow". Richard Absolom cut down Hazel trees for which he got three months hard labour. Thomas Barton of Little Horwood cut down trees planted by Robert Lowndes esquire at Winslow.

From the body of the text

Midsummer Session, 16 July 1724 [10 George II]

Indictments

Thomas Glenister of Winslow and Thomas White of Grandborough for being Nightwalkers and for destroying the trees of the Rev James Edmonds (Sess.R. 87/51 and 52).

Orders

(p. 11) Thomas Glenister of Winslow, labourer, and Thomas White junior, of Grandborough, yeoman, having been bound over on a charge of destroying trees, were ordered to be kept in custody until they found sufficient sureties to appear at the next sessions (Sess.R. 87/16 and 18).

Michaelmas Session, 8 October 1724 [11 George II]

Calendar of prisoners in gaol at Aylesbury to appear at this Sessions

(p. 33) Thomas Glenister was discharged from the County gaol at Aylesbury.

Examinations

Elizabeth Seaton, daughter of Daniel Seaton, of Winslow, butcher, said that on the 14th May 1724 "about candles lighting" she went to her father's house to drink a mug of ale. Thomas Glenester and Thomas White, who were of the company, left about midnight and returned later. They said they had been at the Bell in Winslow, where there had been fighting. (Sess.R. 88/40)

Ann West and Eleanor Spratly, both of Winslow, said that Thomas Barton could give information as to Thomas Glenester and Thomas White. The Red James Edmonds said that Thomas Barton declared to him that he (Barton) had "heard whispering near Richard Gibbs on Thursday night last". He believed it to be the voices of Thomas Glenester and Thomas White. (Sess.R. 88/39)

John Wright of Winslow, wheeler, said that on the 15th May 1724 between one and two in the morning, he saw three persons in the orchard belonging to the Rev James Edmonds. (Sess.R. 88/36)

Thomas Glenister said that on the 14th May 1724 he and Thomas White left Daniel Seaton's to go to the Bell, and returned immediately. (Sess.R. 88/37)

Thomas White said that he remained in Daniel Seaton's house on the night of 14-15 May 1724 until 3 am. (Sess.R. 88/30)

Michaelmas Session, 7 October 1725 [12 George II]Indictments tried

Thomas Glenister found guilty and fined 1s.0d.

Indictment

Thomas Glenister of Winslow, labourer, indicted for trespassing in Whaddon Chase and threatening Richard Clarke, the keeper. (Sess.R. 91/45)

Was this woodland criminal from the Winslow Glenisters from which Ruth and Val trace their roots? There was a Thomas Glenister baptised at Winslow on 12 September 1698, the son of William and Elizabeth. He would have been of tree-felling age at the time of the crime.

Modern crimes

Extracted from "News of the World" published in London on 27 January 1991, and supplied by Malcolm Glenister.

Runaway crook gives up to the News of the World

"Turn me over to cops"

Escaped jailbird Michael Glenister was back behind bars last night - after he gave himself up to the News of the World. We handed the armed robber over to police after he phoned us to end 12 months on the run.

Glenister, who had been serving seven years, said: "It's a hard slog lying low for so long and I've had enough." "I'm a News of the World reader and wanted to give myself up to you so I could get it off my chest." Our reporter visited him at his hideaway and stayed there until police arrived to arrest him.

Glenister, 44, and stepson David, 24, were jailed at York Crown Court in 1987 for robbing a building society in Leeds with a fake gun. They fled with £900 but were seized when police traced their getaway car. David was jailed for eight years.

Glenister went on the run last year while on compassionate leave from Thorparch prison, Wetherby. He and his wife, Jackie, 50, went into hiding at a Brighton hotel. But Glenister said last night: The pressure of living on the run has got to me. I want to go back and serve my time." Mrs Glenister, who was given a nine-month suspended sentence for handling stolen cash, said: "We can't go on living like this."

A Prison spokesman said: "I'd like to thank the News of the World for returning him to us."

