

Who'd A 'Thowt It?

No. 3, Vol 2.

Burnaby, BC, Canada

December 1997

NOTES and NEWS

It has been a while since the last "Who'd A 'Thowt It?", and the reason is that since I have "retired", I have in fact been busier than ever. I am still involved with youth soccer in the Vancouver area, and have in fact just completed the schedules for the THREE DISTRICT LEAGUE which covers Burnaby, Vancouver and North Vancouver (a separate municipality). In addition, I am the president of the BC Institute of Technology Retirees' Association, a director of the local youth soccer club, and a member of the Burnaby Citizens Crime Watch. So, as can be seen, it is not too easy to put out a regular family newsletter. It may be recalled that in the last newsletter dated November 1996, I said that it would be difficult to send a newsletter once per year. As I am writing this in October 1997, hopefully I will have it out within a year of the last one.



Please remember, the more news I receive from the family, the easier it is to publish the "Who'd A 'Thowt It?".

Correspondence from around the World

Middleton, UK



After the last newsletter with the news of the death of my brother George, I received a note from cousin Winnie Fitzgerald in Slattocks, Middleton, expressing her sorrow at the news. Winnie had not seen George since he was a young man, so for her he will remain a young man. Thanks Win, your note was much appreciated.

Prescot, UK

I must apologise to cousin Winnie Jones' daughter, Chrissie Moir, for not yet getting down to answering her lovely long letter which I received before last Christmas. We really enjoyed your letter Chris and I will write, honest! The letter was prior to the death of Aunt Winnie McVey and told of the difficulty cousin Winnie was having looking after her mother, and at the same time having to cope with her own bad case of arthritis. Luckily, cousin Winnie's husband Ted helps out as does Chris.

Chris has three sons, The eldest, Paul (24) who lives with Chris, had just got engaged to Nikki a Prescot girl. Stephen (17) has his own flat in Prescot, and Thomas (10) is of course still at school.

Chris's brother David married Catherine, a Wigan girl in February 1995. He surprised the family who believed him to be a confirmed bachelor.

Sister Jacky and husband Norman have two children, Adam, (about 11) and Natalie who is 9 years old. Norman's job of shop-fitter has apparently provided them with a first class life style, and at the time of the letter they had just built a third home...in Disneyland, Florida.

Maybe I can get Chrissie to send me a yearly report on the doings of the McVey clan in Prescot—and perhaps in Campbell River too!

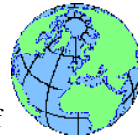


New Zealand

In May I received a letter from English expatriates Edna and Victor Swain, late of Suffolk but who have lived in New Zealand for years. Edna and Vic are also researching an elusive BARNARD family in Suffolk, and I am printing in this newsletter a photograph of Frederick Barnard, Vic's grandfather who was born in 1878 (see pg. 2). I have got to say Vic, as was common with early photos, he doesn't look a very happy camper!



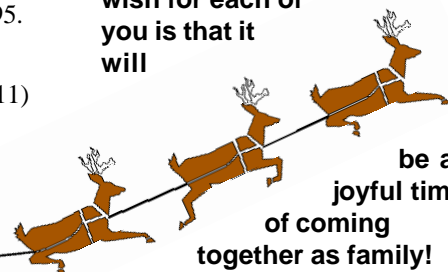
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Frederick Barnard

Season's Greetings!

The wonderful Christmas season is upon us again. Our wish for each of you is that it will



be a joyful time of coming together as family!

Merry Christmas to you all and all the best in 1998!!



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The letter included a very interesting article by one John E. Barnard, titled *The Shipbuilding Barnards of Ipswich*.

The article was published in a past edition of the journal of the Suffolk Family History Society, and was apparently triggered when John E. was visiting his doctors surgery, picked up a glossy magazine, and saw a full colour print bearing the caption *An East Indiaman in Barnard's Yard, Deptford*. He related how his mind flashed back to the day 64 years earlier when his father had told him "the Barnards had once built ships which had fought against Napoleon."

I have never heard of our family being connected with shipbuilding, and our earliest discovered Barnard ancestor Thomas, who was alive at the time in question was certainly not involved. But it is interesting to see how chance occurrences can cause one to embark on the chase for ancestors.

