

Shros Tree

The Journal of Shrosbree Family history

Issue 1 2002



Issue 1 vol 1

The Shrosbree's the finding of a family



The missing Shrosbrees
Found at last

Surname Mapping

An Armchair History Publication



Shrosbree News

Issue 1, Oct 2001



Peter Masters

Introduction

Since I started researching the Shrosbree Family tree my list of contacts has grown steadily, so much so that I felt there may be a need for a news letter , to this end I produced a 3 issue news letter in 1998. Some of you will have had copies of these but as with the passage of time , no doubt these will have been lost , discarded or ignored.

I felt it may be worthwhile republishing the news letters in a new magazine format , reprising some of the earlier articles and adding new ones, I make no apologies for reusing some of the articles because it is usefull to refresh ones memory of people and events .Again I must be emphasise that without the help of my cousin Mike Dunn in Australia who has worked so hard to make the breakthroughs, that a lot of our knowledge would still be blank. I hope that you like the results

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Missing Family Found

I thought you might find my experience interesting or amusing. Having had an aged computer for some time it never occurred to me that I could use it for genealogy, but after using a old DOS programme bought at a boot fair in late 1998, I got smitten and forked out and purchased Family Tree maker, and started tracking my family

When I started to "Do my Tree" in March 1999 we knew very little about my mothers family the Shrosbrees, apart from my own immediate family, my mother and her two sisters etc. and their parents [now all deceased bar one aunt Edie], there was also an uncle Laurie but little else to go on., as I had lost touch with them since moving from Kent to Sussex as a boy and subsequently to Wales.

So I looked in the telephone book for any Shrosbree's living in Kent and sent some of them a letter. Imagine my surprise when by return of post I received a reply and a telephone call in the same day, from two lost members of the family !

I had struck gold. cousin Gwendoline 73 had been married and was divorced and had gone back to her maiden name and she was now living near her place of birth Northfleet in Kent, she and her brother Harold were able to supply vast amounts of information on the whole clan 250 + entries, 5 generations, from my Great grandfather down to today, which has not only added greatly to my study of the Shrosbree family, but has made it possible to do so in a very short time, without the hours spent tracking and tracing people and records.

But I was now stuck with my great great grandfather, who was he and where did he live / come from?

I then bought the 1851 census 2% extract = Nothing !! When the 1881 was announced I seized the opportunity to really sort things out and put my name down straight away..

Having got the entire 1881 census (30 million listings) and after searching through the indexes and listings I quickly located my great grandfather, Thomas G Shrosbree born 1859 living with his father, John C Shrosbree, they were lodging with their sister and daughter respectively, Mary Hale in guess where ??? 89 The High Street Northfleet Kent.

John aged 56 was widowed and was an Engine fitter and Thomas G Shrosbree unmarried at 22 and a general labourer.

Given that Charles Edward **1st** born child of Thomas G was born June 1884. Thomas G Shrosbree and Kate Rowe must have married sometime between the census and this event.

Mary Hale (33) Nec Shrosbree is shown born London, Middlesex. Also Listed were one Alfred Shrosbree (24) and a George Shrosbree (22) both Soldiers in the 16th Lancers stationed in Fulford gate Yorks. Could they be relatives ? if they are brothers then George has the same age as Thomas G Shrosbree?

I decided that it was now time to do a wider search. so I set the search field to Surname only all locations /all areas. Believe it or not having checked the index there were only 50 Shrosbrees listed in the whole U.K. for 1881 and they were all from just 8 Households /families and all given born in the London / Middlesex area ! Shoreditch / St. Luke's or London Middlesex.

I could not believe my results or luck so I set a Wild card * onto the surname. eighteen variations came up.

This must surely be a record, the whole of ones ancestors found from 1859 to the present day *inside* a week and the remainder back to 1825 in one pass of less than 30 seconds on the computer.

Incredible as it may seem on May 3rd I received a phone call from Australia from my cousin Michael (My mothers sisters family) we have been out of contact for 25+ years and they had decided to trace the family origins and not knowing where to begin they looked in the

telephone book for any Shrosbree's living in Kent and sent them all a letter.

Guess who they contacted first ? Yes you've guessed it, Gwen and she passed on my details to them. they now have all my information on disc from the computer and have the whole story in less than a month and from one letter and we have welcomed them back into the fold,

I then ordered the all I.G.I sheets for Shrosbree, Middlesex. As there were so few Shrosbree's I expected to be able to go back immediately to 1066, after all the battle of Hastings was in Kent and Harold came from Essex.... now what about the Romans ?

But of course life is not that simple

So I Built a new powerful computer with a modem and connections to the Internet

When I started with the Shrosbree clan I had little or no information and few relatives to ask, so it had to be remembered details and intuition as the 1881 only listed 50 plus another 18 surname variants it seemed straight forward especially as they were all listed Middlesex ,and the I.G.I for Middlesex was only 75 strong . Well I have now got over a thousand links in my database. One stray family were living in Birmingham in 1881 but they were listed as born Shoreditch .but they only had initials so it was difficult to identify them, by a bit of detective work and guess work I was able to find some of them in the I.G.I site plus the bonus of having a list from St Katherine's house of birth and deaths 1799-1946.

This was compiled by an unknown relative in Tasmania ! who came over about 20 years ago .But unfortunately he did not record the names of the parents of the children !!!!!

Through this valuable list it was possible to see that 42% of the children died in infancy, or early childhood which might have been useful, except that most of them were not listed in the I.G.I or the 1881, having fallen of the perch between census [censi ?] those that remained were clearly alive and well, grown up and with families so why were they not on the

lists ??? Because of spelling errors and Tassy Joe did not have time to deal with that one !

By combining forces with my cousin in Oz we contacted all the Shrosbrees we could find world wide and gradually we have pieced together the emigration to Canada U.S.A South Africa etc. .What they have to say when they can be prompted to say it, is usually about family members we have no record of . to whit, since all the Shrosbree are accounted for and born in Middlesex who is the Adam who was living in Scotland had a daughter born in Newcastle and emigrated with three children to S.A his marriage is recorded in Edinburgh he is given born in London but no parental details . so we do not know if he and the Hottentots branch are ours or not , the same goes for the Kiwis , the Cowboys and the Mounties and who is the mysterious Henry Shros...Married in Birmingham 1756 and how come Dennis George emigrated to Venezuela as recent as 1945 and none of his family seem to know he existed ???

Once we get beyond 1750 we are pre registration and only parish records exist .Do you know how many parishes there are in Middlesex ? And The Middlesex Records office have stated they will not be answering any enquires , ever, as they are broke !! .

The Surname variations are also a problem as the Shrosbues, Shrosberrys et are usually spelling or mispronunciation errors but then again some seem to be genuine and then of course there are the Shrewsbury clan who may or may not be linked to us .

Peter Masters

P.S

I know of course that this is not "proper" research as I did not have all the register details and some of the information is anecdotal but it is still a hell of a framework to build upon.

A Timely Warning -2019

During the course of my studies and research into the Shrosbree files I have come across several interesting tales and stories .

When I started tracing my Family tree I was particularly interested and intrigued by the the Shrosbree name . Where did come from and were they all related ?

Before the Internet came of age but when computers and data sets were becoming available I bought the 1881 Census compellation discs from Family Heritage this 18 disc set was for the entire U.K

Within a very short time searching the disc sets I established that there were fewer than 80 people with the name Shrosbree [and likely variants]

I though I had cracked it ! And with church record printouts from LDS and British Vital Records C.D's I quickly built an impressive database.

Then as the Internet matured such site as Find My Past and Ancestry came to the fore and continuously update with more and more Census. Parish Records , Military records and Newspaper articles .

This of course was when it all started to unravel ! Cosy assumptions did not stand close or even cursory inspection . Three boys with the same Name registered in B.M.D in the same year in the same district to fathers with the same name . Who was connected to whom ? One clue might be the fathers profession and another their mother and siblings in the census . In later life they would stand alone, having married and with their own families . If they followed in the family footsteps well and good if not but like a good detective story the clues are there and slowly the links can be teased out .

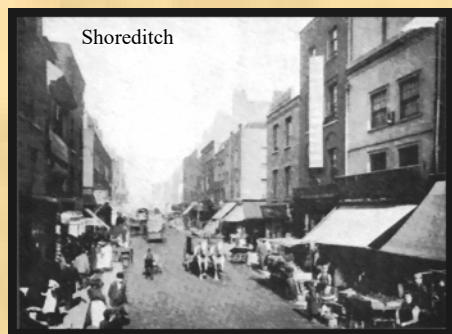
But there are some who cannot be easily fitted into a family the ones who are born and die between census ,where there are no records,not of their birth but their death,sadly without a whole host of certificates it is difficult to connect these to families .

The records also contain tantalising glimpses of family breakups and setbacks, to whit: entry's in the workhouse or poor law records .We see an entry in the 1881 Census for Three children. Frederick 7, Albert 6, and three year old Charles.

We see newspaper articles about deaths, bravery and sporting prowess. Emigration mysteries

The Family Tree

Whilst we all know who our we are and think we know who our parents, brothers and sisters are, grandparents, cousins, uncles and aunts are sometimes elusive and difficult to identify .



