

***St. John's Stained Glass  
Window Dedications***

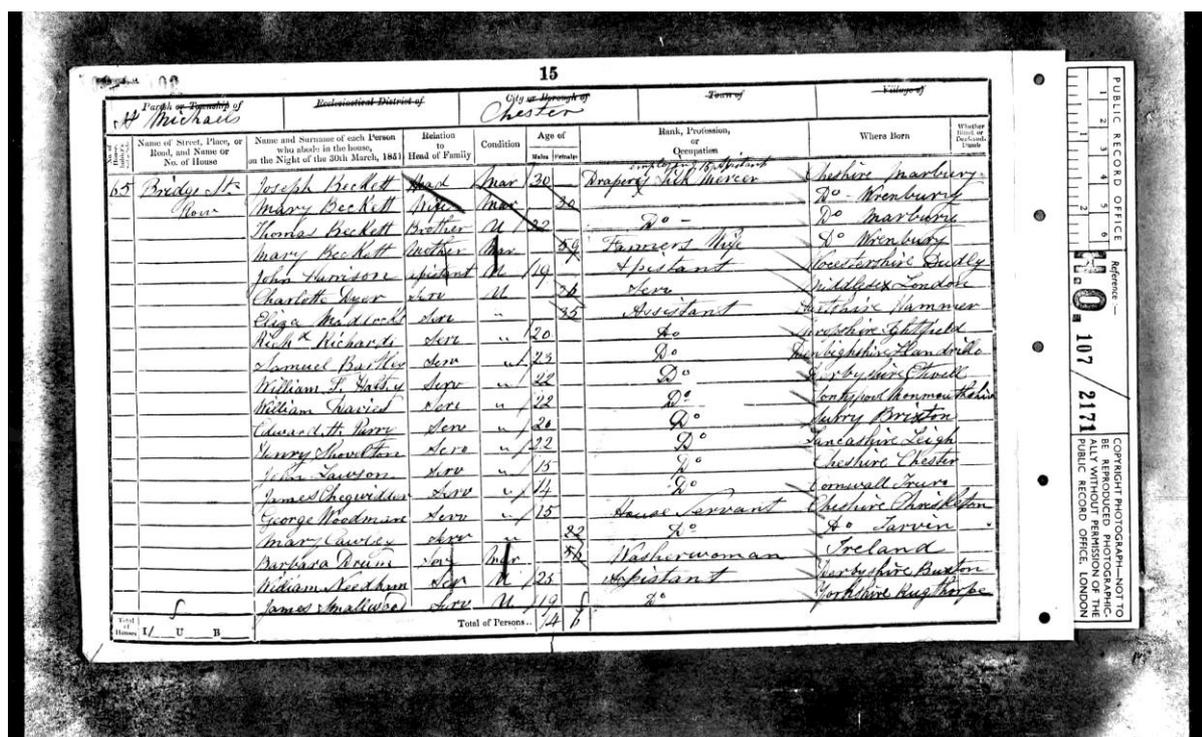


North Transept Window 'In loving memory of Mary wife of Joseph Beckett of Belvidere born July 8<sup>th</sup> 1820 died August 9<sup>th</sup> 1883'

# St. John's Window Dedications

On the north transept window is a dedication to **Mary Beckett** (née Moss), the wife of **Joseph Beckett** (1820-1904). The inscription tells us that Mary was born on July 8th 1820. Research reveals that her birth was in Wrenbury, that she and Joseph married on 19<sup>th</sup> May 1846 in Great Boughton, Chester, and that Joseph was born in Marbury. Joseph's father was Thomas (1792-1860), a farmer. Joseph's mother was named Mary Moss (1791-1861) the same as his wife, and was the daughter of William Moss (1755-1811) and Lydia Mansell (1759-98) of Newhall, Cheshire. Joseph Beckett's wife Mary Moss was the daughter of his mother's brother, farmer James Moss and his wife Mary (née Stringer) of Moor Hall, Dodd's Lane, Newhall, Aston, Cheshire, making Joseph and Mary first cousins.

