

WESTENDER

IN OUR 22nd YEAR OF PUBLICATION

JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2021

VOLUME 12 NUMBER 9

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FROM OUR ARCHIVE



George Edward May (stood behind the pony) outside his shop around 1901. The site is now the Co-op Convenience store on the corner of High Street and Barbe Baker Avenue. Also shown in the picture is the bread delivery method of pony and trap loaded ready for delivery with loaves and George's sons are in the picture as well.

Due to the current situation regarding the Covid - 19 outbreak .

Following Government guidelines, we feel the society must behave responsibly and not hold any large meetings. We have therefore taken the decision to postpone our monthly meetings for the time being we will keep you informed and the Museum will also be closed until further notice.

West End Local History Society & Westender is sponsored by



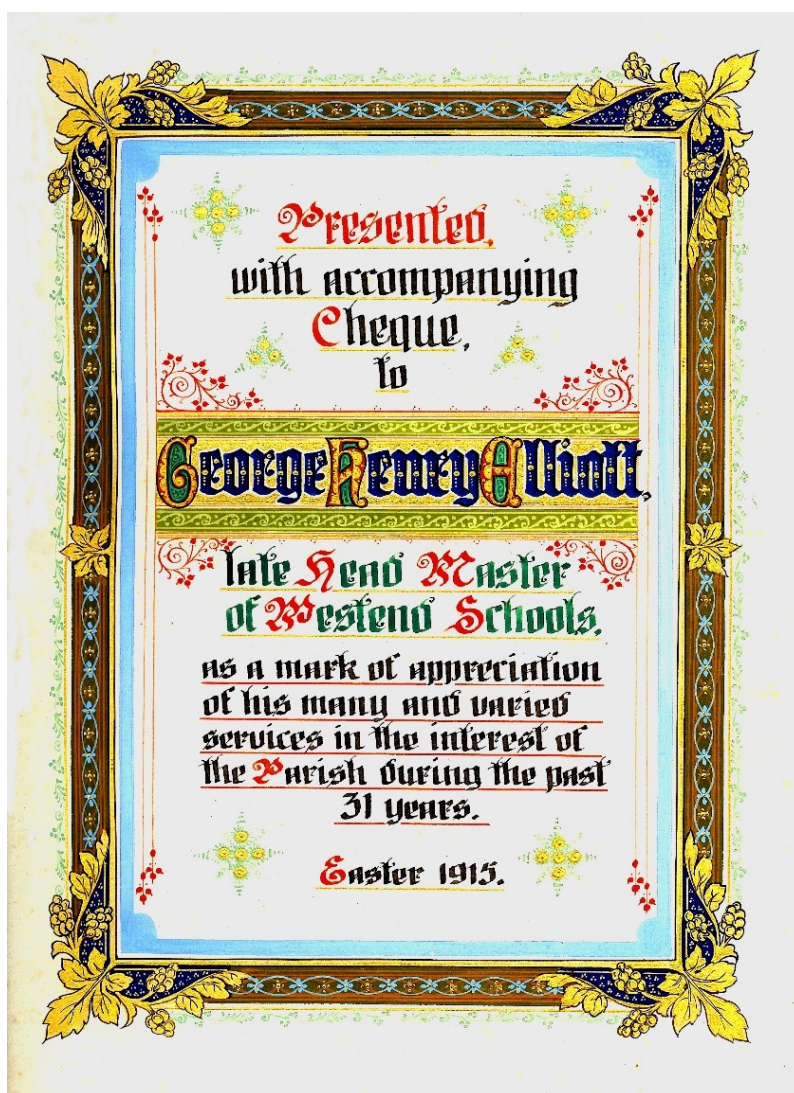
**WEST END
PARISH
COUNCIL**



STORIES BEHIND A MUSEUM OBJECT - The presentation album of George Henry Elliott

By Sue Ballard PhD

In the museum archive is the album presented to George Henry Elliott, Headmaster of West End School, upon his retirement in 1915. The album has a green morocco leather cover with gold tooling and initials and is lined in moiré silk and a gilded certificate forms the bookplate. The album is contained in a hand-stitched silk-lined linen bag with ribbon clasps. The quality and expense of the gift is evidence of the esteem in which Mr Elliott was held.

