

The following supplementary notes in section (A) are supplied by **Ann Heeley**, the notes in section (B) [page 5] are courtesy of **Steve Purkis**, a descendant of Thurza Arthur, daughter of Jeremiah.

Arthur Family

(A)

Francis Arthur married **Mary Clatworthy** of North Pertherton 29th February 1780

Selected notes from **May Arthur** 10 Oct 2008

Grandfather **Edmund Francis** b. 1860 – 1935 married Clara Blacker in 1885
Their eldest son **Francis Charles** born 1886 died Dec 1st 1918 in France and is buried in the war cemetery of Tincourt. He married **Louisa Goodchild** who was born in Ashwell, Hertfordshire, they were married in St Marks Church Easton, Bristol, (where my father's brother Robert was Vicar's warden in 1916, the church no longer exists)
Daughter **May** was born in 9 St Agnes Road, St Paul's Bristol on 19th June 1918 (She states: "My father did see me - I have a photograph of us, and he refers to me on the only letter I have of his, which he sent to his parents who lived in Sycamore, Water Lane").

Other children: **Robert**, **Maud** (later Mrs Percy Burge), **Tom** (married Mina Haines of Dawlish, they lived at Charlton Mackrell and had 2 daughters), **Amy** (Bertie's Mum Talbot)

Ref: A& RO Church Rate Butleigh Butl/

From 1841 – 1851 John Arthur pays rates for a cottage he owns and occupies

Ref: A&RO Butleigh Tithe Apportionment 1844

No 164 John Arthur owns and occupies a property, estimated measure 21 perch, description late Periams house, garden & premises.

Ref: Central Somerset Gazette 13th August 1853

Francis Arthur fell from the scaffold at Kingweston church and was killed. He was 23 years of age. Mr FH Dickinson kindly paid the expenses of his funeral and attended it himself at Butleigh Church.

Ref: Bristol Post Office Directory 1859

John Arthur a tailor

Ref: Central Somerset Gazette 20th January 1866

Mr James Richards marries Miss Charlotte Arthur on January 15th at the Independent Chapel by the Revd J Lambert in Butleigh.

Ref: Valuation List of Butleigh in Wells Union 1894

No 2 (on the list) Edmund Arthur occupier, Elizabeth Dabinett owner of a cottage in Oddway, gross estimated rental £5.0.0, rateable value £4.0.0

Ref: Valuation List of Butleigh in Wells Union 1874

No 160 on map Periam's Cottage, High Street. Owner occupier John Arthur, house offices and garden, estimated measure 21 perch, gross estimated rental £7.0.0,

rateable value £6.13.0d. In another hand Minnie Arthur is listed as the owner occupier.

Ref: Butleigh Co-operative Society Minutes December 1900

Albert Arthur to be engaged as the bakers boy, to receive 2/6 per week and be on a two month trial.

15th April 1901

Alberts father wanted to exchange Albert in the bakehouse for an older brother. The Committee would not agree and said Albert may give a fortnights notice.

2nd July 1901

Albert's father asked for a rise to 5/- per week or accept Albert's notice. The Committee accepted the resignation.

21st July 1902

Robert Arthur was engaged to work in the bakehouse at 5/- per week for a trial of one month. If Robert is satisfactory then he will be appointed on the salary of 5/- per week and to be reviewed after six months.

8th August 1914

The Army claimed one of the horses.

16th November 1914

Robert Arthur giving a fortnights notice, it was arranged for the manager to advertise for a successor

Ref: letter from **Ivor Arthur** b. 1913 at 24 High Street Butleigh, son of Robert 11th October 1982

'My father Robert was the baker at the Co-op from school-days until he came to Bristol in 1914/15, thereby increasing his wages from 18/- per week to a guinea (21/-). I believe he started work at 4 am, having prepared the dough overnight, baked the bread etc. then delivered around the villages by horse and cart, relying on the horse to bring him safely home when he dropped off to sleep through exhaustion.

Indecently the horse Bob, was requisitioned by the Army for duties in France.