The 1851 Census (shown below) records Joseph's occupation as 'drapery



and silk mercer' with he and Mary living in their shop in Bridge Street Row in Chester, sharing it with Joseph's brother, draper's assistant Thomas, 22, 15 "live in" shop staff and servants, and Joseph and Thomas's 59 year-old mother Mary, whom we can hopefully assume to have been visiting rather than in permanent residence on 30<sup>th</sup> March, as her husband Thomas did not die for another 9 years. Joseph and his wife Mary later moved away from the shop, first to Hough Green, then to 'Belvidere' (now Wicksted Hall)

at Wirswall, where, in 1881 they had a cook, a kitchen maid and a groom living in. Joseph and Mary had no children, and Mary died on August 9th 1883 in Whitchurch. Joseph and Mary were not recorded in the 1871 Census as they were visiting Jerusalem.



Joseph Beckett contributed £500 (about £58,000 in 2018 currency) to the building of St. John's in 1879, and he and his wife Mary almost certainly attended the church when it was brand new. It is a portrait of Joseph that hangs in the vestry (left). Joseph was a J.P. and one of the first councillors on Cheshire C.C.

Joseph re-married in 1885, to a lady named Eliza Smith from Haslingden in Lancashire (where they were wed). They lived together in 'Belvidere' with a butler, valet, cook, waitress, housemaid and a kitchen maid until Eliza died in 1894 (back in her hometown of Haslingden).

Joseph married a third wife, 45 year-old spinster Mary Anne Meek on April 25<sup>th</sup> 1896 at St. Andrew's Church, Islington, London. Mary Anne, whose father was a mercer (deceased) named Joseph Meek, died in 1900. In the 1901 Census Joseph is recorded as having two female cousins (spinsters Mary Moss, 87, b. Marbury and Mary Beckett Moss, 17, b. USA) and his sister-in-law, widow Martha Lee (72), in addition to his staff to look after him in his old age. In 1901, after the Census date, at 81, Joseph was married a fourth time, to an Annie Pedley Smith (1855-1929), in Holborn, London.

Annie was the 46 year-old daughter of Robert Thursfield Smith (the son of William Smith who is commemorated on the South Transept window - see below). After 1901 Joseph and Annie moved to 'Newstead' at Colwyn Bay and Joseph died there on 31<sup>st</sup> December 1904, aged about 84. He left £39,375:19/3d (equivalent to about £4.6m!). Probate was awarded to William Henry Smith, ironfounder (his fourth wife's brother - see below) and Joseph Herbert Meek, solicitor (a relative of Joseph's third wife).

Anne Pedley Beckett went on to marry a John Hammond in 1908 in the Conway Registration District (which includes Colwyn Bay). That this was the same Annie is proved by the probate record for Anne Pedley Hammond, who was recorded as a widow of 'Owendale', Alexandra Rd. Colwyn Bay, who died on 12<sup>th</sup> August 1929 leaving £8,397:6/6d, with probate being granted to William Henry Smith - iron founder (1853-1940 - Anne's older brother)

and to Robert Thursfield Smith (Jnr.) – timber merchant - her younger brother (1867-1942) – see below regarding both brothers' records in the 1871 Census. To even further support the link, Robert Thursfield Smith Jnr. also named his own daughter Annie Pedley (1893-1971).

On the South Transept window, with its depiction of the Bible story in Luke Chapter 18 of Jesus rebuking his disciples for preventing children coming to him, **Joseph Savage** and **William Smith** are remembered.



South Transept Window 'Suffer little children.....'

Joseph Savage (1792-1870) was a Methodist Local Preacher, who opened a foundry in Whitchurch in 1837, and in the 1841 Census (see below) he is recorded as a blacksmith living in Green End, Whitchurch with his wife