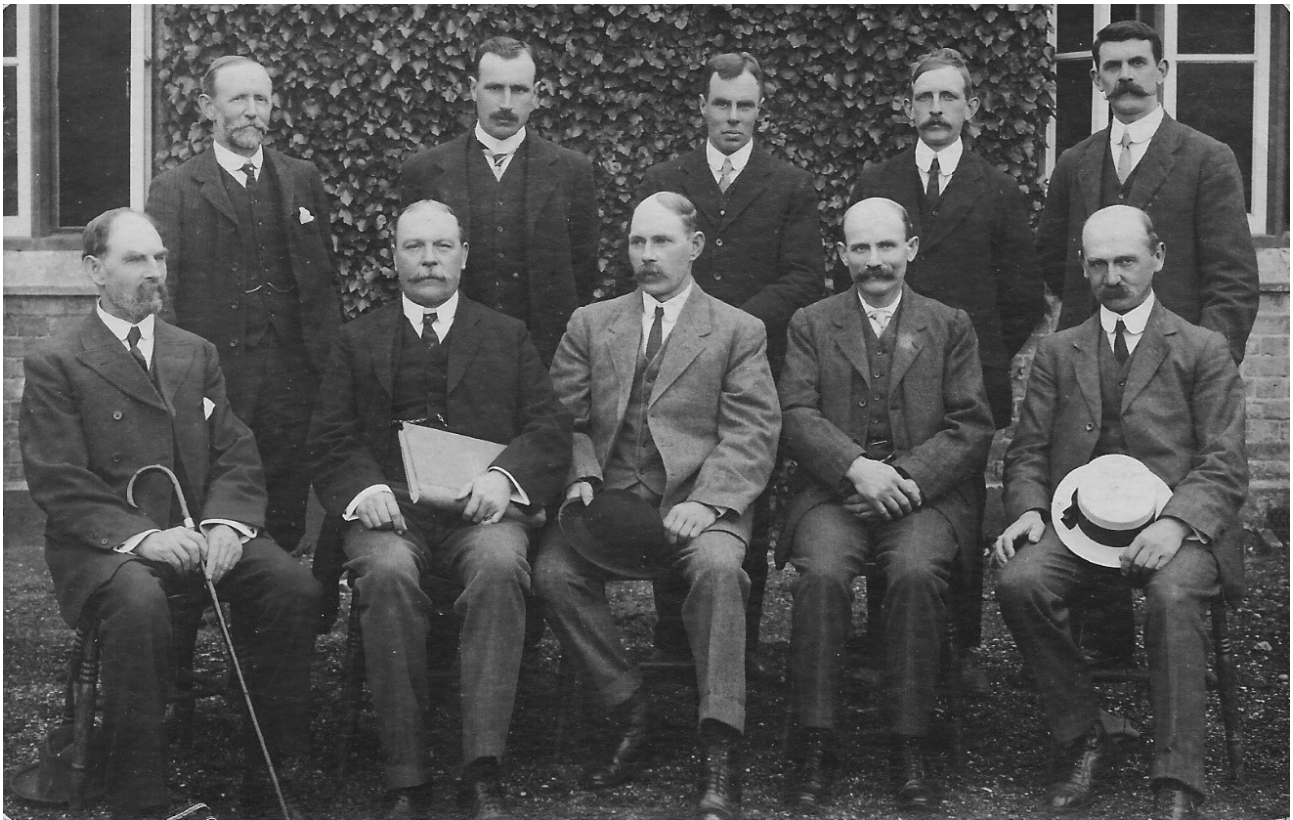


BOOKPLATE OF GEORGE ELLIOTT'S PRESENTATION ALBUM

A short article first published in the West End Parish magazine in Spring 2011 and again in The Partnership newspaper in Summer 2018, offers valuable insights into the work of George Henry Elliott and his positive impact on the school. The article shows the human side of him, telling of his work as choir-master at St. James's Church and as Clerk to the Parish Council, his leadership of the St. James's Church hand-bell ringers and, rather endearingly, his frequent appearance in cycle clips. It tells us that the stress of overseeing the move to the new school building in 1904 is likely to have contributed to his having a stroke in 1906. But what do we know of his background and how he came to be a headmaster?

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WEST END PARISH COUNCIL C.1913 WITH GEORGE HENRY ELLIOTT HOLDING THE MINUTES BOOK

It seems that George was almost destined to be a school master. George Henry Elliott was born in 1862, the youngest child of James Elliott and his wife Jane Winter. George and his elder brother William Ernest (known simply as Ernest) were born in Bitterne, but his eldest siblings, James Walter and Anna Maria, were born at Ryde on the Isle of Wight.

