

The Bannister Family

This is based round a vault in the New Lane cemetery which contains the remains of John Bannister and his wife, Mary Ann Atkinson Newnham.

1786. Probable birth of John Bannister in Havant, baptised in St Faith's, 2nd January 1787. John's parents were John Bannister (1752-1828) and Rebecca Mellish (1753-1826). John was possibly born on Hayling Island and he was subsequently buried in St Peter's churchyard on Hayling. Like his son, he was a surgeon. There is no record of Rebecca's birth but they were married in St Mary's church, Portsea on the 22nd April 1784. Rebecca is also buried in St Peter's churchyard and there is a memorial to them inside the church which also includes their grandson William and his wife Lydia. In addition to John, I've found three other children of theirs, George Mellish (1789-?), Richard Mears (1791-1849) and Rebecca Ann (1794-1799) but there may well have been others.

1787. Probable birth of Mary Ann Atkinson Newnham, baptised at St Mary's, Portsea, 2nd September. Her parents were Robert Hooper Newnham (abt 1755- abt 1794) and Catherine Newland (no dates found) who married in Alverstoke, 26th November 1781. Probably at St Mary's but no church name mentioned.

1812. Marriage of John Bannister and Mary Ann Atkinson Newnham at St Thomas a Becket, Warblington, 14th April.

1813. Birth of John Henry Bannister, baptised at St Faith's, Havant, 8th April.

1814. Birth of Benjamin Newnham Bannister in Havant, baptised at St Faith's, 31st March.

1815. Birth of George Mellish Bannister in Havant, baptised at St Faith's, 21st October.

1816. Birth of Stephen Robert Bannister in Havant, baptised at St Faith's, 8th January 1817.

1818. Birth of Matthew Richard Bannister in Havant, baptised at St Faith's, 2nd October.

1820. Birth of Alfred Bannister in Havant, baptised at St Faith's, 24th March.

1821. Birth of William Bannister in Havant, baptised at St Faith's, 12th December.

1823. Birth of Mary Ann Newnham Bannister in Havant, baptised at St Faith's, 1st August.

1825. Birth of Augustus Bannister in Havant, baptised at St Faith's, 16th October.

1827. Birth of Sarah Louisa Bannister in Havant, baptised in St Faith's, 18th July.

1830. Birth of Edward Bannister in Havant, baptised in St Faith's, 3rd March.

1841. Census shows John and Mary plus sons Benjamin and Edward living in Havant. Elsewhere George is living in Tottenham Court Rd, London and listed as a Shopman and Stephen is living in Seymour St, Somers Town, St Pancras, Middlesex. No records found for other family members.

1851. Census. John and Mary Bannister plus daughter Sarah living in East St, Havant. John's profession, Surgeon. Elsewhere: John Henry and Benjamin are living at 435 Oxford St, Soho, Midd'x, John a General Practitioner and Benjamin his Assistant; George still living and probably working in Tottenham Court Rd, St Pancras, occupation, Draper; Stephen living in the High St, Emsworth, occupation, Grocer shopman; Matthew listed as Richard his second name living 73 Old Broad St in the City of London, occupation, Shopman; Alfred living at 102/3 High St, Oxford, occupation Counting House Clerk: William, Mary and Edward living in Compton, Sussex. William a General Practitioner, no occupation given for the other two; Augustus living and probably working at West St, Horsham, occupation, Drapers Assistant.

