

# Who'd A 'Thowt It ?

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## Latest News

Greetings and very best wishes for 2003 to all members of our globally distributed Barnard, Fitzgerald, and associated families.

This newsletter is the first I have managed since the last one of March 2001, probably the longest time between issues since the first issue of "Who'd A 'Thowt It?" in July 1992. There are many reasons for that, one of which I have previously mentioned, and that is, since I retired in 1994, I rarely complete the amount of work in a day that I plan to complete. I never guessed that retirement would be such a busy time, and I still wonder how I found time to go to work.

That said, another very good reason is that both my wife Chris and I have never learned to keep our mouths shut when someone asks for a volunteer. We have both been and are still involved in volunteer work which can be very demanding but also very enjoyable.

■

Much has happened since the last newsletter. In that you may recall that I related receiving a letter from my namesake Alan Barnard who lives in Furness Vale in the Peak District of Derbyshire, England, which is approximately 7 miles from Stockport in Cheshire, the town where my grandfather and his six full siblings and a half sister were born. To try and avoid further confusion I will henceforth refer to my cousin Alan as Big Al most of the time. Believe me, he is almost as tall as his son Christopher who when we visited was 6 ft 5 inches and still a teenager.

Chris and I visited England in Spring 2001 from 20<sup>th</sup> April until 26<sup>th</sup> May. We stayed at rented cottages in Loddon in Norfolk, Leek in Staffordshire, then a week with my niece Janice and her husband Maurice. Finally, we spent two weeks in an old Manor House in Stow-on-the-Wold in the beautiful Cotswolds.

During our stay in Leek, we drove over to meet Big Al, his lovely wife Judith, and their children Sarah and

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## Congratulations!

### Welcome Aboard

**Christine Charlotte BARNARD** (Christy), our fourth granddaughter, was born on 9<sup>th</sup> April 2001 to our son Gary and daughter-in-law Alice, a most welcome sister to Catherine Elizabeth (Catie). Chris and I were overjoyed to hear of her birth. Now Chris has two granddaughters to share her name of Christine (which she only gets when she is in trouble). Son Sean and daughter-in-law Leah had already named their youngest Emma Christine.

We visited Christy and her sister and parents at their home in Mission Viejo, California, in October 2001 and were delighted to see that Christy had a constant smile, at least while we were there!

We are so pleased with our four pretty little granddaughters, as well as our sturdy and handsome grandsons of course.

### Wedding

Our dear daughter **Kim (Barnard) Barwich** changed her surname for the second time on Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> August 2002, with her marriage to **Harold Boer**. We wish Kim and Harold every happiness in their new life together and we are pleased to welcome Harold into our family.

The wedding was held in Steveston, just south of Vancouver, on a heritage farm that was formally the home of a well known family in the area, the Londons. Family and friends enjoyed the open air service in lovely weather.

Their joint family now consists of Kim's four sons, Micah, Gavin, Kyle, and Liam, and Harold's two teenage daughters Janine and Laura, and his two younger sons, Daniel and Matthew.

Shades of the TV program "Eight is Enough!" Both Kim and Harold are adamant that eight *is* enough.

Chris and I are happy to welcome our four step-grandchildren to give us a total of 13 altogether.

### Great Expectations

**22<sup>nd</sup> December 2002:** This evening we received a phone call from our 4 year old granddaughter Catie, who was not feeling too well, but she was excited enough to tell us that 'Mummy had a baby in her tummy.' Our son Gary confirmed that they were expecting a new arrival about 24<sup>th</sup> July. Of course both Chris and I were delighted to hear that our 14<sup>th</sup> grandchild was to arrive in 2003.