Malcolm has tracked down the now recaptured Michael and exchanged letters. Michael says the gun used in the robbery wasn't a real gun, but a cucumber held to look like a gun! As regards his family, Michael believes his grandparents came from Merthyr Tydfil, South Wales, and moved to London in the 1930s. He was not sure of their names, or of any earlier generations. He says he has a lot of time on his hands at the moment, and will give some further thought to his history!

Military matters

My personal interest

Two of my great grand uncles, William and Thomas, died in World War 1. I had never known anything about them, other than seeing their names on the war memorial at Boxmoor, Hemel Hempstead, and I was interested in finding out more.

I looked through the index of records of military deaths at the GRO where I found entries for both William and Thomas. William's entry showed he was a Corporal in the Hertfordshire Regiment, service number 266853, and that he died in 1917; Thomas was a Rifleman in the Royal Irish Rifles, service number 42094, and that he also died in 1917. No other details for these two were shown in the index.

I wrote to the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) to see if they had details of their graves. The CWGC were able to tell me their exact date of death, and the location of Thomas' grave and William's memorial (he has no known grave), both near Ypres, Belgium, and details of how to find them "*Pussendale is a village about 10*

kilometres north-east of Ieper on the road to Roeslare. The Tyne Cot Memorial forms the north-eastern boundary of Tyne Cot Cemetery which is about two kilometres south-west of Passendale, just off the main road from Ieper". They also provided details of the next of kin. This type of information is generally available free to relatives, although non-relatives may be charged £1.00.

The CWGC can be contacted at

Commonwealth War Graves Commission
2 Marlow Road
Maidenhead
Buckinghamshire
SL6 7DX

Index of Army deaths from the GRO

Name	Rank	Number	Unit	Died
Albert Glenister	Pvt	18616	OBLI	1916
Albert Glenister	RSM	9388	SWB	1918
Albert J Glenister	Rfn	321100	London	1918
Alexander Glenister	Rfn	R/9449	KRRC	1917
Alfred J Glenister	Cpl	265198	Hertf	1918
Arthur Glenister	Pvt	G/14539	Sussex	1917
Charles Glenister	Pvt	70127	N&DR	1916
Charles J Glenister	Pvt	9153	Hants	1916
Donald W Glenister	Sgt	62432	RF London	1918
Ernest A Glenister	Pvt		MGC	1918
Ernest E Glenister	Pvt	254111	London	1917
George Glenister	Pvt	269594	Beds	1918
George J Glenister	Pvt	G/27101	Middlesex	1917
Harry Glenister	Pvt	31255	Y&LR	1917
Herbert Glenister	LSgt		DWR	1944
John Glenister	Pvt	G/23520	ESR	1916
Joseph Glenister	Rfn	A/201178	KRRC	1917
Oliver V Glenister	Pvt	10386	OBLI	1918
Peter Glenister	2Lt		RE	1942
Reginald L Glenister	Pvt		1st RM Battalion	1918
Stanley Glenister	Pvt	90031	RAMC	1917
Thomas Glenister	Pvt	42094	RIRifles	1917
Vernon H Glenister	Rfn		London	1916
William Glenister	Cpl	266853	Hertfordshire	1917
William Glenister	Pvt	25053	Suffolk	1918
William M Glenister	Pvt	6361	SGds	1914
Wright Glennester	Pvt		Border	1917

Rank

Cpl	Corporal
LSgt	Lance Sergeant
Pvt	Private
Rfn	Rifleman
RSM	Regimental Sergeant Major
Sgt	Sergeant
2Lt	Second Lieutenant

Unit

DWR

ESR East Sussex Regiment

KRRC Kings Royal Rifles Corps

MGC Machine Gun Corps

N&DR Nottinghamshire and Durham Regiment

OBLI Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry

RAMC Royal Army Medical Corps

RE Royal Engineers

FR Royal Fusiliers

RIRifles Royal Irish Rifles

RM Royal Marines

SGds Scots Guards

SWB South Wales Borderers

Y&LR Yorkshire and Lancashire Regiment

War memorials

I identified war memorials as a potential source of information a while ago, and always make a point of reading every such memorial I come across. I've found Glenisters mentioned on the memorials in Boxmoor (see above), Luton, Pinner, and Ealing. The Luton memorial showed 4 Glenisters, giving only their initials. I wondered if the local history group and Luton public library could provide any more information, so telephoned them. The staff were very helpful, and, referring to the "Roll of Honour", were able to provide full names, addresses, regiment and service number for all the names on the memorial.

