

Nicholls:

Nicholas. English and Welsh from the given name:

Greek *Nikolaos*, from:

nikan - 'to conquer'

+

laos - 'people'

The name, literally, 'conquering' or 'victorious people', was popular among Christians throughout Europe in the Middle Ages, largely as a result of a fourth century Lycian bishop, about whom a large number of legends grew up.

Variations: Nic(o)las (Wales), Nickless (West Midlands), Nichol(l), Nicoll, Nic(k)ol, Nickal, Nickel(l), Nickle.

Patronymic: Eng. **Nichol(l)s**, **Nickol(l)s**, **Nicolls**, **Niccols**, **Nicholes**, **Nickoles**, **Nicholds**, **Nickolds**, **Nickalls**, **Nickel(l)s**, **Nic(h)olson**, **Nickleon**.

The Oxford Names Companion (Oxford: OUP, 1998), p.451.

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[1]Introduction

Nearly all of the following information is taken from the Census records, information filed in parish records, and/or the Registry of Birth, Deaths and Marriages. In many cases, the information originated from a person who may not have been literate. In view of this, there are differences and variations in spellings and dates.

In addition to this, even if the person supplied the correct information, the actual records were not always exact. For example, as noted, in <http://www.1841-census.co.uk>: '[In the 1841 census], ages up to 15 are listed exactly as reported/recorded but ages over 15 were rounded to the nearest 5 years (rounded down)'.

In the following it will be seen that from William Nickols (my great-great grandfather) onwards until the 1920s, the first son was given the forename of his father, and the first daughter was given the forename of her mother.

[2]Before William Nickols and Mary Ann Leach

As William Nickols apparently came from Ireland (see [3] below), I was limited to his wife, Mary Ann Leach to trace my ancestry. Despite spending time on this, I have not been successful in this.

As the marriage record (below) shows, when Mary Ann Leach married William Nickols in 1817, there was another Mary Ann Leach marrying (a John Bailey) on the same day in the same church who was a widow: I can see no other explanation for this other than this was Mary Ann's

widowed mother, also called Mary Ann Leach, who thought it a good idea to have a "double wedding."

In attempting to find her mother (i.e., who I suspect was the other Mary Ann Leach (widow) who married in 1817), I found a Mary Ann Rider born in Paddington, London.

In 1791 she married William Leach on 6 October at St Luke, Sydney Street, Chelsea, London, and therefore became Mary Ann Leach in 1791. If this is Mary Ann Leach's mother (who appears to have remarried (John Bailey) in 1817), this means William Leach died between 1791 and 1817.

However, the most likely birth record I found is this:

Name: Mary Ann Rider

Birth Date: 9 Aug 1777

Baptism Date: 15 Aug 1777

Baptism Place: St George, Hanover Square, London, Westminster.

Father: Richard Rider

Mother: Ann Rider

So there is a problem here: if this is the Mary Ann Rider who married William Leach in 1791, she would have only been (1791-1777=) 14 years of age when marrying but in 1763 the minimum age of marriage became 16.

So unless there was fraud, or the birth/baptism entry is a mistake, this record cannot be the Mary Ann Rider who married William Leach in 1791 and the mother of Mary Ann who married William Nickols in 1817.

With regard to William Leach, I found three birth/baptism records, for 1773 and 1774:

(i) Name: William Leach

Record Type: Baptism

Baptism Date: 27 Feb 1774

Baptism Borough: Kensington and Chelsea, London

Father: William Leach

Mother: Ann Leach

and

(ii) Name: William Leach

Record Type: Baptism

Birth Date: 9 Nov 1774

Baptism Date: 15 Dec 1774

Baptism Place: St George, Hanover Square, Westminster, London

Father: William Leach

Mother: Sarah Leach

and

(iii) Name: William Leach

Record Type: Baptism

Baptism Date: 29 Oct 1773

Baptism Place: Saint Giles Cripplegate, City of London, London

Father: Richard Leach

Mother: Grace Leach

As far as William Leach dying before 1817, I found these:

(i)Name: William Leach
Record Type: Burial
Burial Date: 13 Mar 1810
Burial Place: St George, Hanover Square, London, Westminster
and
(ii)Name: William Leach
Record Type: Burial
Burial Date: 19 Aug 1804
Burial Place: St James, Piccadilly/Westminster, London

So while Mary Ann Rider appears to be a definite possibility as the mother of Mary Ann Leach, her date of birth prevents this. The George Leach who was a witness at Mary Ann Leach's marriage to William Nickols, was surely related to her, and I hoped to find Ann Mary Ann Rider/Leach had a son of this name, but this was unsuccessful. There are several instances of a George Leach baptised in London in the last two decades of the 18th century. Also, a George Leach married Jane Eaden on 26 December 1816 at St Marylebone, Marylebone Rd, London, while another George Leach married an Elizabeth Wyatt on 21 May 1815 at St James, Piccadilly, London: in *both* cases there are similarities in the signatures with the one on the 1817 marriage record of William Nickols and Mary Ann Leach.

The 1850 death certificate of Mary Ann Nickols says she was 60 years old when she died, providing a date of birth in about 1790: however, the 1850 burial record (see below) has her age as 56 resulting in a birth year of about 1794.

On attempting to find a birth/baptism record for Mary Ann Leach who married William Nickols in 1817, I found these:

(i)Name: Mary Ann Leach
Baptism, July 1788
Place: St Martin in the Fields, Westminster.
Parents: William Leach and Mary Leach
and
(ii)Name: Mary Ann Leach
Birth Date: 23 May 1795
Baptism Date: 10 Jul 1795
Baptism Place: Saint Mary, St Marylebone Road, St Marylebone, London.
Parents: Isaac Leach and Elizth.
and
(iii)Name: Mary Ann Leach
Birth Date: 11 Jul 1797
Birth Place St James, Clerkenwell, Middlesex.
Denomination: Presbyterian, Independent Or Baptist
Parents: Wright Leach and Sophia Spencer
(iv)
Name: Mary Ann Leach
Baptism Date: 17 Jul 1785
Baptism Place: St. Mary's, Lambeth, Surrey
Parents: Wm. Leach and Mary

In the case of the Mary Ann Leach born 23 May 1795, she married Samuel Dew in 1811 and her mother was called Elizabeth: therefore, she is not the Mary Ann Leach who married William Nickols in 1817. The others do not assist as it is not possible to verify any as the Mary Ann Leach who married William Nickols in 1817, and none have a mother called Mary Ann (assuming the widowed Mary Ann Leach at the 1817 marriage was her mother.)

Secondly, there is no Mary Ann Nickols or Mary Ann Nichols listed in the 1841 census for London, although there is a Mary Ann *Nicholls*, living as a housekeeper at New Bond Street in the household of a Francis Burnand (1807–1874), a stockbroker, and his son Francis (The son was the playwright who became Sir Francis Cowley Burnand, 1836–1917).

City or Borough of Westminster
Parish or Township of St George Hanover Square

PLACE	HOUSES		NAMES of each Person who abode therein the preceding Night.	AGE and SEX		PROFESSION, TRADE, EMPLOYMENT, or of INDEPENDENT MEANS.	Where Born	
	Uninhabited or Building	Inhabited		Males	Females		Whether Born in same County	Whether Born in Scotland, Ireland, or Foreign Parts.
New Bond Street			Adelaide Simpson	10			4	
			Emma Simpson	8			4	
			Isabel Simpson	3			4	
			James Dawson	21		S. French Druggist	N	
			Elizabeth Francis	22		S. Do	N	
			Margaret Philott	25		S. Do	N	
			Francis Gulam	70		S. Independent	N	
			Mary Egerton	70			N	
			Job Doughty	45		S. Male Servant	N	
			Francis Burnand	34		S. Stock Broker	4	
Do			Francis Do	4			4	
			Mary Ann Nicholls	45		S. House Keeper	4	

(In the 1834 and 1835 Register of Electors, Burnand is not listed as a stockbroker, but as a spectacle-maker, living at 49 Mortimer Street, Cavendish Square, London. The 1837 Register shows the same classification with him living at 7 Upper Wimpole Street, London. The 1855 Register of Electors shows Burnand was living at 62 New Bond Street and again, a spectacle-maker.)

As the above shows, the 1841 census details for Mary Ann are:

Name: Mary Ann Nicholls

Age: 45 (Estimated birth year: about 1796)

Where born: Foreign Parts

Civil parish: St George Hanover Square

Hundred: Westminster
County/Island: Middlesex
Registration district: St George Hanover Square

The issues that favour the 1841 census record being Mary Ann Nickols who married William are:

(i)The 1841 census shows William was an inmate of the Peckham House Lunatic Asylum which meant Mary Ann would have needed employment and a residence, and being a housekeeper would have provided both.

(ii)there are no other persons in the 1841 census who appear to be Mary Ann Nickols.

(iii)the age of the Mary Ann Nicholls (45) in the 1841 census agrees (approximately) with the age of Mary Ann Nickols at the time, according to her 1850 burial record (saying she was 56 in 1850).

A genealogist advised me:

“On the 1841 census, I have located a Mary Ann Nicholls, age 45, born in Foreign Parts, working as a housekeeper for a stockbroker in New Bond Street, which may or may not be your Mary Ann Nicholls. However, if her husband William Nickols was in an Asylum, and Mary Ann Nickols/ Nicholls was having to work as a housekeeper to support the family, this might account for their son Alfred being at the Blind School with the older son William in 1841 (according to the census).“

The census states she originated “From Foreign Parts:” if this entry does relate to Mary Ann Leach/Nickols, this may explain the difficulty in tracing definite records for her before the 1817 marriage.

However, the problem is that her surname is spelt “Nicholls” in the 1841 census but this variation of the name was only adopted by her younger son Alfred decades later and the 1850 death/burial records for Mary Ann continue to use “Nickols”(although the burial record for her husband uses “Nicholls”).

In sum, I suspect it was the Mary Ann Nicholls in the 1841 census “from Foreign parts” who was the Mary Ann Leach who married William Nickols. I can only assume the spelling of “Nickols” as “Nicholls” was an error made by whoever supplied/collected the census details. Nonetheless, it would be interesting to know what the “Foreign Parts” were, as ‘Mary Ann Leach’ hardly sounds foreign. If she was from abroad, this would of course explain the difficulty in tracing her ancestry.

NB.

Apart from the witness George Leach, the other witness at the 1817 marriage was Johanna Gambell, and the only record I can trace for someone of this name relates to a baptism. Birth: 28 May 1795. Baptism: 28 June 1795. Baptism Place: Saint Mary, St Marylebone Road, London. Father: Edward Gambell and Mother: Jane Gambell. (NB. Both John Bailey and the widow Mary Ann Leach both appear to have signed the marriage record with an “X”.)

[3]William Nickols/Mary Ann Leach

So I begin with Mary Ann marrying William Nickols (ca. 1790-1850: my great-great grandfather): according to the 1841 census, William came from Ireland - the 1841 census asks whether the person listed was born in the county and if not, whether he/she was born in Scotland (S), Ireland (I) or Foreign Parts (F). The first part is answered in the negative and while the handwriting on the census is poor the character entered certainly isn't an "S" or an "F", and looks like an "I".

