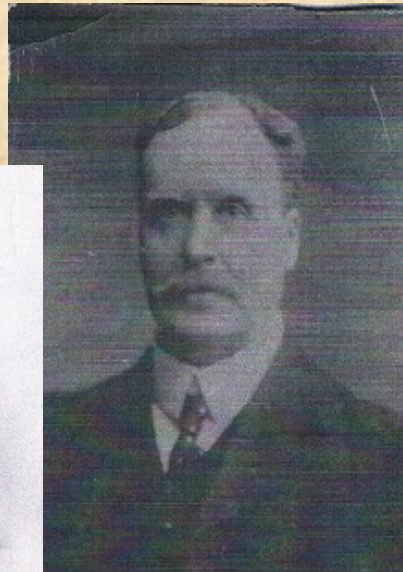




# The Sherring & Bowling Families 1759 - 1959



Written and compiled by Stuart Sherring  
October 2023



Marston Magna gives us an insight into the social history of the Sherrings. William was a cordwainer (boot maker) and Mary Ann a boot binder. We thank Australian cousins for photos believed to be of both. Chaffins was well established by 1870. Mary Ann's photo may be a reproduction. Of their ten children, four of seven sons emigrated.



William, born in 1809 and Mary Ann Farmer three years later, married in 1832. William, a parish clerk too, lived to almost 90. His father William was born in 1783 and a brother John in 1785. William married Ruth Genge in 1804 and John her sister Jane in 1808. A brother James, born 1788, drowned at the age of 9.



The first trace of family roots is Mudford 1759 with the birth of William who died aged 30. The parish registers have disappeared! Limington, Ashington and Marston Magna are closely linked. Just north of Sherborne all are in Somerset. Rev. Douglas White, vicar of Mudford and rector of four parishes, was delighted to hold a service at Mudford on our special 1991 family history day out by coach.

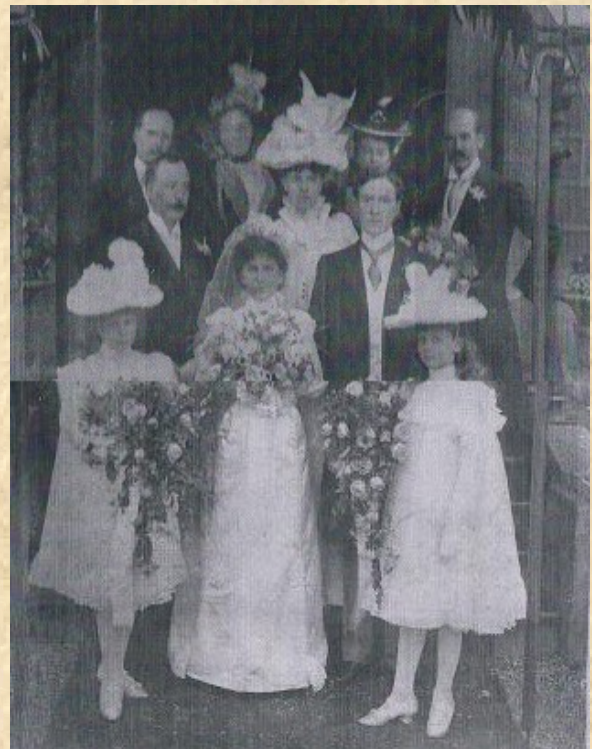
By elimination, the photo left may be Joseph, son of William Sherring and father of Frank. In 1864 Joseph married widow Emily Mills with a daughter Sarah by her first marriage. Joseph worked for the Great Western Railway at Yeovil as a packer and then as a dairyman and later a general dealer. He died aged 61 in 1899. The death certificate was witnessed by Jane Mitchell, mother-in-law. Intrigue adds to mystery as Emily Mills died in 1916.



John Bowling was born in 1843 and Emma Stead two years later. Their marriage was in 1866 at Birstall, where roots go back to 1700 but is it the same line? After qualifying as a solicitor, John was appointed the first Official Receiver in Bankruptcy for Leeds & Wakefield in 1883, after passage of the Act.

Male lineage was via Harry Clifford, one of five. Kate, Lucie and Hilda had no children, nor Lucy Kathleen and Barbara, daughters of Lucy and William. A solicitor too he died in 1913 aged 36 at Selby. Kate married Waldemar who left for Germany on the last boat-train on the eve of WW1. Lucie died aged 93 in 1965 at Bexhill-on-Sea.

The marriage photo of 1898 at Wharfedale, near Ilkley, shows Eleanor and a somewhat pensive Clifford. This was his professional name, switching to Harry for friends and on social occasions. Born in 1869 he grew up in Clarendon Road, Leeds. Their new home was 20 Springfield Mount, later moving to 6 Hyde Park Terrace. All were very close to the University of Leeds.





The photo of John, Joan and her older sister Eleanor (our Mum), was taken in about 1915. Her second name was Mary that tended to be used most. All three had distinctive red hair as did their Mother, Eleanor (née Carr-Walker).