There is a national program currently running to record details from all war memorials in the UK. The scheme is coordinated by the Imperial War Museum in London.

An unusual cemetery

I found an unusually located military cemetery recently, at Harefield, Middlesex, about 5 miles from where I live. The Australian Military Cemetery contains the graves of about 50 Australian servicemen who died around 1917-1919. The reason for the unusual location is Harefield Hospital, now famous for heart transplants, which was a specialist tuberculosis hospital in 1915-1920, treating troops from the around the Empire. The cemetery is not forgotten, it is kept very neat and tidy, and just after Remembrance Sunday the cemetery was ablaze with the red of the poppy wreaths

from the memorial ceremony.

An emigrant at home

I was looking through the census for the family of William James Thomas Glenister, born 14 November 1842 at 1 Plumstead Place, Plumstead, the son of James Glenister and Mary Ann (nee Merritt). I was interested in finding more about James, particularly his age and place of birth. I didn't find what I was looking for, but I did find the following "stray" Glenister.

Extracted from 1851 Census for Plumstead, London (record reference HO 107 1590, folio 222).

In the Parish of Plumstead, Borough of Greenwich, at 5 Burrage Grove, lived:

- 1 *Henery (sic) Glenister, head, age 28, Smith at Royal Arsenal, born Middlesex, Marylebone.*
- 2 *Ann Glenister, wife, age 23, (no occupation), born Kent, Woolwich.*
- 3 *Henery (sic) J Glenister, son, age 2, (no occupation), born Kent, Plumstead.*
- 4 *William Lee, father in law, age 43, Tailor at Pensioners Hospital Chelsea, born Ardich (?), Ireland*

On checking my records I found that this apparent stray from Middlesex was already known to me, from the following information supplied by Bronwen Thomas.

Henry and Ann had emigrated to Australia in 1855, aboard the ship "Tasmania", which left London on 13 February 1855, and arrived at Port Phillip, Australia in May 1855.

Henry was christened on 18 April 1824 at Christ Church, Greyfriars, London. He married Annie Lee at Woolwich, Kent on 4 April 1846. In Australia he was a blacksmith, a turner, and a miner, before eventually becoming a publican. He died in Melbourne at the age of 67 on 5 August 1890.

Henry was the sixth son of John Putnam Glenister and Jane (nee Blackhall). John Putnam and Jane lived at 59 Duke Street, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire in 1851. They emigrated to Australia in 1853. Over the next few years they were gradually joined by almost all their immediate family, by that time married and with their own young families.

In my own back yard

I had a surprise earlier this year when I discovered a historical Glenister connection for Greenford, where I've lived for the past 11 years.

While extracting information from the indexes at the Probate Registry I found the will of "*Stephen Glenister of Greenford in the County of Middlesex, hide and skin dealer*".

On examining the will (it only costs 25p to read a will) I found it was made on 4 August 1879, and Stephen died less than three weeks later, on 23 August. In the will Stephen doesn't mention a wife, but does mention a son, brothers and sisters, and a niece. Stephen seems not to know the whereabouts of his son, William, and directs that his legacy of £100 0s 0d should be held until the executors "*until they shall be satisfied as to his identity or his representatives when discovered*". His brothers and sisters are not named but he leaves £19 19 s 0d "*to each of them and which I believe there are now eight of them living*". The remainder of the estate he leaves to "*unto my niece Elizabeth Fitkin now residing with me*".

