

FreeCEN Newsletter – July 2026

Hello All

Welcome to the FreeCEN newsletter for July, and 31 new pieces have been added to the website over the last month, around 136,000 entries between these pieces. Details at the end of this newsletter.

These newsletters are sent on a monthly basis, and are usually sent out around the 4th of the month.

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Contribution Guidelines

Contributions are welcome, and all received are considered. These should be emailed to [Chris Mahoney](mailto:chris.mahoney@freeukgenealogy.org.uk) (chris.mahoney@freeukgenealogy.org.uk).

They can be in any format, but I do have three particular requests with contributions.

1. Please do include a scanned image of the census record referred to (if appropriate) along with relevant source information (i.e. piece number, folio number, page number, and schedule number)
2. With any images, please include copies in their original format such as jpg or png (much easier to work with than copying one out of your article)
3. If you have quoted another source (or copied an image from somewhere), please quote what that source is

Previous FreeCEN Newsletters

Past editions of the newsletter are [now available to download](#) from the FreeCEN website. Or go to the “About” page, and then look on the right hand side under “See Also”.

The previous twelve are there now, all in downloadable PDF format (can also be read in some internet browsers). Older editions available on request.

Volunteer for FreeCEN

Like what you see in these newsletters? Has our website helped you with your family research? Then please consider helping to expand our database. We have plenty of coordinators who would welcome you as a member of their team.

You need only basic computer skills and you can use any spreadsheet app. We provide plenty of help and support. We also supply the scans.

Use this link to the [Volunteer page](#) or select “Volunteer” in the purple menu bar near the top of any page on the website.

News from Denise Colbert (Q2 April to June 2026)

(Chief Operating Officer, Free UK Genealogy CIO)

Hello everyone

In my last update, I wrote about the strong foundations we were putting in place across Free UK Genealogy. Much of that work was about preparing for the future: growing new projects, strengthening our volunteer community and turning ideas from the Strategy Weekend into practical action.

Three months on, it's been encouraging to see those foundations starting to bear fruit. We've reached some significant milestones, welcomed new volunteers into the organisation, and continued improving the projects that so many of you contribute to every day.

FreePRO has welcomed more volunteers, bringing expertise in areas including user experience, software development, testing and project support. Work on digitising the probate calendars has continued, alongside improvements to the tools and workflows that will support volunteers as the project grows.

FreeBMD2 has also continued to develop steadily. Since its launch, the team has been working through feedback from volunteers and users, making improvements to searching, accessibility and the ways people can report problems or suggest corrections. It's been particularly encouraging to see how much thoughtful feedback has come from our own volunteers, helping shape the site as it continues to mature.

The biggest single achievement this quarter comes from FreeCEN.

For several years, volunteers have been working to convert older FreeCEN1 VLD files into the newer CSV format used by FreeCEN2. It has been one of those long-running pieces of work that quietly underpins everything else, and I'm delighted to say that the final inter-county conversions have now been completed.

It's a wonderful example of what persistence can achieve. Hundreds of thousands of records have been brought into a stronger, more sustainable format, leaving FreeCEN in a much better position for future development.

The team has also continued improving searching, accessibility and support for a wider range of names and places, while thinking carefully about how we can make even more records available. One area we'll be encouraging volunteers to consider is proofreading. Many records have already been transcribed and are simply waiting for that final stage before they can be published, so proofreading is one of the most direct ways volunteers can help unlock new material for researchers. If helping us clear our proofreading backlog and make more records available to researchers sounds like something you'd enjoy, please speak to your Coordinator. They'd be delighted to tell you more.

FreeREG has also had a positive few months. FreeComETT-REG has its creator, Hilary, back on board helping the team regain momentum after a challenging period, and FreeREG has continued to make progress with a new cohort of software volunteers learning the ropes by clearing off some 'good first issues' from the backlog.

Across all of our projects, there have also been dozens of smaller improvements that may never make headlines but collectively make a real difference: refining search behaviour, improving accessibility, responding to user feedback, fixing bugs and making our websites easier to use. Those incremental improvements are every bit as important as the bigger milestones.

One of the most encouraging things this quarter has been seeing new volunteers join Free UK Genealogy.

Since my last update, Scott Paget has stepped down from his Programme Manager role. We're very grateful for the work Scott did to bring more structure to our newer projects. Stephen Coward has now taken on this role, and has already made a real difference, recruiting several volunteer Project Managers and helping us strengthen support across our projects.

We've welcomed volunteers into software development, communications, recruitment, project support and several other areas of the organisation.

Every new volunteer brings something different, and I'm very grateful to everyone who has given their time to help new arrivals settle in and feel part of the team.

So much recruitment has also prompted us to think more carefully about the volunteer journey. How do we make it easier for someone to find a role they'll enjoy? How do we support them as they learn? How do we help them grow if they decide they'd like to take on something new?

One conversation in the recent FreeCEN Coordinator meeting really stands out. Geoff was reflecting on Cheryl's journey to becoming a County Coordinator, and how that had happened gradually through encouragement and shared experience rather than by expecting someone to take on everything at once. I suspect many of us could tell a similar story. Free UK Genealogy has always been full of volunteers who are willing to help one another, and I hope that's something we'll continue to build on.