We are usually confident about our lineage but when it comes to actually fitting in dates to names , things tend to go awry. ! For unless we have documentary evidence for births, marriage, and deaths, they are merely anecdotal.

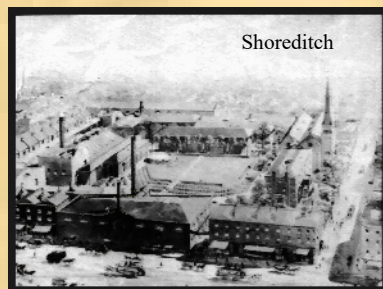
The further back the tree goes or the wider it gets , the more people you have who may lack proper identity.

When I realised that the 1881 census contains a mere 50 Shrosbrees for the whole of the U.K and that they were predominantly living in or from the same area of Middlesex , i.e Shoreditch I decided to obtain the I.G.I index for all the Shrosbree's in Middlesex. this index is an extract of the parish records of births & marriage from the earliest records of c 1500 AD Not surprisingly this only amounted to 133 Shrosbrees and name variations

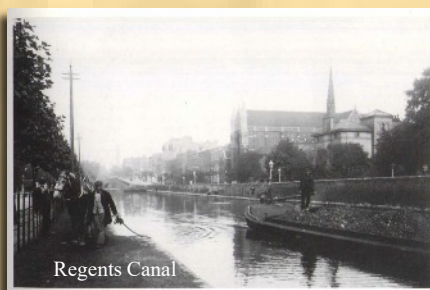
The principal difficulty has been to link all these names together and establish a line of descent for ourselves and also, since the numbers are so small to join them all together, to get back to the first parents.

One problem is that so many of our ancestors

have not only the same Christian names but the same combination of names, to wit Thomas George , no less than seven of these, the problem is further compounded by two of them being born in the same year in the same place and to fathers with the same name, only their mother is different [sometimes] , which is fine until you look at the marriage Certificate, when only the fathers name is given, which Thomas George is getting married ? . It certainly confuses the tree .



By combining the elements of I.G.I index the 1881 census., a list of Births and Deaths from St Katherine's House Records plus surname variations and creating a new combined database which links people / parents / spouse / children / locations and event dates, it is possible to produce some interesting and useful results .



Legacy - [MY Family]

File Edit Add View Reports Tools Search Internet Window Options Help

Back Fwrd NameList Marr List Search Reports Merge To Do Internet Calendar Exit Master Split View Desc Narr Sources

Family View Pedigree View Chronology View Index View

Joseph Henry Shrosbree (1791-)+
Ann (-)

Husband William Shrosbree
Born Abt 1814, Shoreditch, Mdx, Eng
Chr
Died 1872, Shoreditch, Mdx, Eng
Buried
User # 312

Wife Maria Louisa Webb
Born Abt 1816, Hertford, England
Chr
Died Sep 1871, Shoreditch, Mdx, Eng
Buried
User # 313

27 May 1834 - St. Saviour, Southwark, Surrey, England

1 William George Shrosbree (Abt 183	6 William Robert Shrosbree (Abt 184	11 John Ernest Shrosbree (Abt 1849-1
2 Joseph John Shrosbree (Abt 1837-1	7 Alfred Shrosbree (1844-)+	12 Ann Shrosbree (Abt 1852-1855)
3 Jane Ann Ellen Shrosbree (Abt 183	8 Sarah Shrosbree (Abt 1845-)	
4 Maria Louisa Shrosbree (Abt 1840-	9 Charles Webb Shrosbree (Abt 1846	
5 Emily Caroline Shrosbree (Abt 1841	10 Thomas George Shrosbree (Abt 184	

1 Peter Colin Masters

Click to Edit Husband's Info 5.29 H:473 M:198 W:474 28/06/02

Individual's Information [558]

Given Alfred
Last Shrosbree

Title Pre. Title Suf.

Born 17 Feb 1844 in Hoxton, Mdx, Eng 158
Chr. in
Died in California, U.S.A.
Bur. in

User ID# 370 AFN Living? Yes No

Events

Event	Date	Desc/Location/Notes	S	+
Occupation	15 Jul 1866	Ivory Turner		
Address	1881	33 Islington Row Birmingham Warwick		
Occupation	1881	Ivory Carver		
Emigration	31 Aug 1881	America, / Took passage from Liverpool to New York		
Occupation	1883	Carpenter & Builder / Adams County, Nebraska, U.S.A		
Address	1901	Long Beach, California, U.S.A		
Address	1903	603 Ocean Avenue, Pacific County, Huntington Beach		

Set Order

Tags 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Repeat Help ☐ This Individual Never Married ☐ Exclude from Potential Problems Report

Mapping

The following charts show the progress of the Shrosbree clan around Middlesex ,

In earlier times the places and locations would have been communities but with the advance of the canals and the railways the rapid spread into urbanisation and the joining together of parishes , new registration districts came about with the introduction of compulsory registration.

It is of interest and importance to note that due to a mistaken belief that Baptism was a required part of the new registration process a sudden upsurge in christening will be noted through many parish registers about this time.

This does not mean that the population exploded in numbers, but merely hitherto unrecorded people were being hastily baptised for registration.

Statistics and Mapping.

As a result of my studies into the Shrosbree family I have sufficient data to begin a project of Mapping the Shrosbrees through their history.

It has been and continues to be a lengthy process of re-indexing all the information indices and our own family tree information. all these have been cross referenced and corrections made for surname variations and errors which have occurred .

The resulting search able database, links children to parents, spouses, baptisms, birth dates, death dates and locations for these events.

It is now possible to plot, map and understand the make up of the Shrosbree family and extract data in a way which a family tree programme cannot.

One result of this, is this that we can now answer some of the missing persons problems .

From the data collated so far it would appear that nearly one third of the Shrosbree children born between 1838 - 1889 did not survive the first year !! A further 14 did not reach the age of 10 !

This means that they slipped through the census net . Another three died in their early teens,

Altogether 53 Shrosbrees, nearly 49 % of those listed, died at a very early age .

We can also see which families lost the most infants and in what years .

Another useful piece of information is the mapping and spread of the Shrosbree families around London. it can be shown that the vast majority of the Shrosbrees were born in the east end of London or more precisely Middlesex, although there are some in Birmingham, these were from a London line

Place	People	Year	Year
Findsbury	14	1772	1864
Holborn	25	1811	1914
St Lukes	29	1820	1878
Islington	18	1821	1910
Shoreditch	78	1836	1907
StGeo East	18	1846	1906
ST Pancras	11	1850	1888
Clerkenwell	6	1854	1873
Hoxton	6	1854	1873
Findsbury	11	1880	1894
ST Saviour	4	1883	1887
Hackney	13	1884	1917
Total	233		

as were the other stragglers . I have also been mapping the surname variations and it can be reasonably demonstrated that the Shrosbree and variants do not appear to be connected to the Shrewsbury group. Indeed the oldest Shro.. variant so far can be traced back to Dover Kent to 1564 but by 1585 they had crept into Holborn.

Middlesex



That part of London which we find most of the Shrosbrees inhabiting was in fact in the county of Middlesex

Which was until the great fire of London outside the city walls .

Following that great disaster many people were displaced and the city was never to recover as a great centre of population.

It was outside the city walls that the real reformation took place and the slow relentless expansion took place until the whole of the east end had become a densely populated area.



From the beginning of the nineteenth century the population had increased four fold from just under a million to two and a half million by 1841 and four and a half million by

1889.

The development of the canals and the coming of the railways added greatly to the misery of over crowding. Huge numbers of houses were demolished by the canal constructors [navigators] and the railway companies and during the 1860s the building of the of the Midland railway into St Pancras rendered some

10.000 people homeless in Sommer town ! and Agar town.

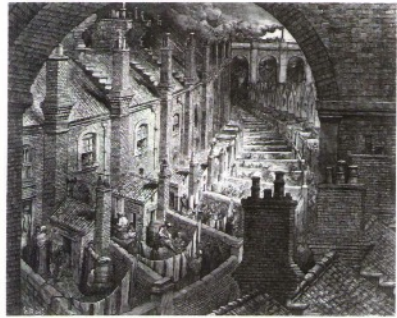
Between 1834 and 1901 over 760000 people were displaced, but prior to 1874 there was no requirement to rehouse those unfortunate homeless folk. and in any case the legislation was easily circumvented .

This then was cause and reason for the constant movement of peoples. around a district

In 1882 the East End Dwelling company came into existence to help relieve the overcrowding .

A programme of slum clearance was undertaken and the Bourne Estate Clerkenwell is a good example of the new GLC plans

It is small wonder that we have difficulty in tracing our Shrosbree family in the East end !



The Mad woman of Hoxton

Charles Webb Shros .. He of Manchester was first married to Emma Hodling and they had a daughter Emma Maria born 1869 in Hoxton :

Emma Maria was married in 1892 to William Wicks Burke in Poplar East London .Emma Maria was a formidable woman allegedly towering above her husband William Burke and weighing in at 18 to 20 stone.

Emma Maria was known as the mad woman of Hoxton because of the mayhem she caused if she thought she was being short changed by the stall holders. on more than one occasion she is alleged to have thrown a stall holder across the street followed by his Stall and produce !

