



# Chorley News

## Chorley Branch of the Lancashire Family History and Heraldry Society

Society Web Site [www.lfhs.org](http://www.lfhs.org)

March 2019

Regd. Charity No.

President Stephen Ward

513437

### *February Meeting*

#### **A Manicurist in Cowboy Country Edith**

#### **Alice Crosby 1882-1968 by Alan Crosby**

Alan's G G father and Edith's father was a multiple bigamist and lawyer and embezzler, and her sister was a courtesan in Russia who ended up in Poland. He did not find out about Edith till the 1970's when he met Edith's sister Marjory's daughter, Dolores, who told him about the family. Dolores said Edith went to Texas and married a cowboy.



Casper Wyoming about 1910

George Crosby (G G Father) was born in 1849 and lived in Banbury Oxfordshire . He married a solicitor's daughter Kate Goldring on the 21 October 1873. After having 3 children very quickly Kate sued for divorce but failed because he had not committed adultery. Edith was born 6 years later. Then Marjory was born and then they parted. The parting lasted for 9 years and then the last child George was born. The childhood for all the children was very bad and all went off the rails. Edith was born 1882 in Dunstable, Bedford. But does not appear in the 1901 census. It is harder to track people in America than in England but Edith was not on the 1900 census. This suggests she moved to America between 1900 American census and 1901 UK census.

English girls were sought after as a nannies and it was a sign of sophistication. Edith may have answered an advert for a nanny. Through online newspapers it was found that Edith went to the far mid west, Casper Wyoming, cattle country. It was the wild west. Casper is on the High Plains. Founded in June 1888 the Stockmen's national bank employees has to sleep behind bales of hay in case of being shot. First this was cattle country and then in 1912 oil was found. In 1905 electricity came and Information in the papers say that Edith lived at the VR ranch. It also said

that in 1905 she had been in England for a year.

On the 4 Nov 1908 Miss Edith had returned to Casper from Cheyenne. She advertised to do manicuring and shampooing in people's homes. She manicured for men at Natrona Hotel one day a week. Next she is in the newspaper as attending the Colorado training school as a nurse in 1909 in Denver for 3 years.

In 1910 census she tells the truth about who she is and her age. She then qualified as a nurse and worked for Dr Lathrop and Leeper in a private hospital. But in Oct 1913 the paper says she will depart for California to take a post graduate course for 6 months. She set up as a nurse in a prestigious Los Angeles Hospital.

On 6 Nov 1914 Edith Ashmore Crosby married Oliver Edgar McBride. They adopted two boys. In 1938 her husband died. In the 1940 census she is living with one son The other was not at the funeral or with the mother and turned out to have been in San Quentin prison for robbery with violence.

Edith married again 15 July 1944 as Edith Monica McBride marrying Joseph Albert Boudreau, a French Canadian a widower. Edith was caring for his wife Mary Elizabeth in 1843. Tracing her beyond this is difficult as newspapers past 1945 are charged for and expensive.

However her grave was found in the Catholic Cemetery in Little Rock, Arkansas saying Edith Crosby Boudreau died in 1968.

### *What's on*

**Chorley Branch** Masonic Hall, Cunliffe Street Chorley PR7 2EB

**Thursday 21st Mar 2019 AGM** Steve Williams My Ancestor was a Free Mason

**Thursday 18th April** Andy Alston Relatives in Unexpected Places

### **Forthcoming Events**

#### **FamilyTree Live.**

26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> April 2019, at London's Alexandra Palace.

<https://www.family-tree.co.uk/news-and-views/news/new-uk-family-history-show-family-tree-live>

#### **Lancashire Archives**

12th April 12.30-1.30pm Parish Records, not just baptisms, marriages and burials.

Thursday 28th March 2pm Tracing your ancestors using DNA Graham S Holton must pre-book £7.