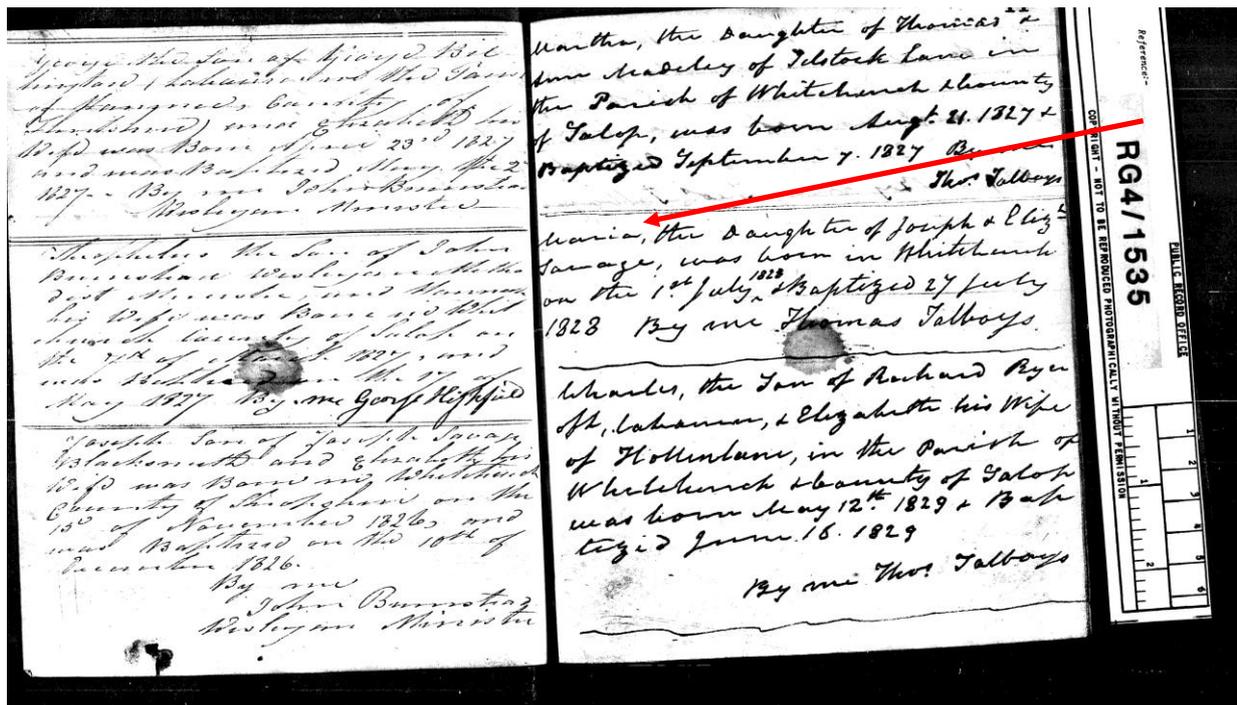
PLACE	HOUSES Number Inhabited	NAMES of each Person who abode therein the preceding Night.	AGE and SEX		PROFESSION, TRADE, EMPLOYMENT, or of INDEPENDENT MEANS.	Where Born in same County or Parish, Town, or Village, or City.
			Males	Females		
Green End		James Whiffle	11		Pupils	M.
		Frank Butterworth	14		d.	M.
		John Lane	11		d.	M.
		John Paken	12		d.	M.
		Henry Vaughan	14		d.	M.
		Richard Blanton	13		d.	M.
		Thomas M. Coy	11		d.	M.
		John Dawson	13		d.	M.
		Peter d.	12		d.	M.
		John Bird	12		d.	M.
		Henry d.	12		d.	M.
		Thomas Griffiths	12		d.	M.
		Richard Jackson	12		d.	M.
		William Denton	14		d.	M.
		Thomas Beckett	12		d.	M.
		Joseph Lea	10		d.	M.
		James d.	8		d.	M.
		Wingfield Lewis	8		d.	M.
		John Briston	7		d.	M.
		John Jones	9		d.	M.
		Elizabeth Colham	7		d.	M.
		Ellen d.	6		d.	M.
		John d.	3		d.	M.
d.		William Hunt	30		Ind	M.
		Penelope d.	20			M.
		TOTAL in 2	23	2		