I understand that looking for ancestors who came from Ireland is very difficult but I used <https://www.irishgenealogy.ie> and all searches were negative: on looking for the baptism record of a William Nickols from 1770 to 1800, the response was:

“Church Records

Baptism, Marriage and Burial results for william nickols from 1770 to 1800: *No results found.*

Civil Records

Birth results for william nickols from 1770 to 1800: *No results found.*

Research

Baptism, Marriage and Burial results for william nickols from 1770 to 1800. *Displaying results 1 - 6” [None were Nickols]*

The church record below shows that Mary Ann Leach (a spinster) and a widow called Mary Leach were both married on the same day:

MARRIAGES solemnized in the Parish of Paddington
in the County of Middlesex in the Year 1877

William Nichols of this Parish
Bachelor
and Mary Ann Leach of this Parish
Spinster

were married in this Church by Banns with Consent of
this Seventeenth Day of
October in the Year One thousand eight hundred and Seventeen

By me Geo. Pickering, Registrar General

This Marriage was solemnized between us { William Nichols
Mary Ann Leach

In the Presence of { Johnnab Campbell
George Leach
No. 565.

John Bailey of this Parish
Bachelor
and Mary Ann Leach of this Parish
Widow

were married in this Church by Banns with Consent of
this Seventeenth Day of
October in the Year One thousand eight hundred and Seventeen

By me Geo. Pickering, Registrar General

This Marriage was solemnized between us { John Bailey
Mary Ann Leach

In the Presence of { Mr. Mutton Wm. J. L. Pickering
Wm. J. L. Pickering
No. 566.



St James', Sussex Gardens, Paddington.

Patrice78500, CC BY-SA 3.0 <<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/>>.

Website: <https://stjamespaddington.org.uk/>

Gallery: <https://stjamespaddington.org.uk/gallery/>

As can be seen by the entries, both Mary Ann and William were able to write:

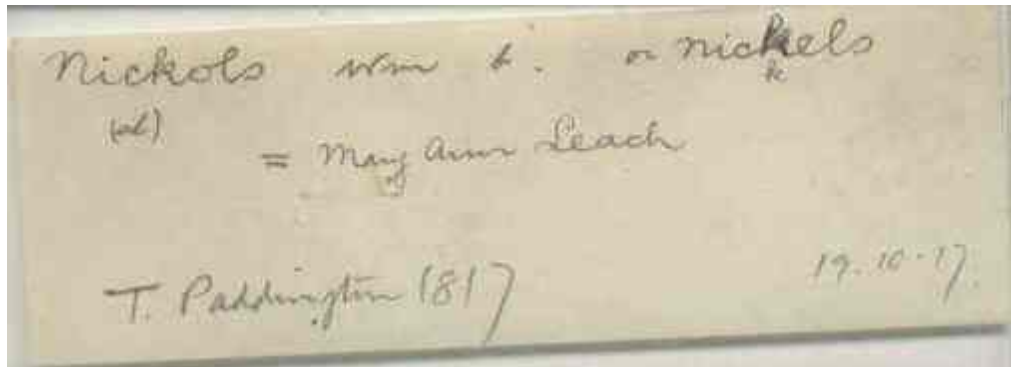
and this indicates they were both educated. This is in contrast to several later occasions when their descendents were only able to sign their name with an 'X', e.g., in 1865 when Emma Nicholls registered the birth of Edmund, in 1871 when the mother of Caroline Banks registered Caroline's birth; and in 1901 when Caroline Nicholls registered the birth of her son (my father) John Leonard Nicholls.

(Unfortunately the fourth letter of the handwritten surname could sometimes appear as either "k" or "h" and this may have led to confusion.)

The marriage entry is recorded thus:

Name	William Nickols
Gender	Male
Marriage Date	19 Oct 1817
Marriage Place	Saint James, Paddington, London
Spouse	MaryAnn Leach

Pallo's Marriage Index (made between 1780 and 1 July 1837), covering all but two of the 103 Church of England parishes in the old City of London and Middlesex, and over 2,500 parishes outside London, provides another variation, i.e., the name is also spelt as "Nickels":



[4]William Nichols and Alfred Nicholls

William and Mary Ann had two sons: William (1818-1870) and Alfred (1827-1881). The record for the baptism of his first child, William, in 1818 indicates the name at that time was "Nickols."

However, in the subsequent time, the surname was spelt Nickols, Nicholls or Nichols. William Jr and his descendents spelt their surname "Nichols", and in the case of the descendents of Alfred, my great-grandfather, the surname was originally "Nichols" but eventually became "Nicholls".

William Jr was born on 13 November 1818 and the record of his baptism (in 1818) is as follows:

Page								BAPTISMS solemnized in the Parish of SAINT JAMES, WESTMINSTER, in the County of Middlesex, in the Year 1819.							
Date.		Child's Christian Name.		Parents' Name.		Abode.	Quality, Trade, or Profession.	When born.	By whom the Sacrament was administered.						
		Christian.	Surname.												
Here beginneth the Register of Baptisms administered in the Parish of St. James Westminster in the Year 1818.										Edward Gooding Clerk in 1818.					
No.	1	Margaret	Mary Ann	Andrew	Thompson	Orange Court	Baker	Nov. 22 1818							
No.	2	Mary Ann	Mary Ann	Joseph	Moore	Buttney Street	Widow	Nov. 24 1818	Mr Hughes						
No.	3	Leona	Leona	Joseph	Nichols	Walkers Court	Baker	Nov. 24 1818	Mr Hughes						
No.	4	Mary -	Mary	William	Taylor	Bowser Street	School Master	May 1818	Mr Hughes						
No.	5	William	Mary Ann	William	Nichols	Broad Street	Coach maker	Nov. 13 1818	G. G. Andrews						

The 1818 baptism record shows William Nickols, Mary Ann and their infant son William, lived in Broad Street, London, and William Snr was a coachman/coachmaker.

With regard to Broad Street:

(i) Broad Street

"Broad Street ran north-south from All Hallows, London Wall to Threadneedle Street and "to a Pumpe ouer against Saint Bennets church" (Stow). Broad Street, labelled "Brode Streat" on the Agas map, was entirely in Broad Street Ward.

The street's name was a reference to its width and importance (Harben). In Stow's Survey, Broad Street serves as the main road to many of the ward's more interesting monuments, halls, and houses. Part of Broad Street, from Throgmorton Street to Threadneedle Street later became known as Little Broad Street."

Source: <https://mapoflondon.uvic.ca/BROA2.htm>

(ii) Little Broad Street

"South from Throgmorton Street to Threadneedle Street. In Broad Street Ward. Other names : "Pig Street" (Rocque, 1746-Boyle, 1799). "Broad Street" (Horwood, 1799)."

Source: <https://www.british-history.ac.uk/no-series/dictionary-of-london/little-bailey-street-little-broad-street>

(iii) "The Broad Street area is located in the heart of London's financial district and is comprised of two separate streets. Old Broad Street runs from Threadneedle Street to Wormwood Street, while New Broad Street is a narrow passageway just north of the London Wall. Broad Street was one of London's medieval wards, covering an area that roughly corresponds to the modern EC2 postcode."

Source: <https://www.londonofficespace.com/buzz/broad-street-guide/>

It is also stated:

"The Broad Street cholera outbreak (or Golden Square outbreak) was a severe outbreak of cholera that occurred in 1854 near Broad Street (now Broadwick Street) in Soho, London, and occurred during the 1846–1860 cholera pandemic happening worldwide. This outbreak killed 616 people."

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1854_Broad_Street_cholera_outbreak

and

"Between 1848 and 1854, a series of cholera outbreaks occurred in London with large-scale loss of life. One epidemic of cholera occurred in the area of Broad Street, Golden Square, in Soho, a poor district of central London with unhygienic industries and housing."

Source: <https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC7150208/>

As stated above, Broad Street is now known as 'Broadwick Street':

"Broadwick Street is a street in Soho, in the City of Westminster. It was formerly called Broad Street. It was known in the nineteenth century as the site of an 1854 outbreak of cholera..."

Source: <https://editions.covecollective.org/place/broadwick-street-broad-street>

The 1881 census for Alfred, their second son, was born in Camberwell in 1827, so the family appear to have moved south from central

London to Camberwell during the 1820s.

The 1841 census shows that both sons worked at the Indigent School for the Blind, in Southwark: William Jr as a teacher, and Alfred, my great-grandfather, as a porter.

Name of the Institution *School for Indigent Blind*

NAMES of each Person who abode therein on the Night of Sunday, June 6th.	Age of Males.	Age of Females.	OCCUPATION, if any.	Where Born	
				Whether Born in same County.	Whether Born in Scotland, Ireland, or Foreign Parts.
<i>Heart Gentle</i>		<i>15</i>	<i>Blind pupil learn to spin</i>	<i>N</i>	
<i>William Nichols</i>	<i>20</i>		<i>Teacher</i>	<i>N</i>	
<i>George Boulton</i>	<i>25</i>		<i>Porter</i>	<i>N</i>	
<i>Alfred Nichols</i>	<i>14</i>		<i>do</i>		<i>Y</i>
<i>Caroline D Bailey</i>		<i>12</i>	<i>do learn D</i>	<i>N</i>	



“The Blind School”,

The School for the Indigent Blind, was established in 1799, at the Dog and Duck premises, St. George's Fields; and for some time received only fifteen blind persons. The site being required by the City of London for the building of Bethlem Hospital, about two acres of ground were allotted opposite the Obelisk, and there a plain school-house for the blind was built. In 1826, the School was incorporated; and in the two following years three legacies of 500l. each, and one of 10,000l., were bequeathed to the establishment.

In 1834, additional ground was purchased, and the school-house remodelled, so as to form a portion of a more extensive edifice in the Tudor or domestic Gothic style, designed by John Newman, F.S.A. The tower and gateway in the north front are very picturesque; the School will now accommodate 220 inmates.

The pupils are clothed, lodged, and boarded, and receive a religious and industrial education; so that many of them have been returned to their families able to earn from 6s. to 8s. per week. Applicants are not received under twelve, nor above thirty, years of age; nor if they have a greater degree of sight than will enable them to distinguish light from darkness. The admission is by votes of the subscribers; and persons between the ages of twelve and eighteen have been found to receive the greatest benefit from the instruction."

(John Timbs, *Curiosities of London*, 1867)

One noticeable feature of the School was the nearby Obelisk that still exists:



As the area is now:



On the baptism certificate (dated 17 October 1847), of his daughter, Maria Louisa, William's profession is said to be "Clerk at the Blind School".

[5]Last years of William Nickols/Mary Ann Nickols (née Leach)

The 1841 census also shows their father William was a resident patient in the Peckham House Lunatic Asylum. There are a number of articles on the internet regarding this establishment, e.g.,

*** "In 1829 Peckham House was initially licensed to accommodate 172 pauper patients and 40 private patients. According to a prospectus put out in 1827, now held by Southwark's Local History Library, the joint proprietors were "Mott and Parsons"...It is absolutely clear that the diet at Peckham was meagre. Mott was a man of extreme parsimony, a mindset of which he made no secret; indeed one that he evidently regarded as a virtue. As manager of Lambeth's poor law from 1831, his approach to the maintenance of poor people in Lambeth's workhouse was to cut costs by a third, making savings of £3,000."**

Source: Peckham Society at https://www.peckhamsociety.org.uk/?page_id=1078

*** "Residents of Mott's establishments would have a meager diet, for example dinner, on alternate days, at Peckham was officially 'meat, potatoes and bread' and 'soup and bread' ('The soup is made from the liquor in which the meat for the whole establishment is boiled the previous day, together with all the bones, with the addition of barley, pease, and green vegetables'). The seventh day was 'Irish stew and bread'. The quantity of meat used was not stated. But there were numerous complaints of short measure, poor quality, fraud and false accounting. In October 1829 an official inspection found 'the pea soup distributed to the paupers to be sour, of bad quality in other respects, nor do they conceive the bread which they saw given with it was in sufficient quantity'. In 1830 the kitchen was 'extremely dirty, wholly**

insufficient in size' and the persons employed in it 'slovenly and the utensils bad.'