Emma Maria died 23 april 1913 aged 43 [Cirrhosis of the Liver and Kidneys] at home and it took six strong men from the local brewery to carry her to the infirmary wagon

Grateful thanks to John Lucas for this info

Indices



Thanks to Mike we have managed to obtain a copy of a list of births and deaths made at St Katherine's house for Shrosbree from 1837 - 1945 this list was compiled by a family member whilst visiting the U. K from overseas. Unfortunately the list is missing parents names and a marriage list, but there are folio no's .

It was a stirling job and no easy task .
Despite its shortcomings it has added greatly to our store of knowledge.

I have the BVI discs and the 1881 Census discs [all 26]

And all of the I.G.I lists for Middlesex, not to say the downloads from the Internet

Some 26 million records . Altogether a mammoth database containing Shro.s Information . And yet there are still gaps in the



Using the power of computers and the internet it has been possible to track down just about everybody in the world that has the name Shrosbree !

Thus we have names and addresses for America, Canada, Tasmania, Australia, South America and South Africa and of course the united kingdom.

It has been possible to find biographies , Articles and Profiles of many prominent Shrosbrees Landscape gardening, Motor racing , Athletics. Arts , Music, Theatre. Medicine and many other interesting occupations .

We also have access to Government records of birth marriage and death, immigration . Service and medical records, it's all very accessible and

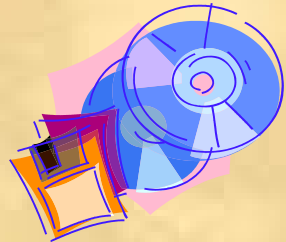
ranks .

Pieces of jigsaw that are missing .

But the search goes on !

Soon we should have the 1901 Census available on line and then we may be able find where the missing ones went

My Shrosbree Web site is being updated and refined .Additions and corrections made so if you have access you may find what you need there



yet frightening to know that big brother is watching you and you can run, but you cannot hide !

We must ensure that the pursuit of our hobby of genealogy does not impinge upon or expose the privacy of our families , and to this end any of my publications about the Shrosbree clan will not include any details of Living persons unless by their permission .

Peter Masters



Letur SmartSuite 97 - Approach - [SHROSB-1 APR: Main form]

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Browse Design New Record Find All Records

Main form \ Main Index \ Spouse Index \ 1881 Census \ IGI Index \ Burials \ Wedding \ Report 1 \

Shrosbree Census & IGI Index

PERSONAL

FNAME: John Ernest SURNAME: SHROSBUE ID No: 514 IGI: X

PARENTS

William / Maria Louisa Webb SEX: M YOB: 1850 1852

PLACEMENT

BPLACE: Shoreditch BCOUNTY: MDX BOUNTRY: ENG

Baptised: 26/09/1852 Where Baptized: St Leonards Shoreditch

WEDDING

WDATE: SPOUSE: Annie CHURCH: Year Died: 1903 Dead aged: 53

Where Died: Uxbridge Where Buried:

CENSUS

REL: 1861 PRO: RG11/0218

Head FHL: FHL Film: 13410

AGE: 31 OCCUPATION: Naturalist Anim

DWELLING

38 Warden Rd PLACE: St Pancras COUNTY: MDX

TYPE: Dwelling HCAP: COUNTRY: ENG

Record 128 Found 248 of 248 Browse Main form

Letur SmartSuite 97 - Approach - [shrosb-1 APR: 1881 Census]

File Edit View Create Worksheet Window Help

Browse Design New Record Find All Records

Main form \ Main Index \ Spouse Index \ 1881 Census \ IGI Index \ Burials \ Wedding \ Report 1 \

CENSUS	YOB	St K	B	St K	D	ID No	FNAME	SURNAME	REL	PARENTS	YEAR	SPOUSE	D
1881	1881					299	Clara	SHROSBREE	Daur	Henry / Clara	1874		43
1881	1811						Maria Louisa	Webb	Mother		0	William Shrosbree	14
1881	1870						Emma	SHROTBREE	Dau	Emma	0		11
1881	1877						Charles	SHROTBREE	Son	Emma	0		11
1881	1863						Marian E.	SHROSTRY	Worker		0		18
1881	1854						John Thos.	SHROSTRY	Head		0	Choice M	59
1881	1880						Florence	SHROSTRY	Dau	Emma	0		11
1881	1851						Emma	SHROSTRY	Mother (Head)		0		11
1881	1855						Choice M.	SHROSTRY	Wife		0		59
1881	1821						Thomas G.	SHROSLORE	Lodger	Joseph / Ann	0		15
1881	1870						Kate Louisa	SHROSHEE	Dau	Kate	0		18
1881	1848						Kate	SHROSHEE	Wife (Head)		0		18
1881	1879						George	SHROSHEE	Son	Kate	0		18
1881	1868						Alfred	SHROSHEE	Son	Kate	0		18
1881	1859						Kate	SHROSBURY	Wife		0		57
1881	1881						George	SHROSBURY	Son	Frederick / Kate	0		57
1881	1858						Frederick W.	SHROSBURY	Head	William / Maria	0	Kate	57
1881	1875						William A.	SHROSBUE	Son	John E / Annie	0		38
1881	1880						Rose M.	SHROSBUE	Dau	John E / Annie	0		38
1881	1850 B			D		514	John Ernest.	SHROSBUE	Head	William / Maria Louisa Webb	1852	Annie	38
1881	1878						Florence A.	SHROSBUE	Dau	John E / Annie	0		38
1881	1873						Ernest J.	SHROSBUE	Son	John E / Annie	0		38
1881	1850						Annie	SHROSBUE	Wife		0		38
1881	1877						Albert E.	SHROSBUE	Son	John E / Annie	0		38
1881	1852						Charlotte	Shrosbrie	Wife	Henry William / Charlotte	0		30
1881	1846					217	William	SHROSBREE	Head	Charles/ sarah	0	Amelia	9 I
1881	1842						W H [attoral]	SHROSBREE	Head				Ta
1881	1870						William Charles)	SHROSBREE	Son	Wm (Robert) H & M(ary) A(Ann)			Ta
1881	1859						Thomas George	SHROSBREE	Son	John Charles / Margaret	1859	Kate Rowe	89
1881	1848					512	Thomas G.	SHROSBREE	Head	Henry William & Charlotte	1848	Maria Janis	35
1881	1877						Robert J.A.	SHROSBREE	Son	Robert J / Louisa	0		58

Record 9 Found 248 of 248 Browse/Modify 1881 Census

Missing People



It is not unusual for missing people to cause gaps in a family tree.

These are bought about by a lack of information caused by the passage of time, or as is quite usual the misspelling of names on official documents. Never more so than with the census returns. The census papers were distributed to the households and collected, the information was transferred from the household sheet, to the street sheet and then to the district sheet and again to the region, before it was finally put into the master records . Every time it was transferred the potential for scribal error occurred.

Thus we see the variations for Shrosbree some of these variations are also due to mispronunciation or unclear diction when telling the vicar or registrar the name, or they themselves write down what they think they have heard or their way of spelling it !

How to unravel the errors and sort the wheat from the chaff is a almost an art form in itself.

Amongst the interesting puzzles which have come along, has been that of Charles Webb Shrosbree , we can see from the I.G.I records that he was baptised to William Shrosbree and Maria Lousia Webb in 1846 . We learn from a distant relatives [Mr John Lucas] that he married Emma Hodling in 1869 indeed they had a daughter Emma Louisa ,c1870 and moved to Manchester , but where are they to found on the 1881 census ? Nowhere it seems ? .

We later learn from closer relatives, the great grandsons of said Charles Webb Shro... That he married Anna McCarden in 1871 . Sadly we conclude that his first wife had died in child birth and he has re-married . But since Mrs Lucas is a descendant of Emma Hodling's daughter, Emma only the mother

must have died . So where was the daughter ?

We go back to the grandchildren, they live in Manchester and have supplied us details of the family including an early address , A follow up to this address in the 1881 census shows that Charles Webb is recorded as Throsbrel : not Shrosbree ! He has living in his house hold, his wife Anna and their children but not his first born daughter, who would by now be aged 11 . So where is she ?

A further detailed study, using surname variations locates Emma Shrosbree age 11 Living with her mother, her 4 yr. old brother Charles and 1 year old baby sister ,Florence .in Shoreditch, Middlesex under the name Shrotbree . Although the son is also named Shrotbree . Emma the mother is {classed as a widow !} is called Shostree as is Florence.

The question is, If she is a widow who is the father of her children ?

We are told that Charles Webb Shros .. Was witness at his daughter Emma 's wedding in 1892.

So not only must he have been in contact with her but with such affection that attended her wedding !

Sadly it would seem that baby Florence died later in Sept. 1881 in her second year of life .

Typically of course when we look at the St Katherine's List there is no entry for the birth of Charles Webb Shros... Or of his daughter Emma

[Ne supra crepidam sutor iudicaret
The cobbler should not be judged by his last]

Surname	Year	Year	Location	Area
Shroseberry	1585	1683	Holborn	Middlesex
Shrowbridge	1595	1693	St Boltolphs	Westminster
Shrowsbridge	1669	1824	St giles	Westminster
Shrowsberry	1665	1868	St Boltolphs	Westminster
Shrowsbery	1701		St Boltolphs	Westminster
Shrowsbury			St Boltolphs	Westminster
Shrosbry	1748		St boltolphs	Westminster
Shrobrye	1580		Greyfriars	Westminster
Shrosbree	1748		St Martins	Westminster
Shrosbree	1772	1869	Findsbury	Middlesex
Shrosbree	1823		shoreditch	Middlesex

Surname Mapping



The principal object then is to try and establish a first family for our own Family tree.