There is little record of George's father beyond that of the marriage of James Elliott & Jane Winter at Ryde, Isle of Wight on 3rd February 1854, which names James's father as Thomas Elliott. James Elliott never appears on census with his wife and children. The 1861 census records that Jane, then living at Alma Road, South Stoneham with George's siblings, is the wife of a butler, enabling us to locate James Elliott, then aged 31, as the butler to Oswald Grimstone at Mersham House, West End. This census records James's place of birth as Hambledon, Hampshire but no baptism in his name has been found anywhere in Hampshire within a reasonable time period. As his birthplace is recorded simply as a ditto mark below the birthplace recorded for another servant, it is possible that it is an error on the part of the copyist who transferred the information from the household schedule to the enumerator's book. Or it may be that James Elliott was never baptised. Whatever the case, without a confirmed place of birth we can only guess at his origins. The 1841 census shows an 11-year-old James Elliot living in the Havant work house but records that he was not born in Hampshire. Could this be George's father? He is not found on census anywhere in Hampshire in 1851, 1871 or 1881 and I have been unable to find a record of his death. The Grimstone family did not move away or we might have expected that James moved with them as a favoured servant. Although Jane still recorded herself as being married in 1871, she was now also listed as the head of the household, supporting her family as a laundress. Did James Elliott simply abandon his family after George's birth? The implications are clear – George grew up without a father.

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George's mother was born around 1825-1827 at Nettlecombe in the parish of Whitwell on the Isle of Wight and was baptised at the church of St Lawrence on 22nd July 1838, when she would have been about thirteen or fourteen years old. In this period, it was quite common for poorer families to wait and have several children baptised together to save on church fees. Jane Hannah Winter was the daughter of David Winter and his wife Mary Ann French, who had married at Carisbrooke on 29th Dec 1812 when Mary Ann (also known as Mariann or Maria) was just sixteen years old. She was the only daughter of Captain Thomas French of the 48th Regiment of Foot. The 1841 census shows David Winter to have been a tailor. Jane was absent from the household in 1841 but may have been in service. Two live-in servants named Jane Winter and of about the right age can be found in the 1841 census for Hampshire: a sixteen year old maid-of-all-work in the household of a publican, his wife and five children at Brook Street, Winchester and a fifteen year old who was one of four servants in the household of a yeoman farmer at Titchfield. In 1851, Jane was again living with her parents at Nettlecombe when she was recorded as a female servant. Of more interest here is that George's grandparents David and Maria Winter were now employed as a school master and a school mistress. In 1861 David Winter's occupation was recorded as a coal agent; it is possible that he had retired from the school as he died just two years later at the age of seventy three. His probate record describes him as "David Winter late of Nettlecombe in the Parish of Whitwell in the Isle of Wight and Bitterne both in the County of Southampton Schoolmaster." As he and Maria were still living at Nettlecombe on census night, 7th April 1861 and David died at Bitterne on 14th April 1863, we can only assume that they moved to Bitterne to be with their daughter Jane, perhaps because David was frail and needed care. The notice of his death in the Portsmouth Times described him as "for many years clerk and schoolmaster of Whitwell Church, Isle of Wight." This suggests that the school was administered by the church, as so many were in this period – and that David's career mirrors that of his grandson George, who is so familiar to us at West End.

David Winter died when George was just a year old, so he cannot have directly influenced George's choice of career, but he may have done so indirectly through George's eldest brother James Walter. James Walter would have been seven years old when their grandfather David died – old enough to be influenced by him in the year or two that they lived together. The 1871 census shows James Walter as a pupil teacher at the age of fifteen. A pupil teacher was an older pupil who had reached school-leaving age and returned as a teacher on a small salary, under-going what we would now call "on the job training" but was then known as the "Monitorial System." The Monitorial System was devised independently by Andrew Bell around 1801 and by Joseph Lancaster in 1808, the latter's motto being "Qui docet, discit" ("He who teaches, learns"), and proved popular as a cheap and effective method of teaching greater numbers of pupils. The system was adopted by both Roman Catholic and Anglican schools, including National Schools.

National Schools were founded by the National Society for Promoting Religious Education, a Church of England body established in 1811 with the aim of promoting church schools and Christian education in England and Wales by having a National School in every parish. National schools adopted the educational methods employed by Bell and Lancaster but based the curriculum specifically on the teachings of the Church of England rather than the non-denominational approach used by the non-conformist British schools of the Royal Lancastrian Society (later the British and Foreign School Society) of Joseph Lancaster. The curriculum for National Schools was initially limited to "the three Rs", with the Bible as the main reading text. From 1833 onward, the government made annual grants to both Societies and over the years increasingly applied conditions to the grants, including attendance figures and inspections.

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The monitorial system under which George's brother James Walter entered the teaching profession increasingly fell out of favour as calls came for more formal training. The first section of "The Candidate's and Pupil Teacher's Year Book, Book 5" by Henry Major detailed "The First Schedule, Revised Code of the Government Regulations 1873", which stated the need for a health certificate and a certificate of good character besides proficiency in reading, grammar, arithmetic, and geography, with the final requirement: "To teach a class to the satisfaction of Her Majesty's Inspector." In 1873 the Hampshire Advertiser reported on the Hampshire Diocesan Association's prize-giving, when James Elliott of Peartree gained a third class certificate in his third year of the five year programme for pupil teachers. In the chairman's opening remarks, he explained that young people began training as candidates, before spending five years as pupil teachers and going on to a higher grade before gaining a position as master or mistress. "They would have to pass through the training college, established in the different dioceses, and have to pass through a competition different than that they had in the present stages to pupil teachers." He went on to state that the Government had eliminated religious education from all new state schools and that existing National Schools and British Schools received public funding only for secular subjects, which were subject to Government inspections; Diocesan Inspectors would be responsible for the inspection of religious education.