Source: Vauxhall Society.

Also 'Lost hospitals of London - Peckham House' on <https://ezitis.myzen.co.uk/peckhamhouse.html>

His death certificate shows that when he died in 1850, he was in the Camberwell Workhouse (these incarcerations may explain why he only had two children, which was unusual at this time). The entry for William in the 1841 census, showing his origin as 'I'(reland)', is as follows:

12

21

Name of the Institution *Peckham House London Egham*

NAMES of each Person who abode therein on the Night of Sunday, June 6th.	Age of Males.	Age of Females.	OCCUPATION, if any.	Where Born	
				Whether Born in same County.	Whether Born in Scotland, Ireland, or Foreign Parts.
<i>William Anthony</i>	<i>46</i>			<i>✓</i>	<i>✓</i>
<i>Wm Collins</i>	<i>36</i>			<i>✓</i>	<i>✓</i>
<i>William Nicholls</i>	<i>51</i>			<i>✓</i>	<i>✓</i>
<i>Wm Greenley</i>	<i>48</i>			<i>✓</i>	<i>✓</i>
<i>Wm Cook</i>	<i>52</i>			<i>✓</i>	<i>✓</i>
<i>Wm Fisher</i>	<i>40</i>			<i>✓</i>	<i>✓</i>
<i>Wm Bond</i>	<i>42</i>			<i>✓</i>	<i>✓</i>

According to her death certificate, Mary Ann Nickols died on 5 September 1850 while living in Cork Street, a poor area of Camberwell (no rates were payable). No occupation is given. William Nickols died ten days later, on 15 September 1850, in the Camberwell Workhouse. Their death certificates are as follows:

CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY OF DEATH

GIVEN AT THE GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE

Application Number COL757059

REGISTRATION DISTRICT *Camberwell*

1850 DEATH in the Sub-district of *Camberwell* in the County of *Surrey*

No.	When and where died	Name and surname	Sex	Age	Occupation	Cause of death	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar
159	5th September 1850 15 Cork Street Camberwell	Mary Ann Nickols	Female	43	Wife of William Nickols Workman	Natural Apoplexy Sudden	William Carter Coroner for Surrey Kingston 1850	Twelfth September 1850	W. Searle Registrar

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of an entry in the certified copy of a Register of Deaths in the District above mentioned.

Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, under the Seal of the said Office, the 28th day of November 2006

DYB 261099

See note overleaf

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ANJH

CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY OF DEATH

GIVEN AT THE GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE

Application Number COL779983

REGISTRATION DISTRICT Camberwell

1850 DEATH in the Sub-district of Camberwell in the County of Surrey

No.	When and where died	Name and surname	Sex	Age	Occupation	Cause of death	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar
131	10th September 1850 Workhouse Camberwell	William Nickols	Male	60	Formerly a Coachman	Dysentery	Louisa Way Present at the death Workhouse Camberwell	10th September 1850	[Signature]

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of an entry in the certified copy of a Register of Deaths in the District above mentioned.

Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, under the Seal of the said Office, the 6th day of December 2006

DYB 271216

See note overleaf

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CJD

The parish burial records include reference to both William and Mary Ann in St. Giles Church, Camberwell burial registers (X97/345).



St Giles, Camberwell

This records that William Nickols was buried on 20 September 1850, age 60, and his abode at the time of death was the Camberwell Workhouse, and his widow Mary Ann Nickols was buried on 10 September 1850, age 56 and her abode is given as 'Cork Street': however her death certificate says she was 60 (although it could be read as 63). If the 56 is correct,

this means her year of birth was 1794 and not 1790. The 1841 census entry (see above), says she was 45 which means that she was born in the mid-1790s, and this is closer to the age/date specified by the burial record.

William's burial record is as follows:

BURIALS in the Parish of <i>St. Giles Camberwell</i> in the County of <i>Surrey</i> in the Year 18 <i>50</i> .				
Name.	Abode.	When buried.	Age.	By whom the Ceremony was performed.
<i>William Nichols</i>	<i>Workhouse</i>	<i>Sept. 20th</i>	<i>60 years</i>	<i>W. Whitaker Curate</i>
No. 944				

And Mary Ann's burial record is:

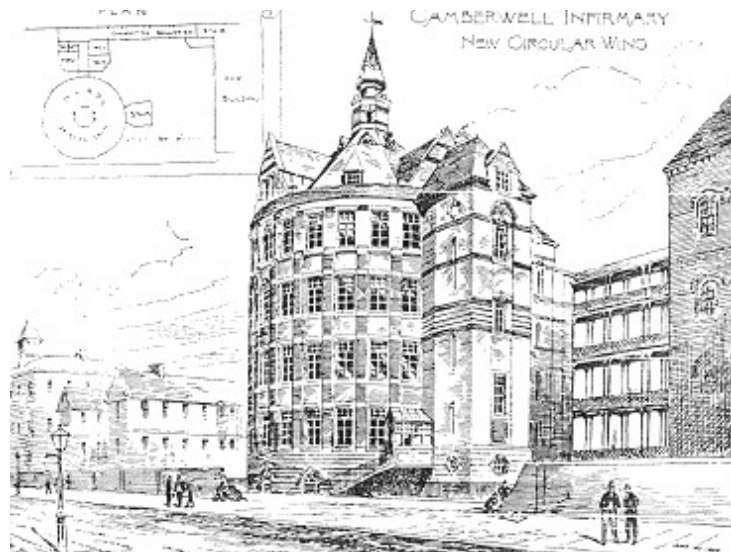
BURIALS in the Parish of <i>St. Giles Camberwell</i> in the County of <i>Surrey</i> in the Year 18 <i>50</i> .				
Name.	Abode.	When buried.	Age.	By whom the Ceremony was performed.
<i>Mary Ann Nichols</i>	<i>Cork Street</i>	<i>Sept. 10th</i>	<i>56 years</i>	<i>W. Whitaker Curate</i>
No. 932				

The Record of death for William is as follows. His age is recorded as 59, and his surname is spelt "Nicholls".

SCHEDULE C.—FORM 17. REGISTER OF DEATHS.				
No. in Relief List.	Date of Death.	Name.	Age.	To what Parish belonging.
127	Friday 6 th September	Grosvenor Catherine	70	Camberwell
150	" " "	Hobbs Mary	71	"
570	Wednesday 11 th "	A. Groundling	as Mrs	"
475	Thursday 12	Turner Catherine	65	"
570	" 19	Payne Sarah	74	"
5	" "	Barrow William	67	"
670	Monday 21 Saturday	Baggs Benjamin	57	"
252	Tuesday 15	Nicholls William	59	"

As stated on the website <https://stgilescamberwell.org/> for St Giles, Camberwell:

"The churchyard has not been used for burials since 1856 and was made into a park in 1939. There are some headstones – very worn – displayed along the perimeter of the park. There is no known complete record of burials, tombstones or those buried in the crypt. However some monuments which existed in the former church (destroyed by fire 1841) and churchyard are described in *Collections, Illustrative of the Geology, History, Antiquities, and Associations, of Camberwell, and the Neighbourhood*, by Douglas Allport (Originally published by the author, 1841)."



Camberwell Workhouse in the 19th century.



The building as it is now.

The appalling conditions of Workhouses, including the one at Camberwell, was discussed in the 1865-66 *Lancet*.

Details will be found in:

<https://www.workhouses.org.uk/Lancet/Camberwell.shtml>

[6]Variation in the spelling of surname

In respect of the variations of the spelling of the surname mentioned above, the following provides some examples of this:

Year	Source	Spelling
1817	Parish register for marriage of William and Mary Ann	NICKOLS
1819	Parish register for baptism of William	NICKOLS
1841	The 1841 census has William's name as Nickols and Alfred's name as Nichols	NICKOLS NICHOLS
1846	Marriage certificate of William and Maria: also mentions William's father	NICHOLS
1849	Birth certificate of William	NICHOLS
1850	Death certificate of Mary Ann	NICKOLS
1850	Death certificate of William	NICKOLS
1851	Census for William and Maria	NICHOLLS
1853	Birth certificate for Amy Mary, child of William and Maria (birth registered by Maria, signing with an 'X')	NICHOLLS
1858	Birth certificate of Henry John	NICHOLS
1861	Census for William and Maria	NICHOLS
1861	Census for Alfred	NICHOLS
1865	Birth certificate for Edmund (birth registered by Emma)	NICHOLS
1867	Birth certificate for Harry (birth registered by Emma)	NICHOLS
1870	Death certificate for William	NICHOLS
1871	Census for Alfred	NICHOLS
1871	Census for Maria Nichols, widow of William	NICHOLS
1881	Census for Maria Nichols, widow of William	NICHOLS
1881	Death certificate for Alfred (death was reported by widow Emma)	NICHOLS
1883	Marriage certificate for Henry John and Elizabeth	NICHOLS
1885	Death certificate for William Nichols (death was reported by brother G W Nichols)	NICHOLS
1888	Death certificate for Maria (death was reported by son George W.)	NICHOLS
1889	Marriage certificate for Harry and Emma	NICHOLLS
1890	Marriage certificate for Mary Ann Nichols and Ronald George Madden	NICHOLS
1891	Census for Emma	NICHOLLS
1891	Marriage certificate for George W. and Clara	NICHOLS
1891	Census for Edmund	NICHOLLS
1893	Birth certificate for Mary Ann	NICHOLLS
1897	Death certificate for Emma (death reported by Ada, daughter-in-law)	NICHOLLS
1901	Birth certificate for John (birth registered by mother Caroline, who was illiterate, signing with an 'X')	NICHOLLS

‘On a national scale, in 1871, 19.4 per cent of males and 26.8 per cent of females were unable to sign their name when they married...Thirty years earlier (1841), 32.7 of men and 48.9 per cent of women could not do so’.

Pamela Horn, *The Victorian Town Child* (Sutton, 1997), p.73

It should be noted that in South-East London, many residential buildings at this time were multi-occupancy and the areas in which some of my ancestors were born, lived and died were the some of the poorest. The Census show that my ancestors invariably lived in properties in which several other families also living (e.g. 1881: see below).

Mearn’s description of a visit to Bermondsey, south London, in the 1880s: ‘Entering a doorway you go up six or seven steps into a long passage, so dark that you have to grope your way by the clammy, dirt-encrusted wall, and then you find a wooden stair, some of the steps of which are broken through.