An examination for the 1881 census reveals the list of people that have the surname Shrosbree are but 75 in total , this list includes spelling and transcription errors . There are other similar but distinctly different names .

A list compiled of these Shrosbree surname variants, from the soundex code, Surnames from the I.G.I database of Births and marriages plus a further list from the B.M.D list helps narrow the names options down to but a few. By looking at the birth places and dates , it is possible to create a sort of order out of the chaos and show something of the name development .and the areas from which they began.

The names have been grouped together by location and variation in order to merge the obvious errors and to establish a list of specific surnames . We now have a name list which consists of the following Variations. Shrowbridge , Shrowsbridge, Shrosesberry, Shrowsberry, Shrowsbury, Shrosbery Shrousberry, Shrobreye

We also have the variants Shrewsbery, and Shrewsbury ,although the name sounds the same the distinction between them being spelt with a leading E in stead of and O is an important difference .

So far our earliest found Surname is Shrowesburye 1543 in Buckingham. There is a Shrowsbury in Uxbridge Middlesex listed 1553 and a Shrowsberie in Nonnington Kent 1560 and Shrosberry in 1585 Holborn

The name Shrowbridge appears around 1595 in St Boltolphs Parish.London up to 1693

from about 1663 it appears to change to

Shrowsbridge coincidental to a branch stemming from St Dunstans Parish. London where they survive through to 1824.

It also occurs as Shrowbery, Shrowsberry , Shrowsbury, in St Boltolphs Parish.London from 1665 to 1821

The 1881 census list just one Shrowsbridge [Kent], 3 Shrosberry and 7 Shrosbury and the 50+ Shrosbree group

The name Shroseberry is found in Holborn [London] Middlesex from 1585 to 1683 the name appears to change to Shrousbury around 1689 in Westminster [Stepping St Dunstan] to 1776 .We also have a Shrosbry in 1748 St Bartholomew's .and the first Shrosbree appears in 1749 in St Georges, Mayfair [marriage] but was probably born around 1728 and from 1772 in Finsbury through to 1869 and from 1823 on, in Shoreditch,.

It is around these dates the Shrosbree's expand, but they only move as far as the next parish ,or remain in situ as the parish boundaries expand and contract about them . Some venture as far afield as the next district, but even then they are still within the Greater London Area of Middlesex.. We do have some outliers , but it is interesting to note that theses were the ones destined to migrate even further afield, the small group from Scotland , who have their roots firmly planted in London went to south Africa . some of those from Birmingham went to America and some from London went to Australia .

The Variations of Shrewsbury seem to have divided into two camps, one in Kent from 1545 till 1798 around the Dover , Folkestone area and the other group The Shrewsberry in Bedfordshire in St Albans and district from 1844 1879 and by 1881 the pattern is predominately the same Shrewsberry in Notts and Leics or Shrewsbury in Kent

There appears to a small pocket of Shrosbery in Leicester around 1694 and Joone Shobreye married in 1580 in Greyfriars, London

but we do not know who her parents were or where she came from .

Surnames .

A detailed trawl through the 1881 census central index and the county / regions on CD establishes the fact that there are no Shrosbree or Shrosbree variations found outside of London / Middlesex. apart from the Shrosbree family living in Birmingham and the two brothers in the 16 lancers at York [all adults born London] all and any of the variations are within the Middlesex London area.

Several of these are clearly scribal errors and some appear to be genuine variations. Although they do not occur as such in later references

The I.G.I index's [3 sources] also exhibit variations and these generally mirror those on the 1881 census, but the earlier variations appear to have died out and been absorbed by the time of the 1881 census .

Whereas the I.G.I lists several Shroesbury and variants c 1770 1790 in Leicester only 1 [Shrousbury] is listed in 1881. Similarly the Shrowsberies from Kent . Shrousebury etc.: Bedford, Oxford, Ashby de La Zouche have either disappeared or relocated into Middlesex by 1802 and have been absorbed by the 1881 census

But the Shrewbury clan are consistent in there appearance in the indices .

The origin of the Surname

Having established a distribution pattern We now have to consider the origin of the name and decide if the surname is a locative , topographical or patronymic name , Certainly the name can be shown to exist from about the time of the adoption of surnames in England and had become established by 1540 the name is obviously not indicative of an occupation or a nickname and it does not contain elements of landscape. so that a locative element seems the most likely The place a person came from was usually added to the forename as indicative of the place of origin . i.e.. John French. This was a common practice

, but only when that person was living away from their place of origin.

The Name Shrosbree is interesting because it suggests Shrewsbury , however the early surname spelling Shrowesburye / Shobreye is closer phonetically to the name Scrobbesbyrig pronounced Shrosbbesuri which is the original Saxon name for the town of Shrewsbury .

The Norman's could not pronounce it and changed it to Salopesberia and the county from Scrobbesbyrigcir to Salopescira [hence the abbreviation to Salops] . The early adoption of the surname spelling and its continued use of a leading O would suggest that the name stretches back into antiquity to the first usage of surnames in the 12th /13th cent whereas the Shrewsbury/erry name would be a later name after a change in spelling and the wider usage by the Earl of Shrewsbury in his title .

So far most of this is conjecture and speculation which needs more research to verify and validate the findings ,

A study of the hearth tax and the Poll tax returns could be rewarding if they were more widely available .

Finally .

There has been a suggestion that the family and Surname Shrobrece and Sowerby are one and the same and it has been stated “ *That it is a geographical distinction that it is Shrosbree in the south of England and Sowerby in the north of England and Scotland* ”* This is patently incorrect because the name Sowerby and it's variants Sorbie, Soresby , Sorsbie can be demonstrated to be a geographic place name , that of Sowerby in Yorkshire and is clearly a locative surname and by mapping the name occurrence in the I.G.I and other indices will show the limit and extent of it's location throughout the north of England .

There is no demonstrable evidence to link the two names Shrosbree and Sowerby together

* “*Shrewsbury Journeys by Patsy Griffin*”

THE COUNTIES OF ENGLAND

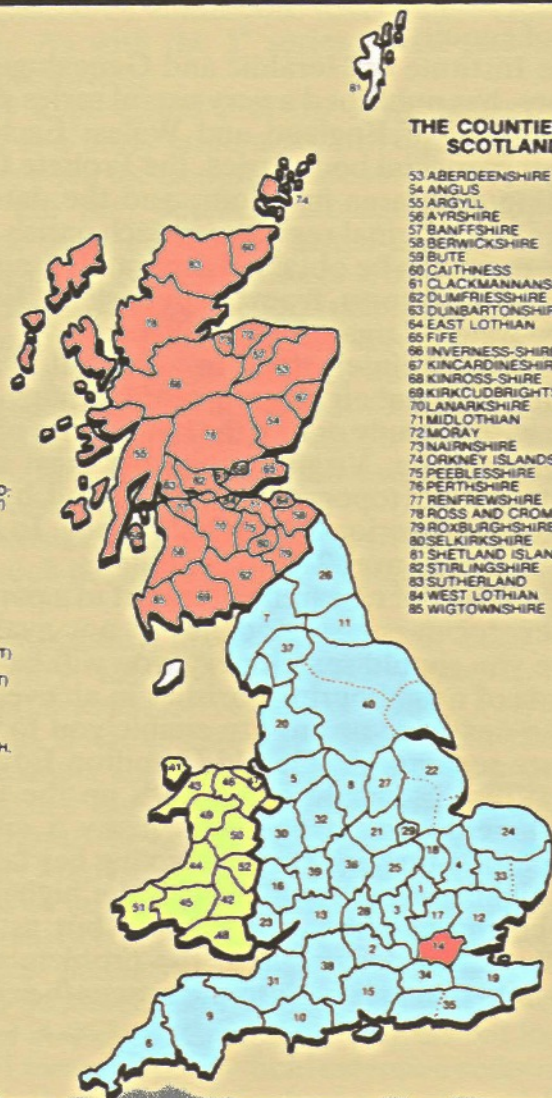
- 1 BEDFORDSHIRE
- 2 BERKSHIRE
- 3 BUCKINGHAMSHIRE
- 4 CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND ISLE OF ELY
- 5 CHESHIRE
- 6 CORNWALL
- 7 CUMBERLAND
- 8 DERBYSHIRE
- 9 DEVON
- 10 DORSET
- 11 COUNTY DURHAM
- 12 ESSEX
- 13 GLOUCESTERSHIRE
- 14 GREATER LONDON
- 15 HAMPSHIRE
- 16 HEREFORDSHIRE
- 17 HERTFORDSHIRE
- 18 HUNTINGDON AND PETERBOROUGH
- 19 KENT
- 20 LANCAIRE
- 21 LEICESTERSHIRE
- 22 LINCOLNSHIRE (HOLLAND, KESTIVEN, AND LINDSEY)
- 23 MONMOUTHSHIRE
- 24 NORFOLK
- 25 NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
- 26 NORTHAMBERLAND
- 27 NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
- 28 OXFORDSHIRE
- 29 RUTLAND
- 30 SHROPSHIRE
- 31 SOMERSET
- 32 STAFFORDSHIRE
- 33 SURREY (EAST AND WEST)
- 34 SURREY
- 35 SUSSEX (EAST AND WEST)
- 36 WARWICKSHIRE
- 37 WESTMORLAND
- 38 WILTSHIRE
- 39 WORCESTERSHIRE
- 40 WILTSHIRE (EAST NORTH AND WEST RIDINGS)