James Walter Elliott went on to become a fully qualified teacher. The 1881 census shows him as a school master in Elham, Kent along with his wife Rebecca, who was a school mistress. The 1891 census is more specific; James Walter Elliott, then aged 55, is recorded as "Retired Certificated (Government) School Master" and his wife Rebecca, aged 57, "Retired Certificated (Government) School Mistress."

George's elder sister Anna Maria married a schoolmaster. The 1881 census shows Anna Maria with her husband Arthur Goodman at Hound Green School, Heckfield, Hartley Wintney where Arthur was a certified teacher and in the 1891 census at the Board School, Winchester Road, South Stoneham, where he was an elementary teacher. The youngest of George's siblings, William Ernest (better known as Ernest) was the odd one out; he went on to join the Metropolitan Police and worked his way up to become an inspector before retiring.

George joined what looked like becoming the family tradition of teaching, though his own children did not follow that path. The 1881 census shows 19-year-old George Henry Elliott as one of 53 student teachers (initially recorded as "scholars", later amended to "school masters") between the ages of 19 and 21 at the Diocesan Training College in Winchester under the Principal, Henry Martin, and two lecturers. The Winchester Diocesan Training College, which became King Alfred's College in 1928, was a Church of England foundation for the training of elementary schoolmasters for National Schools. George graduated in 1882 and took over as school master of West End National School in 1883, replacing Thomas Atkins. He was to remain at West End Schools for thirty-one years.

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DIOCESAN TRAINING COLLEGE, WINCHESTER, HAMPSHIRE. WOOD ENGRAVING BY W. SARDUE AFTER J. COLSON. WELLCOME COLLECTION. ATTRIBUTION 4.0 INTERNATIONAL (CC BY 4.0)

On 30th December 1885, George Henry Elliott married Sarah Jane Haysom at St. Saviour's Church, Bitterne. Sarah Jayne was the daughter of Southampton-born George Haysom, a clerk for the Southampton Dock Company, and his wife Sarah Jayne Willcox from Midsomer Norton in Somerset.

George and Sarah had two sons, Leonard Harold and Ernest Arthur, and five daughters: Ella Muriel, Hilda Winifred, Linda Josephine, Brenda Constance and Stella Olive. On Wednesday 4th September 1913, George gave away 23-year-old Ella and 21-year-old Hilda at their double wedding when they married Horace J. GODWIN and Walter A. KNELLER respectively. The wedding caused a splash, warranting an in-depth report in the Hampshire Independent, which stated that due to "the brides and their parents being so well known and highly respected, the event aroused widespread interest and the church was thronged to overflowing".

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GEORGE & SARAH JAYNE ELLIOTT AT THEIR DAUGHTERS' DOUBLE WEDDING 4TH SEPT 1913

The report on the wedding was published directly below a report on the monthly meeting of West End Parish Council which had taken place the day before the wedding. At that meeting, George announced that he was resigning as Parish Clerk after 19 years on account of his health. "He very much appreciated the kindly sympathy of the Council and their unanimous and earnest desire that he might see his way to continue the work, but he felt the strain of overwork very much and though he was thankful to say he was much better, yet the symptoms of neurasthenia were still hanging slightly about him and on medical advice alone he felt it wise to obey the dictates of Nature and relinquish some of his many duties."

Eighteen months later, George also relinquished his duty as Headmaster of West End Schools at Easter 1915. He had been just 44 years old when he had suffered his stroke in 1906 and never fully recovered. His younger son Ernest Arthur, a 30-year-old provision merchant's clerk, died in 1919.

George Henry Elliott died at the age of 59 on 19th December 1921

THE FAMILY OF FANNY LOUISA WHITE

By Paula Downer

Following on from my previous article on families connected to Harefield House ('Westender' Nov-Dec 2020), herein I trace the family of Fanny Louisa White whom was married to Edwin Jones then to Dr John Lewis Thomas.

Fanny Louisa White was the daughter of Robert White (b.1814 in Hartley Wintney, Hampshire) and Frances Jacobs from the Isle of Wight. They were married in June 1846 at All Saints, Newchurch, Isle of Wight. Robert's father is shown as William White, Frances's father was Isaac Jacobs. It was Robert White's second marriage (his first wife Agnes Dusautoy died). Robert and Frances had six children, their first son Frederick William Grinstly sadly died within a few days of being born, their daughter Louisa Maria Julia was christened but no further records have been found, presumably she died at a very young age. Fanny Louisa (1849), Mary Alice Blanche (1850), Reginald Arthur Richard (1852) were born in Hartley Wintney. Henry Milner was born in 1854 on the Isle of Wight.