Ascending as best you can you gain admission to one of the rooms. You find that although the front and back of the house are brick, the rooms are separated by partitions of board, some of which are an inch apart. There are no locks on the doors, and it would seem that they can only be fastened on the outside by padlock.

In this room, there is an old bed, on which there are some evil-smelling rags, and with the exception of a broken chair, is the only article of furniture’.

Andrew Mearns, *The Bitter Cry of Outcast London* (James Clarke & Co., 1883)

‘In the 1890s, 68 per cent of Southwark was below the poverty line and Bermondsey was cited as one of the worst slum areas in Britain...and despite the changes in the law, child labour persisted’.

Michael Collins, *The Likes of Us* (Granta, 2004).

[7]William Nichols/Maria Johnson and Alfred Nicholls/Emma Marshall

The 1851 Census (see (12(d) below) shows Alfred was living with his older brother William Jr and his family, composed of a wife and three children and an adopted orphan, at 152 Portland Place South, Kennington. Alfred is listed as being a coachman while William is said to be a shipping clerk. William married Maria Johnson in 1846 and on his marriage certificate he is said to be a warehouseman. William Jr, had the following children:

(1)Henry John (born 1859: married E F Watkins); (2)George W. (born 1860: married Clara H. Wilson); (3)William (born 1849); (4)Maria Louisa (born 1848); (5)Amy Mary (born 1858)

From the details given in the Census records, it appears that William Nichols and his family were professional people. His death certificate shows he died on 28 November 1870, at the family home at 58 St Georges Road, Camberwell, aged 53, and this was reported by his widow, Maria:

CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY OF DEATH

GIVEN AT THE GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE

Application Number COL981433

REGISTRATION DISTRICT Camberwell

1870 DEATH in the Sub-district of St George Camberwell in the County of Surrey

No.	When and where died	Name and surname	Sex	Age	Occupation	Cause of death	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar
1	Twenty-eight November 1870 58 St Georges Road	William Nichols	Male	53 years	Apprentice Clerk	Dilatation of the Pulmonary Ventricle & Bronchitis & Heart	Maria L. Nichols Widow at the death 58 St Georges Road Camberwell	28th December 1870	William John Macintosh Registrar

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of an entry in the certified copy of a Register of Deaths in the District above mentioned.

Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, under the Seal of the said Office, the 28th day of February 2007

DYB 439080

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1002053 (11/00) 1006, 5051, 1014720

See note overleaf

GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE
ENGLAND

CIR

The 1861 Census shows Alfred, my great-grandfather, whose occupation is stated to be an ostler, had married Emma Marshall in about 1857 (She was born in Towester, Northampton, in 1832). The 1861 census shows the family was living at 22 Barton Street, Newington.

The 1865 birth certificate for their son Edmund shows the family lived at 15 John Street, Bermondsey,

One of their children was Harry, my grandfather, born in Camberwell in 1867 and the church record for Harry's baptism in 1868 is as follows and

shows that in 1868 the family resided at Tiger Yard, Camberwell.

Page 243

BAPTISMS solemnized in the Parish of <u>Camberwell</u>						
in the County of <u>Surrey</u>			in the Year 18 <u>68</u>			
When Baptized.	Child's Christian Name.	Parents' Name.		Abode.	Quality, Trade, or Profession.	By whom the Ceremony was performed.
		Christian.	Surname.			
1868 Nov 1 st	Harriet	William	Slade	Tiger Yard	Bricklayer	C. Bapst
No. 1937		Sarah				
1868 Nov 1 st	Nancy	Alfred	Nicholls	Tiger Yard	Hostler	C. Bapst
		Emma				

The other children of Alfred and Emma were: Alfred (b.1857); Louisa (b.1858); Kate (b.1860); Maria (b.1863); Edmund (b.1865); Amy (b.1870) The 1871 census shows Alfred and his family were living at 34 Edmund St, Camberwell at this time. It also shows the family were sharing the property with another family of five persons.

The only record after this time that I found for Alfred's firstborn, also called Alfred, is a Workhouse Register entry, and a death certificate, issued in 1873 that show he died of "Cardiac dropsy" in the Camberwell Workhouse, aged just 17:

Camberwell ^{Parish} Register REGISTER OF DEATHS IN THE <u>Camberwell</u> WORKHOUSE. <u>Schmidt</u> Master.				
Folio T. (24) London: Knight & Co., 55, Fleet Street.				
Date of Death.	NAME.	Age.	From what Parish admitted.*	When Death Certified Cause of Death
July 6 th 1873	Nichols Alfred	17		Cardiac Dropsy

CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY OF DEATH

GIVEN AT THE GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE

Application Number 1743042-1

REGISTRATION DISTRICT CAMBERWELL

1873 DEATH in the Sub-district of Camberwell in the County of Surrey

No.	When and where died	Name and surname	Sex	Age	Occupation	Cause of death	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar
394	26th July 1873 Camberwell Northcruce	Alfred Nichols	Male	14 years	Labourer at Camberwell	Cardiac Dropsy specific	The Smiths Master Workhouse Camberwell	26th July 1873	M. Charles Registrar

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of an entry in the certified copy of a Register of Deaths in the District above mentioned.

Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, under the Seal of the said Office, the 26th day of October 2009

DYC 452200

See note overleaf

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10013256 10047 10038 3MSFSL 021426

MAC

A note has been left on the “FindAGrave” website saying Alfred was buried at: Camberwell *Old* Cemetery, Camberwell, London and in plot: Square 41, Grave 3939.

I wrote to the cemetery office regarding the grave and was advised: "Thank you for your enquiry and for supplying the grave number which is in Camberwell New Cemetery...Unfortunately this is a public grave and although the area can still be visited there will not be anything there to mark the grave."

An explanatory note about 'public (or 'paupers') graves' says: "Public graves were normally the final resting place of people without the means to purchase a single plot. Usually there were 5 or 6 people buried in them. They will be marked on a plan of cemetery so you should be able to find the plot. As the grave deed was not in the family's ownership a headstone was not allowed."

The first son of Alfred's brother William Jr, (also called William, born 1849) died in 1885, aged just 35. His death certificate (showing his residence as North Peckham) is as follows:

CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY OF DEATH



GIVEN AT THE GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE

Application Number COL981433

REGISTRATION DISTRICT
1885 DEATH in the Sub-district of St. George Camberwell
in the County of Surrey

Columns:- 1. No. 2. When and where died 3. Name and surname 4. Sex 5. Age 6. Occupation 7. Cause of death 8. Signature, description and residence of informant 9. When registered 10. Signature of registrar

433	Nicholls March 1885 185 Camden Road, North	William Nicholls	Male	35	Commercial Year Clerk	Phthisis 12 months Certified by John Nicholls R.E.P. 185 Camden Road North Camberwell	G.W. Nicholls Brother present at the death 1872006 185 Camden Road North Camberwell	Nicholls March 1885	William Nicholls Registrar
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CERTIFIED to be a true copy of an entry in the certified copy of a Register of Deaths in the District above mentioned.

Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, under the Seal of the said Office, the 28th day of February 2007

DYB 438435

See note overleaf

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1002053 11840 10000 SPSL 01/01/20



The 1881 census shows Alfred and his family were living at 40 Earl Road, Camberwell. It also the family of five (excluding the two visitors) were sharing the property at 40 Earl Road, Camberwell, with the Breidenback family, composed of seven persons.

The 1881 census (see (12)(d) below) creates a question with Alfred's family. The 1881 census says he had two visitors:

Kate Nicholls; married; born in Newington in about 1860.

John Nicholls; born in Camberwell in about 1880.

(1)According to 1861 census, Alfred Nicholls had a daughter named Kate born in Newington. about 1860, but the 1881 census says *her married name* is Nicholls, and therefore if related, must have married one of Alfred's two sons, but that is not so as the son Edmund married Ada, and Harry married Caroline.

Therefore I assume Kate's maiden name of Nicholls was given in error on the 1881 census and Kate the "visitor" is in fact Alfred's married daughter.

This leads to the question of the 1-year old "John Nicholls." Was he Kate's son? If the surname of Nicholls was not detailed in error, this means she was an unmarried mother.

(2)Furthermore, in the 1891 census for Emma, Alfred's widow, she is living at 4 Tatum Street. Her grandson was there and he is named as John J. Churchill, born 1880, in Camberwell, Surrey.

As this child has the same forename, the same year of birth and the same place of birth as the John Nicholls in the 1881 census, is he the John Nicholls who may have had his name recorded incorrectly?

If so, and both Kate and John were given an incorrect surname in the 1881 census, Kate's married name was therefore Churchill.

(3) However, despite exhaustive searches, including the purchase of birth certificates for two persons named John Churchill, both born in Camberwell in 1879 (I found none born in Camberwell in 1880), I have not been able to find any evidence that confirms the suggestions in (2) above.

Alfred Nicholls died on August 1881, aged 55, and his death certificate is as follows and shows the family were living at 3 Surrey Grove(s), Walworth.

CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY OF DEATH

GIVEN AT THE GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE

Application Number COL381895

REGISTRATION DISTRICT St Saviour Surrey

1881 DEATH in the Sub-district of St Peter Walworth in the County of Surrey

No.	When and where died	Name and surname	Sex	Age	Occupation	Cause of death	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar
108	12th August 1881	Alfred Nicholls	Male	55	General Manager of Newington L.P.C. Works	Heart Disease	Emma Nicholls, Widow of the deceased, in attendance at 3 Surrey Grove, Walworth	12th August 1881	Francis Thornton Registrar

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of an entry in the certified copy of a Register of Deaths in the District above mentioned.

Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, under the Seal of the said Office, the 13th day of June 2006

DYB 066531

See note overleaf

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FRS

The 1891 census shows Emma (my great grandmother), living as a widow, at 4 Tatum Street, Newington. On the day of the census she had John J. Churchill, aged 11 (born Camberwell, 1880) with her and he is listed as her grandson.

Emma died in June 1897 and her death certificate is as follows:

CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY OF DEATH

GIVEN AT THE GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE

Application Number COL124199

REGISTRATION DISTRICT Camberwell

1897 DEATH in the Sub-district of Camberwell in the County of London

No.	When and where died	Name and surname	Sex	Age	Occupation	Cause of death	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar
52	Found June 1897 at Sages Moor Infirmaries	Emma Nicholls	Female	65 years	Widow of Richard Nicholls 145 Blakeway Street Old Kent Road	Pneumonia cardiac degeneration Certified by P. S. Richards M.D.	Ada Nicholls Daughter in law 51 Salisbury Buildings Mutton Road Waltham	June 1897	H. Goodwin Deputy Registrar

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of an entry in the certified copy of a Register of Deaths in the District above mentioned.

Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, under the Seal of the said Office, the 7th day of February 2006

DYA 920765

See note overleaf

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HC

[8] Harry Nicholls and Caroline Ellen Nicholls (née Banks)

Harry, my grandfather (1867-1946), married Caroline Ellen Banks (1871 - 1909) in 1889. Their marriage certificate is as follows:

CERTIFIED COPY of an ENTRY OF MARRIAGE Pursuant to the Marriage Act 1949

AA 63

Registration District Newington

1889. Marriage solemnized at Matthews Church in the Parish of Newington in the County of Surrey

No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
204	February 10th 1889	Harry Nicholls	21	Bachelor	Carmen	3 Gurney Street	Alfred Nicholls (deceased)	Groom
		Caroline Banks	20	Spinster	—	3 Gurney Street	James Banks (deceased)	Carmen

Married in the Church of Matthew according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, by Dr after Banns by me,

This Marriage was solemnized between us, Harry Nicholls in the presence of Alfred Perry Stephen P. Gray Mary Parky Curate.