Cheshire, UK

Two letters were also received from cousin Olive Quinn in Alderley Edge, Cheshire,



Olive expressed her sorrow on hearing of the death of George and recalled how she, Renee, George, Florrie and Jessie all played on the Cohen Street croft as children. (Cohen Street was in the Miles Platting district of Manchester, the first home where I was brought after my birth in Crumpsall Hospital.) She also recalled a much later visit to Beccles with husband Charlie, and brother Clifford and his wife Phoebe, and their unsuccessful search for Barnards.

Olive's second letter written last August told how due to Charlie's health he has had to go and live in a Home.

As she remarks, "It's more like a five star hotel with dining for the inmates *and* visitors." Olive herself was then living in an apartment in Alderley Edge, but by now has possibly moved into a flat she is having renovated.

Chris and I are planning to visit England next February Olive, so hopefully we will be able to drop in and see you, and catch up with all the news. I also need some names and dates concerning your children and grandchildren for the family tree.

Australia



Olive's brother, Clifford Moores of Adelaide, S.Australia, also wrote. Clifford was a bachelor for a couple of weeks whilst Phoebe and her sister did some interstate touring. I don't know whether or not her sister is resident there or just visiting.

Clifford has done quite a lot of reading, and some time ago sent me some information on the Sandemanians, a religious sect with which Michael Faraday was connected. Faraday married a Barnard. In his letter, Clifford mentioned that there was a relationship between the Barnard and Fox families who at one time opposed the readmittance to the sect of Faraday after he fell out of favour. Clifford postulates a relationship with our family and a Barnard family of Silversmiths. It may be so, I really do not know, but unless I can make progress on the origins of our *known* Thomas Barnard born circa 1790, place unknown, I will never be able to find out.

Clifford also mentioned the NIELD family of Stockport. There is a branch of their family in Australia. It does appear that Amelia Tinker, known as Emmy or "Aunty Dinky" married into the Nield family. That is one of the very many things I would like to confirm as soon as I get the chance to look up the marriage record. Amelia was not strictly a Barnard, but was the half sister of granddad Samuel George Barnard, and the daughter of great grandmother Mary (Nee Walton) Tinker, and her second husband John Tinker.

Thanks for the birth and marriage dates Clifford, they helped me fill in a few blanks in my database. Chris and I had hoped to visit Australia in the next couple of years, but the way things are going, its looking pretty uncertain at the moment. Particularly as Chris has a brother in Western Australia, and that is a long way from Adelaide and New Zealand, all places we would love to visit.

Canada



...and back in the Great White North we are enduring a postal strike. We are hopeful that it will be resolved soon but on the offchance that the strike continues, these newsletters may have a U.S. postmark as we will be crossing the border to ensure you receive them in 1997!





UK Get-together

The following report was received from my great-nephew Dean O'Shea, grandson of my sister Renee.

Introduction

As most members of the family will be aware February 1997 was a sad month for us all when (Aunt) Winnie McVey (nee Fitzgerald) passed away on 5th February, aged 91 years, just days away from her 92nd birthday.

At Auntie Winnie's funeral on 11th February, along with her immediate family, and many other members of the family including her niece, (my Gran), Catherine (Renee) Binns, my mother, Vivienne, her sister, Janice Maggs, and myself, were present to pay our last respects.

Although the day was one of grief, members of the family were there to offer emotional support, especially for Auntie Winnie's daughter, Winnie Jones, and sons', Andy and David.

Whilst it was not an appropriate occasion for discussion, it was agreed that we would all keep in touch with a view to organise a family reunion in the near future.

Three Months Later

On Bank Holiday Monday, 5th May 1997, I received a telephone call from Winnie Jones to say that her brother Andy would be home from sea on leave in a few weeks time and would like to meet up with our branch of the family. So after a few phone calls to the others.....

....A Date Was Set...And At Last We All Met!