## *From Members*

### **Samuel Thomson By Susan Round**

Unfortunately, I cannot claim any direct relationship to Samuel Thomson. The Percy Addison named on the gravestone is my great grandmother's cousin. Isabella Croft Addison was Percy's wife and Samuel and Ellen (nee Croft) are her parents. The inscription, referring to Preston North End, had me puzzled. I had no idea what the "Old Invincibles" were or are (I'm not a football fan). Google was a great help and I was surprised and amazed to discover Sammy had been a football player.

Sammy was born in Lugar, Scotland on 14 February 1862. His first club was Lugar, Boswell Thistle and while with them was twice picked to play for Scotland. He played for a short spell with Rangers before signing for Preston North End in 1888, one of many Scottish players who joined Lancashire clubs. He made his league debut, as the winger on 15<sup>th</sup> September 1888 playing Wolverhampton Wanderers at their Dudley Road ground, Sammy scored his debut league goal on 12 November 1888 against Stoke City, at their then home, Victoria Ground. Sammy Thomson appeared in 16 of the 22 league matches played by Preston North End during 1888 to 89 season and scored three goals. Thomson earned himself a winners medal at Preston North End beat Wolverhampton Wanderers 3-0 in the cup final and scoring one of the three goals. That season Preston North End won the championship without losing a single match.

He was an important member of the side that retained the title in 1889 to 90. As a result of their great success the team became known as the "Invincibles". At the end of the season he was persuaded to join Wolves without Preston's permission.



Wolves were found guilty of poaching and fined £50. Having joined Wolverhampton Wanderers, he scored nine goals in 24 league and FA Cup matches and he then moved to Everton. After a handful of games for Everton he was on the move again, this time to Accrington where he ended his playing days in about 1894.

He married Ellen at St Thomas Church in Preston on sixth of July 1897 giving his address as Lugar Scotland and a wine merchant. Samuel died the 23 December 1943 and is buried in the old cemetery at Preston.

## **When tracing your family history what you shouldn't do is digress.**

**By Chris Costigan**

Tracing one side of my family, I found that they came from the Tring area of Bedfordshire/Hertfordshire/Buckingham (being in either at any given time as boundaries changed then, much as they do today). Searching for my great grandfather and his family, I found they lived at 51, Akeman Street, and that my great-grandmother and female members of her family with straw plaiters being employed in Harrow Yard, Akeman Street. For some reason I put Akeman Street in a Google search and ended up on a website called HALS, which turned out to be brilliant, giving, amongst other things, Victorian information on Tring and its environs. When I saw the words "**typhoid epidemic in 1899 at Akeman Street, Tring**".

That was it, hooked on **digression.....**

It would appear that my great-great-grandparents born 1814 and 1817 lived at 51, having the usual large family. The family had, over the years, increased and in the 1890s now lived at numerous houses along Akeman Street. There is an 1891 map showing the various yards, public houses, Tithe Barn, Baptist Tabernacle etc. Number 50 was a public house, the Jolly Sportsman, and at 52 there was a general labourer, Mr Emery and his family.

At Harrow Yard there was a straw plaiting factory making straw hat bonnets. It appears from letters and telegrams that the wells around this yard could be where the epidemic started. From the beginning the authorities tried to ignore the fact that there were signs of an epidemic. It was only when there had been quite a few deaths on the street that things moved. The whole area of Akeman Street apparently was very unsanitary, a dirty road, cobbled pavements, drains and blocks sewers.

An analytical report at that time measured the water against Thames water, which was very bad at London Bridge, but it seems that Akeman Street wells were much, much worse. The Council instructed the landlords to look through all the cottages and improve sanitary conditions. It was found that one house had dug a hole in the cellar and used that for a WC, as the communal WC was broken! One landlord, who owns nine houses, objected to putting in four WC s as he should legally only put in 3 ½. The mind boggles! One landlords suggested that, “it might help if the residents occasionally have a wash”.

Unfortunately, I spent a long time looking at this site, the photographs, telegrams, and letters were fascinating. I found one picture of a group of straw plaiters outside Harrow Yard waiting for a to funeral pass, they all had strange hats on and have the plaiting with them.