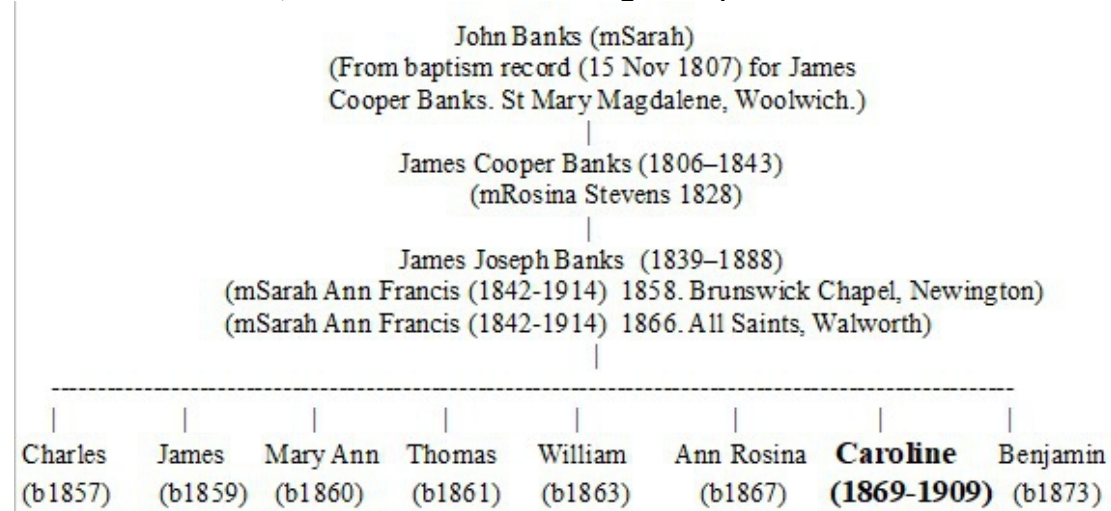
be a true copy of an entry in a register in my custody.

13-05-2002

An example of discrepancies in ages is shown by some of the details given for Caroline Banks. Her birth certificate states she was born at 25 Barlow Street, Walworth on 7 January 1871. Therefore, when she married in February 1889 she

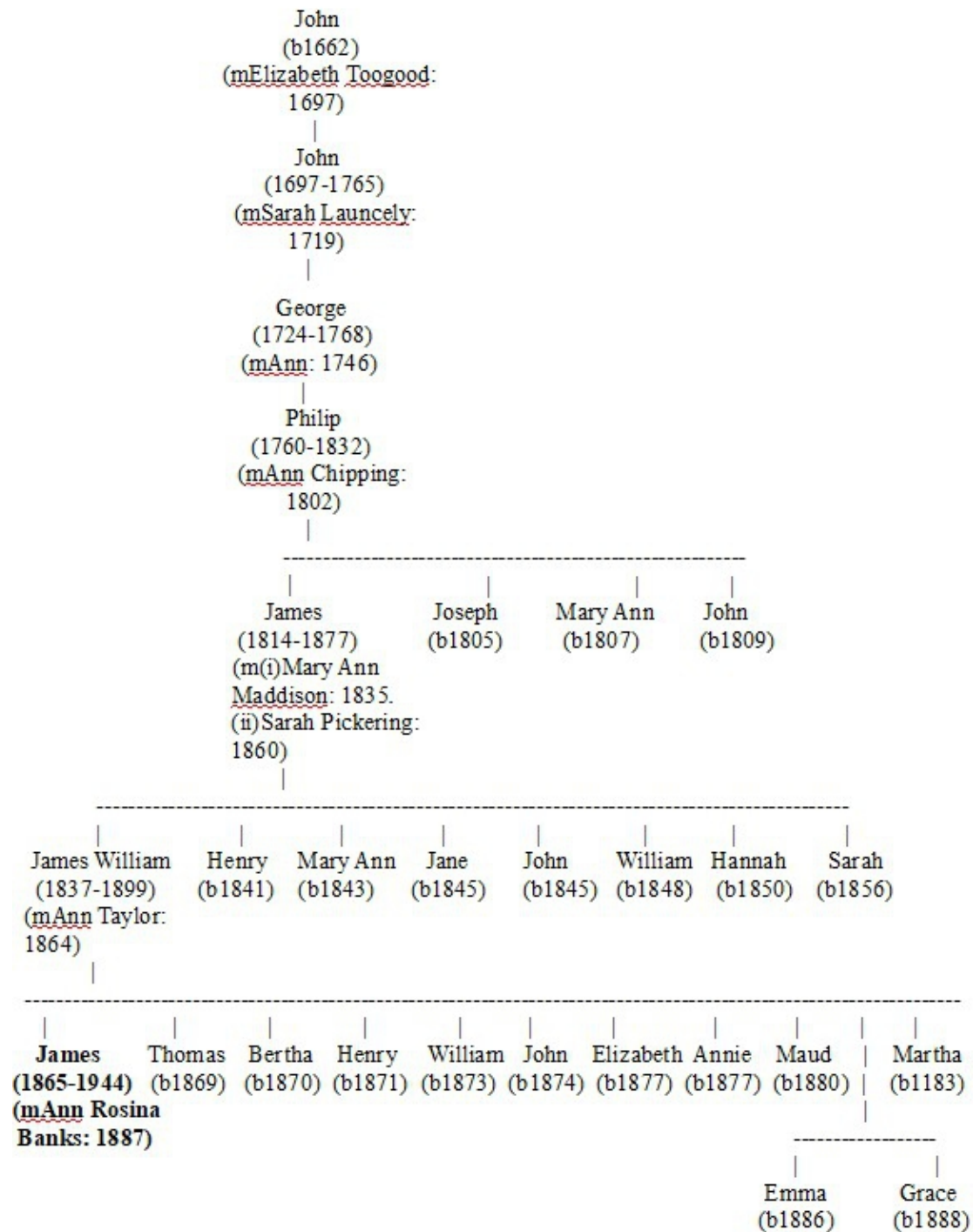
would have been just 18 years of age. However, on her marriage certificate, she gave her age as 20, in which case she was born in either 1868 or 1869. A further complication arises in respect of the 1881 Census record which has her year of birth as 1870.

The Banks "family tree" leading to Caroline is as follows. The tree from which this was copied has two marriages for James Joseph Banks and Sarah Ann Francis, with no explanation (the Brunswick chapel is a Methodist church, while All Saints is Anglican.)




The 1891 census shows that Harry and Caroline lodged with Caroline's sister Ann and her husband James Pickett, at 4 John St West, Christchurch, Southwark.

I located the "family tree" of the Picketts which is as follows:



The birth certificate for Harry and Caroline's daughter Mary Ann, shows that by 1893 they lived at 1 Hamilton Square, Bermondsey. Harry is said to be a 'market porter' at this time.

CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY OF BIRTH  **GIVEN AT THE GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE**

Application Number COL981433

REGISTRATION DISTRICT		St Olave Southwark							
1894 BIRTH in the Sub-district of		Leather Market		in the County of London					


Columns:-	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
No.	When and where born	Name, if any	Sex	Name and surname of father	Name, surname and maiden surname of mother	Occupation of father	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar	Name entered after registration
152	152 November 1893 Hamilton Square	Mary Ann	Girl	Harry Nicholls	Caroline Nicholls formerly Banks	Market Porter	X the mark of Caroline Nicholls, formerly Mother of 1, Hamilton Square, Bermondsey	January 1894	C. H. East	Registrar

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of an entry in the certified copy of a Register of Births in the District above mentioned.

Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, under the Seal of the said Office, the 1st day of March 2007

BXCC 326847

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 JBC


My father said very little about his family and life before marriage, and it was only after his death in 1978 that I met members of his family and was able to ascertain information. On speaking to two of his sisters, they said the family was made up as follows (I have managed to ascertain their dates of birth with Hazel as the only exception for whom I can find no record whatsoever.)

- (1) Caroline Kate (Carrie). Born 1889.
- {2} Harry Alfred. Born 1891.
- (3) Mary Anne. Born 1893.
- (4) Ada Frances Alma. Born 1895.
- (5) Jane Ethel. Born 1898.
- (6) Edward Arthur (Teddy). Born 1899: Died December 1901.
- (7) John Leonard. Born 1901.
- (8) William (Billy) Frank. Born 1903.
- (9) George James. Born 1906.
- (10) Hazel? Born ?

[9] John Leonard Nicholls


The birth certificate of my father John is as follows:

CM 238875


CERTIFIED COPY of an ENTRY OF BIRTH
Pursuant to the Births and Deaths Registration Act 1953

Registration District <u>Southwark</u>										
1 <u>901.</u> Birth in the Sub-district of <u>Saint Saviour</u> in the County of <u>London</u>										
Columns: -	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
No.	When and where born	Name, if any	Sex	Name and surname of father	Name, surname and maiden surname of mother	Occupation of father	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar	Name entered after registration
64	Seventeenth October 1901 13 Cromwell Buildings	John Leonard	Boy	Harry NICHOLLS	Caroline Ellen NICHOLLS formerly BANKS	Market Salesman	X The mark of Caroline Ellen Nicholls mother 17 Richardson Street Bermondsey	Tenth December 1901	Fred Drewett Registrar	—

Certified to be a true copy of an entry in a register in my custody.

 *Superintendent Registrar*
 14th March 2002 Date

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(My grandmother Caroline Nicholls was unable to write and signed with an "X")

The birth certificate shows my father was born 13 Cromwell Buildings although his mother's address is said to be 17 Richardson Street. The family home appears to have been 13 Cromwell Street as that appears on my father's November 1901 baptism certificate (as below). The Cromwell Buildings structure where my father was born, still exists:



According to <https://layersoflondon.humap.site/map/records/redcross-way>

"Cromwell Buildings. The first flats by the Improved Industrial Dwellings Company, 1864, with typical cast-iron galleries. There were integral shops in and one of the earliest housing improvement projects in the Borough"

And <https://www.londonremembers.com/memorials/cromwell-buildings>

"Cromwell Buildings: These flats were constructed in 1864 by Sir Sydney Waterlow, founder of the Improved Industrial Dwellings Company, and were modelled after a pair of houses designed by the Prince Regent for the Great Exhibition of 1851. Founded in 1863, the company was one of the most successful and earliest providers of low-cost housing."