On a hot and sunny Sunday, 25th May 1997, family members my **Gran, Mum**, my younger brother **Christopher** (16) from Bispham, Blackpool, Lancashire; **Auntie Jan, Uncle Maurice**, cousins **Damien** (20), **Ashlie** (13), and **Jordan** (9 months) from Elswick, near Preston, Lancashire; Gran's cousin **Winnie Jones** (nee McVey), husband **Ted** and their daughter **Christine Moir** from Prescott, Merseyside; **Andy McVey** from Warrington, Cheshire; **Kevin Fitzgerald**, wife **Diana**, and daughter Rosemary's children **Karrie** (18) and **Martin** (17) from Middleton, Manchester; Neville Barnard's daughter **Tina**, Fiancee' **Neil** and sons **Steven** (14), **Karl** (11), and daughter **Abbey** (7) from Newton, Hyde, Cheshire; not forgetting, of course, yours truly (26)!; all got together for our family reunion.

The first port of call was at my Mum's in Bispham and then a few hours later, it was over to my Auntie Jan's and Uncle Maurice's abode in Elswick. I will never be forgiven by either of them if I do not extend our heartfelt thanks for their wonderful hospitality. Mum, Auntie Jan and Uncle Maurice worked very hard to make the day a success.



The whole day was a marvellous occasion. It was great to see members of the family renew acquaintances, catching up with family news, and to reminisce about the old times. The day meant for some, meeting relatives for the first time, especially for the younger members of the family. On a personal note, it made me feel very proud to be associated with this very special day.

Having spoken to Winnie Jones today (27th May), it was unfortunate that her Grandchildren (Christine's sons) Paul (23), Stephen (17) and Thomas (10) and other members of the Jones and Fitzgerald families couldn't make it to the reunion. But we will all be planning other get togethers in the future.

New Arrivals!



I take the greatest of pleasure in announcing the arrival of two grandchildren for Chris and me in 1997.

My daughter Kim gave birth to **Liam Tyler BARWICH** on 31 March 1997. Liam weighed in at 9lb 14 oz, a new brother for Micah, Gavin and Kyle. Congratulations to Kim and Frank!

Daughter-in-law Leah and son Sean presented us with our first granddaughter, **Megan Leah Jean BARNARD**, who was born on 8 October 1997, Chris's birthday! What a birthday present! Megan weighed 7lb 8oz at birth, a sister for Braeden.

Welcome! Liam and Megan. We now have 5 grandsons and one granddaughter, a long way behind many of our relatives, but very satisfying for us.

Be sure and let us know of any new arrivals in your home and we'll include the announcements in the next newsletter!



Tracing the Barnard Family - Part 7

A New Development

On the evening of the 4 October 1997, right out of the blue I received the following email message from one Michelle McDonald:

I can't believe I finally found someone else who is researching this name.

I am looking for information on Lydia Elizabeth Barnard and her parents Thomas Barnard & Sarah ??????. Lydia m. Frederick Leavold and had at least one child Rose Leavold b. Aug. 31, 1865 in Beccles.

If you have any information I would love to hear from you.

Michelle

Immediately, Chris and I thought of my Gt. Gt. Aunt Elizabeth who we had come across only once in the 1841 census of Beccles. After that she seemed to disappear into thin air. This is the note I had written in Elizabeth's computer file:

Elizabeth BARNARD (c.1831 - ?)
Last update: 4 Mar 1989

The only mention of Elizabeth that I have been able to find is in the 1841 Census of Beccles where she was said to have been born in the county of Suffolk. Her age was given as 10 years old.

In the 1861 census of Beccles, an Elizabeth BARNARD said to be aged 22 was employed as a Nurse/Servant at the home of Lieut.Col. William Cross (retired), living at 19 Blyburgate St, Beccles. There is a discrepancy of 8 years in age, but she cannot be ruled out as being our Elizabeth.

I replied to Michelle by email:

Hi Michelle,

You have me all a' quiver at the receipt of your message... I don't know at this stage whether or not we are researching the same BARNARD family, but your message is the most promising I have had to date. Can you please satisfy my curiosity on a couple of things first? 1. Where did you get my name and email address? 2. Whereabouts are you located?