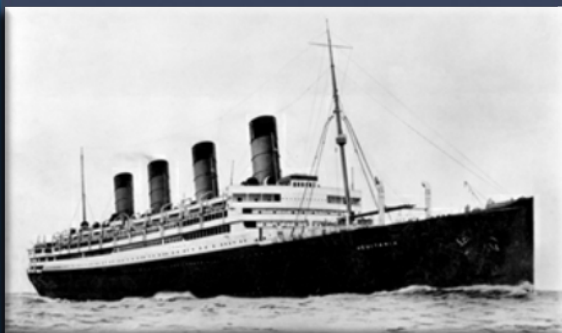
THE COUNTIES OF WALES

- 41 ANGLESEY
42 BRECKNOCK
43 CAERNARVONSHIRE
44 CARDIGANSHIRE
45 CARMARTHENSHIRE
46 DENBIGHSHIRE
47 FLINTSHIRE
48 GLAMORGAN
49 MERIONETH
50 MONTGOMERYSHIRE
51 PEMBROKESHIRE
52 RADNOR

THE COUNTIES OF SCOTLAND

- 53 ABERDEENSHIRE
54 ANGUS
55 ARGYLL
56 ARYSHIRE
57 BANFFSHIRE
58 BERNKESHIRE
59 BUTE
60 CAITHNESS
61 CLACKMANNANSHIRE
62 DUMFRIESHIRE
63 DUNBARTONSHIRE
64 EAST LOTHIAN
65 FIFE
66 INVERNESS-SHIRE
67 KINCARDINESHIRE
68 KINROSS-SHIRE
69 KIRKCUDBRIGHTSHIRE
70 LANARKSHIRE
71 MIDDLE LOTHIAN
72 MORAY
73 NAIRNSHIRE
74 ORKNEY ISLANDS
75 PEEBLES-SHIRE
76 PERTSHIRE
77 RENFREWSHIRE
78 ROSS AND CROMARTY
79 ROXBURGHSHIRE
80 SELKIRKSHIRE
81 SHETLAND ISLANDS
82 STIRLINGSHIRE
83 THERLBY
84 WEST LOTHIAN
85 WIGTOWNSHIRE





The SS Aquitana



The SS City of New York





The SS Runic





Migration.

Many of the Shrosbree clan departed these shores for the continents of Africa , Australia, north America and

Canada

They have also been discovered in Venezuela and Tasmania

There are tantalising glimpses of them in India but as yet unsubstantiated.

We have early references to them returning from Hamburg

It's all part of the fun of tracking tracing and joining them together

Robert James Shrosbree returned to England in 1848 after a sojourn in America , where he had served in the United States Navy 1841 . his exploits and travels whilst with the navy included involvement in the struggle for California in the Mexican wars , which included the siege of Monterey and the bombardment of San Francisco. July 1846

Subsequent to this engagement he then travelled to Japan with Commodore Biddle on the USS sloop 'Columbus' for an historic meeting with the Japanese . They sailed into Jeddo harbour 29 July 1846.

After he returned to England and on 4th Dec 1848 he married Elizabeth Hatterel who was his cousin . Perhaps he returned to soon because !!!

The Mexican War of 1846-48 had brought California to the United States, On the morning of Jan. 24, 1848,, James Wilson Marshall, discovered gold at the site of a sawmill construction project. Marshall and Sutter agreed to become partners in mining the gold, but soon the news leaked out. Sutter's property was besieged by thousands of trappers, farmers, sailors, lawyers, preachers, and people from nearly every other occupation all of whom wanted to strike it rich in the new gold find. This was the beginning of the first, and still most

famous, gold rush of modern times. Within a year, the "Forty-niners" flooded by the thousands into California seeking wealth, and in the process they built up northern California and the city of San Francisco (*see* California, "History").

The gold rush of 1849 played a significant role in the social and economic development of California. It was an important factor in turning the region from a sleepy Mexican province into a thriving American state. Although the average production of the gold fields was barely half a troy ounce (15.6 grams) per man per day, some 2.5 million troy ounces (77.8 million grams) of gold passed through buyers' and dealers' hands in one 12-month period. After a few years the gold fever faded, and there were few new finds, but gold is still found in California from time to time. Gold rushes have played similar roles in the settlement and development of Australia, South Africa, and north western Canada.

Australia

Hot on the Heels of Robert James adventures, other members of the family were heading for Australia to seek their fortune in the gold rush

Firstly in 1852 Maria Amelia Shrosbree, a plucky 16 yr. old daughter of John Charles and Martha Shrosbree, who had travelled on the ship ' Euphrates' [her name on the manifest was Shroobree] arrived in Victoria .

She was followed by her brother John Charles and their recently widowed Mother Martha who travelled on the ship 'Admiral Lyons ' 1858 [although the passenger lists show them as John Shrewsbury and Martha Curtiss] John was listed as a Gold Prospector on his subsequent marriage to Sarah Pierce in 1866 at Bathurst, Victoria

They were later joined In Australia by another Shrosbree, Maria (Louisa) Shrosbree daughter of William and Maria Louisa [Webb]. Who arrived in Victoria on the 'Western Empire' She married Thomas Dixon in 1872 in Victoria.

In Australia the gold rush mania began in 1851, while the one in California was still under way. In Australia's New South Wales the Ophir gold rush began, as in California, with an accidental discovery. It was followed later in the same year by discoveries in Victoria at Mount Alexander, Ballarat, Bendigo, and McIvor. Gold seekers rushed to all these sites in Victoria from other parts of Australia and from overseas once the news had spread.

The gold finds in Australia differed significantly from those in California in the nature of the gold itself. While the gold found in North America was usually in the form of dust or very fine grains, it was commonplace in Australia to find nuggets of enormous size. The famous "Sierra Sands" nugget, for instance, weighed 1,117 ounces (34,739 grams), or slightly more than 93 pounds.

The "Lady Hotham" weighed 1,177 ounces (36,605 grams), and the "Welcome Stranger" weighed more than 2,000 ounces (62,200 grams). The largest find at the time was the "Holtermann nugget." It weighed more than 200 pounds (90 kilograms). Hence, the Australian fields were often the answer to dreams of instant wealth. Nuggets were frequently found only a few inches below the surface of the Earth, and some were stumbled on by accident.

South Africa

James Charles Shrosbree Who had departed for South Africa and the Cape colonies around 1860 with his family and his son Adam was a Christadelphian Minister and. he built the first church in Grahamstown in the Cape Colony

In 1886 a diamond digger from the Kimberly mines named George Harrison discovered gold while working as a farmland. Within a month he had sold his claim and disappeared. By the end of the year the area had been proclaimed a gold field, and the prospectors began moving in. A village, now the city of Johannesburg, was the largest

population settlement.

The geology of the Witwatersrand area called for the use of large machinery in order to extract the ore from the ground economically. Thus it soon became apparent that this was not a gold field for the private prospector and his crude methods. Arrival of financiers from the Kimberly diamond region soon promoted the gold mining, and the holdings were consolidated into large mining groups that could mobilise the capital and buy the equipment needed to exploit the gold resources effectively.

A temporary slump occurred in 1890 when sulphur-bearing ore was found. But in about two years the cyanide process for extracting gold from sulphides was perfected, and the rush was on again. Since 1901, after the fever of the gold rush and the subsequent Boer War, the South African mining operation has been one of continual growth. The California, Australia, and the later Canadian gold strikes were all individual endeavors. The individuals, either alone or in very small groups, staked their claims, worked the mines, and reaped the rewards. In South Africa, the greatest gold producing area in the world, however, the situation was different. There the claims were soon consolidated into holdings by large mining companies.

Back to the U.S.A

Meanwhile at about this time other family members were heading for America and we have a George Shrosbree and Family, taxidermist living in New York in 1888 and we believe that William Robert another taxidermist from Birmingham had also departed for the United States to Chicago by the late 1888/1900, with several of his children.

There seems to be a liking for pugilism with this family, allegedly Alfred Gordon was shot and killed in a drive by shooting for refusing to throw a fight. He was probably the Al Shrosbree who fought Jim Barry in 1891 in Chicago for the Bantam weight Title. His son William Alfred was a U.S Navy boxing champion in 1914 and another family member George Shrosbree was a

World champion Contender for the Heavyweight title and but was KO'd in the 5th round by the title holder Tommy Burns in 1904 he appears to have survived and retired to California where he died in 1962 aged 79

We also have a G R Shrosbree and his wife returning to America from England on the SS Aquitania in 1896

Tasmania

circa 1902 's John James went to Tasmania on the 'SS Runic' with some of his family, to settle his son with a family friend although he seems to come home again he left behind one of his offspring, some of whom subsequently moved to Australia 1915



Canada

Two of Robert James sons emigrated to Canada sometime around 1912, Thomas Earnest and his wife Alice Walbridge emigrated to Ontario with their children, Joseph 4 and Winnifred 2 from London, also present in Canada around this time was Thomas's brother , Edward Howard Shrosbree he was single, and a professional soldier .