There is a photo here:

<https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/photos/item/IOE01/05704/12>

An interesting article (and photos) here:

<https://englishbuildings.blogspot.com/2019/06/redcross-way-lonon.html>

In the case of Richardson Street, this ran between Long Lane and Guy Street, and was located between Weston Street and Kipling Street. Richardson Street is now covered by the Kipling Estate. Only a right of way through the estate now exists. There is a picture of the Street, ca. 1930 at:

<https://heritage.southwark.gov.uk/objects/16899/richardson-street-c1930>

My grandmother Caroline died in 1909, aged just 38, and her death certificate is as follows:

CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY OF DEATH

GIVEN AT THE GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE

Application Number COL124199

REGISTRATION DISTRICT St Olave

1909 DEATH in the Sub-district of Rotherhithe in the County of London

No.	When and where died	Name and surname	Sex	Age	Occupation	Cause of death	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar
383	December 1909 Rotherhithe	Caroline Nicholls	Female	38 years	Wife of Harry Nicholls Long Street Rotherhithe	Tuberculosis Certified by Ed. Bell & Co.	Caroline Nicholls Daughter 11 Long Street Rotherhithe	Eightth December 1909	J. Parker Registrar

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of an entry in the certified copy of a Register of Deaths in the District above mentioned.

Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, under the Seal of the said Office, the 8th day of February 2006

DYA 921067

See note overleaf

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GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE
ENGLAND

[10]Break-up of family

This event signalled the break-up of the family as Harry lost control. A professional genealogist made enquiries and reported this:

"On looking at the Wandsworth Prison records, Harry Nicholls was committed at Tower district on 20 June 1910 and sentenced to pay a fine of 7/6 or 7 days NHL (presumably hard labour). Under the heading 'Offence' was written 'School Act', so I assume it was something to do with his children not attending school. He was described as age 43, 5' 7" tall with grey hair. Occupation: Fruit Sorter, born Camberwell. He was discharged on 25 June 1910, so must have served the sentence rather than pay the fine, but only for 5 days, not 7. (LMA ref. ACC/3444/PR/01/160).

I found another conviction, on 30 September 1910, following a trial at what must have been the County Sessions (abbreviated as Co. L. Sess.). The offence was 'Neglecting Children' and he was sentence to 18 months HL, presumably hard labour. Again he was age 43...with grey

hair. Born Camberwell. His occupation was now a Ticket Writer. His date of discharge on expiration of sentence was given as 29.3.1912, or 'On Remission' 30.12.1911', and then under the 'Remarks' column it said 'On Rem. 3.1.1912', so presumably this was the date he was actually discharged. (LMA ref. ACC/3444/PR/01/161)"

The anomaly here is that when Harry Nicholls appears on the 1911 census (taken on 2 April 1911) he was not in a prison, but was a patient of the Middlesex (Wandsworth) County Asylum (aka "Springfield Hospital"), Upper Tooting/Wandsworth. On the 1911 census, he is said to be 43, widowed, a ticket-writer, shopkeeper and born in Camberwell.

Jane, my father's sister, advised me that the children survived by eating fruit and vegetables discarded in the street by local market traders. In respect of the three of the children, the Tower Bridge Children's Court Register records what happened to them:

"Tuesday 6th September 1910: JOHN NICHOLS - Age 9 NATURE OF OFFENCE - Found wandering at 9.15pm on 5th September 1910. WILLIAM NICHOLS - Age 7 NATURE OF OFFENCE - Found wandering at 9.15pm on 5th September 1910. Both boys remanded for 7 days.

Tuesday 15th September 1910. Both boys appeared again and were further remanded for 7 days.

Tuesday 20th September 1910. JOHN NICHOLS - Age 9 NATURE OF OFFENCE - Found wandering at 9.15pm on 5th September 1910.

WILLIAM NICHOLS - Age 7. NATURE OF OFFENCE - Found wandering at 9.15pm on 5th September 1910. Both boys sent to BOYS HOME REGENTS PARK until the age of 16.

Tuesday 6th December 1910. JANE ETHEL NICHOLLS - Age 12 NATURE OF OFFENCE: 'Destitute surviving parent in prison'. Remanded until Friday 9th December 1910 when she was remanded for a further 7 days.

16th December 1910 - Adjudication 'Discharged to the care of MISS JOHNSON under S21(S21 I believe to be Section 21 of either 'Children's Act or Industrial Schools Act') until 16 years of age'.

The reference numbers for these entries are as follows: John & William - PS/J/T/1 Register part 1 - Covers January, March, May, July, September and November for the years 1910, 1911 and 1912. Jane Ethel Nichols - PS/J/T/2."

As detailed above, the younger children were taken into homes, e.g., John and William were taken to the 'Home for Destitute Boys Not Convicted of Crime' at the corner of Regent's Park Road and King Henry's Road in Camden Town, London, NW1 (The Home was a 'certified industrial school' and closed in the 1920s) and both boys were admitted on 20 September 1910. John was placed in the "band boys"(part of the Forces) on 11 January 1916 and William on 10 May 1917.

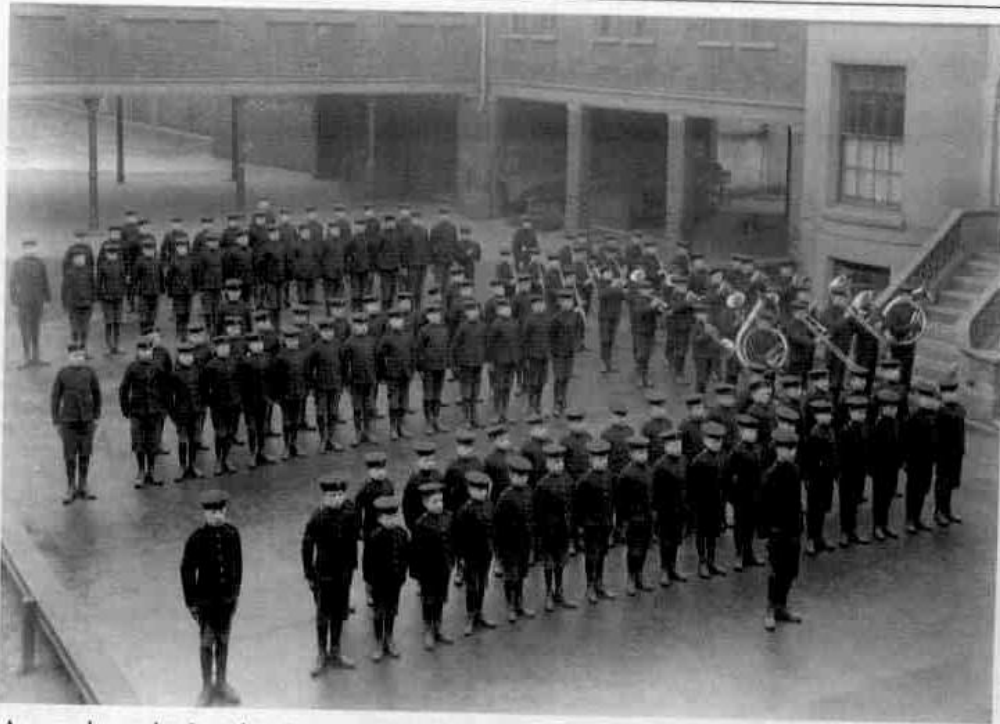
The following are pictures taken of the London Boys' Home in the 1890s.



The London Boys' Home for the Training and Maintenance of Destitute Boys not Convicted of Crime, on the corner of Regent's Park Road and King Henry's Road, c. 1890s. It had moved here in 1865. By 1890 it could accommodate 150 boys. It closed in 1920 and this building is now the Chesterfield flats. The Boys' Home chapel is now 109A-D Regent's Park Road.



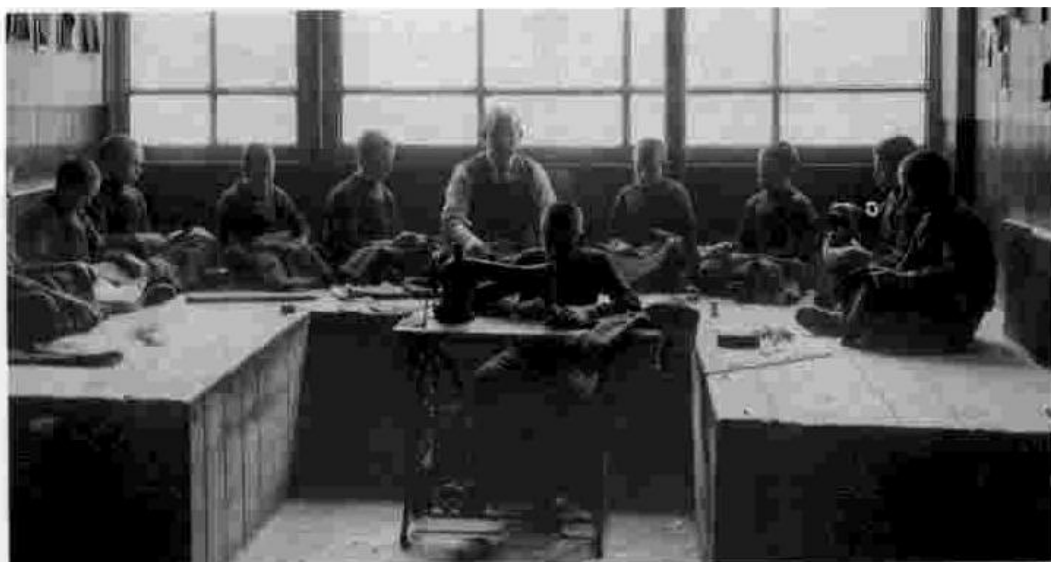




A parade at the London Boys' Home, c. 1890s. The band was a popular feature of the school and would often be hired out to perform at garden parties, sports events or even London Zoo.



Lesson time at the London Boys' Home, 1890s. There was a balanced regime of work, learning and schooling. The boys could also be hired for housework from 7 to 8.30 a.m. and on Saturdays from 4 to 5.30 p.m.



The tailors' shop at the London Boys' Home, *c.* 1890s. In the background the master tailor is sitting cross-legged, as was usual for tailors, with the boys copying. Some of the boys would have progressed with tailoring as a trade, the rest would have learned enough to repair and maintain their own clothes. Sewing was done entirely by hand until this machine was acquired in 1890.

Although the Home closed in the 1920s, it was still standing in 1979 when I visited it: the following are photographs taken:







In *Tales and Sketches* by George Rooper (London: 1872) there is a chapter 'A visit to the Boys' Home, . Regents Park Road' (pp237-243) which supplies a (rather glowing) description of the Home.

There are photos of the Home at:

<https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/education/resources/how-we-were-taught/>

A lengthy article about the Home is here:

<https://www.childrenshomes.org.uk/EustonBoysIS/>

John and William remained at the Home until they could be released at age 16: they then joined the army and shortly after this, went as soldiers to India, where they joined Harry. their older brother. He had walked to Wales where he worked as a miner, but enlisted in the army and went to India.

The other children were placed in Homes, while the girls who were older than school-leaving age went into the Workhouse.

I located the following which is "A medal card of the boy, John Leonard Nicholls, reserve in the Army, 1914-1920". it shows his address at the time as 18 Grosvenor Terrace, Walworth Road, London:

See Rif Brig

Name	Corps	Reg. No.	Rank	Date of Discharge	Cause of Discharge
<i>Nicholls John Leonard</i>	<i>Army Reserve</i>		<i>Sgt</i>	<i>2-1-18</i> Enlistment <i>11-1-16</i>	

Date of application (a) Badge *5* *1-18* (b) Medal
 No. of File *3945/2/B*
 Address of applicant — *18, Grosvenor Terrace*
Waltham Rd, London,
S.E
 Action taken

W6749—H5226—206,000—8/17—HMV(2992) R17/1831

There is a question regarding my father's date of birth which is detailed as being:

[a]16 October 1900.