My later searches at the General Register Office found Stephen's death, at the age of 57. I also found his marriage to an Elizabeth Fitkin, at Holborn in central London on 14 October 1878, only shortly before his death. At that time he was living in St John Street, London, although Elizabeth was living in Greenford. Stephen gives his father as James, then deceased, a farmer. Stephen is a widower at the time of his marriage. It may be that the son William named in the will came from a previous wife. There is also an earlier Stephen marriage at Holborn in March 1870, and I'll follow this up later.

A search at the Public Record Office found the census return for Greenford in 1871 showing Stephen as having been born in Wiggington, which is in the same areas as Hemel Hempstead.

Some time after this I strolled around the Greenford parish church yard and imagine my surprise when I found the grave of "*Stephen Glenister of this parish*". The grave stone was in good condition, and the date of 23 August 1879 matched the probate records. Also in the grave was a Sarah Glenister, who died 21 March 1875 aged 25. There was no indication of the relationship between Stephen and Sarah.

The parish of Greenford is in the registration district of Brentford. I've noted GRO index entries for a few other births, marriages, and deaths around Stephen's period in Greenford which I will follow up later. My first step is to look through the parish registers for Greenford (still with the parish church, about 10 minutes walk from home) for the burial of Stephen and Sarah, and the other entries noted from the GRO.

Armed with the Wiggington information, my next step is to search the Wiggington parish registers for the period 1820-1830 for Stephen's baptism, looking for a father of James, and then the period around that for eight other children of the same father.

Glenisters of note

I've already mentioned Tony Glenister, the surgeon, above, but there are a number of other notable (or notorious) Glenisters whose name crop up occasionally. Any further information is welcome on:

- The Glenister who plays for the Harlequins Rugby Club
- Henry A Glenister, the owner of the Derby winner in 1949

- The Glenister actor who appeared in a BBC TV comedy series
- The Glenister whose name I saw in the production credits of a BBC TV programme

Among other notable Glenisters was Archie Glenister CBE who died in 1986 aged 95. Archie, who was descended from the same Hastings branch as Malcolm, was a member of the Legislative Council of the Federated Malay States in the 1920s, and author of the book "The birds of the Malay Peninsula, Singapore, and Penang" published in 1951.

Glenisters in business

I found the following entries in the files of a business information company in 1987. I don't know if all of these concerns are still in business. I know that Thomas Glenister Co, founded in 1839, has a large furniture factory at High Wycombe, Bucks, and that Glenisters is a large solicitors' practice in Eastcote, Middx.

Glenister Design Consultants Ltd
The Dairy House
Maidenhead
Berks
(Business unknown)

Glenister Engineering Ltd
37 High Street
Thornton Heath
Surrey
(Business unknown)

Glenister Properties Ltd
Trent Raymond & Co
London
(Business unknown - address is companies agent)

The Thomas Glenister Company
Hughenden Road
High Wycombe
Bucks
(Furniture manufacturer)

Glenister Gavin Ltd
E C Brown & Batts
London
(Business unknown - address is companies agent)

Glenister & Company Ltd
Church Side
Hitchin Road

Kimpton
Hitchin
Herts
SG4 8EF
(General building and civil engineering contractors)

Glenisters
Television House
Field End Road
Eastcote
Middx
(Solicitors)

I have built an outline tree of the Thomas Glenister family, and I know that the solicitors are descended from the same Hastings branch as Macolm, Les, and Tony, but I wonder if any of the others are known to researchers.

Glenisters in the street

A look through the "A to Z of London" found the following streets:

- Glenister Park Road, SW16 (Streatham)
- Glenister Road, SE10 (Charlton)
- Glenister Street, E16 (Woolwich)

I suppose that they were named after either some local council dignitary, or perhaps the builder. Does anyone have any definitive information?

In the files

I've been building my Glenister records since 1977 and have amassed a large collection of information. This includes extracts from the indexes at the GRO, Principal Probate Registry (PPR), the IGI, census, and parish records.