Clifford, Chairman of West Riding Opera, and joint Honorary Secretary of Leeds Philharmonic Society, was very friendly with ebullient, witty conductor Sir Thomas Beecham. He had a 'box' at Covent Garden. Lady Emerald Cunard, a London society hostess, invited him on her yacht and campaigning suffragist, Lady Laura Aberconway, to her parties. Clifford organised troop entertainment at Beckett Park Hospital, Headingley, in WW1. He published three 'year books' with impressive pen & ink drawings.



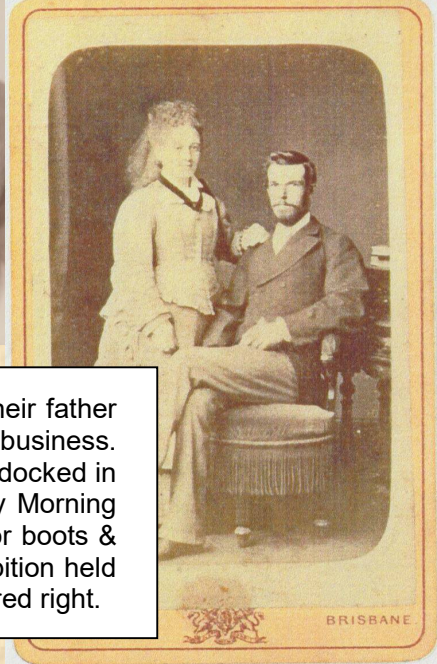
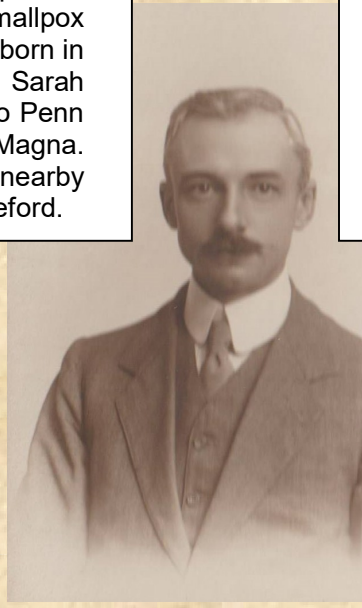
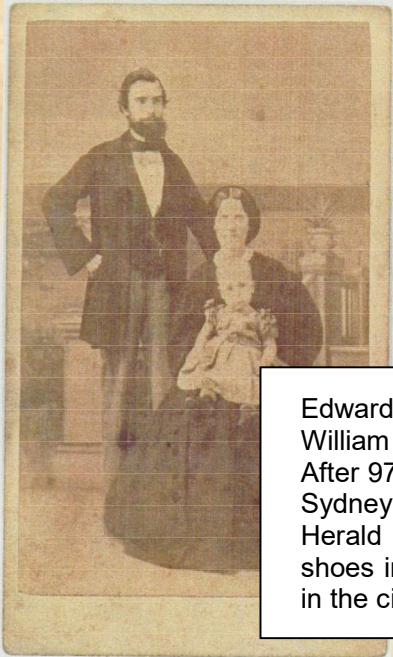
Martin spoke fondly of Grandma Bowling who often visited when the family lived in Leeds, after returning from Barotseland in 1933. The move to Bristol in 1939 enabled Dad to complete his teaching qualification at Bristol University.



Left to right: Granny Bowling, our Mum Eleanor, Joan, with crimped hairstyle, a relaxed John and Clifford at the back. At a guess the photo was taken in 1927.

Three young daughters of Joseph and Emily Sherring died in 1872. Smallpox swept Yeovil. Frank (right) was born in 1874 and lived with half-sister Sarah at 33 Sherborne Road. Close to Penn Mill, trains stopped at Marston Magna. A printer/compositor by 17, his nearby new family home was 57 Reckleford.

On Christmas Day 1894 Frank now 20 married Alice Newman, also of Yeovil. He learned boot & shoe craft from grand-father William and uncles Henry and George. By now a salesman, at Frisby's (Middle Street) maybe, he quickly made an impression!



Edward (left) and twin Henry helped their father William in his boot and shoe making business. After 97 days on the 'Joshua', Edward docked in Sydney on 6<sup>th</sup> April 1858. The Sydney Morning Herald reported his first prize award for boots & shoes in 1869 at an international exhibition held in the city. Arthur, a carpenter, is pictured right.

On arriving in 79 days on the 'Racehorse' in 1866, bootmaker Frank stayed with Edward. A crack shot, he won the National Rifle Championship in 1879. Arthur lodged with Joseph and Emily before departing for Brisbane in 1875 on the 'Ophelia.' An inquiry into food attributed the death of 15 of 354 adults to fever - from unclean habits! Frederick came to Adelaide on the 'Erato' in 1876 with wife Emma and their two children. A police constable in London, he joined the NSW police. He signed up for the Sudan in 1885 after General Gordon was killed. Frederick resumed his very first occupation on return - bookmaking.

George worked on the GWR and lived in three small cottages close by the railway. One was a washroom, another a garden store. A family profile appears in *Marston Magna At The Turn of the Century*. Author Marian Davis describes George as short and dark, corduroy trousers neatly tied under his knees with a bootlace. On Monday washday his wife Ann used to use chloride of lime to whiten whites. A busy home, Marian was great friends with their daughter Annie. She ends by saying, "They were a good family, not rich in this world's goods but full of kindness."