It is possible that your Lydia Elizabeth Barnard is the person I know as my Gt. Gt. Aunt Elizabeth Barnard, daughter of Thomas Barnard (c.1790-1849) and Sarah BROOKS (1797-1875). I have only found Elizabeth in the 1841 census of Beccles when her age was given as 10 years old. Because ages of children were generally given to the nearest five years in that first census of any genealogical use, she could have been a little older or a little younger of course. I have not yet found her baptism. The birth of a child in 1865 would fit in well with this age.

Another reason why I feel hopeful that we may have a connection, is that Sarah Brooks was one of five sisters, and the other four were Elizabeth, Lydia, Esther and Harriet. Elizabeth was Sarah & Thomas's oldest daughter, the second daughter was called Harriet and the youngest was called Sarah. Do you have Lydia Elizabeth's marriage certificate? If so, the name of the witnesses might help, in addition to the name and occupation of her father.

*Finally, a couple of Elizabeth's siblings on one occasion **only** had an initial appended to their name in the census. Sister Harriet was **only** once referred to as Harriet A. and brother Henry was **only** once referred to as Henry B. I am wondering if Elizabeth could have been Elizabeth L. and at some later stage reversed the name to Lydia Elizabeth.*

Let me know what you think, and if you think it is the same person I will give you all the information I know to date. I cannot go back any farther on the Barnard line, but I can go a couple of generations back on two other lines. I have considerable information in subsequent generations of the Barnard line.

Hope to hear from you soon. Regards, Alan

As a result of the resulting correspondence, it was established that Michelle lived in Florida and was assisting her Aunt (who had just come out of hospital after a back operation) with the family tree research which had originally been started by Michelle's grandmother. Michelle at the time of writing is waiting until her Aunt is fit to resume her activities, when she hopes to obtain the information that her Aunt has on the research to date. Michelle saw my surname interests on the Suffolk Surname List on the Internet.

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I don't yet know how the information given in the original message was obtained, but as Sarah Brooks surname was not known, I suspect it was a church marriage entry, which usually gives the fathers names of the bride and groom but often does not give the maiden name of the mothers.

Since writing the above, I have received the marriage certificate of Lydia Elizabeth BARNARD and Frederick LEAVOULD. In later records the name was spelt LEAVOLD. There is now no remaining doubt that Michelle and her Aunt Loretta ALCORN are my cousins. Loretta is my 3rd cousin once removed, which makes Michelle my 3rd cousin twice removed. Loretta and my children are fourth cousins, and they and Michelle are fourth cousins once removed. This business of cousins is very confusing to many people, but it is not quite as bad as it at first seems. As most people have no problem understanding, children of siblings are first cousins, then children of cousins are second cousins, children of second cousins are third cousins and so on. My second cousin is the same generation as me, but my second cousins child is my second cousin once removed. In other words, the number of times removed is simply the difference in the number of generations between two people.



Whatever! The contact with Loretta and Michelle is exciting because it helps to fill in the tree quite a bit more, and gives hope that we may eventually find to where Lydia Elizabeth's two younger brothers, William and Henry BARNARD disappeared. In fact, it may give enough impetus to renew the search for their fathers birth, the elusive Thomas BARNARD (c.1790-1849).

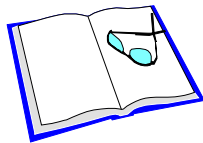
As I dispatch this report to my editor (my daughter Kim), Michelle has returned home for a week for the Thanksgiving holiday, which is today, Thursday 27th November in the U.S., and Loretta, although much better when we recently exchanged emails, is still recuperating from a back operation. She tells me she is enjoying starting to get around again, and on behalf of the rest of the family we wish her a speedy recovery, and hope that she and Michelle and their families have a very enjoyable Thanksgiving holiday.

Loretta lives in Utah not far from the marvellous archives at Salt Lake City, and has offered to do lookups for me there, an offer I will probably very thankfully take up before long.

I will report again as I hopefully discover more about the family branch of Lydia Elizabeth BARNARD.

The Preston Citizen News

I think I have previously mentioned a book that I have been slowly writing (very, very slowly—so slowly that it is presently stopped), about the life of my parents, my siblings and myself. I have about eight chapters finished so far that deal with all kinds of events in our immediate family.