Source	Entries
GRO births (1837-1902)	1,355
GRO marriages (1837-1950)	1,555
GRO deaths (1837-1960)	1,566
PPR wills (1857-1991)	558
IGI (Herts,Bucks,Beds,London)	980
Census (various)	547
Parish (various)	499
Total	7,060

In addition to these records, I have details of the Glenisters in Australia (from

Bronwen), Canada (from Carol Ann), and USA (from Ruth). I am willing to provide extracts of information on any of the above, and would welcome any further contributions to extend the breadth and depth of the data.

A sticking point

Having been tracing family history since 1977, I have been "stuck" for the last 10 years at the same point with my 5 times great-grandfather, Henry Glenister, and with a curious sequence of events with his children. The only details I have of Henry is his marriage to Sarah Puddephat in Chesham, Bucks on 17 January 1782. I have no details of his baptism, and hence origins, or his burial. The most likely sources for either of these (Chesham, Berkhamsted, and Hemel Hempstead) give no clues.

The curious sequence of events is with Henry's son William. The parish registers at Chesham clearly show the following entries:

17 January 1782 Marriage of Henry Glenister and Sarah Puddephat
23 June 1782 Baptism of John, son of Henry and Sarah Glenister
9 July 1786 Baptism of William, son of Henry and Sarah Glenister, born 5 July 1776.

I wonder why they waited until 4 years after their marriage to baptise their sone, then aged 10? Perhaps either Henry or Sarah were widowed (although not shown in the marriage entry), and William was from an earlier marriage?

I really need to find out more about Henry and Sarah to make any further progress, and also to find any marriage of John and any descendants. Any information or suggestions would be welcome!

Can you help?

Information sought by Brownen Thomas on the following "loose connections":

- (a) Robert Glenister, born around 1742/1743, perhaps christened at Northchurch, Herts on 20 May 1742, perhaps with parents Michael and Hannah, married around 1730s/1740s. Perhaps Robert married Elizabeth Spice at High Wycombe, Bucks on 29 June 1766.
- (b) William Glenister, born around 1770, not known where, possibly the son of Robert above, married Hannah Putnam on 22 July 1790. Hannah was born in 1773 and died in 1796 aged 23. Their son William Putnam Glenister was baptised on 8 January 1792 at Wooburn, Bucks. Perhaps there was a second marriage after Hannah's death.
- (c) Frederick William Glenister, born 27 April 1857 in London
- (d) Joseph Glenister, born around 1816 in Twickenham
- (e) Philip Glenister, born around 1840s in London, to William Glenister and Ann (nee Bundoeh)

Information sought by Carol Ann Currie:

(a) John Edward Glenister, born 16 September 1850 at Two Waters, Hemel Hempstead to George Glenister and Mary Ann Rosetta (nee Mason); married to Ann Bell on 2 June 1873 at Abbey Road, Marylebone; died 2 March 1917, leaving a daughter identified only as J Allen. Any further information or living connections would be welcome.

(b) Children of John Glenister and Ann (nee Wood): Mary (born 1821), William (born 1826), Newman (born 1827).

Information sought by Mary Wright:

(a) Information on the japanning industry (ie varnishing on wood, tin plate, etc) which had its main centre in Pontypool, Birmingham, and Wolverhampton. Information on other centres is sought.

Information sought by Karen Heath:

(a) descendants of Edward Glenister and Elizabeth (nee Wright) around Berkhamsted.

Information sought by Ruth Glenister:

(a) any details of families of the following names, all of whom have Glenister spouses: Looseley or Looseley of Moreton (near Thame), Oxon; Ludlow of Bucks; Dawkins, Heath, or Hethe of Oxon; Eastaff or Eavestaff of Bucks; Fleckney of Bucks.

Information sought by R A Aldworth:

(a) any details of the following families associated with the Glenister family: Aldworth of Virginia Water, Egham, and Chiswick; Bird of Amersham, Iver, and Feltham; Hall of Sunbury; North of Virginia Water and Frimley.

Feedback

If you are able to provide any further information on the points in this newsletter please write to me and I'll publish it in the next edition !

Published by

*Andrew Glenister
5 Graeme Court
Eastmead Avenue
Greenford
Middlesex
UB6 9RE
England*