Over the next few days we'll be advertising for a new trustee, and this time we're particularly hoping to hear from people within our own volunteer community. Nobody understands our organisation better than the people who give their time to it every week, and we'd love to see more volunteers helping shape Free UK Genealogy at Board level.

The role will appear shortly on our Reach Volunteering page:

<https://reachvolunteering.org.uk/org/free-uk-genealogy>

We'll send the direct link around as soon as the advert is live. If you've ever wondered whether becoming a trustee might be for you, I do encourage you to have a look. Please don't rule yourself out because you haven't been a trustee before. Experience can be learned. Enthusiasm for our mission and sound judgement matter just as much.

The planned UK Genealogy Charity Summit took place in April at the Society of Genealogists HQ in London. Although every organisation around the table had its own priorities, it quickly became clear that many of us are wrestling with the same questions: how to recruit and support volunteers, improve access to records and ensure that family history remains freely available for future generations.

There was a genuine willingness to keep talking, share ideas and support one another. We've already started following up on some of those conversations, and I hope they'll lead to closer collaboration across the sector over the coming months.

As we move into the second half of the year, we'll continue improving our websites, supporting our projects and, most importantly, supporting the volunteers who make them possible.

One of the things that's become increasingly clear to me this year is that our greatest strength is the community of people behind them. Every improvement we make, every new record we publish and every new project we begin ultimately comes back to volunteers generously sharing their time and knowledge with others.

Thank you for everything you've contributed over the past three months. I look forward to updating you again in the autumn.

With best wishes,

Denise Colbert

Chief Operating Officer
Free UK Genealogy CIO

Place of Interest – Haughley Park in Suffolk

(From Brian Collins)

During the proofread of an 1861 Caernafornshire piece¹ I was a little sceptical about the entry for Arthur Charles Pretyma and as the individual seemed to be relatively high in status I looked him up.

54	Plasllugnon 1	Arthur Charles Pretyma Head	Mar	31	Late Capt 25th Regt	Hampshire Winchester
		Mary Do. Wife	Mar	24	Landlady Proprietor	Scotland Edinburgh
		Emily Anabella Do. Daughter		1		Anglesey Llanabw
		Thomas Richards Serv	Un	25	Butler	Montgomeryshire Llanantffraid
		Helen Eddington Serv	Un	29	Book Serv	Wiltshire - Ludg
		Lane Seater Serv	Un	52	Nurse Serv	Scotland
		Elizabeth Bowles Serv	Un	29	Lady's Maid	Kent Dover
		Isabella MacLachlan Serv	Un	27	Laundress Maid	Highland Falkland
		Sarah Campbell Serv	Un	38	House Maid	Anglesey Llanfair
		Eleanor Thomas Serv	Un	19	House Maid	Anglesey Llanfair
		Ellen Griffith Serv	Un	19	Kitchen maid	Do Do

(Extract of 1861 Piece RG9_4347)

It seems he didn't stay in Anglesey for long and bought Haughley Park House in Stowmarket Suffolk in 1868 (seven years after this census). Haughley park House is listed in the English Heritage register having been built in about 1620. The image on the next page would have been the advert for sale that Captain Pretyma saw and which led to him buying the mansion.

[Wikipedia](#) gives the following description of the place:

“Haughley Park House in Stowmarket, Suffolk is an historical house of significance listed in the English Heritage Register. It is a large red brick country house built in about 1620 for the Sulyard family who were very prominent landowners in this area. The property remained with this family for two centuries after which it was sold. Today it is a private residence but at certain times of the year the gardens are open for viewing. The barn and gardens are also available for weddings.”

¹ Although piece is for the county of Caernafornshire, the piece includes several parishes in the neighbouring county of Anglesey

Haughley Park Estate and Manor,

Four miles from Stowmarket, Suffolk;

Comprising a noble

ELIZABETHAN MANSION,

Standing in a

FINELY TIMBERED PARK

AND

400 Acres of Excellent Land.

Also the very Valuable

MANOR OF HAUGHLEY.

Mr. PHILIP D. TUCKETT

Is instructed by the representatives of the late Rev. WILLIAM HENRY CRAWFORD, to SELL by AUCTION, at the Mart, Tokenhouse-yard, London, on Tuesday, July 21st,

THE above very Valuable FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL ESTATE, conveniently situated about two miles from Haughley Railway Station, consisting of one of the handsomest (though moderate sized) and best preserved specimens of a genuine Old English Country House in the Eastern Counties, seated on rising ground in a very beautiful Park of 120 Acres, studded with fine old Timber Trees, and commanding views over a wide extent of country, together with tastefully arranged Lawn and Gardens, Rookery, Lodges, and Keepers' Houses, Icehouse, Homestead, and Bailiff's House, a Farm, and considerable Woodlands, the whole forming a compact Estate of over 400 Acres of unusually fertile Land.