Of Grandpa's 10 uncles & aunts, 4 emigrated, 5 stayed locally (Joseph, Henry, George, Mary and Ellen) whilst Ellen's twin, Elizabeth, moved to Blackfriars in London.





This 1882 painting of prestigious Park Row shows the portico of Leeds Philosophical and Literacy Society on the left. On the right is Beckett's Bank. Further up, at 24 Bond Street, were the offices of John Bowling, Solicitors, taken over by Clifford on his retirement. An office at 22 Park Street was mentioned too, perhaps splitting insolvency from general legal practice. His son John became a solicitor too as did his own son Bruce - four generations!



A turn of the century photo of rapidly expanding Frisby's boot & shoe chain. In the heart of the marketplace of bustling Blandford, trade was probably buoyant. Signage is above the awnings. Open by 1898, the family lived over the shop. William, brother of founder Joseph, moved to Dorchester, opening a Frisby's in South Street. He may well have trained young manager Frank (Grandpa). Aunt Muriel was born in 1897 and Dad (Herbert) in 1901.

Eleanor was head girl of fee-paying Leeds High School. A Higher School Certificate was a passport for Froebel teacher training at Bedford College - and Herbert at Bristol University. He studied science, switched to teaching and left early. Ill-health was cited. Dad became tutor to the families of John Player (cigarette manufacturer) and Jesse Boot, founder of the chemist. His last post before leaving for Barotseland in 1930 was a master at The Wells School in Ilkley.



Eleanor and Herbert were married in Leeds in 1928. Above is a joint 1930 passport. In Barotseland, Herbert was to be principal of a new school in remote Lukona run by Paris Evangelical Missionary Society. By chance, King Lewanika stayed in Marston Magna for several weeks in 1902. Sir Randolph Baker MP for North Dorset had Northern Rhodesia links. Seeds were sown. What a challenge, with a huge sense of adventure too!



The north-west journey to Lukona was over 300 miles from the Victoria Falls, along the Zambezi River. It took four weeks. A camp was made on dry land each night. Major rapids and cataracts had to be bypassed on foot. The 16 paddlers had to haul the open barge, approx 28 ft long, around these and all luggage too.

In April 1961, having found a copy of Herbert's notes to go with her own diary, Eleanor wrote a detailed account of the journey each way, in 3 red exercise books. These were transcribed and in 2018 SCOLMA (society of academic libraries group on Africa) published an account with a foreword by Stuart. Copies are in the Bodleian, British Library and National Archives at Kew.



Richard was a year old on arriving, with Chris born the next April. Martin's birth in December 1932 was traumatic. Born in a tropical storm on a bullock cart, en route to Mongu, delivery was fraught. A later revelation was the bullocks fleeing in thunder and lightning, only to return.

The photos above and right were produced as postcards and sent to Auntie & Uncle. "With all good wishes for a very Happy Christmas and good health and good luck in the new year 1933." They were signed, "From Mary & Bertie, Sefula 1932 Xmas." Post was via a monthly mail barge to Livingstone, by rail to Cape Town and then by ship to England.



The last rapids on return in June 1933 were at Katima Mulilo. A circuitous walk to bypass, they chanced it but the barge became stuck on rocks. Even with every paddler pushing hard it wouldn't budge. With all lives in great danger, the roar of cataracts was incredible. Herbert signalled the head paddler, Davida, to thrust harder from a higher rock. With a mighty splash the barge was free. Davida recounted this narrow squeak to a missionary, "his eyes rolling in terror' said Mum.



Both are postcards via Geo. W & John Hayes, photographic chemists, New Briggate in Leeds. Postcards to confirm safe arrival home may have been produced for posting to PEMS mission stations in Barotseland. Months later, on 31<sup>st</sup> January, the Yorkshire Evening Post published a longish story from Dad, entitled: Exorcising An African Devil.





The postcard shows King's House, a diocesan teacher training college opposite Salisbury Cathedral. The card was posted from Croydon on 27<sup>th</sup> October 1933. "Leaving 09:30 and arriving 12:35. Just off for the last splash." Having returned from Africa only several weeks earlier, this was a useful refresher. Mum's ambitions were soon to be on hold.



This 1936 photo at Bramley, West Leeds, shows by now five children: Rosemary, Chris, Richard, Martin and Trevor. Next year Robert was arrived. In 1939 came the move to Henleaze, Bristol, where Heather was born. Bombing began in June 1940. Nearby Filton aircraft works was hit. As bombing intensified the family moved to Surrey. Dad was to be an instructor at (General) Gordon Boys' School, West End.

Home was Kraaipan, a large and rural detached house. Village schooling was a disaster said Martin. At GBS, military training and trade skills were the focus for up 240 boys age 14-16. They made their boots, shoes & clothes. Carpentry, vegetable cultivation and cooking were taught too. Saturday night films shows at GBS were a special treat, topped by spectacular Sunday military parades: a pipe and drum band of 36, in dark blue tunics, tartan trews, Glengarry cap and Gordon badge. The band is marching along Whitehall on Remembrance Day.