1851. Marriage of Alfred Bannister and Sarah Hall (1821-1906) in Oxford. 3rd quarter of the year.

1851. Death of John Bannister in Havant, 27th November. Buried in New Lane cemetery, 6th December in plot 816.

1852. Marriage of Benjamin Newnham Bannister and Anna Maria Price (1830-1908) at St James, Piccadilly, 13th May.

1861. Census. Mary Bannister now widowed still living in East St, Havant. Living with her are her sons Willam, a General Practitioner and Stephen, a Clerk; her two daughters, Mary and Sarah both of whose occupation is given as Ladies seminary implying that they were teachers, possibly at the house; her granddaughter Emily, Scholar aged 8, daughter of Benjamin; Emily Clark, aged 8, a Pupil and one servant. Elsewhere, John and Matthew are living at 436 Oxford St, Westminster, John a General Practitioner and Druggist, Matthew a Clerk in Printing Ink Manufactory; Benjamin a chemist and druggist, wife Anna and son Frederick, aged 5 are living in Market St, Morrision, Swansea; George a Linen Draper is living at 151-156 Tottenham Court Rd, St Pancras; Alfred a China Merchant Clerk, wife Sarah and son Alfred, aged 4, are living near Holywell church in Oxford; Augustus is still a Drapers Assistant living in West St, Horsham.

1863. Marriage of John Henry Bannister and Elizabeth Mary Ann Longmore Anderson (1829-1864) at Saint John The Evangelist, Charlotte Street, Camden, 4th June.

1866. Marriage of Augustus Bannister to Mary Turner (1828-1898) in Fittleworth, Sussex, 5th June.

1867. Possible marriage of Edward Bannister and Ann Saunders on 6th August, registered in Southampton. Unable to find any records beyond that.

1868. The second marriage of John Henry Bannister this time to Annie Murray (1850 – 1893) at Saint Andrew Undershaft, City of London, 25th February. If Annie was born in 1850

then she was only 18 at the time of her marriage compared to Henry who was 55. The marriage record states "of Full Age" but that may not have been true.

1870. Marriage of William Bannister and Lydia Coles at St Saviour, Southwark. Lydia had been previously married to a William Dent, who she had successfully petitioned for a divorce.

1871. Death of Mary Anne Atkinson Bannister in Havant, 22nd February; buried in New Lane cemetery 1st March. Sons John Henry and George were two of the executors.

1871. Census. John Henry, General Practitioner, wife Ann and son Charles, aged 2 plus John's brother George, Drapers Assistant are living at 436 Oxford St, Westminster; Benjamin, Chemist and Druggist (Out of Business), wife Ann and sons Frederick, aged 15 and Percy, aged 5 are living at 20 Delancy Place, St Pancras, Marylebone; Stephen, no record found; Matthew, Ink Maker Clerk, is lodging with the Cooper family at 36 Devonshire Square, Finsbury; Alfred, Commercial Clerk and wife Sarah are living at 102/3 High St, Oxford, their son is away at school; William, General Practitioner, wife Lydia and son William, under 1 month old, are living in East St, Havant along with a servant and a "monthly nurse"; Mary and Sarah, both of whose occupation appears to be Scholastic, are living at 16 East St along with Benjamin's daughter, Emily and a servant; Augustus, Bailiff, his wife and their daughter Mary, aged 2, are living on his father in law's farm in Fittleworth, Sussex. NB William's record is on a document covering the south side of East, while Mary and Sarah's record is on a different document covering the north side. Today the numbers on the North side are odd, so the number 16 for Mary and Sarah may well be meaningless in trying to work out which house they were in.

1881. Census. John Henry and wife Ann plus sons Charles, 12 and Walter, also for some reason listed as 12 (he was born in 1873) are still living at 436 Oxford St. Also listed is John's brother Stephen, Warehouse Clerk; Benjamin, Retired Chemist, wife Ann, sons Frederick and Percy are living at 15 Florence St, Islington; George, Retired Draper, is living in East St, Havant with his sisters Mary and Sarah, both listed as School Mistress. Also listed there are a general servant, Lucy Saunders, born in the West Indies and 4 pupils, 3 girls and a boy; Matthew, Commercial Clerk, is still lodging with the Cooper family but they are now living at 140 Long Acre about 0.4 miles east of Piccadilly Circus; Alfred, Stationer's Clerk, is living at 3 Oriel St, Oxford with his wife Sarah and their son Alfred Ernest also a Stationer's Clerk. Oriel St is very central running off the High St with Oriel College a prominent building; William no record found as yet but Lydia with sons William, 10, Percy, born 31st August 1873 and daughter Edith, born 9th April 1877 are visiting George and Elizabeth White who were living in Bellevue Rd, Northwood, Isle of White. Elizabeth is Lydia's half sister (same father); Augustus, Farmer of 148 acres, employing 5 men and 2 boys and wife Mary are still living at the same address as 1871 but presumably his father in law has died and A is running the farm. Their daughter Mary is boarding at a school in The Causeway, Horsham, Sussex.