PLACE	HOUSES Number Inhabited	NAMES of each Person who abode therein the preceding Night.	AGE and SEX		PROFESSION, TRADE, EMPLOYMENT, or of INDEPENDENT MEANS.	Where Born in same County or Parish, Town, or Village, or City.
			Males	Females		
Green End		Thomas Hunt	50		W. A. G. ✓	M.
		Mary Prince	20		F. S. ✓	M.
		Mary Phipps	20		B.	M.
d.		John Williams	32		Lauyer	M.
d.		Ann d.	38			M.
d.		Joseph Savage	68		B. Smith	M.
		Elizabeth d.	48			M.
		Thomas d.	21			M.
		Elizabeth d.	19			M.
		Joseph d.	14			M.
		Maria d.	12			M.
		Martha d.	10			M.
		Sarah d.	8			M.
d.		William Jones	27		Lab.	M.
		Ann d.	35			M.
		Elizabeth d.	5			M.
d.		John Guest	26		Plasterer	M.
		Francis d.	26			M.
		Catherine d.	3			M.
		Elizabeth d.	7			M.
d.		Catherine Taylor	38		Widow	M.
		George d.	25		Butler	M.
		Thomas d.	14			M.
d.		John Bradshaw	39		Lab.	M.
		Mary d.	48			M.
		TOTAL in 2	10	15		

Elizabeth (both recorded as aged 48 and born outside Shropshire), and their children Thomas (21), Elizabeth (19), Joseph Jnr. (14), Maria (12), Martha (10) and Sarah (8). Joseph was born in Wrenbury to parents Thomas and Elizabeth, and by 1851 he was a widower and 'blacksmith employing 2 men' living in Green End with his daughter Ann (a 24 year-old lace bonnet maker), his 24 year-old son Joseph Jnr. (a blacksmith), his daughter Sarah (a dressmaker aged 18) and his 29-year-old daughter Elizabeth, who worked as their housekeeper.

On 7<sup>th</sup> April 1861 Joseph Savage was still living in Green End, Whitchurch, aged 68, with his unmarried son, blacksmith Joseph (34), and his spinster daughter Maria (32) who was working as their housekeeper. Maria's baptism is recorded as having been performed by Thomas Talboys on 27<sup>th</sup> July 1828 in Whitchurch in a Wesleyan ceremony (see below), almost certainly in what is now the Whitchurch Heritage Centre in St. Mary's Street when it was a Methodist Church (1810-79).



The text on the right-hand page reads “Maria, the daughter of Joseph & Eliz<sup>th</sup> Savage, was born in Whitchurch on the 1<sup>st</sup> July 1828 & baptized 27 July 1828 by me Thomas Talboys”. The Savage’s daughter Elizabeth, their housekeeper in 1851, was no longer at home as she had married carpenter and joiner John Arrowsmith of Whitchurch in 1853 and was living in Tunstall by 1861.

After Joseph’s death in 1870, Joseph Jnr. and his sister Maria remained in Green End together until Joseph died in 1875 and Maria got married (aged 47) to coal merchant William Penkerman in Whitchurch in 1878.

William Smith (1798-1879) was born in Whitchurch. In 1841 ‘builder and iron founder’ William and his wife Margaret Annie (*née* Thursfield) lived in Dodington, Whitchurch with their sons Robert Thursfield (14) and James (5). Margaret’s parents were James Thomas Thursfield and Anne Pedley Hill. In 1851 William lived in Dodington Street with his wife Margaret (52), son Robert (24 - and working as the Assistant Manager and Clerk in the foundry), and son James (16) – see below the Census showing William Smith ‘iron and brass founder employing 23 men’ and his family:

10

543

Parish of <i>Dodington</i>		Ecclesiastical District of		City or Borough of		Town of <i>Whitchurch</i>		Village of	
Name of Street, Place, or Road, and Name or No. of House	Name and Surname of each Person who abode in the house, on the Night of the 30th March, 1861	Relation to Head of Family	Condition	Age of Male Inhabitants	Rank, Profession, or Occupation	Where Born	Where Born	Where Born	Where Born
41 Dodington Street	<i>William Smith</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>Mar</i>	<i>62</i>	<i>Small Manufacturer of Iron castings</i>	<i>Whitchurch</i>			
	<i>Margaret Do</i>	<i>Wife</i>	<i>Mar</i>	<i>28</i>		<i>Whitchurch</i>			
	<i>Robert Do</i>	<i>Son</i>	<i>Mar</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>Assistant Engineer in Works in January</i>	<i>Whitchurch</i>			
46 Dodington Street	<i>James Do</i>	<i>Do</i>	<i>Do</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>Scholar</i>	<i>Do</i>			
	<i>John Do</i>	<i>Do</i>	<i>Do</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>House painter at W. January</i>	<i>Whitchurch</i>			
	<i>Mary Do</i>	<i>Do</i>	<i>Do</i>	<i>17</i>		<i>Whitchurch</i>			
	<i>Thomas Do</i>	<i>Do</i>	<i>Do</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>Scholar</i>	<i>Do</i>			
	<i>James Do</i>	<i>Do</i>	<i>Do</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>Do</i>	<i>Do</i>			
	<i>John Do</i>	<i>Do</i>	<i>Do</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>Do</i>	<i>Do</i>			
47 Dodington Street	<i>William Do</i>	<i>Do</i>	<i>Do</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>Ironmonger</i>	<i>Whitchurch</i>			
	<i>Samuel Do</i>	<i>Do</i>	<i>Do</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>Domestic water</i>	<i>Whitchurch</i>			
	<i>Alfred Do</i>	<i>Do</i>	<i>Do</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>Scholar</i>	<i>Whitchurch</i>			
	<i>Mary Do</i>	<i>Do</i>	<i>Do</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>Do</i>	<i>Do</i>			
	<i>Caroline Do</i>	<i>Do</i>	<i>Do</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>Do</i>	<i>Do</i>			
48 Dodington Street	<i>James Do</i>	<i>Do</i>	<i>Do</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>Do</i>	<i>Whitchurch</i>			
	<i>John Do</i>	<i>Do</i>	<i>Do</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>Do</i>	<i>Whitchurch</i>			
	<i>George Do</i>	<i>Do</i>	<i>Do</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>Scholar</i>	<i>Whitchurch</i>			
	<i>Elizabeth Do</i>	<i>Do</i>	<i>Do</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>Do</i>	<i>Whitchurch</i>			

Total of Persons... 31

C-Eng.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

Reference: H0107/1995

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Margaret Smith died after 1851 but before 1861, but it has not been possible to determine which of the many Margaret Smiths who died at this time in the area around Whitchurch is the right one, as none of them actually died in Whitchurch itself.

William's son Robert Thursfield Smith married Joseph Savage's daughter Sarah (1832-1894) on 21<sup>st</sup> December 1852 in Wem.

In the Census of 1861 Robert T(hursfield) Smith, aged 33, 'engineer smith iron founder Local Preacher Methodist employing 42 men', his wife Sarah Smith (*née* Savage - daughter of Joseph Savage mentioned above) aged 28, children William H(enry) Smith, 7, Ann P(edley) Smith, 6 (future wife of Joseph Beckett), Elizabeth H(emmingsley) Smith, 4, Sarah A Smith, 2, Martha J(ane) Smith, 7 months old, plus widower father 'retired builder and iron founder' William Smith, 62, housekeeper and sister-in-law Martha Savage (another daughter of Joseph Savage), 31, servant Eliza Thomas, 21, and 'engine smith apprentice' Lucas Nash, 20, were all living in Dodington Street, Whitchurch.

Martha Jane died in 1868 and is the only child of Robert and Sarah commemorated on their gravestone (see below).



Inscription reads: “Sarah the wife of Robert Thursfield Smith Born August 5<sup>th</sup> 1832 Died September 24<sup>th</sup> 1894 ‘She hath done what she could’ Mark 14:8. Also of Robert Thursfield Smith Born July 6<sup>th</sup> 1827 Died March 12<sup>th</sup> 1907 ‘After he had served his generation by the will of God he fell on sleep’ (*Acts 13:36*) Also of Martha Jane fourth daughter of the above Born August 26<sup>th</sup> 1860 Died December 8<sup>th</sup> 1868”

William Smith re-married in 1866 and the 1871 Census records William (72) ‘retired iron founder and proprietor of houses’ living at 20 Dodington with his wife ‘land and houses owner’ Ann Smith (68) and their servant Margaret Taylor (23, b. Malpas).

In 1871, William’s son Robert Thursfield Smith (43) ‘Iron founder and civil engineer employing 60 men timber merchant and Local Methodist Preacher’ was living near his father at 13 Dodington St. with his wife Sarah (*née* Savage) aged 38, plus children William (Henry) (17), Robert (Thursfield) Jnr. (3), Ann (16), Elizabeth (14), Sarah (12), Ada (8), Laura M (7), and Alice M (5), plus servants (sister-in-law) Martha Savage (41) and Sarah Green (28 b.