Both Maggie and Ellie were born at West End. In autumn 1943 the family moved to Bournemouth, to what was termed '35' by us siblings. The three storey terrace house, with basement, in Windsor Road, Boscombe, was near Auntie and Uncle. Stuart was born at '35' on V.E. Day, 8<sup>th</sup> May 1945.

Richard was appointed 'duty runner'. Dad told all others to scarp for the day. Rosemary stayed under the bookstall of Sidney Wright in the Arcade, believing Mum was very ill. It was a difficult birth. Eldest children were all invited to suggest a name. Victor was to be my second name.

On moving to '35', Dad commuted each week to Portsmouth Grammar School, before being appointed at Taunton's School where he held a senior post. A Southampton school, it moved locally at the start of war, integrating with Bournemouth School when war started. Dad needed to look for a permanent post on return of masters in 1945.

Headlines in The Yorkshire Post on 28<sup>th</sup> December 1946: "Sudden death of Mr H. C. Bowling - Official Receiver in Leeds for 31 years." He died at home at Hyde Park Terrace the previous day, aged 77. A qualified solicitor at 21, and later a partner, he took over the practice from his father, John, in 1914.

"His conduct of public examinations of bankrupts, marked by thoroughness in the preparation and handing of cases, invariably showed a high degree of fairness to debtors and creditors."



Mum's brother John moved to 53 Weetwood Lane, (above) with wife Marian and son Bruce (William Bruce Clifford). Mum's cousin Kathleen lived near. In late 1947 she married widowed Canon Charles Marshall, vicar of St Chad's for 40 years, and keen bell-ringer also. On 16<sup>th</sup> January that year he was hit by a car near the vicarage and resigned in May. They lived in Clyst Honiton. Charles passed away two years later. Kathleen then moved to The Stone House, in Goathland, where she died in 1977.



When over from Canada in the 1970s, Robert stayed with Cyril and Rosemary for a few days. He telephoned Uncle John in Leeds. "Pop over for lunch." Robert did, driving 100 miles from Coventry. This is a photo of John & Marian.

We do not have a photo of Aunt Joan, Mum's sister. Amusing and artistic, she married Reg Scarlett, a used car dealer says Bruce but Richard described him as a 'rag & bone man.' "Where there's muck there's brass" commented Mum.



The studio colour photo of Aunt Muriel was by Miell and Miell, photographers at 90 Old Christchurch Road. The marriage of Auntie and Uncle Arthur was on Boxing Day 1925.

It took five minutes to walk to 29 St John's Road. A beautiful house, 'Homestead' lived up to its name. Occasional invites and our impromptu visits were topped by Boxing Day. We went in threes or fours, not en masse! A long dining table was beautifully laid with silver cutlery and serviette rings to match.

Uncle made delicious ultra-thin Hovis sandwiches. We eagerly looked forward to Battenberg cake too. After tea we played Bagatelle. Homestead was our sanctuary. So was Uncle's garage in Sea Road, opposite Windsor Road. A cup of strong tea was guaranteed and a couple of Nice biscuits. Most of all we looked forward to a chat. Now and again we had a real treat, being taken in one of his old cars to Swanage, the Blue Pool or New Forest.

Opposite Homestead, on the corner of Cecil & Argyll Roads, was the vicarage of St John's church, 'our local.' Morph to 1963. Gordon Guinness, the vicar, took great exception to an eye safety poster of a nude girl wearing only sun glasses. The caption read: "But I always wear my sunglasses." He met the by now fully clothed young lady and the press had a field day. Sales of safety glasses probably soared! After all it was the Swinging Sixties.

Grandpa probably retired in 1939 at 65, moving to Southbourne with Grandma. The photo with daughter Muriel is circa 1950. Grandma died in 1954. Grandpa then came to live with Auntie and Uncle at Homestead. Dapper in a suit, collar & tie, waistcoat and fashionable boots he took a daily walk. Even into his 80s, Grandpa stayed each year for a week or so at the Grand Hotel, Swanage. He died in 1966 at nearly 92 years of age.



Also taken about 1950, the photo shows Maggie and Heather each side of Auntie with Ellie and Stuart in front. An identical photo, with Auntie photographer instead, shows us kids looking glum! Auntie gave a distinct ring of the bell when calling at '35.' The cry went up - "Moo, moo, moo! Richard heard Auntie refer to 'Bert's poor kids.' It was as an endearment of sorts he said, "much like The Old Contemptibles" of WW1 fame. How we enjoyed the lovely Homestead garden, its secluded summer house - and a glass of orange squash.



Dad & Mum at the wedding of Martin & Molly in late September 1959. It is hard to believe Dad died two months later, predeceasing his father. Dad taught the upper years at Lockyer's, Corfe Mullen. A much respected teacher, the school displayed a plaque in his memory.

Mum returned to teaching for a term or two at St Christopher's, private school. In the spring of 1960 came the move to Netley Abbey. Mum wrote the Zambezi diaries eight months before she died in December 1961. Auntie Muriel passed away in 1968. Uncle Arthur then moved to Hengistbury Head and died in 1984.

