

Mr. Peter M. Whitlock,
3804 Kilarney Street,
Port Coquitlam B.C.
CANADA.

X1237
NIGEL & SYLVIA CRESSWELL
14 LINDENS PRESTON LANE
OLD BURTON VILLAGE
NEAR CHRISTCHURCH
DORSET BH23 7LN
TEL: (0202) 483232

24th January 1992

Dear Peter Whitlock,

I know that it is nearly two years since we last corresponded but my Whitlock trail had gone rather cold. Recently things have improved and I hope the following helps.

In september 1990 I had a reply from the New Zealand Society of Genealogists:-

No luck with my George Thomas & Anthony Edwin who left London circa 1860.

A George T Whitlock arrived in N.Z. on 12 Jun 1869 in the Aberdeen Clipper COULNAKYLE.

A George Whitlock was married in 1879. They wanted £5 for a copy of the marriage cert. On the negative side there were no Freeholders of NZ in 1882 named George Thomas Whitlock or Anthony Edwin Whitlock.

I have recently read again Ralph Whitlock's book "The Lost Village" which is about Pitton. In case you were not aware the following is relevant:-

Pitton Church of England School was founded in 1853.

At the 1851 Census there were listed 72 Whitlocks from 19 Households.

Pitton Chapel was built in 1827 alongside the church of St. Peter's.

The present chapel built in 1888 is at the other end of the village.

St. Peter's church is 12th/13th century, largely rebuilt in 1888, one of its Church-Warden's in the 1850's was a Martha Whitlock.

In the mid 1800's about three quarters of the inhabitants were Methodist.

Alderbury, near Salisbury is the main church centre. Pitton & Farley were Chapelries of Alderbury. No resident vicar at Pitton, just a Curate. No resident Vicar today.

My late aunt's memoirs confirm that my ~~great~~ great grandmother married twice. Firstly to George Thomas Whitlock in Bristol Cathedral. There were two boys George Thomas and Anthony Edwin and a girl Anna Maria of the first marriage. This I told you back in 1989. A letter has recently come to light undated from Warminster which throws some light on yours of July 15, 1989 paragraph 3.

The Warminster Letter. As my grandmother (Lavinia) was born in 1858 she must have been of mature years to do what is suggested at the beginning of the letter, say about 1878 which is my estimate of its origin. It is grammatically correct and with no spelling mistakes. I will precis its contents:-

My dear Lavinia,

I see you have closed up the house, suppose no good keeping it open.

I have no knowledge of the needlework "The Good Samaritan", done by your Mother's Mother. She died age 32 and your Mother at 2½ years at that time came to live with my Mother. She eventually married my brother George. There was a little boy who died.

Just as your grandmother died, had a letter from a lady in Australia who saw Anthony alive and well. I am the last of a numerous family, most of whom died young.

Back to your letter of July 15, 1989. That Bedminster Whitlock family now looks like the right one. Bedminster is on the SW outskirts of Bristol. Hence the Bristol marriage. I must assume that the writer of the Warminster letter was born a Whitlock. She ends the letter "Your affectionate Aunt". No name; but a step-aunt to Lavinia who was the child of Elizabeth Ann's second marriage to Levi Jerrett. Warminster is about 10 miles east of Bristol and 8 miles west of Salisbury. Pitton is about 4 miles east of Salisbury. So somehow, the writer's brother moved to Pitton from possibly Bedminster and had his family there. He died in Pitton and is buried with his young daughter Anna Maria (from my aunt's memoirs). I visited Pitton churchyard some months ago but the only Whitlock gravestone was badly covered with lichen and did not tie in with its inscription of what I could decipher.

Your letter of November 18, 1989 still has me guessing. Thomas Gale Whitlock born 1849, St. Catherine's House records Alderbury VIII 278. He would have been 9 years older than Lavinia. Do you have any more details on this one please? I can understand the Alderbury part in this as their records probably covered Pitton and its sister village of Farley.

There must have been close connections between the Jerretts of East Dean (3 miles west of Pitton) and the Whitlocks. The Warminster writer refers to a Mabel. I do know of a Mabel who is the daughter of Thomas and Anne Jerrett of East Dean. This Thomas Jerrett is more than likely the brother of Levi Jerrett, Elizabeth Ann Gale's second husband (father of Lavinia). I know a lady about my age known to me as cousin Sheila and am trying to contact her now. It is possible that she and I share the same

great great grandfather, the father of Levi and Thomas Jerrett. Something about the Whitlocks may come out of this enquiry.

I shall pay a visit to East and West Dean when the weather improves and see if I can dig anything up.

The stamps may be useful. The Elizabeth II are more valuable than the ordinary Elizabeth from the bulk of the sheet. They are known as "Gutter pairs" and only appear down the middle of a sheet. The one with the "Traffic Lights" is even rarer as there was only one pair like this in each sheet.

Hope that I have not confused you more than I did myself when this latest information came to light. At least I know that Anthony Edwin went on to Australia and I will ask my nephew in Sydney for a possible contact.

Yours sincerely,

Nigel B. Cresswell.

P.S. Now I must make a start on the Cresswells whose information is almost non-existent prior to 1879, although they were reputed to be horseand cattle thieves in the Scottish/English Border country in the early 1600's. They even had their own Clan which was disbanded by James the first of Scotland.

An aërogramme should not contain any enclosure

Postcode BH23 7LN

Mr. CHRISTCHURCH, Dorset.

Old Burton Village,

14 The Lindens, Preston Lane,

Mr. N. B. Cresswell,

Name and address of sender

Aërogramme

International

Royal Mail



By air mail
Par avion

Great Britain
Postage Paid