[b]17 October 1900.

[c]17 October 1901.

All army papers relating to his enlistment in the army, a copy of which I obtained, show his birth date as [a]. I suspect he told the authorities when first taken into care, and then the Boys' Home, that he was born in 1900 simply to be released one year earlier. His baptism record shows the baptism was undertaken on 27 November 1901, and as it's unlikely his parents would have waited for over a year after his birth to have the baptism, 1901 for his date of birth is therefore the more likely date.

There is the further point that he is not listed on the 1901 census, undertaken on the night of 31 March 1901.

<i>Mar 24 1901</i>	<i>John Leonard</i>	<i>Harry Caroline</i>	<i>Nichol</i>	<i>13 Cromwell Buildings, 13 St Marys</i>	<i>Salisbury</i>	<i>Emil Warren "Coral"</i>
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Even in the baptism record above (St Mary Magdalene, Bermondsey), the surname was misspelt! (Nichol). It shows that in November 1901, the family home was at 13 Cromwell Buildings (agreeing with my father's birth certificate).

When alive, my father received birthday cards from members of his own family on 16 October so it appears 17 October was a mistake, presumably made by his mother when registering the birth. In fact I

understand that all his siblings had two birthdays – usually a few months apart - their actual one and the “official one” which was the false date given to the registrar as the parents invariably failed to register the births of their children within the required time limit.

Later records show his date of birth as 17 October 1901.

Furthermore, the Tower Bridge Court record shows that when William was in court with my father in 1910, he also made himself a year older than he actually was, saying his date of birth was 24 October 1902 (again, I assume this was to effect his release one year earlier): the entry for his death (in 1973) states his date of birth was 10 November 1903. The birth date of Harry Jr is also problematic. The registration of his birth was 1891: furthermore, the record of his baptism (St John's, Walworth) was on 22 November 1891, and the 1901 census states he was 10 in 1901, i.e., born in 1891. And yet his death certificate says he was 69 when he died in 1966, making his date of birth as 1897. It seems reasonable to conclude the registrar misread 1891 as 1897, although this raises the question of why his widow, Kitty, did not have this corrected.

In fact it appears Harry Jr, like my father and Billy, also changed the date of birth to suit his circumstances. On his marriage certificate of 20 December 1951 when he married (as a divorcee) Kitty Herbert at the Registry Office of Hereford, he gave his age as 54, claiming to be, born in 1897, although he was born in 1891 so he was not 54 but 60 (Kitty, born 16 March 1909, died in Hereford Hospital on 10 September 1989.)

I believe Harry, John and William returned to England after their Army service in India in the early 1930s. They left the Army in the 1940s. Harry had married an Indian woman while in India and had three sons – Harry, Llewe(l)lyn and Noel. I understand one of the sons came to England where he worked as a doctor.


Harry divorced his Indian wife and after returning to England, married Kitty in 1951 and they lived together in Hereford.

William spent some time in prisons (for robbery) and worked as a busker with the “Old Contemptibles” outside the larger London railway stations.

My father left the army in 1942, and married my mother Margaret Davies in 1950.

Sometime after his wife Caroline died in 1909, their father Harry Nicholls remarried. He died in 1948, in Woolwich. His death certificate is as follows:

CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY OF DEATH



GIVEN AT THE GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE

Application Number COL 159280

REGISTRATION DISTRICT		Woolwich	
1948 DEATH in the Sub-district of Woolwich		in the Metropolitan Borough of Woolwich	

Column:-	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
No.	When and where died	Name and surname	Sex	Age	Occupation	Cause of death	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar

434	18th November 1948 43 Elmdene Road	Harry NICHOLS	Male	about 83 years	Retired Salesman (Fruit and Vegetable stall)	In cerebral thrombosis & senility Certified by E. Riches, M.R.C.S.	H. J. Austin Son-in-law Present at the death 143 Elmdene Road Plumstead	November 1948	A. Stealey Registrar
-----	---------------------------------------	---------------	------	----------------	--	---	---	---------------	-------------------------


CERTIFIED to be a true copy of an entry in the certified copy of a Register of Deaths in the District above mentioned.

Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, under the Seal of the said Office, the 28th day of February 2006

DYA 943647

See note overlaid

CAUTION: THERE ARE OFFENCES RELATING TO FALSIFYING OR ALTERING A CERTIFICATE AND USING OR POSSESSING A FALSE CERTIFICATE ©CROWN COPYRIGHT
WARNING: A CERTIFICATE IS NOT EVIDENCE OF IDENTITY.



[11]Photographs



Harry (1891-1966), my father's brother: picture taken in the 1950s.



Postcard-photo sent from India, in 1921, by my father's brother William/Billy to his sister Jane.



Business card of my father's brother William/Billy Nicholls (date not known)



My father's brother George went to Australia and worked as a prospector.



Photo of my father John (left) with two colleagues (and dog!), while serving in the Army in India during the 1920s.



Photo of my father John (seated) with his older brother Harry while serving in India during the 1920s.



Photo of my father (marked "X") with his rugby team while in India during the 1920s



**My father as an Lieutenant/
Officer, British Army: early 1940s**

As stated, my father's brother Harry died in 1966 (Hereford): William died in 1973 (London) and was buried in a “public” (pauper's) grave in Camberwell New Cemetery (Plot 19241, Square 94): George emigrated to Australia and worked as a prospector. Mary Ann died in 1974 (London), and my father John died in 1978 (London).



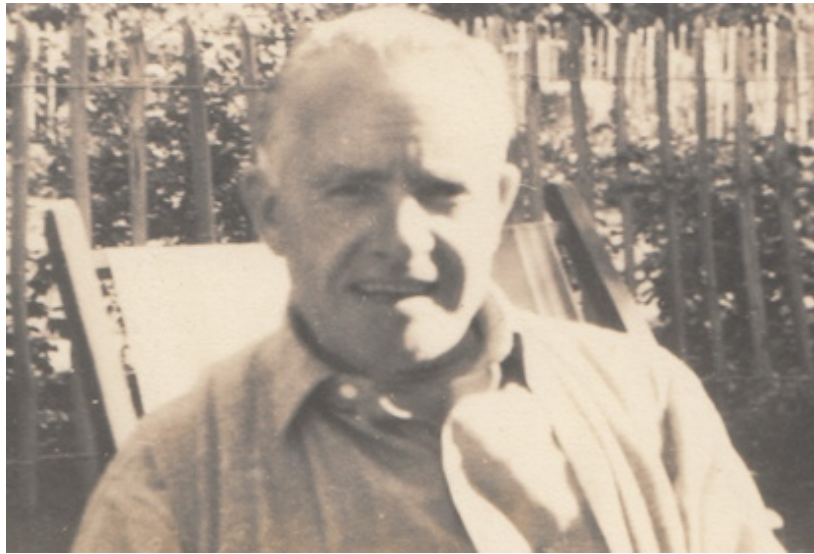
My parents' wedding day: 1950



My father and I in Trafalgar Square, ca. 1957



My father and I in Broadstairs, 1959



My father in about 1964.



My parents – John Leonard Nicholls (1901-1978) and Margaret Nicholls (1922-2011), with Bruce (1968-1978): Xmas 1972.

The above was compiled by
David John Nicholls (Dr)
Dip.RS., B.A.(Hons.), MPhil, PhD.

[12]Appendix:

(a)Surnames

In the above, a number of surnames arise in respect of a marriage by/to a Nicholls/Nichols or relative. These are:

AUSTIN	Name of Harry Nicholls's son-in-law (1948 death certificate)
BANKS	Maiden name of Caroline Nicholls (grandmother died 1909)
CHURCHILL	Surname of grandchild of Emma Nicholls (great-grandmother died 1897)
JOHNSON	Maiden name of Maria Nicholls (great-grandfather's sister-in-law, born ca. 1821)
LEACH	Maiden name of Mary Ann (married William Nickols, 19 October 1817)
MADDEN	Married name of Amy Mary Nichols (married Ronald George Madden, 8 December 1890)
MARSHALL	Maiden name of Emma Nichols (great-grandmother died 1897)
PICKETT	Married name of Caroline Nicholls' sister, Annie (married James Pickett 1887)
SAWYER	Surname of child adopted by William and Maria Nicholls (1851 census)
WATKINS	Maiden name of Elizabeth Florence, wife of Henry John Walter Nichols (1883 marriage certificate)
WILSON	Maiden name of Clara, wife of George Walter Nichols (1891 marriage certificate)

(b)Addresses

The following table lists the addresses which occur in the documents and certificates mentioned herein (I have used the spelling of the surname as it appears in the source):

48 Akerman Road, Camberwell	Address of George W. Nichols and Clara Wilson at time of marriage (1891). Source: Marriage Certificate
35 Barlow Street, Walworth	Address of Caroline Banks (later Nicholls) birthplace (1871). Source: Birth Certificate of Caroline Banks
22 Barton Street, Newington	Address of Alfred Nicholls and family in 1861. Source: 1861 census
185 Camden Grove North, Peckham	Address of William Nichols (born 1850), when he died (1885). Source: Death Certificate of William Nichols
28 Chapel Place, Bermondsey	Address of Harry and Caroline Nicholls in October 1895. Source: baptism record for Ada Nicholls
145 Chatham Street, Old Kent Road, Camberwell	Address of Emma Nicholls when she died (1887). Source: Death Certificate of Emma Nicholls
18 Cork Street, Camberwell	Address of Mary Ann Nickols who died in 1850. Source: Death Certificate of Mary Ann Nickols
13 Cromwell Buildings, Saint Saviour, Southwark	Address of John Leonard Nicholls' birthplace (1901). Source: Birth Certificate of John Leonard Nicholls, 1901
40 Earl Road, Camberwell	Address of Alfred Nicholls' family in 1881. Source: 1881 census
34 Edmund Street, St Giles, Camberwell	Address of Alfred Nichols and family in 1871. Source: 1871 census
43 and/or 143 Elmdene Road, Plumstead, Woolwich	Address of where Harry Nicholls died (1948). Source: Death Certificate of Harry Nicholls
50 Elsted Street, Newington	Address of Banks' family in 1881. Source: 1881 census
46 Fetter Lane, Holborn	Address of Henry John Nichols and Elizabeth at time of marriage (1883). Source: Marriage Certificate
18 Grosvenor Terrace, Lambeth	Address of John Nicholls as a boy army reserve 1914-1920
3 Gurney Street, Newington	Address of Harry and Caroline Nicholls in 1889. Source: Marriage Certificate, 1889
1 Hamilton Square, Bermondsey	Address of Harry and Caroline Nicholls and family in 1894. Source: Birth Certificate of Mary Ann
15 John Street, Bermondsey	Address of Alfred Nichols's family in 1865. Source: Birth certificate of Edmund
4 John St West, Christchurch, Southwark	Address of Caroline Nicholls' (nee Banks) in-laws in 1891. Source: 1891 census
Lambeth Road, Southwark	Address of William and Maria Nicholls in 1846. Source: Marriage Certificate
21 Leroy Street, Bermondsey	Address of Harry Nicholls and family in