**FIRCROFT HOTEL**

[Street Plan: Square H9]

3 STAR      OWLS ROAD      ::      BOSCOMBE

**Illustrated Tariff on Application**

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GARAGE FOR 18 CARS

**Terms:**  
 October-May from 6 gns.  
 June-September from 7 gns.,  
 according to position of rooms

**Special Winter Terms for Prolonged Stay**

Resident Proprietors:  
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Telephone: Management B'combe 185  
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Charmingly situated in one acre of grounds among Fines. Sea View. Three minutes' walk from Pier and Chine Gardens. Central Heating throughout. Gas Fires, Radiators and Hot and Cold Running Water in all Bedrooms. Bedrooms with Private Bathrooms. Large Sun Lounges. Dining Room. Separate Tables. Card Room.



Established 1922

ATTRACTIONS: Hotel Cinema, full-size Hard Tennis Court, Beach Bungalow, 9-hole Putting Green, Spacious Ballroom, First-class Orchestra, Table Tennis, etc., Billiards [Winter months].



Yards away from Homestead was the Fircroft Hotel (top). Opposite (left) was the Burlington Hotel where USA troops were stationed for D-Day. On returning home, via 'Britain's Miami,' they organised a party for about 100 children with lashings of ice-cream, jelly and cakes.



Art Deco San Remo Towers down Sea Road was the perfect Sunday paper round, courtesy of Kenwards. Avidly reading soccer reports in a luxury flats complex, it was inevitable the Homestead paper was delivered late. Tut-tut!

Boscombe was vibrant in the 1950s and so was the L-shaped Arcade. Where the two sides met, a pianist played from the balcony. Next door was a theatre, renamed Hippodrome, that in 1957 became the Royal Ballrooms. Inside is magnificent. It is a Grade 2 listed building.

Christchurch Road is from the Lansdowne to Iford. Nearly three miles, the hub was barely half a mile from St John's Road to Ashley Road. Classy shops on that side to Sea Road included: Plummer Roddis (department store), Kasmir (ladies fashions), Wuytack cakes, chocolates and posh café, .Robert Old (menswear) and Hickie & Hickie (piano specialists). Opposite was the vibrant Royal Arcade. Beyond Sea Road, stores galore lined each side. Frequent trolley buses from Bournemouth to Christchurch ran along this busy stretch.

### Boscombe Shops - Kelly's Directory 1957

Start at the bottom. Up the hill from Boscombe Gardens to the Crescent left, and St John's Church and Road right, past Adeline Road and Sea Road right, with Palmerston Road left, to Ashley Road left. Heathcote Road is opposite.

662	Kendall's Umbrellas	HR	Barratt & Co - boots	655
650	Bealesons - slumber shop		John Sainsbury - grocers	637
632	Stead & Simpson - shoes		Mac Fisheries	631
624	Lipton's - provisions		International Stores	627
616	Butlers - drapers		Boscombe Library	625
608	John Temple - outfitters		Woolworths	609
600	Timothy White - chemist		Marks & Spencer	603
590	Montague Burton - tailor		Savoy Cinema	599
586	Robson & Son - grocer		Wilkins (Westons) - bakers	591
580	Trueform - shoe retailer		Springate - opticians	579
566	Jones - bootmaker		Lloyds Bank	577
564	Royal Arcade	SR	Dewhurst	575
560	Salisbury Hotel		Silvio Pelosi - café	573
556	Palmerston Arms Hotel	PR	Hickie & Hickie - pianos	571
554	Boots The Chemist		Robert Old - menswear	561
548	Victory Toyshop		Wuytack & Sons	555
544	Halford Cycle Co.		R E. Bath - travel agents	549
522	W J Candy - ironmonger		Kasmirs - fashions	543
520	Cadena Café & Bakery	AR	Savory & Moore - chemist	509
516	W. Harris - motor vehicles		Plummer Roddis	501
472	Gardner's Hotel	SJ	Lantern Cafe	461

From '35' to the Trocadero café on the corner with Sea Road was about 120 yards. Kenward newsagents was next door and Warren the grocers on the corner with Roumelia Lane. A list sufficed as credit was given. A bit further on was Strathmore, fruit and veg (formerly Pragnalls). On the corner of Sea Road was Dewhurst, butchers, and by Hawkwood Road the chemist, Max Fay. Stuart did their deliveries after school, often to internationally famous Green Park Hotel.

Every Saturday, after chores at home, a ritual was re-enacted. This meant two journeys to lug groceries, fruit and veg and meat back. The final trip was to carry a large canister of paraffin for the smelly heater. Robert recalls King's too. A letter from Dad was produced to buy a supply of cigarettes. Saturday afternoon was free, spent out with friends or watching soccer.

We knew most of our neighbours: Robinsons at 33, Albery's at 31, Marlars at 29, Reeves at 27, Shepherds at 25 and Simpsons at 21. Bob Marler left aged 16 to live with his uncle in Toronto. Robert met up again in 1965 on emigrating. Their friendship became a lifelong Canadian one.

