

Waltham Abbey Enthusiasts

Issue : 18

Date: Wednesday 16th April 2008

Next Meeting Wednesday 21st May 2008

Our Website : www.walthamabbeygenealogy.co.uk



Notice Board

➤ **Black sheep ancestors**

Whilst researching ancestors with criminal records I came across this website that I found very interesting which basically covers records for the UK, USA, Canada and international. You can see records on public hangings, prison records, court records and information on capital punishment in England and Wales.

www.blacksheepancestors.com

➤ **www.eyfhs.org.uk**

East Yorkshire Family History Society which has a large collection of links that will help anyone looking for ancestors in this area.

www.eyfhs.org.uk

➤ **Sheffield FHS**

Sheffield family history society holds many records which include census information, churches in Sheffield, Births, Deaths and Marriages and searchable online databases.

<http://www.sheffieldfhs.org.uk/>

➤ **Relatives Remembered**

Have a look at this website it holds a large amount of memorials which include names of Passengers who died on the **Lusitania**. Try typing in any of your surnames of interest it might give you results.

www.relativesremembered.com

➤ **Stilling fleet tragedy**

Anyone who's researching the Yorkshire Area. I came across this website that maybe Of interest to the accident on the River in 1833 that happened Stillingfleet and Kelfield Where 14 church singers were caught in a rowing boat incident.

www.stillingfleettragedy.org/

The People Affected By The Lusitania



The RMS Lusitania was a fine ship that came to tragic ending just three years after the sinking of the Titanic on 7th May 1915, when it was torpedoed by a German Submarine during the First World War. The sinking of this ship was said to be why the Americans got involved in the war because of the amount of lives lost. The Lusitania was built by John Brown and company of Clydebank, Scotland. It was named after the ancient roman province which today we know as Portugal. On the ships last voyage there was a total of 1,959 people and out of this number 1,198 passangers lost their lives on the Lusitania. The sinking of the Lusitania effected many peoples lives.

Maud Adams was a famous stage actress of her day and was best known for her appearances on Broadway in *Peter Pan* and *What Every Woman Knows*, she was born on the 11th November 1872 in Salt Lake City, Utah. Her career as an actress really took off when the powerful and successful producer Charles Frohman took control of her career. He became a important part of her life and as her stage performances became more of and Charles was at the height of his career, controlling six theatres in New York, more than two hundred throughout the rest of the United States, and five in London. This all came to a disastrous ending, when Charles Frohman became one of the many passengers on the Lusitania who lost their lives. Frohman was said by survivors that he declined a seat that was offered to him on a life boat and saying "Why fear death? It is the greatest adventure in life" a quote from his one of his most famous plays Peter Pan. After his death Maud Adams ended her stage career with a reclusive life style and never married. It was rumoured that her and Charles may of been secretly engaged.

And this could have been a reason why Maud Adams mysteriously gave up on everything. Many years later in 1975 Richard Matheson wrote a book 'Bid Time Return' which became the 1980's adaptation film "Somewhere In Time" starring Christopher Reeve and Jane Seymour. Jane Seymour's character Elise McKenna is based on Maud Adams.

In the film "Finding Neverland" (starring Johnny Depp and Kate Winslet) Dustin Hoffman plays the famous Charles Frohman and the film uses the Pan theme throughout the film and the play that Maud Adams once was part of.



During all this research of the Lusitania and the people that it affected my dad had a result with one of our ancestors that also sadly lost his life on the ship. *William Alfred Horncastle born in 1878 Bethnal Green, London. Died on the Lusitania aged 37 years old. William's wife was pregnant at the time and when the baby was born (after her father's death) the baby was named after the ship "Lusitania".*

Steak and Ale Pie

Ingredients

875g (1lb 9oz) braising steak, 1tbsp olive oil, 2 onions peeled and sliced, 1 heaped tbsp plain flour, 450l (3/4 pint) light ale, 1 bay leaf, sprig thyme, 175g (6oz) chopped mushrooms, 250g (9oz) fresh puff pastry, 1 egg beaten

Method – Using a large pan, heat the oil until sizzling and fry the steak until it is dark brown all over. Adding in sliced onions, cook for one minute. Mix in the flour and then keep stirring as you add in the ale a bit at a time. Add the bay leaf and thyme and season as required. Cover the pan and simmer the mixture 1 ½ hours, adding.

Water if required. Preheat the oven 220° c (425° F) or gas mark 7 and mix the chopped mushrooms into the steak and ale mixture. Pour the mixture into an ovenproof dish and moisten the edges. Roll out the pastry- this can be bought ready made or you could make your own – and lay gently over the pie filling. Push down at the edges to seal the pie. Brush the top with beaten egg and bake for 25- 30 minutes. Your pie should now be golden brown ready to eat!

Where Did Those Sayings Come From?

"In The Dog House" It is said that you are in the dog house is when your wife is not very happy with your behavior. In J.M Barrie's *Peter Pan* Mr. Darling is made to live in the dog kennel for the way he treats the dog Nana.

"The Black Sheep Of The Family" For thousands of years the black sheep in a flock was always described as unpopular and its fleece could not be dyed and therefore was less valuable than the white lambs. Now the black sheep in the family is said to be the person who is the most unpopular for any reason or other.

"Gordon Bennett" the saying came from Gordon Bennet II was the son of the founder of the New York Herald Gordon Bennet. Through inheriting his fathers newspaper empire Gordon lived a rich fulfilled life with many daring activities. He once flew a plane through an open barn as a stunt, burned a bulky roll of cash which was in his back pocket causing discomfort and urinated in his future in-laws fireplace in front of other guests, after mistaking it for a toilet he was in a drunken state. Because of his lively character and large amounts of he gave to charity his newspapers used to run the headline Gordon Bennett and I guess it stuck.

"Cold Shoulder" To give someone the cold shoulder means that you are ignoring them, making them feel unwelcome. It was said that if a household had a lot of guests and one out stayed their welcome the would be served cold meat that was to indicate that it was time they left.

Contribute to the Newsletter

Tell us how your getting on with your research so far and have you discovered any hidden skeletons you want share with us. Have you come across some unexpected Ancestors, lost relatives, a famous Ancestor? Or do you have any old photos be glad to hear from you.

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