1885. Death of Benjamin Newnham Bannister in Islington, buried in Islington, 23rd April.

1887. Death of John Henry Bannister in Tottenham, Middlesex, 6th May. Address at time of death, 4 Bruce Grove, Tottenham. Burial 12th May at Chingford Mount cemetery, Waltham Forest.

1888. Death of Stephen Bannister in Singleton, Sussex, 6th June, followed by burial at The Blessed Virgin Mary, Singleton, 11th June. Address at time of death Cowper Lodge, Singleton, Sussex. The Lodge still exists and lies to the left of the A286 as it passes through Singleton towards Midhurst.

1891. Census. Annie Bannister, widow of John Henry was living at 93 St Johns St, Clerkenwell with her sons Charles, Opticians assistant and Walter, Mercantile Clerk; Anna/Annie Bannister widow of Benjamin was living in one room at 15 Dagmar Terrace, Islington. No records for daughter Emma and son Percy though he does reappear in 1901. Son Frederick, Stamp dealer & Colonial agent, is living in part of 102 Church Rd, Canonbury, Islington with his wife Louisa nee Phillips, born 1861 and their daughter Emily born 1885; George was living with his sisters Mary and Sarah in their house in East St, Havant, all described as Living on her/his own means; Matthew, Clerk (Mercantile), was lodging with the Booth family at 45 Gloucester St, Holborn; Alfred, Stationer + Post Office, was living at 161 Walton St, Oxford with his wife Sarah and son Alfred a Commercial Clerk; William, General Medical Practitioner (Registered), is living in South St, Havant (probably Newnham House but no name or number listed) with his wife Lydia, son Percy, Medical Student, daughter Edith, scholar and a General Domestic Servant, Alice Burrows born in Central India*. Their son William, an Official Receiver's Clerk, is lodging with the Mandly family at 21 Florence St, Newcastle under Lyme; Augustus, Retired Farmer, is living Cowper Lodge, Singleton (see Stephen's death above), with his wife Mary and their daughter Mary. * In the 1881 census, Alice was living in West St, Havant and her father's occupation is Retired Chelsea Pensioner, so I presume that he was serving in India a decade earlier and his family were out there with him.

1892. Death of Matthew Richard Bannister in Havant, 28th July. Buried in New Lane cemetery 3rd August. His grave is adjacent to his parent's vault and also contains the remains of his brother George Mellish. At the time of his death he had been living at Woodford House, his sister's house in East St, Havant.

1893. Death of Benjamin's wife Annie in the first quarter of the year. Death registered in Holborn.

1894. Death of Benjamin and Annie Bannister's younger son Walter Henry. Burial 13th August at Chingford Mount cemetery, Waltham Forest.

1898. Death of Mary Bannister, wife of Augustus, in Singleton, Sussex, buried in Sngleton churchyard, 28th January, aged 70.

1901. Census. Charles Bannister, Manufacturing Optician, was living at 27 Rathcoole Ave, Hornsey with his wife Marion and 4 children; Annie Bannister, widow, was living at 65 Cross Rd (shop), Islington with her son Percy, Picture Frame Maker, his wife Maude and son Norman, 6 months old. Annie's other son Frederick, Philatelic Merchant and his wife Louisa were living at 34 Upper Park St, Barnsbury, Islington; no record for Alfred and wife Sarah but