The 1851 Census finds Robert White described as Headmaster of a private school at West Green House in Hartley Wintney. It was a private Classical School to prepare young scholars for college and university. Robert's sister-in-law Ann Dusautoy was employed as a governess, eight male pupils between the age of 11-13 are listed. The house was owned by William Henry Toovey Hawley. Shortly after the birth of Reginald Arthur Richard, the family moved, travelling south and very likely boarding a paddle steamer from Southampton pier to Cowes, Isle of Wight, their destination being Northwood House in West Cowes. Northwood House was then owned by William George Ward and had been in the Ward family since 1793, here Robert White set up a Boarding School. Their last son Henry Milner White was born in 1854. In 1857 Robert White bought nearby Egypt House from the recently bereaved family of the late William Malet Dansey. The house was enlarged and fitted out to accommodate a Boarding School to prepare sons of nobility and gentlemen for a career in the Church, Navy, Army or Civil Service. The school's playing fields were in the grounds of Northwood House. Sadly, in December 1862, Robert White died at home at the age of 48.



Egypt House, is Grade II listed

Image courtesy of britishlistedbuildings.co.uk/101223365-egypt-house-cowes

In April 1868 Robert and Frances White's daughter Mary Alice Blanche White married Captain Charles Frederick Bond of 105th Regiment of Foot (Madras Light Infantry) at the Holy Trinity Church in West Cowes, Isle of Wight. Captain Bond was serving in India when their first three children were born, Charles Fairfax (1869), Reginald Edwin (1870) and Frederick (born/died 1872). Frances Alice Emelia (1873) and Ethel Louisa (1874) were born in West Cowes, Isle of Wight. Henry Stanley (1876) was born in Aldershot, Hampshire. John Aubrey (1877) and Maude Evelyn (1878) were born in Highfield, Southampton. The last three, Lucy Sybil (1879), George Montgomery (1880) and Blanche Lavinia (1882) were born on the Isle of Wight. In 1875, Captain Charles Frederick Bond was promoted to the rank of Major. He died in 1887 at Castle View, Carisbrooke, Isle of Wight, aged 50, having retired on a pension with the Honorary rank of Lieutenant Colonel. Mary Alice Blanche Bond died in November 1894 at the age of 44, she is buried with her husband Charles in Carisbrooke Cemetery. In the same grave lies two of their daughters Maude Evelyn (1950) and Ethel Louisa (1974).

Their eldest daughter Fanny Louisa White married Haberdashery and Drapery Store owner Edwin Jones in November 1874. Edwin was a widow, his late wife Annette (née Sharp) had sadly died shortly after the birth of their only daughter Annette. Edwin and Fanny's wedding was a grand affair, the happy couple were gifted an Epergne table centrepiece by fellow dignitaries. The ornamental centrepiece is now used at Southampton City functions. Edwin was

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a busy man, his roles included Senior Bailiff (from 1871), Sheriff and Magistrate (from 1872) and Mayor of Southampton (1873 & 1875). He was also President of the Central Liberal Association and of the Young Men's Mutual Improvement Society. Edwin and Fanny Jones began married life living at 'Fairlea' in Bassett situated to the west of the Town of Southampton, in 1889 they moved east to Harefield House, near West End. *Their story continues in 'Westender' Nov-Dec 2020*

In 1880, their second son, Reginald Arthur Richard White M.A. was Curate for the Church of England in Old Alresford, Hampshire. He was the Vicar of Titchfield during the years of 1887-1907. Reginald married Alice Gilberta Sinclair in 1890 but Alice sadly died in 1896 aged only 42. In 1900 Reginald was commissioned as Acting Chaplain for the British Army Territorial Force, 6th Battalion (Duke of Connaught's Own) Hampshire Regiment (uniform - scarlet with yellow facings). The Regiment, based at Connaught Drill Hall in Portsmouth, took part in the South African/2nd Boer War 1900-1901. The Hart's Annual Army List of 1914 details the Rev. R.A.R. White M.A. as 3rd Class grade Chaplain, which equates to the rank of Major. The role of the Chaplain was to provide spiritual and pastoral care to soldiers. In June 1907 Reginald remarried to Emilie (Dredge/Harkett?) at St. Giles in London. Reginald Arthur Richard White died 22nd November 1915 at 'Heathfield' in Bitterne, Southampton. He is buried in the Old Burial Ground of St. James' Church, West End near Southampton. There is a memorial to Reginald White inside the Holy Trinity Church in West Cowes - see www.isle-of-wight-memorials.org.uk