I wondered, was one of these ladies my great grandmother, and could they have been responsible for the epidemic?

## *What's New*

### **ANCESTRY**

Updated

London Church of England Births and Baptisms 1813-1917

London Church of England Marriages and Banns 1754-1932

London Church of England Deaths nad Burials 1813-2003

London Church of England Christenings, Marriages and Burials 1538-1812

Belfast The Belfast Newsletter Births marriages and deaths 1738-1925

Surrey Church of England Marriages and Banns 1754-1933

### **THE GENEALOGIST**

New Kensington and Chelsea 1910 Lloyd George Domesday Records with Maps. 49,608 individuals who occupied property in this area of London . It covers Brompton, Chelsea East, Chelsea West, Holland Park, Notting Hill East, Notting Hill West, South Kensington.

### **FIND MY PAST**

### **Scotland, Dundee & Forfarshire (Angus) Hearth Tax 1691**

Did you have Scottish ancestors from Dundee and the county of Forfarshire (Angus)? Search over 50,000 Hearth Tax records from 1691 to find out the number of hearths found within their home.

### **Roman Catholic Records Liverpool**

The record sets include more than 1.4million Roman Catholic sacramental and congregational records making their online debut. Published in association with the Archdiocese of Liverpool, these collections cover 47 parishes, span 1754 to 1988, and include both a transcription and an image of the original documents.

### **Liverpool Workhouse Registers**

Within this collection are some 2.5million records found in admission and discharge registers, classification lists, registers of the sick, and other documents from seven institutions, Fazakerley Cottage Homes, Kirkdale Industrial Schools, West Derby Union Workhouse, Olive Mount Children's Home, Sefton General Hospital, Toxteth Park Workhouse, Walton Workhouse, and West Derby Union.

### **Liverpool Church of England Parish records**

Over 2.2 million parish baptisms, marriages, burials and congregational records have been added to our collection of Lancashire Church of England parish records. The new additions cover 157 parishes across the city and span the years 1653 to 1991.

### **British & Irish Newspaper Update**

This week have added 139,520 new pages to our collections. We are delighted to welcome four brand new titles this week, three of which cover the late twentieth century: London title the Harefield Gazette, the Reading Evening Post and Buckinghamshire title the Amersham Advertiser. Rounding off our new titles this week is the Orcadian, which covers the years 1854 to 1912 and was published in Kirkwall, Orkney.

### **What's needed**

**Programme Secretary** - The branch needs a new Programme secretary to develop a programme for 2020. Any skills members can offer or ideas for meetings are welcome.

### **Projects**

#### **Chorley Guardian Military Project**

The information includes all kinds of events, even marriages and the birth of children. These need to be indexed so they can be used more widely. You can work on batches at the centre or at home.

Anyone able to index or edit images for this project, please contact Ron Chapman\*

#### **AGM Conference**

8th June St Cuthbert's, Preston £15

Ian Waller 100 unusual Sources

Mike Winstanley Feeding the Industrial Revolution

Nick Barrett Future of Family History

#### **Roots Tech London**

**Registration for RootsTech London Now Open.**

24-26 October 2019 ExCeL Centre, London

Early Bird Tickets may still be available

<https://www.rootstech.org/london>

**Branch Chairman:** Pauline Chapman

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#### **LFHHS Chorley Family History Research Centre**

**Website** [www.cfhrc.com](http://www.cfhrc.com)

**Appointments** If open 01257 231600 If closed 01257 262028

**Centre Manager** : Sheila Gibbons : **Email:** [chorleyresearch@aol.co.uk](mailto:chorleyresearch@aol.co.uk)

Email for business regarding the Centre: [sheilaresearchcentre@aol.co.uk](mailto:sheilaresearchcentre@aol.co.uk)

**Opening Times:**

Mon, Wed and Fri 10a.m– 4pm 2nd and 3rd Sat Noon-4pm

#### **LFHHS Oswaldtwistle Resource & Research Centre,**

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