## Fitzgerald News

To start off, I have a correction to make. In the February 2000 edition of the newsletter I reported an 1881 census entry for my great uncle Thomas Fitzgerald which gave Tom, his wife Mary, their two children, sister Mary, and cousin Patrick Fitzgerald as all living in Brightside Bierlow, York. I now know that in this case *York* was an abbreviation for Yorkshire, *and not* the city of York. The following information is given on a GENUKI web page:

“BRIGHTSIDE BIERLOW, in the parish of Sheffield, upper-division of Strafforth and Tickhill, liberty of Hallamshire; 3 miles NNE. of Sheffield, 5½ from Rotherham. Pop. 6,615. The Church is a perpetual

curacy, of which the Vicar of Sheffield is Patron.”

As Sheffield was famous for its iron and steel products, it makes more sense that Tom should be working there as he was an engine grinder in the iron industry.

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In previous newsletters I have reported that my grandfather John Fitzgerald—who had the reputation of telling *terminological inexactitudes*—had declared that he was born in Limerick City, in Co. Limerick, when he joined the British Army (The Loyal Lancashire Regiment) in 1881. Subsequently, after correspondence with the

Limerick Heritage Centre, and after visiting the centre, no trace of the family could be found, generating doubts about the Limerick connection.

I had great hopes of finally finding where in Ireland the Fitzgerald family had originated when the 1901 census was finally accessible. I had read somewhere that the 1901 enumerators had been encouraged to ask for the county of birth in both Ireland and Scotland and not simply write down the country of birth.

I was to be disappointed once again! So far in the 1901 census I have only been able to find two of the five children of my great grandfather Michael Fitzgerald, all of whom were born in Ireland. The two I found were my grandfather John, and my great uncle Francis (Frank). In both cases their given place of birth was simply ‘Ireland’. I knew their sister Mary was by now in the United States, and of brothers Thomas and Richard there was no trace.

In 2001, previous to any question of the availability of the 1901 census, I had begun to consider that if I could find any trace of great aunt Mary Fitzgerald on a ship passenger list or in a United States census, the latter would almost certainly give the county of birth in Ireland. The famous immigration resources at Ellis Island in New York did not come into use until 1902 after Mary was supposed to arrive in the country. I could not find her in earlier ships records, so the alternative seemed to be the US census, and for that I needed a location.

With that in mind, I remembered the words of my late aunt Winnie, my mother’s sister. She had said very definitely that Mary had gone to live in Chicago, Illinois, and that she later married a Chicago candy maker with a name that sounded like ‘Lovell’ or ‘Lovatt’.

## Deaths

It is sad to report that we lost two more of our widespread family this year (2002 at the time of writing this note).

### Walter Forrest HOLLAND (1924-2002)

The husband of my cousin Ruth Pauline (neè MILLER), Walter passed away on 16 August, 2002 in Illinois. Wally was a U.S. Navy veteran who served in the second world war.

Thankfully, Chris and I had the very great pleasure of meeting Ruth and Wally at two family reunions in California. We shared our interest in family history and Wally had all but finished his book on the DEEM family. There was only one chapter to go, and that was the one to have dealt with his own branch of the family, a task which Ruth and his daughter Jane hope to complete. Our thoughts and sincere condolences go to them both in their sad loss.



Walter Forrest  
HOLLAND 1924-2002

### Donald Arthur SANCHEZ (1918-2002)

Husband to my sister Margaret Rose (Peggy), Don passed away on 17 August, 2002 in Centralia, Washington. Don was born in Anoka, Minnesota, on 21 February, 1918, and served in the U.S. Coastguard during the second world war.



Don was a loving husband and father. I regarded him as a good friend as well as a brother-in-law. He will be greatly missed. Chris and I, our son Gary, daughter-in-law Alice, granddaughters Catie and Christy, and our niece Vivienne (who was on a visit from England) attended the funeral service in Centralia, and the interment in Longview, Washington.

We are thankful that we had the privilege of knowing Don for so long, and we share the grief of Peggy and Don’s extended family.