Sea Road with the Hippodrome and Arcade behind. Below is Boscombe Library. Woe betide if you even whispered! Boots the Chemist had a library too. The photos are about 1930. In the 1950s few owned a car. Excelsior Coaches, on the forecourt of Uncle's garage, started foreign holidays. A highlight was a tour to Russia in 1957 at the height of the Cold War.



Impressive architecture dates from 1895. Palmerston Road is left. Further up (right) was our treasured library. Trolley buses replaced trams in 1933. Near Christchurch Priory, the turntable was one of only five worldwide. It is Grade 2 listed.

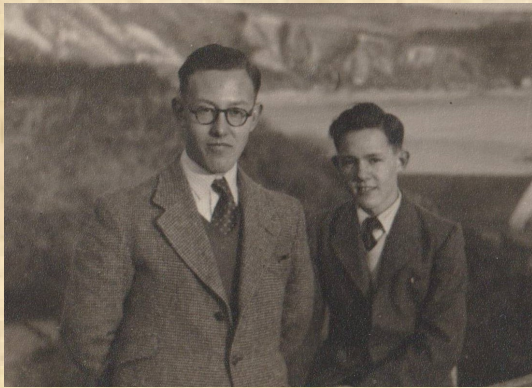


Three b&w Francis Frith photos in 1955. The pier is at the end of Sea Road. Pony rides in the chine (valley) of Boscombe Gardens went up to the pond. Ellie used to help out the Herbert family in summer.

School over and chores over, daylight hours were spent outdoors. Friends were not allowed home. In summer we nipped across to Uncle's garage to inflate a car inner tube as only Robert swam well.

Aside from the beach, we enjoyed cliff top walks and Grovely Manor (Shelley Park). The Savoy cinema closed in 1958 and later the Astoria and Carlton (ABC). Basic dancing steps were learned at Judah & Curtis in Adeline Road; very timely as the Royal Ballrooms became a magnet.





Two smartly dressed brothers at Lulworth Cove in 1947, perhaps to celebrate Martin working at Mooring Aldridge & Haydon too. Richard joined at 14 and Martin at 15. After working long days they dashed to evening classes. Richard's 'Call-Up' was at Catterick, Martin in Egypt before the Suez crisis, and Trevor in 'Cold War' Germany.

Rosemary was at Boots the Chemist, Boscombe, in the surgical department. Dad arranged the interview and came along too, mentioning links to the family of Jesse Boot! Rosemary helped an unwell Mum and Dad and youngest ones. Measles, whooping cough and mumps were common and even scarlet fever.



Robert (left) at 17 with a chum in Sea Road. He had many friends, including several in Windsor Road. Much of his 1945 was wiped out, hospitalised with debilitating rheumatic fever. Robert worked for Vickers Armstrong at Hurn Airport. His service posting was to Cyprus where EOKA terrorists ran amok.



The '35' garden in 1955 shows the back wall of Brashers, Roumelia Lane. Heather (left at 15) also worked at Boots - jewellery & handbags. Maggie was in Boots Bournemouth on stationery and then Southbourne. Interviews were lined up by Dad! Ellie, to Maggie's right, worked in accounts at Bobbys in the Square. All left school at 15. Stuart, as with Chris, an electrician, and Trevor are MIA from photos - missing in action! Trevor worked for Hayter's Jigsaws in Palmerston Road and then for two grocers.



## Postscript

After Dad died in late November 1959, '35' seemed eerily quiet. The six eldest siblings had left home. Several were married. The three teenage girls moved into bedsit land with Maggie and Ellie sharing for a while in Ashley Road. Mum, having a hard time coping, moved in early April 1960 to a small semi in Victoria Road, Netley Abbey. Richard and family lived a few miles away. Stuart returned to much preferred Bournemouth School, staying initially with Martin & Molly. He then opted to live at the YMCA.

All ten siblings made a good go of life. Earlier generations had made it by their bootstraps! Take William, and three of four sons who sought a future Down Under. All were bootmakers. William's grandson Frank (Grandpa) was a Frisby manager by his early 20s. It took determination. Education was a barrier as a class ceiling existed. So did a glass ceiling for women.