Both men enlisted in the Canadian forces and served through the first world war,

Later on a Robert Shrosbree Age :17 emigrated to Quebec [Canada Immigration Records](1925-1935) on the DUCHESS OF BEDFORD arriving: 05/07/1932

Following the second World War Dennis Shrosbree settled in Venezuela , South America and subsequently He and some of his family moved to the U .S . A

Of course around the mid fifties George Dunn and his wife Grace Shrosbree and their children emigrated to Australia

More Mysteries

One of the mysteries which surrounds the Shrosbree's is that of Joseph Shrosbree* [b 1760] who appears to have come to London from Hamburg in 1772 he is given as a goldsmith and spectacle maker. Then there is Joseph **[b 1776] (his son ?) who is also listed as goldsmith and spectacle maker and then presumably his son William Shros.. [b 1818] Sports Shop Keeper married Maria Elizabeth Webb amongst their 17 children are his son John Earnest Shros.. [b 17/10/1848] married Anna Maria Johnston Also amongst their issue was Ernest John Robert Shros. [b 1897] and our recent acquaintances William Robert [b 1842] Alfred [b 1844] and Charle Webb Shros [b 1846] Joesp John [b1840 d 1844]

Now we wonder why a twelve year old * should arrive from Hamburg . Was he on his own ? Were his parents with him ? Do we know who his parents were . The second Joseph cannot be a son to the first at 16 years old ? Perhaps it was another event that the date refers to, a late baptism perhaps ?, Tantalisingly the St Katherine's index which we have starts at the end of 1837. And So far it has only been possible to identify 12 of the 17 children..

We do have a Joseph Henry ** baptised 1791 but he would have been 15 by then and his parents are given as Thomas Shros ..& Ann Hunter [I.G.I

So perhaps some body has some information which will throw some light in this dark corner.

THE ISLINGTON MAIL.

Tuesday May 3rd 1910

Robert James Shrosbree

Who resides at 21, Raleigh St; Islington has passed the age of 91 and though somewhat deaf he is very active for his age.

The old man must have been in his youth, a handsome and well-set up young man. He has been involved in many moving incidents 'by flood and field' He was bon in Bishop's court. St. Luke's but his parents came to Islington when he was quite a lad.

I have lived under 5 monarchs" said old Shrosbree and- I remember this place when it was all fields I used to play along the banks of the New River when it was open. And I remember the Old Saddlers Wells Theatre. There is no difference in it. It was just the same now as it was then

I remember when London was lighted with lamps; There were no policemen, only the old watchmen. The coaches used to come at eight-o'clock at night and stop before they went on to London. I remember some of the roads into London with hedges on either side.

Robert Shrosbree joined the United States Navy in 1841 and went through the Mexican war, and was present at the bombardment of San Francisco and Monterey

In 1846 he was in the United States Sloop 'Columbus' when the ship, with another under the command of commodore Biddle sailed into Jeddo harbour in Japan.

This was the visit that really woke Japan and subsequently Asia from their long slumber of centuries.

It was on July 29th 1846, that Biddle (and our Robert) sailed into the Japanese harbour. The appearance of these war sloops created a scare among the Japs, and soon a fleet of Japanese boats surrounded the American sloops of War and requested that they not proceed up the harbour.

With this request Biddle complied, but when the Americans where requested to- land their guns and ammo and every weapon on board he very' politely and firmly- refused.

The Japanese authorities requested Commodore Biddle to withdraw, as they did not,

they said, want any western barbarians in their country or in their seas; and as this request was enforced by a large increase of Japanese boats the Americans thought it prudent to withdraw.

The two sloops sailed out of Jeddo harbour surrounded by Japanese boars till they reached tile open sea--

From that time on the Japanese woke to the possibility of a European invasion, and worked Silently but steadily to build an army and navy That would stand then in good stead in times of war.

Subsequent events in China and the war with Russia have justified the foresight of the Japanese who profited by the visit of the American. ships, with our old friend, Robert James Shrosbree on board.

There are two old prints, glazed and framed hanging on the wall in the old mans kitchen in Raleigh St. they represent the two sloops surrounded by small boats manned by men plying the oars." 'Thereby hang's a tale"

Old Shrosbree has been away from the sea for 61 years and settled-in Islington. The old man was a taxidermist, and had the job of stuffing a boar hound for a gentleman, who visited him one day, accompanied. by an American friend; to see how the work was progressing

The American noticed the pictures, and asked Shrosbree how he had come by them. Shrosbree told him the history just as has been stated here. The American asked him what pension he. received and on being told none' the American said 'Oh that must to be looked into "take care of those pictures"

Later on-Shrosbree received a communication. from the American Embassy, and then printed forms with lots of questions on them, all of which he answered correctly, and was awarded a pension of 20 dollars a month, which he is now receiving Not only did he American Government grant the pension, he also received 167 pounds 17 shillings and four pence in back pay.

Thanks to
John & Diane Shrosbree
Cornwall England
TRZ0 9PB

This Facsimile was
re- created by
Peter Masters

Some historical Notes .



The history books tell us that in June 1846 General Stephen W Kearny set out with troops from Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, to capture New Mexico . The next month Kearny pushed across the desert to California.

Meanwhile in June 1846 a group of American settlers in California revolted against the Mexican government. This rebellion came known as the 'Bear flag Revolt' because of the portrayal of a grizzly bear on the settlers flag.

In July 1846 U.S Navy forces under the command of Commodore John D Sloat captured the Californian town Monterey and occupied the San Francisco area. On December 6 Kearny, led about 100 troops in the bloody battle of San Pasqual near San Diego . Reinforcements from San Diego helped save the small American army .

Later in January 1847 U.S troops under General Kearny and Commodore Robert F Stockton of the Navy won the battle of San Gabriel near Los Angeles.

This victory completed the American conquest of California..

This raises some interesting and important questions. According to Robert Shosbree the ships ' Columbus' and one other, under Biddles command sailed into Jeddo Harbour , Japan on the 29th July 1846 , given that the siege of Monterey and the occupation of San Francisco also occurred in July one wonders how they could have been in two places at the same time ? why was Commodore Biddle in Japan at this crucial time in American history and some seven years before Commodore Parry's famous visit in 1853. ?

It would seem a curious and extravagant decision the release valuable and much needed personnel and resources to sail half way round the world to visit a place that was barely known to the outside world at this time, having been a 'closed 'country for over two hundred years !

What was the purpose of their mission ?

Did they go directly to Japan or did they call in at Hawaii on route, if not what the rush ?

Three Little Boys

Another mystery is that of the three children Frederick 7. Albert 6. and Charles Shrosbee 3 [sic] listed as inmates in the 1881 census in the Late Shoreditch Industrial School. Brentwood ,Essex ,
Who were their parents, were they closely related ?

We can see them all on the st Kath's index and that Frederick died in Billerica 1883 . But we have little evidence to connect them to

their families apart from the fact that they were born Shoreditch.

What was the Late Shoreditch Industrial School, and why was it now in Essex ? Given that the youngest child was only three it would seem to be more likely linked to a workhouse ,



A biography

An interesting English-American couple who, as pioneers at Huntington Beach, have done much to lay broad and deep the foundations there, are Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Shrosbree, who are enjoying their retirement after many years of hard work. Mr. Shrosbree was born at London, on February 17, 1844, and grew up in the delightful environment of Old England, under the inspiration of a scientifically-inclined parent; for his father, William Shrosbree, was a taxidermist, and mounted animals gathered from various quarters of the earth. He ran a taxidermist's store in the world's metropolis, and was visited by globe-trotters. He was born, married and died in London. He married Miss Maria Webb, also of London, who passed away in that city. They had nineteen children, among whom Alfred Shrosbree was the fourth child in the order of birth, as he is the only one of the family now living, although nine grew to maturity. Several of the brothers were taxidermists. Alfred attended the common schools and was brought up in the Church of England. He learned the ivory-carver's trade in all its branches, and was proficient in carving, turning and flat work. Later he took up the trade of the carpenter and builder, but suffering severely from bronchitis, at the age of twenty-seven he determined to seek relief by a change of residence and air--that is, to come to America. He sailed from Liverpool on August 31, 1881, taking passage on the steamer City of Brussels, and landed at New York City. At first he came west only as far as Adams County, Nebr., where his wife's father, Richard Miles, lived and farmed; and there the bronchitis left him. He has never been back to England since. In Nebraska, in 1883, Mr. Shrosbree was married to Miss Elizabeth Miles, a native of Oxfordshire, England, who had come to America several years before; and for twenty years he worked as a contractor and builder, with headquarters at Blue Hill, Webster County,

Nebr. In 1901 Mr. and Mrs. Shrosbree came to Long Beach and lived there a year; and then, for a year, they lived in South Pasadena. In 1903 they came to Pacific City, now Huntington Beach, and at the new and promising resort Mr. Shrosbree followed his trade.