Donald Arthur SANCHEZ 1918-2002

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Christopher. They welcomed us with open arms and we spent a wonderful day with them which neither Chris or I will ever forget. It was just as though we had known one another all our lives, and it sure proved the old adage “blood is thicker than water” because it was from the outset a family reunion in the truest sense. Thank you Alan and Judith for your great hospitality. We enjoyed every minute of our visit and we look forward to future meetings, whether in England or in Canada.

It turned out that not only did Big Al and I share a name, a common ancestry, the same trade—we were both electricians at one time—but we also share the same wedding anniversary! How’s that for coincidence.....or is it coincidence?

Since then we have remained in constant contact via email, and it has proved invaluable to have an ally in the family who has done more on researching the family tree than I have managed since the last newsletter. I will be discussing the discoveries made in the continuing “Tracing the Barnard Family” elsewhere in this newsletter.

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Talking of email, when I first started my family research in 1971 the Internet and Email were unknown. All research had to be done the hard way—spending hundreds of hours reading microfilms, fiche, and dusty old registers. That is still necessary when it comes to checking the

veracity of family records, but there is no doubt that the advent of the Internet and Email has made it so much easier to contact fellow researchers around the globe, in addition to making indexes and even actual records available on line.

I have many reasons to thank the advent of the Internet into our homes. It has been through that medium that I first heard from cousin Michelle (McDonald) Smith that led to meeting with so many of our American cousins and our two joyful reunions in California.

In the continuing “Tracing the Barnard Family” article already mentioned I will introduce two more English cousins, Mike Slater and Tom Barnard, both of whom are descended from our Stockport Barnard family. We have established email contact with both after our initial contact. One made contact in December 2001, and the other in September 2002. Both cousins have provided invaluable information via Big Al, and Chris and I hope to meet them and their families during 2003.

I have also been in touch with Edna and Vic Swain, our fellow Barnard researchers and friends in New Zealand, and through them Jim Barnard of Sprowston, Norwich, another Barnard researcher and relative of Vic. We still do not know of any connection between our branches, but both the Swains and Jim have been exceptionally kind in sending me information largely garnered by Jim. Thanks folks!!

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Finally, there were very many people including myself that were anticipating the scheduled release online of the 1901 British Census on Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2002. Because I expected a large number of people trying to access the records as soon as they were available, I had disciplined myself to wait at least a week until the initial furore had died down. What a shock it was to hear that the powers that be had so underestimated the likely numbers at 1.2 million users per day, that when that number was reached in the first hour, the site was overwhelmed and closed down. In the first 5 days, an average 29 million users tried to access the site in every 24 hour period.

What a fiasco! But more understandable when it was reported that the company co-operating with the Public Record Office had previously been advisors to the Defence Ministry, and one of their apparent pearls of wisdom was for people to shelter under their stairs in the event of a nuclear attack!

The result of the chaos was that the census was not available online until nearly 11 months later in November, 2002. Until then, it was only available on fiche at a number of public libraries in the UK.

Thankfully, Big Al was able to access the census at Stockport library where he gathered quite a bit of information on the family.

## Condolences



I was also recently informed of the December 2002 death of my second cousin, Enid (Barnard) KINGSFORD. Enid was the daughter of Arthur and Suzy Barnard (nee Catlow) and the wife of Cyril Kingsford. I never had the pleasure of meeting Enid. Our condolences go out to her family.

## Newsletter Submissions

Your contributions to this family newsletter would be appreciated. It doesn't have to be a long article. Short notes of family news would be terrific...it's great to get updates. For example, Steve & Darlene Sanchez sent out a lovely newsletter at Christmas. I really enjoyed reading it as I haven't been able to meet up with extended family for some time. Thanks Steve & Darlene!