The Reverend Reginald Arthur Richard White's ornate memorial sadly lies in pieces

The youngest son, Henry Milner White became a Barrister, called to the Bar in 1886, qualifying as a Doctor of Law (LLD) in 1891. Henry married Kathleen Lucy Meeres at St. Mary's Church, Brading, Isle of Wight in June 1883. They had three children, Eric Milner White (1884), Rudolph Milner White (1885) and Algernon Norman Milner White (1887). They lived at No.28 The Avenue in Westwood Park, Southampton. Kathleen sadly died in 1890 aged only 33, possibly in childbirth (with a son Basil?). Their youngest son Algernon died in 1895, both mother and son are buried in the churchyard of Christ Church in Sandown, Isle of Wight. Also earlier that year, in February, Frances White had died.

When Edwin Jones's Store became a Limited Liability Company in 1888, Edwin Jones became Chairman with Henry Milner White as one of the Directors. Henry Milner White remarried in 1894 to Annie Booth Teasdale. They lived at 'Deepdene' in Midanbury Lane, Southampton. When Edwin Jones died in 1896, Henry Milner White took over as Chairman and Managing Director of Edwin Jones's Store and Wholesale business, a post he held for the remainder of his life. He was three times President of Southampton Chamber and Commerce. He was also Justice of the Peace for the County of Southampton Petty Sessional Division. For his services, the 1918 New Year Honours awarded Henry Milner White with a Knighthood. For leisure, Henry enjoyed a game of cricket, he was one of the Vice-Presidents for the South Hants Cricket Club, the President was then Tankerville Chamberlayne, Esq. of Cranbury Park.

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Sir Henry Milner White
Image courtesy of West End Local History Society Publication
'The Old Burial Ground of St.James' Church, West End'

Sir Henry Milner White died 16th April 1922 and is buried in the Old Burial Ground, West End, Edwin Jones's grave lies nearby. Lady Annie Milner White continued to be involved with the Church of the Ascension, generously donating to many charitable causes. She died in 1951 and is buried with her dear husband Sir Henry; a memorial inscription to Lady Annie reads :-

To the Beloved Memory of
Annie Booth White (Nita)
Widow of Sir Henry Milner White
2nd August 1864 - 10th August 1951
By thy Resurrection and Ascension
O Lord Jesus
Be Thou her Life her Joy
For Ever and Ever



The Grave of Sir Henry and Lady Annie Milner White

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Henry and Kathleen's second son, Rudolph Milner White joined the Indian Civil Service. Having passed his examinations in 1909, the following year he was in India, administering with Magisterial and Collector roles. Rudolph was Acting Deputy Secretary to the Government at Uttar Pradesh in 1923. He was also Chairman to the Cawnpore Improvement Trust. The purpose of the Trust was to improve sanitary conditions (drainage and sewerage), provide adequate water supply and implement town planning schemes to reduce urban overcrowding.

In 1922 he married [Geraldine Evelyn FitzGerald](#) in Kensington, London, they had three daughters, Lalage Dacre (1923), Ursula Mary (1926) and Rhodope Margaret (1930). Rudolph retired in 1935, died in Cyprus February 1954, his address shown as 'Hodges', Five Ashes near Tunbridge Wells in Kent.

Their eldest son Eric Milner White attended King's College, Cambridge where he studied History, obtaining a double first class honours degree. He then spent a year at Cuddesdon Theological College before ordaining as a Deacon in 1908, in 1909 Eric became Priest at Southwark Cathedral, after a stint as Curate, in 1912 he was appointed Chaplain at King's College. During the Great War, following in his Uncle Reginald's footsteps, Eric joined the Army Chaplains' Department. He served on the Western Front and in Italy, the 1918 New Year Honours List shows Eric Milner White rewarded with the Distinguished Service Order (DSO). The Great War had left its mark, upon his return from the War Eric began to make some changes to church services, to cater for a grieving nation traumatised by war and having little incentive to attend church. He was very good at wording prayers to suit mood and occasion, his church services were more uplifting. He published books, his prayers are now widely used in Anglican worship. Eric Milner White is famous for his version of the 'Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols' which has been held each Christmas Eve since 1918 at King's College Chapel. It is extremely popular with admittance by ticket only, last Christmas the service could be heard on the radio at 3 pm on BBC Radio 4. He was Fellow and Dean at King's College, Cambridge from 1918 until 1941 when he became Dean of York. For his honourable service, Eric Milner White received a number of awards :-

1948 - Honorary freeman of the Worshipful Company of Glaziers

1952 - Queen's Birthday Honours - Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE)

1952 - [Lambeth Doctorate of Divinity](#) (DD)

1962 - Honorary [Doctor of Letters](#) (DLitt) by the [University of Leeds](#)

In his free time, Eric pursued his interest in history, art, ceramics and paintings; he held a large collection of British Studio pottery. Ecclesiastical stained glass windows being a particular passion, he actively participated in the preservation and restoration of the windows in King's Chapel and York Minster. In Southampton Eric was involved with the design and sequence of the stained glass windows in the parish Church of the Ascension in Bitterne Park. The East Rose Window is in memory of his father Sir Henry Milner White.