I was reading the review of a book which dealt with the evacuation of children from the big cities of Britain during World War II, and it struck me that the people of Bamber Bridge near Preston might be interested in hearing the

perspective of one of those children who was evacuated to their village. Accordingly I contacted the *Preston Citizen* by email and told them a chapter of my *in embryo* book dealt with my evacuation to Bamber Bridge. I got a very quick reply expressing willingness to revive the article, and I sent it by return email.

Although they did not print the article in full, the following precise appeared in their newspaper last January:

Memories of 'Briggers' hospitality

The hospitality of Briggers will become legendary as far afield as Canada thanks to a new book by a war-time evacuee.

Alan Barnard who now lives in British Columbia, was shipped out to Bamber Bridge to escape bomb-threatened Manchester in 1939.

He was just ten years old at the time and he and his younger sister Peggy were eventually found lodgings with neighbouring families.

In his book, Alan recalls being issued with special rations for the train journey to Preston, and clutching emergency chocolate and a tin of condensed milk as they waved a tearful goodbye to their families.

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Please direct all correspondence to:

Alan Barnard,
1242 Augusta Ave,
Burnaby, B.C.
Canada V5A 2V4.

Phone: (604) 299-7155

Found in The Reader's Digest:

Sign Language

A Toronto restaurant sandwich board read:
"The fastest way to trace your family tree is
to run for public office."

-Louise Leger (1996)

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When they arrived in the village, they faced the trauma of 'being picked' or worse still, not being picked: "Peggy naturally wanted to stay with me and very few were able to house more than one extra child," said Alan.

"Consequently we were among the last taken," he added: "And I had secretly begun to despair we would ever be picked as we sat there with our labels round our necks, clinging firmly to our carrier bags, our familiar gas masks and each other's hand."

After he settled into Mrs Blackwell's, Alan delighted in living in the country: "I revelled in my new world of fields, trees and streams where with my new and old friends, I would spend endless happy hours scrumping apples and committing other minor crimes."

Alan has put all memories to paper because he wants his contemporaries in Bamber Bridge, many of whom became friends, to know how much love their parents gave to bewildered and fearful children.

After this short article was published, I was astounded to hear from about fourteen or fifteen people in the area, including Preston library, who wanted to know where they could buy my book. I promised to let them all know when it is finally ready. After that, I will need to find a way to shed some work so that I can finally get down to finishing the book.

Good News After Bad!

We received some disturbing news at the beginning of November. My sister Peggy had been taken into hospital with a collapsed lung. It has happened before, but this time seemed to be much more serious than on previous occasions. The news was passed around our immediate family. My brother Neville and wife Diane in Campbell River on Vancouver Island, and Chris and I in Burnaby prepared to dash down to Centralia where the hospital was situated. Remaining sister Renee is in Bispham, near Blackpool, and had no way of getting there in an emergency as this seemed to be.

Neville, Diane, Chris and I were ready to set off for Centralia on Wednesday 12 November, when Neville got the news from Peggy's son Alan that there had been some improvement, and he phoned me to let me know. We decided to go down on that weekend which we all did.

Neville and Diane who have much further to travel set out from Campbell River on Friday intending to stop at a motel on the way down. Chris and I left home at 6:00 a.m. on Saturday morning, stopping about 9:00 a.m. for a coffee break, and arrived at the hospital by 10:30 a.m. Imagine our relief when we found Peggy sat up in bed, chatting away "nineteen to the dozen." Husband Don was with her, and had been by her bedside constantly for over a week. In fact they had provided him with a little camp bed in her room. All their children had taken turns to watch over Peggy, and we met their daughters Patti and Traci, son Alan and son-in-law Michael Yantis during the course of our visit.

We spent a few hours with Peggy and had a great chat—remembering our childhood together of course—and we really enjoyed our visit. We left for home at mid-day on Sunday leaving Peggy and Don enjoying the Seattle Seahawks football game on TV. We left feeling very good at seeing Peggy improving by the minute, but she sure gave us a scare for a while!

Who'd A 'Thout It

is produced by Alan Barnard
and edited by Kim Barwich