Photos are also eagerly welcomed. Prints will be returned and scanned copies can be sent to Alan\_Barnard@telus.net.  
-Kim

**Who'd A 'Thout It**

is produced by Alan Barnard  
and edited by Kim Boer

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After searching for a while, I discovered that I could access online an index called the Illinois State Wide Marriage Index 1763-1900. On consulting the index, the only likely entry I could find was that for the marriage of Martin LOFTUS to Mary FITZGERALD in Cook County, Illinois, (which is part of Chicago) on 4<sup>th</sup> June, 1890. I had a good feeling about this entry and decided to inquire further. I wrote to the Illinois Regional Archives Depository at Northeastern Illinois University in Chicago, and for the paltry sum of one US dollar, they sent me a copy of a marriage licence for the couple which authorised the marriage of Martin Loftus (35) and Mary Fitzgerald (33), both of Chicago, in the County of Cook and State of Illinois.

This Mary's declared age certainly fits as our Mary was said to be aged 23 in the 1881 UK census. At the bottom of the licence is a declaration which says:

**State of Illinois, Cook County. I, the undersigned a Catholic Clergyman, hereby certify that Mr. Martin Loftus and Miss Mary Fitzgerald were united in Marriage by me at St. Philip's Church in the County of Cook and State of Illinois, on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of June 1890.**

P. J. McDonnell

*St. Philip's Church, Chicago*

This may or may not be the Mary that I am seeking, and that has to be determined. There are two possibilities. One is to search for a marriage certificate at the actual church, which is my next step, and the second is to try and find the couple in the 1890 census which means a trip to see the US Archives in Seattle, or a visit to Salt Lake City. It seems that the church has now changed its name to St. Mel's Church, but it is apparently in the same location. Either search could result in further disappointment, but I am an optimist and I hope for the best. Wish me luck!

## TRACING THE BARNARD FAMILY – PART 11 (January 2003)

The last newsletter in March 2001 did not deal with "Tracing the Barnard Family" as such, but instead dealt with a number of news items about the family that I hope were of interest.

In this edition, I am carrying on with the research done to date.

I have been unable to go back any further on any of the family lines, but with a great deal of help, particularly from cousin Big Al, quite a lot of detail on the Stockport Barnards has been revealed. You will see in the following narrative that there is hope we may yet get some clues as to the origins of Thomas Barnard (1790-1849), our earliest known Barnard ancestor.

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**On 29 March, 2001**, I obtained through Bernard Steele, a fellow member of the Manchester & Lancs Family History Society (MLFHS), the marriage certificate of Emily Tinker my grandfather's half sister. Unexpectedly she had used the name Emily Barnard when she was married on 16 Oct 1895 to John NIELD, a clerk and bachelor of Oxford St, Heaton Norris, son of John Nield, an engineer. Emily, or Amelia Tinker as she was baptised, also lived in Heaton Norris in Providence St. Both gave their ages as 23, whereas Emily was actually one year older.

They were married in the parish church, Christ Church (C of E). Witnesses were Robert Nield and Margaret Johnson. Margaret was Emily's half sister, and Robert was almost certainly John's brother.

Again another half truth when Emily said her deceased father was John Barnard, a hatter. In fact her father was John Tinker who was a pipemaker at her birth, but who could have changed his trade later.

I found the following family in the 1881 census of Stockport, and would hazard a guess that it is Emily's in-laws:

Dwelling: 299 Newbridge Lane  
Census Place: Stockport, Cheshire, England  
Source: FHL Film 1341834 PRO Ref RG11 Piece 3481 Folio 5 Page 4

	Marr	Age	Sex	Birthplace
John NIELD Rel: Head Occ: Engine Driver At Cotton Mill	M	49	M	Stockport, Cheshire, England
Hannah NIELD Rel: Wife Occ: Engine Drivers Wife	M	47	F	Stockport, Cheshire, England
Mary J. NIELD Rel: Daur Occ: Cotton Reeler	U	15	F	Heaton Norris, Lancashire, England
Robert NIELD Rel: Son Occ: Scholar		11	M	Stockport, Cheshire, England
John NIELD Rel: Son Occ: Scholar		9	M	Stockport, Cheshire, England

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In my continuing correspondence with cousin Alan Barnard of Furness Vale (Big Al), we discussed my great uncle Bill (William Henry Barnard who is Big Al's great-grandfather). Big Al mentioned that he had been told that Bill had done some work in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Now you may recall that my father told me that his uncle Bill had visited 'America', and Bill's son Edgar told me that his father had "travelled overland with a Captain Leslie". It seemed natural to me to assume that Captain Leslie was probably a military man, and I had searched for him in American biographies etc., without success.