**Church of the Ascension in Bitterne Park, Southampton
The East Rose Window is a memorial to Sir Henry Milner White**

Eric's vision was a 'center of excellence' dedicated to the care and preservation of historic stained glass across Britain, to accomplish this, the [York Glaziers Trust](#) was established in 1967. Sadly, Eric did not live to see his vision come to fruition.

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Eric Millner White CBE DSO DD MA never married, he died on 15th June 1963 at the Deanery in York, his cremated ashes were interred in York Minster. Much of his art and prized ceramic collection was donated to the [City of York Art Gallery](#), Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge and Southampton Art Gallery.

Footnote :-

Robert White's first wife Agnes Dusautoy (b.1809 in Ling, Norfolk) was the daughter of John Abbott Dusautoy whom was a paper manufacturer having learnt his trade at Romsey in Hampshire. They were married at Steventon, Hampshire in September 1840, had a daughter Caroline Gertrude and a son Robert Dusautoy. Agnes had three elder sisters Ann, Susan and Elizabeth whom never married but in 1850 set up a Young Ladies College at Winton House in Basingstoke. Ann is the sister shown as the Governess at West Green House in 1851.

WEST END'S ONLY MILITARY FUNERAL

By Nigel Wood

(THIS ARTICLE FIRST APPEARED IN "THE PARTNERSHIP" NEWSPAPER IN SPRING 2016)

Private George James Jeffery served with the 79th Regiment, Queens Own Cameron Highlanders, and was invalided out of the army in 1898 after having served 18 years with the Colours. During this time the Cameron Highlanders fought in the Egyptian War of 1882, at the battle of Tel-el-Kebir, in The Nile Expedition 1884-1885 returning to the UK in 1887. They later served in The Sudan fighting the followers of The Mahdi.

George James Jeffery was born in 1867 at Otterbourne, Hampshire and married Louise from Alton. They had a total of five children – Dorothy, William Cameron, Frederick Alexander, Cicely and Donald. According to the 1901 and 1911 Censuses they all lived at 4 Upper New Road, West End. Dorothy was born at Valetta, Malta in 1894, Donald was born in 1902 at West End, Cicely was born in St. Denys in Southampton in 1900, William and Frederick (twins) were born in 1897 at Gibraltar. George is listed in the 1901 and 1911 Censuses as being a "Cameron Highlanders Pensioner".



GEORGE JAMES JEFFREYS AND HIS WIFE 1912

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According to a local 1933 newspaper cutting George died at the age of 65 after spending the last 30 years of his life bedridden (could this illness have been caused by overseas service in Egypt and The Sudan?). His funeral was conducted by the Revd. R.H. Babbington of St. James' Church in West End and he was buried with full military honours in the Old Burial Ground in West End on 17th June 1933. His coffin bearers came from the 2nd Battalion Cameron Highlanders with Pipe Major Marshall, MVO playing the bagpipes ('Flowers of the Forest') in the slow march to the cemetery and the Regimental Lament 'Lochaber No More' at the graveside. This was the first and only British military funeral to be held in West End.



MILITARY FUNERAL OF GEORGE JAMES JEFFREY IN WEST END 1933

His twin sons William Cameron Jeffery ("Cam") and Frederick Alexander Jeffery followed in their father's footsteps and joined the Queens Own Cameron Highlanders and both served throughout the Great War with the regiment. They both appear to have joined on the same day (3rd April 1911) with serial numbers 9045 (Frederick) and 9046 (William). Frederick was an "Old Contemptible" one of the first 100,000 and also served as a Bandsman.

9045 Lance Corporal Frederick Alexander Jeffery served in the 3rd Battalion overseas in France and Flanders and was wounded during fighting on the Somme in 1915 after which he spent time at The Royal Victoria Hospital at Netley, Hampshire and also at Hamble Nursing Home recovering from his wounds. Discharged from the army on 21st June 1918 Frederick married his French born wife Edith in 1920 living a long and happy life moving to their new home at 23 Wynter Road, Bitterne. They celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary in 1970.