Since coming to California Mr. and Mrs. Shrosbree have witnessed many exciting events. They happened, for example, to be in the great disaster at Long Beach on Empire Day, 1913, at the falling of the approach to the Auditorium, and they fell with the crowd through the pier to the bottom. Both were hurt--Mrs. Shrosbree sustaining two broken ankles and ribs, and Mr. Shrosbree having his nose and right shoulder and several ribs broken. Of the 300 people that went down thirty-seven were brought out dead, and four of the injured persons died. Mr. and Mrs. Shrosbree showed their magnanimity by not presenting a claim for damages.

There was no school and no post office at what is now Huntington Beach when Mr. Shrosbree first pitched his tent there, and as there was also no Episcopalian Church, they joined the Baptist denomination, of which they are members. He is a naturalised citizen, of course, and a Republican, but in local matters is no partisan. At the age of seventy-seven, he resides happily with his wife and, as a patriotic pioneer, enjoys the esteem of a wide range of friends and acquaintances. He was active at his trade until the Long Beach disaster, and then he and his wife were forced to retire. Mrs. Shrosbree is found in every good work intended for the general welfare of the community, and as a model housekeeper takes particular pride in their Ocean Avenue home, which abounds with art and other evidences of the refined and cultivated mind. Mr. Shrosbree built his fine bungalow residence of eight rooms at 603 Ocean Avenue, and this is only one of several houses he has erected at Huntington Beach, and one of four that he still owns.



Alfred Shrosbree

A Biography

critique.

This is an interesting biography not least because of its apparent inaccuracies .Alfred Shrosbree appears to be estranged from his English wife , as she was listed in the 1881 census as Kate Shrossee Widow Shoreditch, whilst he was living in Birmingham with his brother William Robert . There were three children Alfred, 13, Kate Louisa, 11 and George, 2 what became of them ? The census was taken in March 1881 and Alfred was listed as aged 37 and occupation Ivory carver.

“ He learned the ivory-carver's trade in all its branches, and was proficient in carving, turning and flat work. Later he took up the trade of the carpenter and builder, but suffering severely from bronchitis, at the age of twenty-seven he determined to seek relief by a change of residence and air--that is, to come to America. He sailed from Liverpool on August 31, 1881, taking passage on the steamer City of Brussels, and landed at New York City.”

Curiously there seems to a ten year gap between his decision to come to America and arriving in New York . He also seems to have gone back to his earlier calling before emigrating .

He also claims to have been 4th in line of 19 which is again curious as according to the I.GI. The family records and the St Katherine house list he would have been seventh in line and there appear to be only 12 children who can be definitely linked to William Shrosbree and Maria Webb.

Alfred's brother William Robert is reputed to have come to America around the turn of the century late 1890/1900 with some of his children, but without his wife who stayed behind . This seems to have been a family trait since it was their other brother Charles Webb Shrosbree who was playing fast and loose with Ann Mcarden in Manchester whilst his wife Emma Hodling and daughter Emma 11 , Charles 4 and baby Florence are living in Shoreditch [1881]

Given that the article was written around 1920 post the Long beach disaster of 1913 and his given age is 77 this would confirm his birth date and accord with the St Katherine's index

Boxing boys

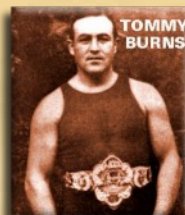
Al Shrosbree the boxer is not to be confused with the Alfred Shrosbree from Huntington Beach . This Al is Alfred John son of William Robert and Ann, nephew to Alfred who. at the age of 19 is listed as having fought against Jim Barry in 1891 in a bout fought in Chicago. Barry won in the fourth round !

This is the Alfred Shrosbree who was later allegedly* killed in a drive by shooting . His son Alfred William Shrobbree was a First world war U.S Navy Champ



Jim Barry

Our next boxing Shross is the bantamweight 21 yr old George Shrosbree who 13 years later, on 26 Feb 1904 fought Tommy Burns He did not get further than five rounds ! This is probably George Edgar who was born Birmingham, England



1883 and is the younger brother to Alfred John .
* I say allegedly because if Alfred was born 1883 and fought at the age of 19 he would have been 24 when his son Alfred William was born 1896 and would have left his wife a widow at early age , I'm not sure when the 'Mob' became involved in fixing fights but Al would probably have been 'past it' as a serious boxer by then.

Huguenots

It has been suggested that the strangely sounding name Shrosbree is a 'French ' or Heugonot name but as we have seen from the surname mapping this is not the case , but it is not far from a grain of truth either .

The Heugonots came to Britain in large numbers between 1681 and 1720 and around 15000 settled in London. These were in two main colonies Soho and Spitalfields. Many of the Soho Heugonots were Goldsmiths Silversmiths ,Jewellers, Engravers. Ect. Many of the refugees had become Anglicized through inter-marriage and new little of their

persecuted past and by 1840 there was but one chapel left in Spitalfields which was using the French language .

It was a Heugonot descendant Mary Ann Eglise that John Rowe father to Maria Rowe married in 1843 in Blackfriars. London

It was Another Heugonot descendant Selina Gadenne that Alfred Shrosbree married in 1882 .

And Walter Shrosbree's sister in-law Emily Maria Rowe was married to Henry Gadenne

So that there is indeed a Heugonot connection to the Shrosbrees after all !

Some missing links...

As usual there appears to some missing information regarding the American immigrants, because it has proven a little difficult to establish just who was who in America. That the two Roberts [Seattle & Michigan] are related is not in doubt , they are second cousins.

They had a common Great great grandfather.. Their ancestors apparently came from Birmingham , England , William Robert came with several of his children. C 1898,his brother

Alfred was already there and Robert James had returned to England by 1848 so just who was the G.R Shrosbree returning to America from England with his wife in 1840 ?, and who is the Geo Shrosbree Taxidermist living at 6 Hebbard Street, Rochester New York 1888/89 ? [I think this is N.Y state and Rochester is near Michigan !] and why is Mrs G Shrosbree feather dyer living in 16 College Avenue, Rochester New York at this time ?

There appears to be a generation gap , who are they and where do they come from ??



Musical and Theatre

The famous musical star Vesta Tilley[Matilda Powles] who sang and danced her way around Britain and America in the 1900's was second cousin to Walter's Shrosbree by Marriage . His Mother's, [Kate Rowe] sister Marion had married Henry De Frece the Theatre impresario and their son Walter married Vesta Tilley. In 1890

It is also interesting to note that the Rowe's father John was listed as an Actor upon Thomas and Kate Rowe's Wedding Certificate

He is also listed as an actor in the census

The Fascination of the Shrosbree's

By Mike Dunn



I can hear some of you groaning, 'Is it twelve months already since that Shroz from Oz tried to prise us out of our comfy chairs'?

No it wasn't a year ago at all, but much has (and hasn't) happened in the past 6 months that I felt you all - well nearly all - deserved to be brought up to date with Shrosbree doings of the past.

Firstly, I would like to thank all the Shross's and fellow 50%ers who replied or were able to reply with help from their family and friends. And hope that you have all forgiven me for either writing to, or phoning you up, or both, out of the blue and forgetting the time difference!



Secondly, Our cousin Peter Masters who lives in Wales has just completed his Home Page and for all you computer buffs with access to the Internet.

Putting the address on paper like this makes a web page sound very Ho Hum but it's like any hobby, you have to really work at it to make it work. (Sounds of at least one hand clapping, and maybe more, for Peters effort)

There is at least one other Shrosbree who had no idea of his fore Shrosbrees until we made contact (I discovered him in the U.K phone book). Since then he has taken up 'Treeing' with a vengeance, making a Family Tree all the way back to his G'G'G'Grand Parents! Good on ya, Vic!

Now his wife has 'The Bug' and is feverishly galloping around the countryside in search of her relties! (They are both well qualified now

for the Genealogists Pox !There were replies from all over the known range of the Shrosbree's; U.K, South Africa, Australia and Canada. And we only had 10% of Shrosbree's reply

The **American** Shross's have, however been - shall we say- slow to put pen to paper, mail to e- mail, the homing pigeons have lost their homing instinct.

Heavyweight Champs

A Boxing Shrosbree- probably one of two brothers- George from Chicago fought Tommy Burns on the 26 Feb. 1904. George didn't see the right cross in round 5. Goodnight George!

Tommy Burns came to Sydney Australia to fight Jack Johnson for the Heavy Weight Title of the World. (Jack J. won in round 14, and became the first black man to hold a world title). A somewhat tenuous claim to fame for Shrosbrees indeed. But which Shrosbrees were they?

I'm sure someone has the answer and just hasn't got around to replying yet!

Have a Little Faith

One of the reports has a Joseph Shrosbree (goldsmith and spectacle maker) arriving in England from Hamburg in 1772. His son was also a goldsmith and spectacle maker. So if anyone is going near Hamburg?

Out of Africa and Scotland

Shrosbree's abound in South Africa and we were able to construct a 'Tree' back to Scotland and down to Humber. But we found traces of another one and maybe two Shrosbree Clans that are being looked at.