Marbury). Martha Savage died in 1875, the same year as her brother Joseph (Jnr), the blacksmith. William Smith himself died the year St. John's was completed in 1879.

On 3<sup>rd</sup> April 1881 (Census Day) Robert Thursfield Smith (employing 70 men and boys) was living on Tarporley Rd with his wife Sarah, daughters Elizabeth Hemmingsley Smith (24), Ada Maria Smith (18), Laura Emily Smith (14) and apprentice Henry Holford Ison (20) from Leicester, and servant Emma Reeves (26, b. Whitchurch).

At the time of the 1891 Census – living at 'Highfield' Tarporley Rd were timber merchant Robert T Smith, 63, his wife Sarah Smith, 58, daughters Ann P Smith, 36, Laura E Smith, 27, Alice M Smith, 25, and servant Beatrice A Davies, 18, b. Liverpool.

In 1901 – still living at 'Highfield' were widower (his wife Sarah died in 1894) retired iron founder Robert T Smith 73, daughter Ann Pedley Smith, 46 (soon to be married to 81-year-old Joseph Beckett – see above), Ada Maria Smith, 38, Alice Mary Smith, 35, cook Martha Moulton, 27 (b. Nantwich) and housemaid Lily Challinor, 20 b. Whitchurch. Robert died in 1907 in Whitchurch, and at some time in his life donated the cross now in the Guild Room at St. John's.

It is believed that Sarah (*née* Savage), the wife of Robert Thursfield Smith, and her eldest son William Henry Smith paid for the East Transept window. Sarah organised fundraising for the old Wesleyan Chapel and, with her husband, for the building of St. John's. The bazaar she organised ran for 4 days and raised over £1000 for St. John's building costs! She also raised funds for the Mission Hall in Yardington, which opened the year she died in 1894. Sarah has been recorded as Mary Thursfield Smith in some histories of St. John's Church, but Robert Thursfield Smith's wife appeared as Sarah in every Census and on her gravestone, and there is no evidence that she was known as Mary rather than Sarah. Also, Robert's surname was not hyphenated or double barrelled – Thursfield was his middle name.

In the windows above the altar the names of three Local Preachers are recorded:

**Joseph Walford** (1793-1849). Joseph was the son of William and Mary Walford, and was baptised on 25<sup>th</sup> May 1793 in Whitchurch. In the 1841 Census (see picture on next page) Joseph was recorded as a bookseller, aged 45 and born in Shropshire, living in High St. Whitchurch with a lady named Rebecca Walford (1793-1866), whom it seems reasonable to assume was

Joseph's wife (there are no relationships recorded in the 1841 Census and no formal record of their wedding seems to exist, but this is not unusual as it was only after 1837 that it first became a legal requirement to register births, marriages and deaths in England and Wales). An unsourced family tree (Morris Family in Ancestry.co.uk) states this to have been the correct relationship, and that Rebecca (née Smith) married Joseph in Whitchurch in 1814. Also in the household on 6<sup>th</sup> June 1841 were printer William Pepperday aged 20, printer's apprentice George Jackson, aged 15, and servant Mary Fox, aged 20. Note also that Joseph's next door neighbour was Samuel Venables, who was also remembered in the altar windows (see below).

HOUSES		NAMES of each Person who abode therein the preceding Night.	AGE and SEX		PROFESSION, TRADE, EMPLOYMENT, or of INDEPENDENT MEANS.	Where Born	
Occupied or Habited	Unoccupied		Males	Females		Wales Born	Wales Born in same County
High Street	1	William Byrd	25		Carriage	4	
		Mary do	30			4	
		Mary do	7			4	
		William do	5 months			4	
		Thomas Westcott	15 yrs		Carriage's Cp	4	
		Ben Humphrey	15		S. S.	4	
		Samuel Gibbs	20		S. S.	4	
		Richard Thomas	60		Wagon	4	
		Betty do	70			4	
		Sam Jones	25		S. S.	4	
do		Thos. Morgan	55		Ag. Lab	4	
		Sam do	50			4	
		Mary do	15			4	
do		Richard Jackson	55		Carriage	4	
		Charles do	25		Carriage	4	
		Ann do	20		Carriage	4	
		Sam do	15			4	
		Thomas do	15			4	
do		Wm. M. Jones	65		Wagon	4	
		Elizabeth do	10			4	
		Elizabeth do	25			4	
		Samuel do	15			4	
		Thomas Davis	40		Ag. Lab	4	
		William Jones	15		S. S.	4	
		Bronck Rob	15		S. S.	4	
TOTAL in 2			11	14			