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MILITARY FUNERAL OF GEORGE JAMES JEFFREY LATE CAMERON HIGHLANDERS IN WEST END 1933 (aged 65)

St. JAMES' CHURCH ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

Report by Lin Dowdell



Because of the situation we find ourselves in during Covid restrictions, the church decided to still have their bi-annual Christmas Tree Festival but in the church grounds this year. West End Local History Society as always, joined in this event as did others from the village. The church provided a tree and light's and we had to remember the tree would be outside for up to two weeks so deccies had to be waterproof! WELHS decided our theme would be "Upcycling/ Repurposing", and we made garlands out of milk bottle tops, hanging icicles made out of tin foil, and decorations from used mince pie cases. Our Nativity Scene was enclosed in a used ice cream container with Mary and Joseph made out of egg cartons ... and it DID look lovely!

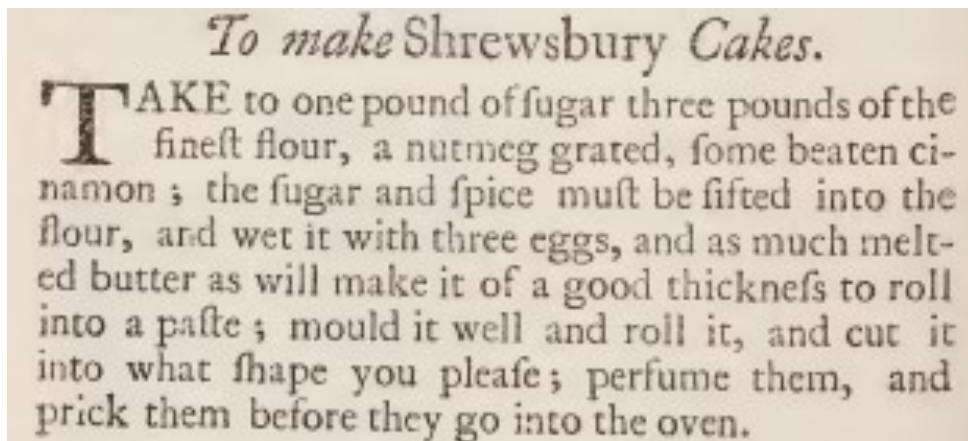


RECIPE CORNER - Sue Ballard

“SHREWSBURY BISCUITS”

I remember making Shrewsbury Biscuits at school. Commercially made versions are made with currants, familiar to me from schooldays but this appears to be a relatively modern twist. Homemade Shrewsbury Biscuits have recently made a come-back thanks to the Women’s Institute, which launched them at the BBC Good Food Show in November 2011. An article in the Shropshire Star quoted a W.I. spokeswoman as saying that they were first mentioned in a recipe book dated 1658 (although she did not specify which one) and that they are among the most popular snacks in India.

Shrewsbury Biscuits developed from Shrewsbury Cakes and several different versions have appeared over the years. Shropshire Archives hold a print of Mr Palin’s shop at Castle Gates, Shrewsbury, which bears a plaque stating “This shop occupies the site of a building where Palin first made the unique Shrewsbury cakes to his original recipe in the year 1760.” His would have been only one version of the local speciality. By 1892 five different versions appeared in Cassell’s Dictionary of Cookery: one flavoured them with nutmeg and rosewater, two added cream either with or without rosewater, the fourth used only caraway seeds for flavouring and the fifth only white wine. The oldest recipe in my own collection of historic cookbooks is in Eliza Smith’s “The Compleat Housewife, or Accomplish’d Gentlewoman’s Companion” published in 1732:



“Perfume them” refers to the addition of rosewater, which together with spices was included in all old Shrewsbury cake recipes— although here it seems to have been added after mixing. The oldest recipes, whether called biscuits or cakes, were hard and very sweet – unpalatable to modern tastes and most definitely custard jobs! Modern recipes use more butter for a softer biscuit and less sugar. During the twentieth century the use of rosewater fell out of favour, being replaced with lemon zest. My school recipe used neither rosewater nor lemon zest but included mixed spice and currants, showing how recipes evolve over the centuries. Here is the W.I. recipe (with their own suggested variations validating my school’s recipe) as published in the Shropshire Star 13 Dec 2011:

125g butter or block margarine

150g caster sugar

2 egg yolks

225g plain flour

Grated rind of 1 lemon or orange.

You can also add 50g of chopped dried fruit with the flour. Some recipes also call for substituting the grated citrus rind for a teaspoon of caraway seeds or mixed spice.

Cream the butter and sugar until they are pale and fluff, then add the egg yolks and beat well.

Stir in the flour and grated lemon rind and mix to a fairly firm.

Turn on to a lightly floured surface and knead before rolling to a thickness of 5mm.

Cut into rounds with a 6cm biscuit cutter and place on large greased baking sheets.

Bake at 180°C (gas mark 4) for 15 minutes, until firm and light brown.

Cool on a rack. If not eating immediately, store in an airtight container when cool.

Preheat the oven first, rather than leave it until step 5! If you want to try a more authentic taste, leave out the citrus and use half a teaspoon each of cinnamon and nutmeg and quarter of a teaspoon of rosewater