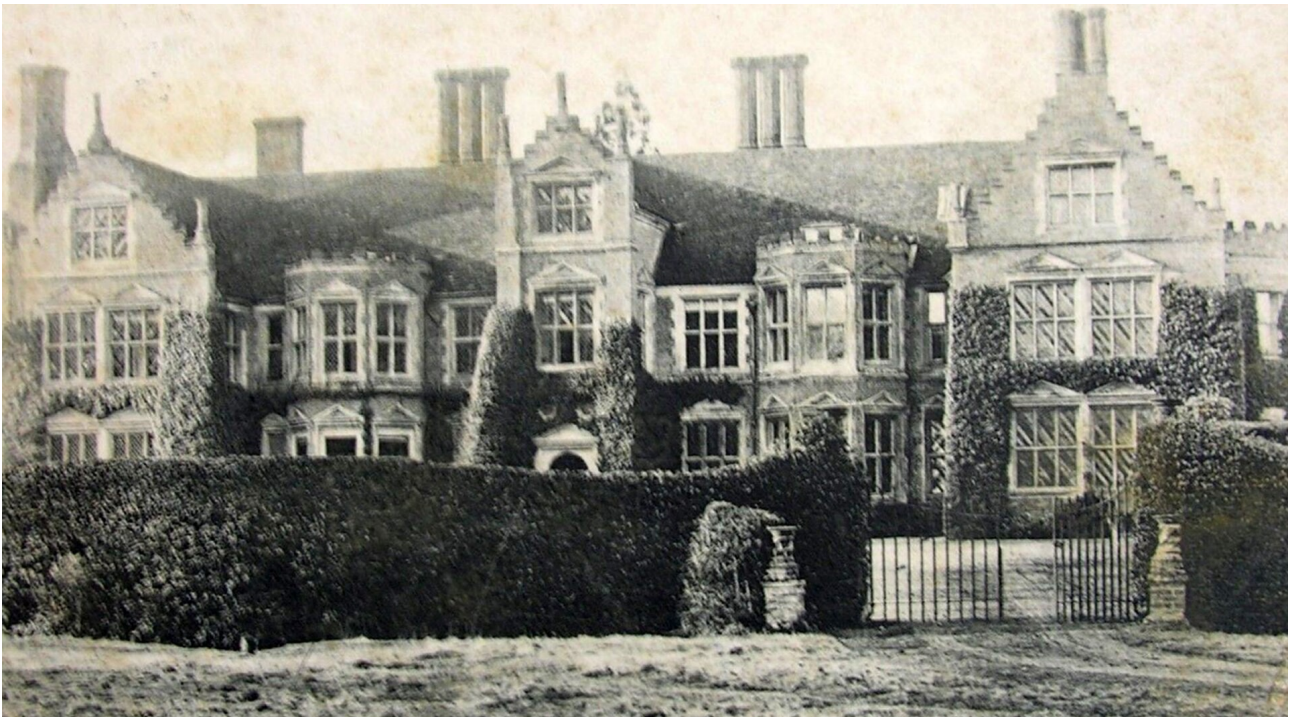
The Mansion and Estate have been kept in perfect order by the late Proprietor, who has long occupied the whole, and probably form the most complete and attractive property of its size in the three Counties.

Also, in a separate Lot, the important and very valuable MANOR OF HAUGHLEY, with its Rights, extending over upwards of 2,000 Acres of Copyhold Land, subject to fines arbitrary; and a right of sporting within the entire boundary of the Manor, embracing 8,000 or 10,000 acres, and the right of fishing in the river Gipping. Also in separate lots, six acres of Pasture at Haughley Green, and three newly built Cottages, at Haughley Old Street.

Particulars may be had of Messrs. M. and F. Davidson, solicitors, 35, Spring Gardens, S.W.; or, (with orders to view) of Mr. Philip D. Tuckett, land agent, surveyor, &c., 10A, Old Broad Street, London, E.C.

Arthur Charles Pretyma bought Haughley in 1868 and lived there until his death thirty years later. Arthur was born in 1830 in Winchester. His father was Reverend George Thomas Pretyma who was the Chancellor of Lincoln. In 1858 he married Mary Baxter who was the heiress of Henry Baxter of Idvies, an estate in Scotland. Arthur was a military man and rose to the rank of captain in the 25th Regiment. He also did some service in India.

The couple had four children – one son and three daughters. His son Frederic Henry Pretyma (1875-1939) inherited the property when Arthur died in 1898. In 1917 he married Ethel Sparke, the daughter of Edward Bowyer Sparke who owned Gunthorpe Hall in Norfolk. Soon after this he put Haughley Park on the market.



(Haughley Park in 1905 during the time that son Frederic owned the house).

Person of Interest – Owen Fuller-Meyrick

(From Brian Collins)

Found on the 1861 census for Caernafornshire is the entry for Owen Fuller-Meyrick and family who were once the second largest landowners on the island of Anglesey .