HOUSES		NAMES of each Person who abode therein the preceding Night.	AGE and SEX		PROFESSION, TRADE, EMPLOYMENT, or of INDEPENDENT MEANS.	Where Born	
Occupied or Habited	Unoccupied		Males	Females		Wales Born	Wales Born in same County
High Street	1	Rebecca Westcott	25		Wagon	4	
		Rebecca do	30		Wagon	4	
		Samuel Thomas	15		Wagon	4	
do		Samuel Westcott	50		Wagon	4	
do		John do	20		Wagon	4	
do		Thomas Westcott	30		Wagon	4	
		Samuel do	25			4	
		Thomas do	7			4	
		Samuel do	1			4	
		Mary Jones	20		S. S.	4	
		Mary Jones	13		S. S.	4	
do		Samuel Venables	35		Carriage	4	
		Elizabeth do	30			4	
		John do	11			4	
		William do	3			4	
		Elizabeth do	2			4	
		Thomas Jones	20		S. S.	4	
		Samuel Litch	15		Carriage's Cp	4	
		Samuel Richards	20		S. S.	4	
do		Joseph M. Jones	45		Wagon	4	
		Rebecca do	45			4	
		William Pepperday	20		Printer	4	
		George Jackson	15		Printer's Cp	4	
		Mary Fox	20		S. S.	4	
do		William Williams	40		Wagon	4	
TOTAL in 2			6	13			

Joseph died in Wem in 1849. The Morris online Family Tree already mentioned also contains the statement below:

"According to his great nephew Walford Davis Green MP, writing in his book about his father Walford Green DD, Joseph Walford, was a Wesleyan local preacher of much renown in the neighbourhood, a man of natural eloquence and powerful character."

Joseph was the brother of Mary Walford (1809-69), who married Whitchurch shoemaker Thomas Fallows Green (1797-1877), and whose son Walford

Fallows Green (1833-1903) was President of the Methodist Conference in 1894, having started as an assistant in his father's shoemakers shop. Because of the name, it seems fairly certain that Joseph Walford was also related to Sir Henry Walford Davies, the cousin of St. John's first organist, Frances Davies (mentioned earlier), but this is not so far proven.

Joseph's widow Rebecca, aged 38, was living on St. John's St. Whitchurch at the time of the 1851 Census, and was described as an 'annuitant' (living on a pension/annuity) with one servant, 14 year-old Martha Ansen from Malpas. In 1861 Rebecca was recorded as aged 68 and a 'proprietor of houses', still living in St. John's Street Whitchurch, at that time with her 65-year-old sister 'carpenter's widow' Sarah Powis Hughes. Rebecca died on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 1866 in Whitchurch. It is not known who ensured Joseph Walford was remembered in St. John's stained glass, but Rebecca's sister Sarah lived until 1888, after St. John's was built, and Rev. Walford Fallows Green, mentioned above, may have wished to dedicate a window to his uncle. Rebecca herself left 'Effects under £200', and her will was proved 'by the oath of William Smith of Whitchurch aforesaid gentleman one of the executors' – almost certainly the same William Smith as the one remembered on the East Transept window of St. John's, one suspects.

**Thomas Lythgoe** (1794-1861) married Elizabeth Atherton on 12th September 1827 in Grappenhall, Cheshire. There is some uncertainty over where exactly Thomas was born, as the Census returns give a number of options – in 1861 it was Lawton, Lancashire (no such place is known although there is a Lawton Shropshire, near Woore). In 1851 it was Warwick, Lancashire (no such place known). The 1841 Census records him, probably correctly, as born 'in county' i.e. Shropshire. Elizabeth was consistently recorded as born in Malpas. Thomas Lythgoe is also recorded as having married an Elizabeth Casterton (1790- b. Malpas) on 19<sup>th</sup> July 1818 in Whitchurch, but no death record has been found for this lady who seems to have been Thomas' first wife. Note also that an Elizabeth Casterton, described as Thomas' unmarried 23 year-old niece was living with Thomas and his wife in 1851 (see picture of census below).