My Grandfather lived at Sycamore and earned his living by making slippers at home for Clarks of Street, and selling eggs etc from his paddock and orchard.

My father has told me how during his school days the Squire would take the boys out of school to become beaters during his shooting parties and they dare not refuse'.

Note AH Robert was a baker in Bristol and died 20th February 1953

Ref: letter from **Gertie Smith** 1986 from Australia

Arthur brothers left England together with others from the area,

John 12years old, my grandfather *according to his bapt. was born 1846*

Herbert 14? years old *according to bap he was born 1832*

Thomas (Tom) 16 years old *according to bap. He was b. 1848*

They left England in 1846 *according to other evidence this was 1857* in the ship Gilmore from Plymouth arriving in Port Adelaide

My grandfather John married **Ellen Groves** who left England at the age of 16 years. I have no idea which ship or date, only that the ship berthed at Port Melbourne. I have no idea where she came from. No idea where they married.

They came to live at Glenburnie alongside his brother Herbert. Only a fence divided the two farms. Tom, I was told, went to Gippsland, district in Victoria.

John 1946 – 27th November 1970 and Ellen Groves

Children: Mary Jane mar. Alec Douglas from Scotland, they had a family of eight children including two sets of twins, only one of each lived.

Annie mar. into the Gould family, they had one son. Annie remarried, after her husband died late in life, to Alf Day and lived at Ballarat where they are both buried

Alice, never married and worked in Melbourne, she died at the age of 25 years

William (Willy) mar. Margaret Freeley, they had five children

Frank mar. Miss McKinnion, they had two daughters

Edith Emily (mother of Gertie Smith) mar. William George Smith on 2nd April 1902 at St Andrew's Mt Gambier, they had six children

Ethel Rebacca 1884 - 1976

Edith Emily ? – 1958 and William George Smith ? - 1940

Children: Dilys Ellen mar. Colin Laube, they had five sons, the eldest was Colin who was married and had two sons and a daughter

William John (Jack) married and had a daughter

Gertie Edith b. 1915 unmarried

Glady b. 1920 – 1931

Ref: September 1912 an Obituary from the local Newspaper in Mt Gambier. Copied by Gertie Smith in 1986

The death occurred at his residence Glenburnie on Tuesday night (24th September 1912) of Mr Herbert Arthur a South Australian colonist of 66 years and an old resident of the Mount Gambier district. He has not enjoyed good health for a considerable time, but died very sudden. The cause of death being heart failure. He was born in Butleigh, near Glastonbury Somersetshire, England in June 1832 and at this attained the ripe age of 80 years. Mr Arthur came to Port Adelaide in the ship Gilmore in 1846 when he was fourteen years of age. His first occupation in the colony was tailoring but did not continue that work and afterwards entered into various employments, mainly with the land. He came to Mt Gambier some 51 years ago and resided in the district during the whole of his remaining life. For many years he owned a small farm at Glenburnie which he used in the days of his health and strength to the best of his advantage. He planted a large orchard alongside of his residence which he took a great delight in and kept in an admirable manner, although the soil was light, there was a good subsoil and Mr Arthur grew excellent fruit. When not engaged on his own property, he went shearing sheep and doing other work.

Some years ago a fire which swept the Glenburnie district destroyed Mr Arthur's outbuildings and orchard, this was a very severe blow to the old man, and it may be said he never recovered from it. For the last five years he has been leading a retired life. The deceased was married three times, he leaves one son Mr William (Bill) Arthur of Horsham, Victoria and two daughters who also reside there. Mr Arthur took no part in public life, but was much respected by many friends. He has been a member of the Mt Gambier Lodge of Odd Fellows M.V. for about fifty years the funeral of the deceased was held yesterday afternoon.

Ref: notes from Gertie Smith from Australia

Gt uncle Herbert married three times, the first wife was Sara ? and they had three children, a son Bill, daughter who married into the Baker family and another daughter

married into the Peterson family. All the family live in Victoria. Herbert's second and third married were childless. All are buried in the Lake Terrace Cemetery in Mt Gambier which is now closed.