					Male	Female		
104	Bodorgan Hall	1	Owen J. Fuller-Meyrick	Master	M	57	Esquire	Bodorgan
			Anna Lewis	Mistress	F	35		London
			E. F. J. Berch Reynaud	Visita	M	50	Esquire	London
			E. Berch Reynaud	Visita	M	45	Esquire	Milans Italy
			Roger Price	Stove	M	44	Butler	Gloucestershire
			Daniel Seaman	None	M	35	groom	Beaham Bedford
			Richard Poulton	None	M	29	Footman	Wallingford
			George Haynes	None	M	28	Footman	Bulington
			John Lister	None	M	31	Helper	Berkeley
			Charlotte Mills	None	F	40	Cook & Housekeeper	Wye
			Prescilla Locke	None	F	31	Lady's Maid	Widdow
			James Dubois	None	M	30	Laundry Maid	London
			Harriet Turner	None	F	28	Under Laundry	London
			Isabel Osmond	None	F	27	House Maid	Shropshire
			Emma Record	None	F	26	Housemaid	Worcestershire
			James Hastings	None	M	29	Dairymaid	Denbighshire
			James Woods	None	M	28	Helpingmaid	Denbighshire
			Ellen Owen	None	F	24	Scullery Maid	Denbighshire
			William Williams	None	M	24	Stable	Denbighshire
			David Williams	None	M	20	Stable	Denbighshire

(Extract of 1861 Piece RG9_4347 with the Fuller-Meyrick family)

It seems the Meyrick family were landowners in Anglesey with an estimated 16,918 acres of land, almost 10% of the total land area of the Island of Anglesey, and are descended from Cadfael Lord of Cedewain in Powys.

Owen John Augustus Fuller-Meyrick) (1804-76) of Bodorgan, High Sheriff of Anglesey, 1827, whose patronymic was Fuller, succeeded to the estates of his maternal grandfather, and assumed in consequence, by royal licence, the surname and arms of Meyrick.

Following Mr Fuller-Meyrick's death in 1876, the Bodorgan Estate passed to his cousin, Sir George Augustus Elliott Tapps-Gervis-Meyrick, 4th Baronet (1855-1928), of Bodorgan Hall, Anglesey, and Hinton Admiral, Hampshire.

Bodorgan is now the residence of Sir George William Owen Tapps-Gervis-Meyrick, 8th Baronet (born 1970) and his family.

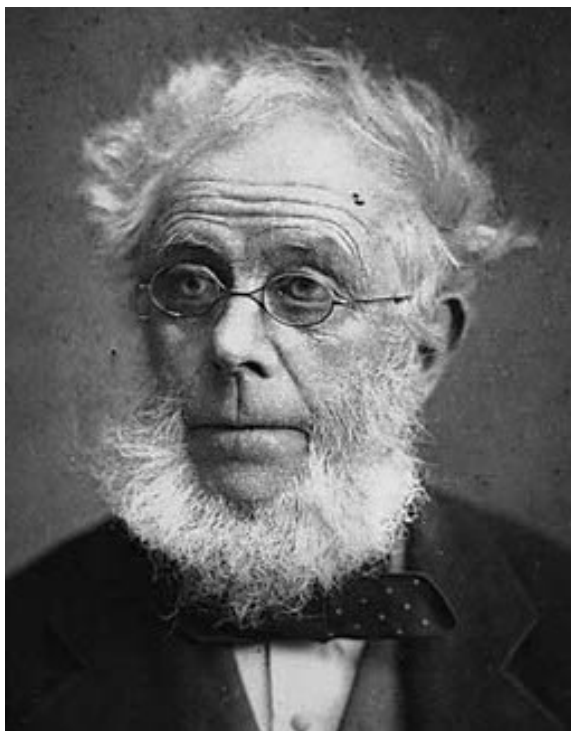


(The Bodorgan estate is it is today)

Person of Interest – William Bulkeley Hughes

(From Brian Collins)

I spotted this individual in ED12 schedule 15, who was listed as being High Sherriff of Anglesey so I thought I would look him up. It's not often we manage to get an image of the person especially not as early as 1861, although I assume this picture was taken closer to his death in 1882. In the dictionary of Welsh biography HUGHES, WILLIAM BULKELEY (1797 - 1882), Member of Parliament (Dictionary of Welsh Biography). His two wives both named Elizabeth are listed together with his parents and the name of his daughter Sarah Elizabeth Hughes, (although she was not present for the census).



Born 26 July 1797, eldest son of Sir William Bulkeley Hughes of Plas Coch, Llanidan, Anglesey, and Brynddu, Llanfechell, and Elizabeth, daughter and co-heiress of Rice Thomas of Coed Alun, Caernarvon. His family, which claimed descent from Llywarch ap Bran, lord of Menai, had since the middle of the 15th century played a leading part in the local administration of Anglesey. Hugh Hughes (died 1609), who in 1569 built Plas Coch on the site of the older house called Porthamel Isa, had a brilliant legal career, rose to be Queen's Attorney in North Wales

and a member of the Council of the Marches, and was just before his death about to take up his appointment as lord chief justice of Ireland.

William Bulkeley Hughes at first followed in his ancestor's footsteps, proceeding from Harrow to Lincoln's Inn, from which in 1824, he was called to the Bar. But while still actively engaged on the Oxford and Chester circuits, he came forward as Tory candidate in the Caernarvon boroughs election of 1837, and defeated captain Charles Henry Paget. Thus began his long parliamentary connection with this constituency, extending, but for a short hiatus between 1859 and 1865, over a period of nearly forty years. His

politics were described as those of a moderate Conservatism, although it was as a Liberal that he contested the election of 1865. He was still M.P. for Caernarvon at the time of his death, and was in point of age the 'father' of the House of Commons.