	1909. Source: Death Certificate of Caroline Nicholls
62 Marlboro Rd	Address of Edmund Nichols and family in 1891. Source: 1891 census
14 Naylor Road, Camberwell	Address of Harry Nicholls' family in 1901. Source: 1901 census
10 Nelson Street(?), Walworth [Barely legible]	Address of Harry and Caroline Nicholls in November 1891. Source: baptism record for Harry Nicholls/TD>
18 New Street, Newington	Address of Amy Mary Nicholls' birthplace (1853). Source: Birth Certificate of Amy Mary Nicholls, 1853
18 New Street, Newington	Address of William Nichols and family in 1861. Source: 1861 census
152 Portland Place South, Kennington	Address of William Nicholls and family, and Alfred Nicholls in 1851. Source: 1851 census
17 Richardson Street, Bermondsey	Address of mother, Caroline Ellen Nicholls in 1901. Source: Birth Certificate of John Leonard Nicholls, 1901
51 Salisbury Buildings, Newington	Address of Edmund Nichols and family in 1901: Source: 1901 census
57 Salisbury Buildings, Munton Rd, Walworth	Address of Ada Nicholls when Emma Nicholls died in 1887. Source: Death Certificate of Emma Nicholls
31 St Georges Road, Camberwell	Address of Maria Nichols and family in 1881. Source: 1881 census
58 St Georges Rd, Camberwell	Address of William Nichols and family in 1870. Source: Death certificate of William Nichols
58 St Georges Rd, Camberwell	Address of Maria Nichols and family in 1871. Source: 1871 census:
118 Shanley [or Shenley] Road, Camberwell	Address of Maria Nichols when he died in 1888. Source: Death Certificate of Maria Nichols:
118 Shanley [or Shenley] Road, Camberwell	Address of Ronald George Madden and Amy Mary Madden (nee Nichols)
2 Surrey Grove Walworth	Address of Alfred Nichols and his wife Emma Nichols in 1881. Source: Death Certificate of Alfred Nichols
4 Tatum St, Newington	Address of Emma Nicholls in 1891. Source: 1891 census
Tiger Yard, The Green, Camberwell	Address of Harry Nichols' birthplace (1867). Source: Birth Certificate of Harry Nichols
25 Ward Street, Lambeth	Address of William Nichols and family in 1849. Source: Birth Certificate of William Nichols
8 Weston Place, Bermondsey	Address of Harry and Caroline Nicholls in February 1898. Source: baptism record

	for Jane Ethel Nicholls
Workhouse, Camberwell	Address of William Nickols who died in 1850. Source: Death Certificate of William Nickols

(c) "Nicholls" in the 1881 census

In 2004, I was able to use a CD (Surname Atlas, v.1.04) with the 1881 census details. Using this to determine the areas in which most people with the surname 'Nicholls' resided, the CD showed it occurred most frequently in the following five areas:

- (1) West Country (Cornwall, Devon, Somerset, Gloucestershire)
- (2) West Midlands
- (3) London (Middlesex)
- (4) Southern Home Counties (Kent and Surrey)
- (5) Lancashire

The areas in which there was in excess of 200 persons with the surname of Nicholls were:

Number	County
1992	Middlesex
1799	Cornwall
1261	Staffordshire
1064	Warwickshire
898	Surrey
805	Lancashire
759	Kent
731	Gloucestershire
665	Devon
519	Essex
391	Yorkshire (West Riding)
385	Worcestershire
349	Somerset
277	Shropshire
277	Buckinghamshire
270	Glamorgan
236	Sussex
218	Hertfordshire
206	Derbyshire
205	Cheshire
203	Norfolk

The 1881 census also showed there were persons with the Nicholls surname in every part of Great Britain, including 46 in Scotland, 34 in the Isle of Wight, 8 in the Isle of Man, and 1 in Anglesey. The total number was 15642.

(d)Register of Elector records:

William and family - 1861

1861 England Census - Surrey - Newington - St Mary - District 2 18 New Street					
Name	Age	Birthplace	Relationship	Civil Parish County	Employment
William Nichols	43 (abt 1818)	St James Westwr Middlesex	Head	Newington Surrey	Commercial clerk
Maria Nichols	41 (abt 1820)	St Margarets Middlesex	Wife	Newington Surrey	
Maria Louisa Nichols	13 (abt 1848)	Lambeth St Mary Surrey	Daughter	Newington Surrey	Scholar
William Nichols	11 (abt 1850)	Lambeth St Mary Surrey	Son	Newington Surrey	
Amy Mary Nichols	8 (abt 1853)	Newington St Mary	Daughter	Newington Surrey	
Henry John Nichols	2 (abt 1859)	Newington St Mary	Son	Newington Surrey	
George W Nichols	11 mths (abt 1860)	Newington, St Mary	Son	Newington Surrey	
John Henry Clark	73 (abt 1788) Widower	New Holborn, London	Lodger	Newington Surrey	Retired commercial clerk

William's family - 1871

1871 England Census - Surrey - Camberwell - St George - District 19 Address: 58 St Georges Rd RG10/739. Registration district: Camberwell. Sub-registration district: St George. ED, institution, or vessel: 19. Folio: 111. Page: 9. Household schedule number: 50. GSU Number: 824716.				
Name	Age	Relationship	Birthplace	Employment
Maria Nichols	50 (abt 1821)	Head	Middlesex Westminster	
Maria L. Nichols	23 (abt 1848)	Daughter	Surrey Lambeth	[illegible]
William Nichols	21 (abt 1850)	Son	Surrey Lambeth	Commercial clerk
Amy M. Nichols	15 (abt 1856)	Daughter	Surrey Newington	Trimming maker
Henry [?] Nichols	12 (abt 1859)	Son	Surrey Newington	Scholar
George W Nichols	10 (abt 1861)	Son	Surrey Newington	Scholar

William's family - 1881

1881 England Census - London - Camberwell - St George - District 21 Address: 31 St Georges Rd RG10/739. Registration district: Camberwell. Sub-registration district: St George. ED, institution, or vessel: 19. Folio: 111. Page: 9. Household schedule number: 50. GSU Number: 824716.				
Name	Age	Relationship	Birthplace	Employment
Maria Nichols	60 (abt 1821) widow	Head	Middlesex Westminster	
Maria Nichols	33 (abt 1848)	Daughter	Surrey Lambeth	Mantle maker
William Nichols	31 (abt 1850)	Son	Surrey Lambeth	Commercial clerk
Henry Nichols	22 (abt 1859)	Son	Surrey Newington	Salesman (India rubber mer)
George Nichols	20 (abt 1861)	Son	Surrey Newington	Commercial clerk (Cloth merc)
Amy M Nichols	27 (abt 1854)	Daughter	Surrey Newington	Fancy worker

Alfred and family - 1861

1861 census: Surrey - Newington - St Mary - District 11. 22 Barton Street, Newington. RG9/345. Registration district: Newington. Sub-registration district: St Mary. (The 1861 Census was taken on the night of 7 April 1861)					
Name	Birthplace	Relationship	Civil Parish, County	Age	Occupation
Alfred Nicholls	Camberwell	Head	Newington Surrey	34	Cutler
Alfred Nicholls	Camberwell	Son	Newington Surrey	4	
Emma Nicholls	Northamptonshire	Wife	Newington Surrey	28	
Kate Nicholls	Newington	Daughter	Newington Surrey	1 mth	
Louisa Nicholls	Camberwell	Daughter	Newington Surrey	2 mths	

Alfred and family - 1871

1871 England Census Surrey - Camberwell St Giles - Camberwell - District 22 34 Edmund St				
RG10/729. Registration district: Camberwell. Sub-registration district: Camberwell. ED, institution, or vessel: 22. Folio: 54. Page: 20. Household schedule number: 121. GSU Number: 823352.				
Name	Age (Approx year of birth)	Where born	Relationship	Occupation
Alfred Nichols	44 (abt 1827)	Surrey	Head	Groom
Alfred Nichols	14 (abt 1857)	Camberwell	Son	Scholar
Amy Nichols	1 (abt 1870)	Camberwell	Daughter	
Edmund Nichols	6 (abt 1865)	Bermondsey	Son	Scholar
Emma Nichols	39 (abt 1832)	Towcester Northamptonshire	Wife	
Harry Nichols	3 (abt 1868)	Camberwell	Son	
Kate Nichols	11 (abt 1860)	Newington Surrey	Daughter	Scholar
Louisa Nichols	13 (abt 1858)	Camberwell	Daughter	Scholar
Maria Nichols	8 (abt 1863)	Bermondsey	Daughter	Scholar

Alfred and family -1881

1881 census details London - Camberwell - St George - District 30 40 Earl Road, Camberwell (The 1881 Census was taken on the night of 3 April 1881)						
Name	Relation	Married Status	Gender	Age	Birthplace	Occupation
Alfred NICHOLLS	Head	M	Male	54	Camberwell, Surrey	Groom
Emma NICHOLLS	Wife	M	Female	49	Northampton, Northampton	
Edmund NICHOLLS	Son		Male	16	Bermondsey, Surrey	Railway Van Guard
Harry NICHOLLS	Son		Male	14	Camberwell, Surrey	Railway (Carman)
Amy NICHOLLS	Daughter		Female	11	Camberwell, Surrey	
Kate NICHOLLS	Visitor	M	Female	21	Newington, Surrey, England	
John NICHOLLS	Visitor		Male	1	Camberwell, Surrey, England	

Alfred's family -1891

1891 England Census - London - Newington St Mary - District 29a 4 Tatum St			
RG12/362. Registration district: St Saviour Southwark. Sub registration district: St Peter Walworth. ED			
Name	Relationship	Age (Approx year of birth)	Where born
Emma Nicholls	Head (Widow)	59 (1832)	Northampton
John J Churchill	Grandson	11 (1880)	Camberwell Surrey
Shared property with 5 other people surnamed Nelson			

Harry and family - 1891

1891 census details				
1891 England Census - London - Christchurch - Christchurch Southwark - District 3 4 John St West (The 1891 Census for England was taken on the night of 5 April 1891)				
Name	Birthplace	Relationship	Age (Year of birth)	Employment
James Pickett	London St Georges	Head	25 (abt 1866)	Wheelwright
Ann Pickett	London Newington	Wife	26 (abt 1865)	Charwoman
Caroline Nicholls	London Newington	Sister-in-law	21 (abt 1870)	Charwoman
Harry Nicholls	London Newington	Brother-in-law	25 (abt 1866)	Railway carman

Harry and family - 1901

1901 census details					
London, Camberwell, Peckham, District 51 14 Naylor Road (The 1901 Census for England was taken on the night of 31 March 1901)					
Name	Birthplace	Relationship	Civil Parish, County	Age	Occupation
Sarah A Banks	Walworth, London	Mother-in-law	Camberwell , London	60	
Ada Nicholls	Bermondsey, London	Daughter	Camberwell, London	6	
Caroline Nicholls	Walworth, London	Wife	Camberwell, London	32	
Caroline Nicholls	Bermondsey, London	Daughter	Camberwell, London	12	
Harry Nicholls	Camberwell, London	Head	Camberwell, London	34	Market porter
Harry Nicholls	Bermondsey, London	Son	Camberwell, London	10	
Jane Nicholls	Bermondsey, London	Daughter	Camberwell, London	4	
Mary Nicholls	Bermondsey, London	Daughter	Camberwell, London	8	