Waltzing Matilda

Right under my nose! Three Shrosbrees sailed to Oz during the mid 1800's - two with the same first name - Maria. The other is John Charles, the gold prospector - wonder if he found any!!

We were able also to link one of the Springbok legs to the Tassy Mob (they knew the link all the time, my antennae was not tuned in too well!)

Getting Stuffed

Taxidermy is alive and well in 'The Shrosbree Family Tree.' With about five having a go at Pike, Lions, tigers and even the odd (very!) elephant.

George Shrosbree (taxidermist) was living with his wife in Rochester N.Y State USA according to the 1888 phone book - any clues to his children?

Mike Dunn

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George and Sussanah Wedding



The International Genealogists Index

One of the most useful sources for the family genealogists is the I.G.I index.

This is a transcription of parish registers which was, has been and is still ongoing by the Mormons. For a variety of reasons which I do not wish to raise here, The Mormons have been systematically transcribing the baptism, marriage and death details for Millions of people world wide and the U.K has been generally well covered.

It is their credit that the details of these indexes have been made available to the general public. Initially it was only possible to view these indices by visiting a local Mormon [LDS] Temple, and looking at microfilm, later it became possible to obtain print outs of the details for your family names in the area you wanted.

An innovative change came with the release on CD rom of the British Vital Records with about 5 million names listing, births, christening and marriages. [this has also been produced for Australia and other countries]

With the advent of the computer and the Internet the whole Index is now available to view on line.

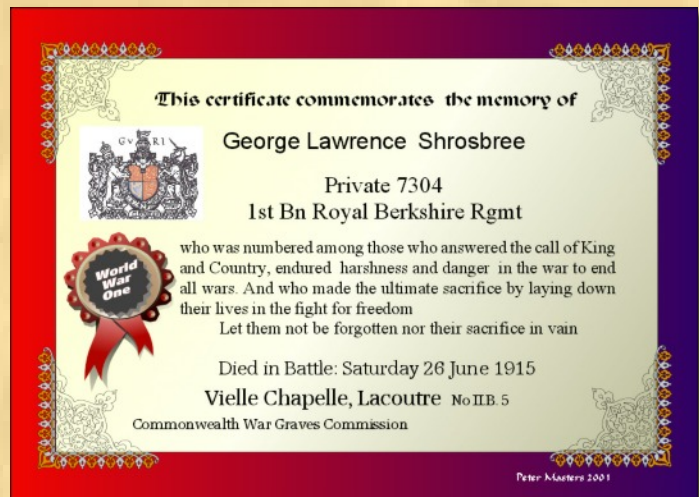
However what is not generally appreciated is that the Internet listings the BVI and the Paper print outs are only a partial collection of the

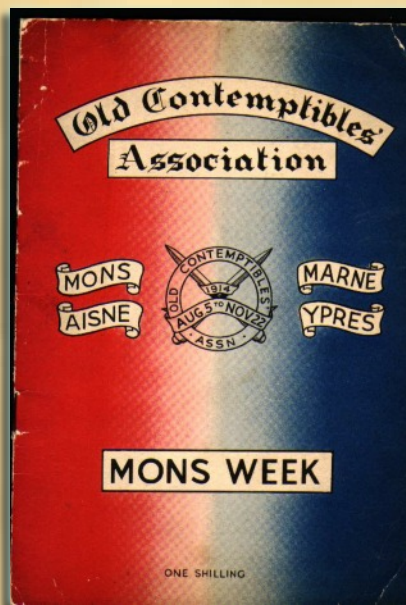
information held. Because the details are only released when and after the Mormons have finished using the information for their own purposes. Which is why there is a constant need to refer to the lists publication dates. Also the information available on the Internet does not always overlap the other released indexes, so whilst it might be possible to have a duplication, it is not necessarily the case. Further more, much of the information released has been filed by Family [Mormon] members, which means that upon examination there might be several entries for the same person but with different dates.

The Mormons have not extracted details from every Parish in the U.K. Many parishes refused access, many parishes have been visited, yet again some have been heavily extracted, that is to say not only Church of England records but Catholic, and non conformist registers as well. Whilst others have only limited extraction. Equally some counties have been heavily extracted because that is the seat of that visiting Mormon groups interest. And other counties have been barely touched. So do not despair if your relative is not there.

In conclusion then, remember that the II index in all its forms is still only a partial list and whilst a good starting point is no substitute for the details in the parish registers and public records themselves.

Peter Masters





Walter Thomas Shrosbree

7731



*We Archibald Philip Earl of Rosebury.
Viscount Rosebury. Viscount Invertharling. Baron
Premier and Ordinary in the Peerage of Scotland.
Baron Rosebury in the Peerage of the United Kingdom
a Baronet a Member of his Britannic Majesty's most
honourable Parliament and Knight of the Order of the
garter. His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for
foreign affairs*

*Requests and requires in the name of his Majesty all
those whom it may concern to allow John James Shroobree
(British subject) Travelling on the Continent accompanied by
Oliver J Griffiths (British subject) to pass freely with out
let or hindrance, and to afford him the bearer every as-
sistance and protection of which he may stand in need.*

Granted by the Foreign Office London 18th Day September 1893



*Signature of the Bearer
John James Shroobree*



Wrosby

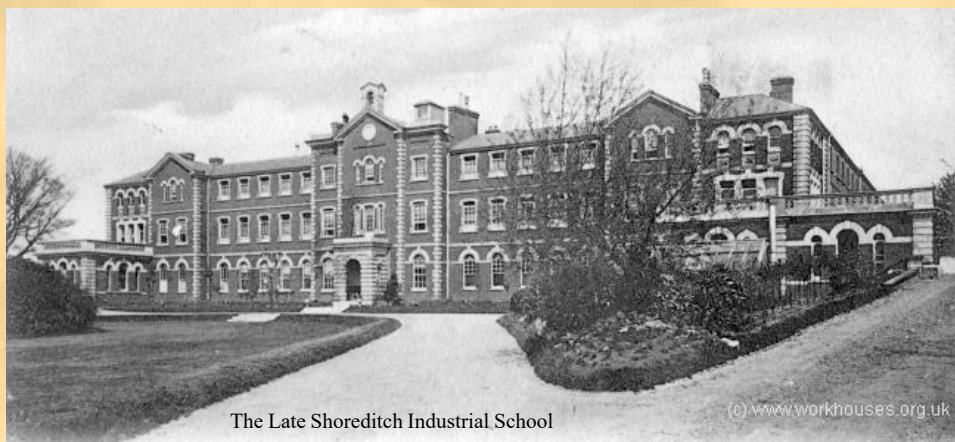
Three Little Boys

The mystery of the three children, Frederick 7. Albert 6. and Charles Shrosbee 3 [sic] listed as inmates in the 1881 census. Who were their parents, were they closely related ?

We can see them all on the st Kath's index and that Frederick died in Billericay 1883 . But we have little evidence to connect them to their families apart from the fact that they were born in Shoreditch.

The Late Shoreditch Industrial School, now in Essex ?

Given that the youngest child was only three it would seem to be more likely linked to a workhouse ,Unfortunately we Cannot determine who their parents were because the register only lsts adults by initials J.W age 39 yrs etc



NAME AND RESIDENCE	RELATION to Head of Family or if Pauper, Date in the Institution	CONVICTED or in Marriage	AGE Last Entry	DATE, PROFESSION, or OCCUPATION	WHEAT MEAS	Page No.
1. <i>Cornish Julia Bennett</i>	<i>Widow</i>		<i>20</i>	<i>Schooler</i>	<i>Shoreditch</i>	118
2. <i>Cook Emma</i>			<i>12</i>			
3. <i>Wright Elizabeth</i>			<i>8</i>			
4. <i>Wright Elizabeth</i>			<i>6</i>			
5. <i>Wright Elizabeth</i>			<i>16</i>			
6. <i>Wright Elizabeth</i>			<i>16</i>			
7. <i>Wright Elizabeth</i>			<i>16</i>			
8. <i>Wright Elizabeth</i>			<i>16</i>			
9. <i>Wright Elizabeth</i>			<i>16</i>			
10. <i>Wright Elizabeth</i>			<i>16</i>			
11. <i>Wright Elizabeth</i>			<i>16</i>			
12. <i>Wright Elizabeth</i>			<i>16</i>			
13. <i>Wright Elizabeth</i>			<i>16</i>			
14. <i>Wright Elizabeth</i>			<i>16</i>			
15. <i>Wright Elizabeth</i>			<i>16</i>			
16. <i>Wright Elizabeth</i>			<i>16</i>			
17. <i>Wright Elizabeth</i>			<i>16</i>			
18. <i>Wright Elizabeth</i>			<i>16</i>			
19. <i>Wright Elizabeth</i>			<i>16</i>			
20. <i>Wright Elizabeth</i>			<i>16</i>			
21. <i>Wright Elizabeth</i>			<i>16</i>			
22. <i>Wright Elizabeth</i>			<i>16</i>			
23. <i>Wright Elizabeth</i>			<i>16</i>			
24. <i>Wright Elizabeth</i>			<i>16</i>			
25. <i>Wright Elizabeth</i>			<i>16</i>			
Total of Males and Females			<i>11</i>	<i>9</i>		



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