He took an active interest in local affairs and administration, being a justice of the peace of Anglesey and Caernarvonshire and high sheriff of Anglesey in 1861. As chairman of the Llandudno Improvement Commissioners he contributed in large measure to the development of the town through his successful negotiations with the Mostyn Estate between 1873 and 1877. A keen speculator in railway shares, he took full advantage of the boom of the 40's to replenish his estate, and held the chairmanship of the Anglesey Central Railway from its opening to its absorption by the L.N.W.R. Co. It was he, moreover, who organised the banquet given to Robert Stephenson at the George Hotel, Bangor, in August 1851, to commemorate the opening of the Britannia tubular bridge.

He was twice married: (1) in 1825, to Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Jonathan Nettleship of Mattersey Abbey, Northampton, and widow of Henry Wormald of Woodhouse, Leeds, and (2) to Elizabeth, daughter of William Donkin, of Rothbury, Northumberland. His only child was Sarah Elizabeth, born of the second marriage, and she inherited the estate upon his death, 8 March 1882.

15	Plascoch	1	William Bulkeley Hughes	Head	Mar	63	-	High Sheriff for Anglesea	Caernarvonshire Llanfair Ffestiog
			Elizabeth Do	Wife	Mar	73			Nottinghamshire Mattersey
			Jane Martin	Cousin	Un	45			Cheshire Torkington Township
			Mary Evans	Serv	Un	36	Book Serv		Caernarvon
			Jane Jones	Serv	Un	26	Upper house maid		Do
			Grace Roberts	Serv	Un	27	Lady's maid		Caernarvonshire Llandegai
			Elizabeth Williams	Serv	Un	29	Under house maid		Anglesea Penrynnydd
			Frederick Thomas	Serv	Un	25	Coachman		Denbighshire Pentrevoilas
			John Williams	Serv	Un	19	Footman		Anglesey Llanidfan
			Jane Parry	Serv	Un	27	Kitchen maid		Do Llanedwen

(Schedule with William Bulkeley and second wife)

Information source from the [Dictionary of Welsh Biography](#)

Person of Interest – William Massey

(From Brian Collins)

During the proofread of an Anglesey 1861 piece I came across an entry for William Massey. I could see that the transcriber had mis-named this person as Maffey so did a check as I thought it should be Massey. It turned out I was right and in addition the transcriber had the name of the house incorrect too. It turns out he was quite an interesting character.

A handwritten 1861 census schedule for the Massey family. The document is a table with columns for name, age, sex, occupation, and birthplace. The entries are as follows:

Name	Age	Sex	Occupation	Birthplace
William Massey	44	Head	Provisioner not practicing	Shropshire
Margaret Massey	35	Wife		Shropshire
William Massey	15	Son		Shropshire
James Massey	10	Son		Shropshire
Ann Massey	32	Daughter		Shropshire
Harry Massey	35	Son		Shropshire
Robert Massey	24	Son		Shropshire
Margaret Massey	28	Daughter		Shropshire

(Schedule with William Massey and family)

Listed in [Wikipedia](#) as follows,

William Massey (18 June 1817 – 18 December 1898) was an English rower, cricketer and barrister.

Massey was born at Moston Hall, Cheshire, the eldest son of Richard Massey. He was educated at Harrow School and admitted to Trinity College, Cambridge on 7 December 1835. Massey played cricket for Cambridge University in 1837, 1838 and 1839. He also played for Cambridge Town in 1838. In 1839 he stroked the Trinity College crew that won the first Grand Challenge Cup at Henley Royal Regatta. He was in the Cambridge boat in the Boat Race in 1840. From 1839 to 1842 he played cricket for Marylebone Cricket Club(MCC). Massey played 19 innings in 13 first-class matches at an average of 4.64 and a top score of 42. He took 6 catches.



([Moston Hall](#), Cheshire, birth place of William Massey)

Seat	Cambridge 			Oxford 		
	Name	College	Weight	Name	College	Weight
Bow	Alfred Hudson Shadwell	Lady Margaret	10 st 7 lb	Jacob G. Mountain	Merton	11 st 0 lb
2	William Massey	1st Trinity	11 st 0 lb	I. J. J. Pocock	Merton	11 st 2 lb
3	Sam. Barnard Taylor	1st Trinity	11 st 7 lb	S. E. Maberley	Christ Church	11 st 4 lb
4	John M. Ridley	Jesus	12 st 8 lb	W. Rogers	Balliol	12 st 10 lb
5	George Charles Uppleby	Magdalene	11 st 12 lb	R. G. Walls	Brasenose	12 st 7 lb
6	Francis Cranmer Penrose	Magdalene	12 st 1 lb	E. Royds	Brasenose	12 st 4 lb
7	Heighway C. Jones	Magdalene	11 st 9 lb	Godfrey Meynell	Brasenose	11 st 10 lb
Stroke	Charles M. Vialls (P)	3rd Trinity	11 st 6 lb	J. J. T. Somers Cox (P)	Brasenose	11 st 3 lb
Cox	T. S. Egan	Gonville & Caius	9 st 0 lb	W. B. Garnett	Brasenose	9 st 7 lb

The 1840 crew of what was then only the fourth Oxford Cambridge boat race (now an annual institution of the British sporting calendar) are shown below with Massey seated at position number 2 in the Cambridge boat.