On hearing about Halifax, I emailed a lady called Janice Fralic Brown, a member of a web based organisation 'Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness' (RAOGK), and as I had found no trace of Bill in the 1881 census of the UK, I asked Jan if she could check the 1881 census of Halifax for me. She kindly replied in the affirmative, and to cut the story short, I received the following reply on **4<sup>th</sup> April, 2001**:

Hi Alan,

I found him! He was in the Pope's Harbour Census listing (District W, subdivision 2) for Halifax County. Here is what the listing says:

He is living with a Leslie family in Pope's Harbour. Henry Leslie, the head of the household is 62 years old and is listed as "sea faring & farming". He is married, with 5 children, one of whom, J. Robert, is the same age as your William. Now here is the exact information for William:

Barnard, William; male; age 19; born England; Church of England; English origin; carpenter.

So Captain Leslie was a mariner and not a military man after all! Of course I thanked Jan profusely and in fact became a member of RAOGK in which Chris and I have been active since.

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Later on in April, I was happy to supply some help to Big Al in his ALBISTON family search. They had incorrectly been transcribed as WHISTON. I mention this primarily to illustrate one of the hazards of genealogical research, the pitfalls of the transcribers job due to questionable writing in the original records. Both Chris and I have seen many examples of this.

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**On our visit to England in April and May of 2001**, we were mainly tourists but nevertheless did manage to visit the Norwich Register Office. Chris and I managed to establish that the Thomas BARNARD we had been given as born in Norwich in 1790 and baptised at the Old Meeting House was in fact born in 1780. At least we now know that is a false trail.

Of course the highlight of our visit was our meeting with Alan and Judith Barnard and their two children as mentioned earlier.

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**On returning to Canada**, Big Al and I continued our correspondence, but now it is by email and allows the transmitting of information so very much quicker.

Big Al was working at filling in details of William Henry and his wife Mary Carr. We already knew of their four children Percy, Arthur, Edgar, and Emma, and Big Al had discovered that Mary had lost five children before Percy. It now appears according to Big Al's father Eric, that at least one of those children was also named Arthur.

Eric had been instrumental many years ago of providing me with information on William Henry's branch of the family, with the help of his uncle Edgar, who sadly is no longer with us. Now his son, Big Al has really caught the family history bug and has become a great asset in the search, relaying so much information, maps, and photographs to lend substance to our tree.

Big Al was also able to supply information that he had found in Stockport directories at Stockport library.

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**11 June, 2001**

This afternoon I accessed the GRO pilot project on the 1891 census of Norfolk and found William Fox and wife Sarah living at a public house in Thetford, Norfolk. Not Kings Lynn as expected. The information was as follows:

1891 Census

Dwelling: King St, Kings Arms Public House

Census Place: Thetford, Norfolk, England

Source: PRO Ref RG12 Piece 1577 Folio 88 Page 26 Schedule 178

	Marr	Age	Sex	Birthplace
William T. FOX Rel: Head Occ: Carpenter	M	41	M	Wells, Norfolk, England
Sarah FOX Rel: Wife Occ: Undefined	M	36	F	Stockport, Cheshire, England
Edith BETTS Rel: Servant Occ: Servant Dom	S	18	F	Thetford, Norfolk, England

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**On 27 December, 2001**, I received the following rather cryptic message by email:

Subject: barnard,beccles,1800.

please contact me on 0161 286 9210 Mike Slater

*MA SLATER*

I phoned Mike as requested and discovered that he and his married sister, Susan Ann SWANN were my second cousins once removed, and their grandmother was Jane Barnard, the daughter of Thomas (1849) and Jane LEAH of Stockport. Mike lives in Cheadle, near Stockport, and at that time he did not have a computer but had to compose email on his TV using a remote control, a most laborious process which explained the brevity of the message.