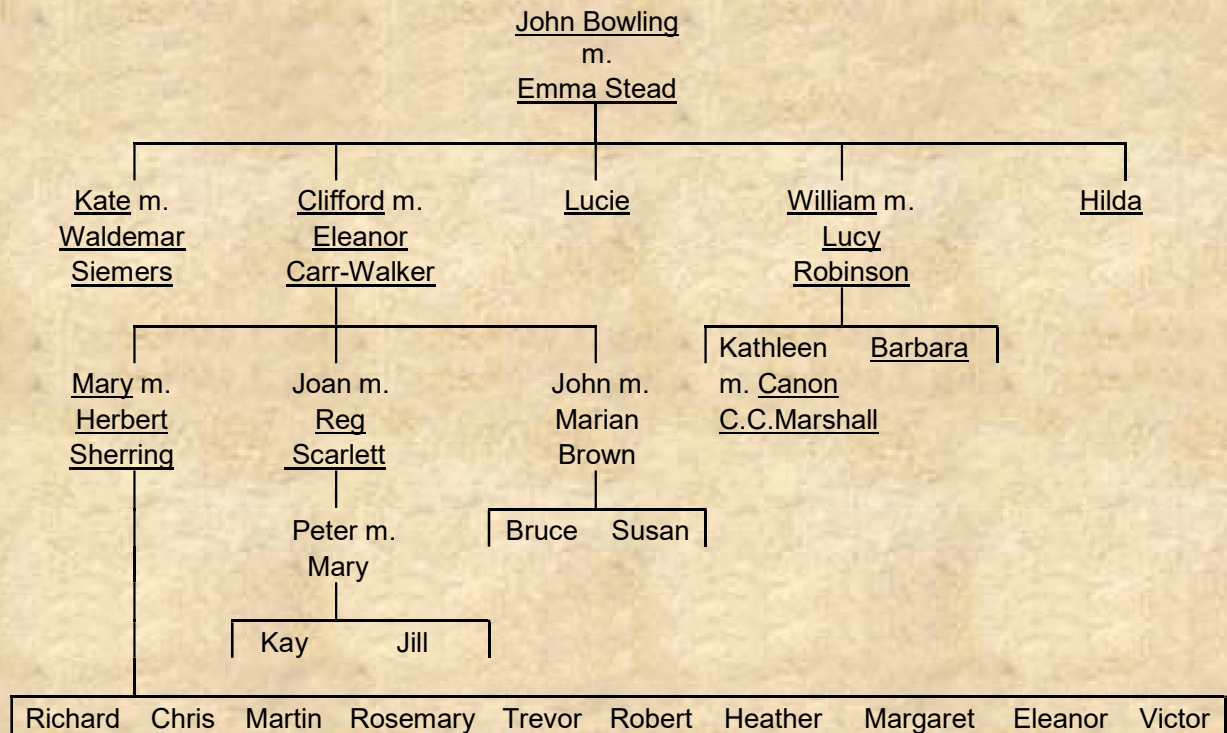
Little changed by the 1940s. Fee-paying pupils took a School Certificate. GCEs, from 1951, were for grammar schools only. Evening classes were a lifeline for career entry requirements. Local secondary schools offered nothing - academic or vocational. CSEs came in only from 1965. Access to careers was hard graft; nursing for Maggie and Rosemary and hotel admin and management for Eleanor. Robert emigrated for health reasons and a brighter future, foreseeing decline of the British aircraft industry.

The male side of the Bowlings continued in family footsteps to become solicitors. Fourth generation Bruce started out as a stockbroker before switching. He had a legal practice in Doncaster until retirement. Martin, Rosemary and Robert kept in touch with the Bowlings. We thank Anne for contacting Bruce who shed more light. A strong family link is the legal profession. There are three Sherring generations: Richard's Jenny taught law, Stephen is a solicitor and grand-daughter Teresa, (Anne's daughter), is a barrister with the Crown Prosecution Service.

As Bruce comments, it's a pity we do not know more about Katie, Lucie and Hilda, daughters of John and Emma, and of Barbara, daughter of William and Lucy. We know about their other daughter, Auntie Kathleen, much involved in the Girl Guide movement. She gave Rosemary a copy of Cecil (Cecilia) Woodham-Smith's biography of Florence Nightingale, neatly inscribed "with love and best wishes - April 20<sup>th</sup> 1951." Was this compelling account a spur? Related careers beckoned for Maggie and Rosemary - and her grand-daughters Elizabeth, Katherine and Jennifer.

We leave the Sherring and Bowling families in 1959, having charted 200 years of fascinating insights. An abiding memory is family camaraderie as siblings stuck together, through thick and thin. Looking back we enjoyed life, made our own entertainment and valued friendships, some lifelong. Contact with the Bowlings was maintained. For that we are grateful. Each generation may make sense of these family histories and links. Guiding hands played a part, especially in bootmaking, the legal profession and nursing. Others shaped our lives too by wise words and encouragement. We can all be rightly proud of our heritage.

## Appendix 1: Bowling Family Tree



The family tree by Aunt Kathleen, sent to the Sherrings in January 1967, has been reproduced with her supporting notes below. The original was immaculately typed in light blue ink that has faded.

The names of those who have died are underlined.

John Bowling was a lawyer and Official Receiver of Leeds.

His sons went into partnership with him:

Clifford - your grandfather - also Official Receiver and William - my father.

Later, John (junior) was in partnership with his father.

Great-Aunt Lucie only died in 1965, aged 93.

Aunt Joan - has red hair - a very amusing and artistic person, devoted to Peter and his children.

Peter Scarlett - your cousin - a jolly, fat fellow, with fair wavy hair - has a nice wife and two adorable children.

Bruce Bowling - also your cousin - the one with red hair - is in London doing (I think) accountancy.