Ref: Letter from **Valda Scrase** 1991 from Australia

'Herbert son of John Clatworthy Arthur and Rebecca (Cook) came to Australia aboard the Gilmore arriving at Adelaide on 5th July 1987.

At that time Herbert was aged 25 years and was married to Sarah nee Baker of Street. Several of the Baker family also came out on the Gilmore. Herbert and Sarah had a female child born and died on the Gilmore. They settle in Mt Gambier, then a small town (village in English terms) on the boarder of South Australia and Victoria.

They built and ran a boarding house in the main street of Mt Gambier called The Temperance Boarding House which from the photo was quite a large dwelling. Herbert also bought land at Glenburnie a few miles from Mt Gambier and built the first stone house in the district. This house was very much modelled on the type cottages in Butleigh. He planted fruit trees to establish an orchard and also made and sold cider and fruit wines.

My father who was Herbert's grandson grew up on this property, he remembers Herbert as a kindly old man who had led an interesting life and had lots of tales to tell. Herbert died in 1912 when my father was seven years old.

John also lived with Herbert's family before he died.

Herbert 1832 – 1912 and Sarah 1831 - 1898 nee Baker

Children: Mary Ann 16th November 1857
Rebecca 28th September 1859 – 10.10.1902
William 19th June 1863 – 20 April 1928
John Thomas 13th September 1874 – 27th September 1975

William 19th June 1863 – 20th April 1928 married on 12th June 1883 Eliza Dunn 22nd December 1864 – 10th December 1939

Children: Herbert John 25.03.1885 – 1917 killed in WWI
Elizabeth 13. 03 1885 - 1970
George Alfred 15.05.1887 – 1917 killed in WWI
Sarah Eliza 27.10.1889 - 1898
Alice May 13. 03 1891 - 1972
Rebecca 24.03. 1894 - 1945
Ernest Frank 21.06.1897 - 1986
Edgar William 11.07 1901- 21.09. 1901
Walter Tom 11.03.1905

William purchase Glenburie and also purchased land to establish a wheat farm at Wail nr Dimboola in Victoria. Glenburie was sold on William's death and the Wail farm was inherited by William's son Ernest(- 1986), he sold the farm in the late 1960s

Mary Ann married in 1876 William Peterson farmer

Rebecca married on 2nd June 1876 John Hall a farmers and purchased land in the Wimmera which became successful wheat properties.

Walter Tom b.1905 married on 10th March 1934 Eliza Doris Drewery b 3rd March 1912

Ref: photocopy of header Invoice of Hiram Arthur
405 Edgware Road, Paddington, London
Adjoining the Edgware Road Horse Repository
Thursday March 9th 1916

Ref: Letter from Eileen Russell 1984, great grand daughter of Hiram Arthur
‘ ... Hiram & Caroline Charlotte d. 1887? had a son Edward and three daughter Minnie, Elizabeth and Florence b.1880?
Florence became pregnant in 1903 and was sent to Kingston-upon-Thames where Mervyn Geoffrey Arthur was born, he died 1976. ... the child spent sometime in Butleigh and knew a lot about the history of the village...’

‘ ... Hiram died in 1922, he left 4 houses in London, the business and various shares and bonds and of course Periam’s cottage His first wife Caroline Charlotte was a London doctor's daughter, he later married Ellen, half Indian, they had no children. Hiram appears to have left Periams to his eldest daughter Minnie, I was told a very good nurse. I was told that Minnie, Florence lived with Aunty Beckie and Dad at Butleigh. There three of them brought him up for sometime in Butleigh and then later in Exeter’

Ref: visit by **Ken Arthur** to Butleigh in 2003 from Australia
Photocopy of part of a letter from Minnie Arthur to Lizzie in Australia during WWI
‘ you will be surprised but I have bought the Butleigh cottage from my Dad, someday I hope to make it larger and live there myself.. I can’t do that at present, so there it is just as it used to be in the times when uncle Herbert and the rest of them used to run about there. When you write next time tell me the date and where our uncle is buried and the years. I am sending a list of names (Arthur’s) that I thought would interest all, don’t run away they are all relations. I have been looking up how long the Arthurs have been in Devonshire’