Massey was admitted at Lincoln's Inn on 14 January 1841 and was called to the Bar on 3 May 1850. He lived at Cornelyn, Llangoed, Anglesey and was justice of the peace and deputy lieutenant for Anglesey. He was High Sheriff of Anglesey in 1864 and chairman of the Quarter Sessions from 1873 to 1877.

Massey died at Nantwich, Cheshire at the age of 81.

Working on these documents we only see a snapshot of the people involved and I think taking these little excursions adds some context to lives once lived.

The 10th Baronet Penrhyn

(From Brian Collins)



Sir Richard Williams Bulkeley by Samuel William Reynolds, 1841

It seems Anglesey had more than its fair share of 'bigwigs' in the 1800's. We have had a few people mainly of the servant class on various census returns where their POB was shown as Baron Hill. As this is not a town or a village it doesn't show up in the gazetteer so returns a warning message. However Baron Hill existed as a large country estate and house just outside Beaumaris. (it is now derelict). Above is a picture of the man who resided there in 1861 and he is in the current census I am working on RG9_4346.

No.	Name	Age	Sex	Family	Occupation	Where Born	Blind
16	Marion Hill	1	F	Richard Williams Bulkeley	Head	Anglesey	
	Marion Hill	1	F	Richard Williams Bulkeley	Head	Anglesey	
	Charles Bates	50	M	Servant		Anglesey	
	Edward Jones	50	M			Anglesey	
	George Hargreaves	50	M			Anglesey	
	Alexander Stephens	50	M			Anglesey	
	William Bull	50	M			Anglesey	
	John Taylor	50	M			Anglesey	
	George Toulson	50	M			Anglesey	
	James Stockwell	50	M			Anglesey	
	Elizabeth Norman	50	F			Anglesey	
	John Toulson	50	M			Anglesey	
	Margaret Jones	50	F			Anglesey	
	John Jones	50	M			Anglesey	
	Margaret Roberts	50	F			Anglesey	
	Elizabeth Griffiths	50	F			Anglesey	
	John Williams	50	M			Anglesey	
	Elizabeth Williams	50	F			Anglesey	
	Margaret Williams	50	F			Anglesey	
	Margaret Griffiths	50	F			Anglesey	
	Thomas Jones	50	M			Anglesey	
	John Griffiths	50	M			Anglesey	
	Marion Hill	1	F	Richard Williams Bulkeley	Head	Anglesey	
	Marion Hill	1	F	Richard Williams Bulkeley	Head	Anglesey	
	Charles Bates	50	M	Servant		Anglesey	
	Edward Jones	50	M			Anglesey	
	George Hargreaves	50	M			Anglesey	
	Alexander Stephens	50	M			Anglesey	
	William Bull	50	M			Anglesey	
	John Taylor	50	M			Anglesey	
	George Toulson	50	M			Anglesey	
	James Stockwell	50	M			Anglesey	
	Elizabeth Norman	50	F			Anglesey	
	John Toulson	50	M			Anglesey	
	Margaret Jones	50	F			Anglesey	
	John Jones	50	M			Anglesey	
	Margaret Roberts	50	F			Anglesey	
	Elizabeth Griffiths	50	F			Anglesey	
	John Williams	50	M			Anglesey	
	Elizabeth Williams	50	F			Anglesey	
	Margaret Williams	50	F			Anglesey	
	Margaret Griffiths	50	F			Anglesey	
	Thomas Jones	50	M			Anglesey	
	John Griffiths	50	M			Anglesey	

Born on 23rd September 1801 he was educated at Westminster School from 1815 to 1819 and then at Christchurch Oxford until 1820. He was elected Member of Parliament for Beaumaris in 1831 then as MP for Anglesey in 1832 a seat he held until 1837. He was then elected MP for Flint in 1841 and held that seat until 1847. He then stood again and was elected at Anglesey

and held the seat until 1868. In addition he was Lord Lieutenant of Caernarfonshire from March 1851 to September 1866. Information all courtesy of Wikipedia.