their son Alfred, Probate Court Clerk and his wife Ada were living at 64 Juxon St, Oxford; William, General Practitioner, was living at 29 South St, Havant with his wife Lydia, daughter Edith, a domestic servant and a resident patient, a widow, aged 75. I believe that no. 29 is Newnham House, which these days is occupied by PWP Architects. Their son William, Accountant, was living in 2 rooms at 10 Enderley St, Newcastle under Lyme. Younger son Percy, Surgeon, is listed as part of the crew of a Royal Navy ship, HMS Rattler, possibly out in Sierra Leone. Percy is shown as a widower and was married in Devonport in 1900; Mary and Sarah, each described a Retired Schoolmistress, were living at 29 East St, Havant. If the numbering has remained the same this would have been next door to Magnolia House where the Empire cinema stood; Augustus Bannister, Retired Farmer, was living on his own in an unnamed cottage in Singleton. His daughter Mary is working as a General Domestic Servant in another cottage in the village, which seems a bit odd.

1903/4. Death of Alfred Bannister in Oxford. Buried 5th January 1904 at Wolvercote cemetery in grave A2 27. The grave is unbricked and 12 feet deep. Alfred is at the bottom, his wife Sarah at 9 feet deep, then their son's in laws at 7 feet and 5 feet.

1904. Death of William Bannister in Havant, 25th July. Buried in St Peter's churchyard, Northney, Hayling Island, 29th July. His two sons were the executors of his will. In the church there is a memorial plaque to William and his wife Lydia and to his grandfather John Bannister and his wife Rebecca.

1906. Death of Alfred's wife Sarah, buried at Wolvercote cemetery, 24th October.

1907. Death of Augustus Bannister at Singleton in the second quarter of the year. No burial record found but likely to have been buried in Singleton churchyard with his wife.

1907. Death of Mary Ann Bannister in Havant, 16th August. Buried in the Eastern Rd cemetery, Havant on the 20th August in plot 1886 where she was later joined by her sister Sarah. Address at time of death, Woodford House, East St, Havant.

1908. Death of Annie Bannister, wife of Benjamin in Islington; buried in Islington, 23rd April.

1911. Census. By then the only survivor of the original 9 sons and 2 daughters is Sarah. She is still living at 29 East St, Havant with one servant Sophie Ewens, a widow aged 48; Charles John Bannister, son of John Henry, is living at 27 Rathbone Avenue, Hornsey with his wife and 4 children, occupation Commercial Traveller Photographic; Alfred's son, Alfred Ernest, District Probate Registry Clerk, is living at 145 Kingston Rd, Oxford with his wife Ada, daughter Florence, 8, plus Ada's father and brother. Alfred died in Oxford on July 26th 1931 and was buried in the churchyard of St Mary and St John, Cowley on the 30th July; William's widow Lydia is living in Lymm, Cheshire with her daughter Edith and her husband Arthur Evans a Machinery Merchant; There is no record for her son William but he does reappear in 1921. Equally there is no record for her younger son Percy but he reappears in 1916 when he marries Margaret E M Perfitt-Harvey. They subsequently appear in the 1939 Register living in Brighton prior to Percy dying in Altrincham, Cheshire in 1943 and Margaret in Brighton in 1956. Augustus's daughter is patient at West Sussex County Asylum, Graylingwell, Chichester. She subsequently died at a similar establishment in Berkshire on the 10th September 1919. A sad story.

1921. Census. Sarah still living at 29 East St, Havant with the same servant; Lydia appears to be living in Stoke on Trent with her son William Henry (Census hint on Find My Past).

1922. Death of William Henry Newman Bannister of 4 Upper Crescent, Harpfield, Stoke on Trent, 1st July.

1925. Death of Lydia Bannister of 1 Groby Place, Altrincham, Cheshire, 6th November. Groby Place is the address that her daughter Edith and her husband were living at in 1939.

1931. Death of Sarah Louisa Bannister in Havant, 13th November, aged 104. Burial 18th November in the Eastern Road cemetery in plot 1886 where her sister Mary was buried in 1907.



MRS. JEWELL, AGED 104, OF EMSWORTH (right), VISITS
MISS BANNISTER, AGED 103, AT HAVANT.
THE REV. W. B. NORRIS, WHO ARRANGED THE MEETING.

As with other families, I have created a small Tree on Ancestry "The Bannister Family of Havant".