Ann Heeley 9 January 2009

(B)

Jeremiah Arthur was born in Woolavington on 20th February 1781 to **Francis** and Mary (nee Clatworthy) Arthur. **Mary Ann Arthur** (his wife) was born around 1787 in Bristol, that is, given as aged 64, according to the 1851 Census. Jeremiah was a bachelor when he married the spinster Mary by licence on 3rd January 1807 at Flax Bourton. They both signed their marriage certificate which meant they were probably more highly educated than the average person. Her father, **William Arthur**, was a witness to the Wedding. The other witness was Joseph Arthur - perhaps he was a great uncle to Jeremiah or second cousin to William. The two families were definitely related.

According to the Marriage Allegation, Mary, being a minor had to obtain the full consent of her natural father, because she was only 20 at this time. Her father, William Arthur, a yeoman of Flax Bourton and Jeremiah, her future husband, had to

put up a Marriage Bond of 300 pounds - a considerable amount of money in those days!!

The 1851 Census shows that they lived at 49 Woolavington and that even at age 70 he still worked as a tailor. Their granddaughter, Eliza Parsons, recounted that the Arthurs inhabited a cottage up some steps near the church. Incidentally, the old folk referred to the village as 'Oolavington' and their marriage certificate gives the name Wool Lavington.

Jeremiah and Mary had a total of 12 children. Mary must have been very weary and worn out by her middle age due this constant childbearing! (At that time, the average family size was just under five whilst one in six families had 10 or more).

Their children's names were:- John Clatworthy, born 25th October 1807; William, born on 10th September 1809 who died, aged 18, on the 6th April 1828; Francis, born 26th October 1811; Maria, born 22nd October 1813; Letitia Winifred, born 10th January 1816 (your assigned Lilian?); Thurza, born 25th January 1818; Edwin born 18th June 1820 who died on 26th April 1868; Amelia, born 21st July 1822; Frederick, born 14th June 1824 who was living in Puriton in 1881; Philip, born 30th April 1826 and died 29th June 1873 in Puriton; William Henry, born 28th November 1830 who died on 29th January 1832 and William, born 30th May 1833, who died on 22nd June 1834 aged 1. Fancy naming 3 sons as William and having all three die at such young ages!

The son, John Clatworthy Arthur, was a tailor and lived with wife Rebecca (nee Cook) and 9 children in 16, Main Street, Butleigh in 1851 (although in both 1871 and 1881 he lived alone). His father Jeremiah had probably died in John's house in Butleigh, aged 82, on 20th January 1863. Jeremiah was buried in Woolavington alongside his wife Mary who had died, aged 73, on 20th May 1859. John and Rebecca married in Butleigh on 6/5/1830 – she died on 26/3/1869 and he was buried on 3/9/1886. Their son Herbert Arthur died on 27/9/1912 at Mt Gambier, South Australia.

In 1851, his brother Frederick was lodging with John at Butleigh and worked as a labourer / bricklayer. Later that year he married Susan of Chedzoy. He died on 2nd November 1900. Another brother, Philip was living down the road at 31, Main Street and was described as a Journeyman / Baker. A further brother, Edwin, lived at 87, Chilton Polden with his wife Maria (nee Tucker) and worked as a gardener.

Letitia, while unmarried, had a son named William, born on 29th August 1835. A removal order was served on her in Wedmore just before the birth on 20th July 1835, sending her back to Woolavington to ensure that they were not responsible for her and as such would have incurred Parish relief costs - the name of the father was not mentioned on this order.

By 1841 only Letitia, Amelia and Philip Arthur still lived with their parents, Jeremiah and Mary, although Frederick was also lodging in Woolavington, possibly with his employer. Two of Thurzas' sisters would visit Thurza each summer at Fordgate in a pony and trap. The witness to Thurza's wedding was Maria Thomas who was perhaps one of her sister's (by her married name).