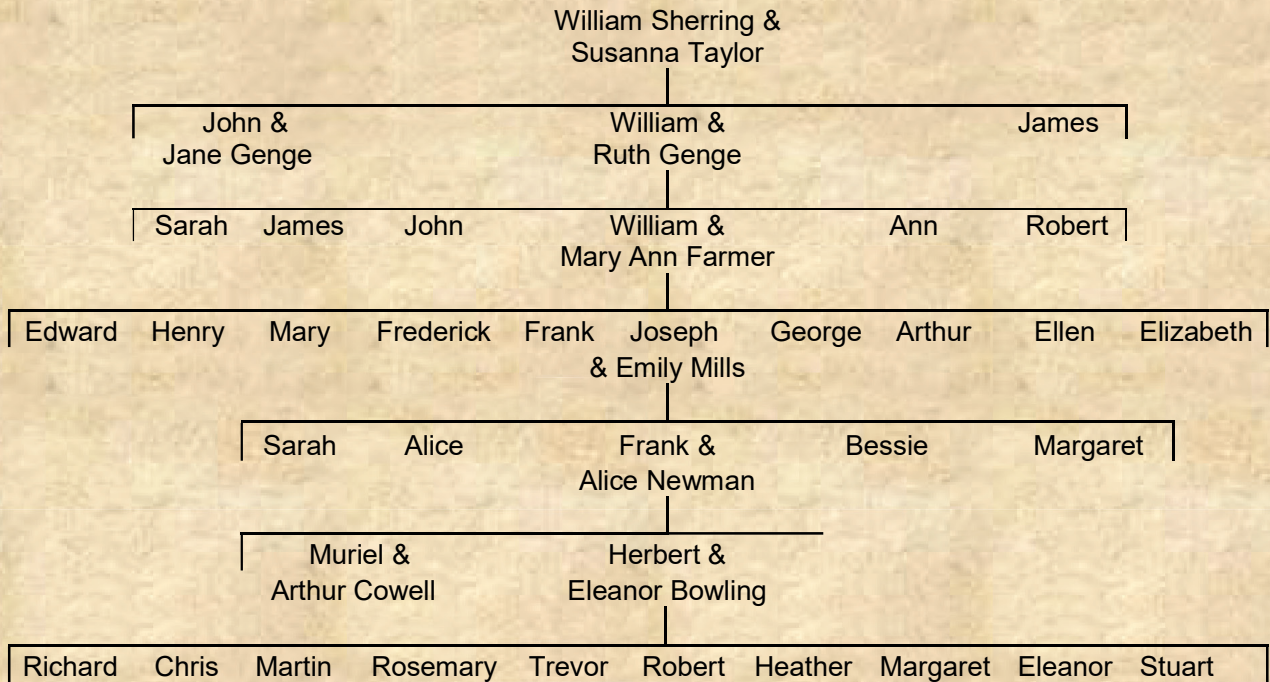
Susan - a bonny girl with fair curly hair - is taking a Secretarial Training in Leeds.

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In both the 1881 and 1891 census, Kate was referred to as Mary C and Auntie Lucy Kathleen by her second name. Mum (Eleanor Mary) was called Mary. Her father used his first name Harry (Henry) in everyday life and Clifford professionally.

The children of Eleanor Mary and Herbert (Mum and Dad) listed by Katherine includes a baby after Victor (Stuart). Baby was underlined that meant a miscarriage or stillborn.

## Appendix 2: Sherring Family Tree



- Our Sherring lineage dates back to the birth of William in Mudford in 1759
- The Genge line is intriguing - two Sherring marriages and Hardington Mandeville links
- For brevity the extended families of William & Ruth are not shown
- Neither are the extended families of William and Mary Ann
- Emily Mills was a widow when she married Joseph and had a daughter Sarah
- All three young daughters of Joseph and Emily died in 1872, by the age of 6
- Martin was registered on birth as Philip Martin and Victor as Stuart Victor
- Warwick Sherring of Lismore NSW gave details of Frederick's emigration to Australia
- Vivienne Saville of Sydney likewise gave information on Frank and others brothers
- Warwick provided early photos of all four emigrating brothers, plus other snippets
- Rena Sherring of Toronto is linked via James, brother of William
- A detailed family history was provided by John Sumner, distantly related
- Of great help too in the research were Gordon & Irene Moore of Queen Camel
- Irene's grandfather, George, featured in the Marston Magna book by Marian Davis
- The likeness to Martin is striking said Irene
- So is likeness to the photo of William, husband of Mary Ann, on the front cover

Years ago I saw the stage play of Alan Bennett's The History Boys in London. A memorable quote is from Hector, an eccentric yet inspirational teacher.

"Pass the parcel. Sometimes it's all you can do. Take it, feel it, and pass it on. Not for me, not for you, but for someone, somewhere, one day." How true. Take a document, or skill such as a master thatcher or stonemason. If not passed on these may be lost forever. So it is with family history.

Enjoy reading this absorbing account of our two linked families. The photos from various sources are a bonus. Only now can I make more complete sense of research into the Sherrings over thirty years ago.

The Bowling family was mostly a mystery, apart from snippets. Anne opened the door. Sadly, cousin Bruce died not long ago. He readily shared what little he knew. So did Leeds Local & Family History Services, an Aladdin's Cave.

**Stuart**