Baron Hill in its heyday (By Moses Griffith 1776) – Picture from [Wikipedia](#)

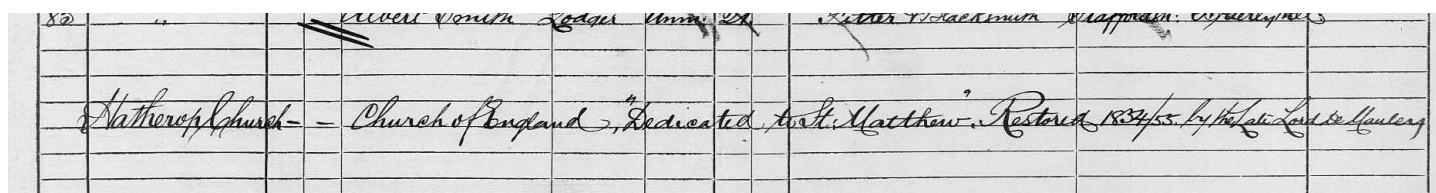


And as it is today. Picture from [Wikipedia](#)

Place of Interest – St Nicholas Church Hatherop

(From Sarah Smart)

Found during the proofread of an Gloucestershire 1881 piece was a reference to Hatherop Church, an uninhabited address at the end of an enumeration district. Ordinarily these when they are listed would mention the church, possibly the denomination of the church and that usually is about it. This time however was a little more detail.



(Hatherop Church from 1881 Piece RG11_2558)

First noted is that this church is “Dedicated to St Matthew.” Why St Matthew I was not able to discover when the church is clearly St Nicholas. The comment about the church also stated that it was restored around 1854/1855 by the Late Lord de Mauley. That part is correct. Kevin Farmer in a [Facebook](#) post gives the following description of the church.



“The church is some way from the village, approached along a quarter mile path from the east and the first sight of the church is quite striking. The old church was completely rebuilt between 1854-55 at the expense of William Ponsonby, Lord de Mauley, to designs by Henry Clutton and William Burges. It is a bizarre mixture of French Early Gothic, with a very English Perpendicular nave. How much of this mixture was influenced by the appearance of the old church is hard to say, but the contrasting styles of the two architects must have played a part. The nave is probably the work of Clutton, while the more flamboyant Burges probably did the French Gothic. He was certainly responsible for the south chapel, almost a mausoleum for Barbara, Lady de Mauley. She lies in a splendid tomb, watched over by two life-size winged angels. In sharp contrast, there is the simple effigy of a 14th century priest lying close by.”(St Nicholas Church Hatherop)

It would seem that the de Mauley's were important people to the church and area as detailed on the [Church Monuments Society website](#). This website includes reference to a large impressive monument dedicated to Barbara de Mauley, wife of Lord de Mauley.



This picture is of the monument for Barbara de Mauley (in the centre) with the two angels watching either side. Monument states that it was erected in her memory. Plaque behind her also mentions the family.

By contrast a statue of a priest found at the same church is notably smaller and simpler in design

Person of Interest – John Stewart – Photographer

(From Sheila Padden)

Found during the transcription of an 1861 Huntingdonshire piece for Warboys, one John T Stewart, a photographer living in a caravan.

176	Stewart J. (left)	John T. Stewart	Head	Mar	24	Photographic Painter	Lincolnshire Boston
	in a caravan	Ellen M. Dr	Wife	Mar	20		Westminster

(Extract of 1861 piece RG9_976)

He was still living in a caravan with his wife and 8m old son in 1871, this time in Lutterworth, Leicestershire. By 1881 he was living in Bicester Oxfordshire, and by 1891 he and his wife were photographers in Bicester Market Place.

I've not been able to trace any of his photographs so don't know if he was an itinerant photographer of village people and places, but he was a Mason and produced some cartes de visite with masonic emblems.



Notes From Editor

On searching myself for John Stewart I did find several references to him. First one is that the [Oxfordshire History Centre](#) compiled an index of photographer's in the county, and John is included on this list.

And for another the [Oxfordshire County Council](#) website includes a photo (see left) taken by John in 1873.

Pieces Incorporated during June 2026

(Incorporated pieces are those that have been transcribed, proofread, and are now part of the online searchable database)

Pieces are sorted by County (or shipping group), then census Year, then Piece number

County	Year	Piece	Location	Civil Parishes	Number of Entries
Anglesey	1861	RG9_4347A	Beaumaris	Llanddaniel Fab, Llanddona, Llanedwen, Llanfair Pwllgwyngyll, Llanffinan, Llangadwaladr, Penmynydd	2,723
Bedfordshire	1861	RG9_996	Biggleswade	Arlesey, Astwick, Biggleswade, Edworth	6,224
Caernarvonshire	1861	RG9_4347	Beaumaris	Llansadwrn	421
Cardiganshire	1911	RG14_33311	Penbryn	Llangrannog	332
Cheshire	1871	RG10_3716	Wrenbury	Audlem, Baddiley, Bickerton, Broomhall, Buerton, Bulkeley, Cholmondeley, Chorley, Dodcott cum Wilkesley, Egerton, Hankelow, Newhall, Sound, Woodcott, Wrenbury with Frith	6,185
Cheshire	1891	RG12_2856	Nantwich	Nantwich	5,493
Devon	1881	RG11_2236	Tiverton	Tiverton	4,432