I immediately contacted my namesake Alan Barnard (Big Al) who then contacted Mike and eventually visited Mike at home.

The result is another pile of information plus photographs which Mike has very kindly supplied, and a copy of a letter which Susan sent to a Stockport newspaper regarding an article on her great grandfather, Thomas the clay pipe maker, which I hope to reproduce in the next newsletter. It is a pleasure to have met you Mike if only over the phone at this stage, but Chris and I look forward to meeting you, Susan, and others of your immediate family in 2003.

One very welcome piece of news from Mike, was the fact that his grandmother Jane Barnard (1892-1976) told him unequivocally that our Barnard family ancestors had arrived in England from France in 1685. The 'Edict of Nantes' the edict of religious tolerance for French Protestants which had been proclaimed by French king Henry IV in 1598, was revoked by his grandson Louis XIV in October, 1685. As a result, hundreds of thousands of Huguenots were forced to flee France and fled to Switzerland, Germany, England, America, and South Africa.



*Jane (Barnard) SLATER  
1892-1976*

This information reinforces the legend known in every branch of the family discovered to date, that the Barnards originated from France.

Since then I have applied and been elected as a Fellow of the Huguenot Society of Great Britain and Ireland, and I hope to discover more about the Barnard origins in the future.

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**On 4<sup>th</sup> October, 2002**, Big Al sent me an email with a lot of information on the line of Thomas Barnard (1870), the son of Thomas (1849), whose descendants I had been seeking for years. Big Al had obtained the information from Thomas Barnard (1929), the son of Thomas (1904) and the grandson of Thomas (1870). Tom (1929), who is my second cousin once removed, was born in Stockport, moved to Wales with his family in 1946, then on to Essex in 1951 where he still lives with his wife Jenny and youngest son Christopher (Chris). His eldest son, Philip Thomas is presently in Australia.

It was great to meet Tom via phone and letters and he is the sixth generation of Thomas Barnards going back to 1790, and who knows, they may go back even farther. Thanks to his son Chris, Tom and I are now in touch via email, and we look forward to meeting him and his family also in 2003.

Those of our Barnard and associated families now in contact grows wider every year it seems, and it is wonderful to think that so many of us are just at the end of a phone line or email service from one another.

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**In Part 10 of Tracing the Barnard Family** in February 2000 edition of the newsletter, we looked at the children of Thomas Barnard (1821-1866) of the second *known* generation of our Barnard family, and Mary Walton (c.1826 - ?) who established the Stockport branch. Those children, the third generation, were in age order, Thomas, Samuel George (known simply as George), Sarah, Margaret, Mary, William Henry (known as William), and Hannah. Let's take another look at them.

We already knew of the families of **George** and **William** down to the latest generation, but now know that William visited Canada before returning to Britain to marry. **Sarah** and her husband William FOX apparently had no issue. **Margaret** married William JOHNSON and they had at least one son, but that is all we know. **Mary** remained a spinster. **Hannah** was aged 16 and living with her mother and sister Emily in the 1881 census, and so far that is the last trace of her.

It is with the descendants of the oldest son **Thomas** (1849-1831) that we have had the most recent success, with major contributions from Big Al, Mike Slater, Tom Barnard (1929), and a few facts that I have managed to find from online indexes. Both Mike and Tom are descended from Thomas (1849), Big Al is descended from William, and I descend from George.

I will attempt to summarise the additional information we now have on the branches of the Stockport BARNARD clan in the next newsletter which I hope to produce in early summer.