Essex	1851	HO107_1768C	West Ham	West Ham	4,964
Glamorganshire	1871	RG10_5410	Aberdare	Aberdare	6,235
Glamorganshire	1871	RG10_5417	Cowbridge	Eglwys Brewys, Flemingston, Llandough juxta Cowbridge, Llanharry, Llanmaes, Llanmihangel, Llantwit Major, St Hilary, St Mary Church, Ystradowen	2,345
Gloucestershire	1861	RG9_1724	Bristol St Augustine	Bristol St Augustine, (Brandon Hill)	3,692
Kent	1891	RG12_735	Sandwich	Eastry, Marshborough, Sandwich St Mary, Sandwich St Peters, Woodnesborough, Worth	3,663
Lancashire	1891	RG12_3037	North Meols	North Meols, Southport	11,361
Lancashire	1891	RG12_3137	South Bury	Blackford Bridge, Bury, Fletcher Fold, Heap, Pilkington, Pilsworth, Radcliffe	6,423
Lancashire	1891	RG12_3162	Didsbury	Hough End, Withington	7,266
Lancashire	1891	RG12_3325	Butterworth Freehold Side	Butterworth, Hollingworth, Milnrow	3,759

Lincolnshire	1851	HO107_2117	Winterton	Alkborough, (Walcot), Appleby (Raventhorpe), Bottesford (Ashby; Burringham; East Butterwick; Holme; Yaddlethorpe), Burton upon Stather (Coleby; Normanby; Thealby), Flixborough (Crosby), Frodingham (Bromby; Crosby; Gunhouse; Scunthorpe), Messingham (East Butterwick, Roxby cum Risby, West Halton (Coleby; Gunhouse), Whitton, Winteringham, Winterton	9,256
Monmouthshire	1891	RG12_2065A	Kentchurch	Grosmont	663
Norfolk	1851	HO107_1825B	North Elmham	Bintree, Brisley, Colkirk, East Bilney, Gateley, Guist, Horningtoft, North Elmham, Oxwick, Pottesley, Stanfield, Twyford, Whissonsett, Worthing	4,699
Northumberland	1851	HO107_2415A	Chollerton	Black Carts and Ryehill, Chollerton (Barrasford; Chollerton with Whiteside Law and Little Swinburn; Colwell and Swinburn; Gunnerton and Chipchase), Newbrough, Simonburn (Haughton; Humshaugh; Simonburn with Hall Barns and Nunwick Town Head), St John Lee (Bingfield; Cocklaw; Fallowfield; Hallington; Wall; West Acomb), Warden	5,059

Northumberland	1851	HO107_2416	Haltwhistle	Haltwhistle, (Bellister; Blenkinsopp; Coanwood; Featherstone; Haltwhistle; Hartleyburn; Henshaw; Melkridge; Plainmellor; Ridley; Thirwall with Gilsland Spa; Thorngraston; Wall-Town), Kirkhaugh, Knaresdale, Lambley (Asholme), Whitfield	7,311
Northumberland	1851	HO107_2417	Bellingham	Bellingham, (Charlton East Quarter; Charlton West Quarter; Tarretburn), Elsdon (Otterburn Ward; Rochester Ward; Troughend Ward), Falstone (Plasket and Tynehead; Wellhaugh), Greystead (Chirdon; Smalesmouth), Ramshope, Thorneyburn (West Tarsset)	3,720
Northumberland	1851	HO107_2417A	Kirkwhelpington	Bellingham, (Leemaling; Nook), Birtley (Broomhope and Buteland), Corsenside (East and West Woodburn; Linhead), Kirkharle (Hawick; Kirkharle with Bibridge, Greatlaw, Kidlaw, Mirrow House, Shield Hill, and Thrivewell), Kirkwhelpington (Catcherside; Coldwell; Crogdean or Crookdean; Fawns; Great Bavington; Little Harle; West Harle; West Whelpington), Thockrington (Cary-Coats; Little Bavington; Sweethope; Thockrington), Wark (Shitlington High Quarter; Shitlington Low Quarter; Wark; Warksburn)	3,166
Pembrokeshire	1861	RG9_4155	Pembroke	Pembroke, (St Mary)	4,555

Surrey	1891	RG12_558	Albury	Abinger Hammer, Albury, East Clandon, East Horsley, Felday, Gomshall, Holmbury, Peaslake, Shere, West Clandon, West Horsley	5,187
Warwickshire	1861	RG9_2222	Leamington	Leamington Priors	4,112
Warwickshire	1861	RG9_2223	Leamington	Leamington Priors, Milverton	5,438
Wiltshire	1891	RG12_973A	Lambourn	Aldbourn, Baydon	1,631
Yorkshire North Riding	1871	RG10_4942A	Staindrop	Barforth	165
Yorkshire North Riding	1871	RG10_4944A	Barnard Castle	Baldrn, Barningham, Bowes, Brignall, Egglestone Abbey, Gilmonby, Hope, Hutton Magna, Lartington, Ovington, Rokeby, Scargill, Startforth, Wycliffe	2,974
Yorkshire North Riding	1871	RG10_4946A	Middleton	Cotherstone, Holwick, Hunderthwaite, Lunedale, Mickleton, Romaldkirk	2,516

FreeCEN1

The last reported update to our old website at [FreeCEN1](#) took place on July 6th 2021. Further updates to this website have been discontinued, and any new uploads of completed pieces will take place on FreeCEN2 only.

We expect that the old website will be taken off-line at some point.