In 1841, corn dealer Thomas Lythgoe, 45, and his wife Elizabeth, also 45, were living at High Gate Whitchurch. It seems they had no children.

The 1851 Census (below) shows corn and cheese factor Thomas, aged 57,

Name and Surname of each Person who abode in the house, on the Night of the 30th March, 1851	Relation to Head of Family	Condition	Age of Males Females	Rank, Profession, or Occupation	Where Born
Thomas Lythgoe	Head	Married	57	Corn & Cheese Factor	Nantwich, Cheshire
Elizabeth Lythgoe	Wife	Married	58		Nantwich, Cheshire
Elizabeth Casterton	Niece	Single	23		Nantwich, Cheshire
Eliza Dodd	Servant	Single	17		Wem, Shropshire
Robert Stewman	Head	Married	25	Carter	Nantwich, Cheshire
George Lythgoe	Head	Married	68		Nantwich, Cheshire
Elizabeth Lythgoe	Wife	Married	74		Nantwich, Cheshire
Mary Latham	Servant	Single	50		Nantwich, Cheshire
Ann E(liza) Lythgoe	Servant	Single	25		Nantwich, Cheshire
Sarah Griffiths	Servant	Single	12		Nantwich, Cheshire
Richard Stewman	Head	Married	25		Nantwich, Cheshire
Ann Stewman	Wife	Married	25		Nantwich, Cheshire
William Lythgoe	Head	Married	30		Nantwich, Cheshire
Ann E(liza) Lythgoe	Wife	Married	37		Nantwich, Cheshire
James Lythgoe	Son	Single	4		Nantwich, Cheshire

his wife Elizabeth aged 58, their unmarried niece Elizabeth Casterton (23 b. Whitchurch) and their servant Eliza Dodd, 17 (b. Wem) all living at High Gate Whitchurch.

The 1861 Census records corn dealer Thomas Lythgoe, 68, his wife Elizabeth Lythgoe, 74, their cook Mary Latham 50, assistant servant Ann E(liza) Lythgoe, 25 b. Nantwich (Thomas's niece), housemaid Sarah Griffiths, 12, and carter Robert Stewman, 25, all living at Highgate.

Niece Ann's parents were Thomas' brother, grocer and tea dealer Richard Lythgoe and his wife Ann, and she was christened in Nantwich on 24<sup>th</sup> January 1834. She had been cook to the Rector of Nantwich in 1851.

Thomas died in Whitchurch on 17<sup>th</sup> April 1861. His will was proved by his brother Richard Lythgoe. The will had a double probate, being also proved by the oath of Elizabeth Holbrey (Thomas' niece), who was the wife of Rev. George Holbrey, a Wesleyan Minister of Burton-on-Trent. Thomas' wife Elizabeth died later the same year in Nantwich. Thomas' niece Ann Eliza Lythgoe married widower upholsterer Alfred Davis from Chelsea, in Nantwich in 1864, and they had a son James Lythgoe Davis in 1867.

In 1871 'ironmonger general furnishing' Alfred Davis, 30, Ann E(liza) Davis (née Lythgoe), 37, and son James, 4, were living at 64 London Rd Derby.

The 1881 Census records Alfred Davis, 40, 'Furnishing ironmonger upholsterer employing 3 men', wife Ann Eliza Davis, 47, son James Lythgoe Davis, 14, and domestic servant (Ann's sister) Sarah Ann Lythgoe, 50, b. Nantwich all living at 2 South Terrace Derby. Could Ann and/or her sister have paid for the window in memory of their uncle despite having moved

away from Whitchurch – or maybe the window was paid for by old friends of Thomas?

In 1891 the family were living at 8 Friargate Derby, with son James working as an assistant in the upholstery business and Sarah Ann working as an upholsterer. Ann died in 1917 in Derby.

**Samuel Venables** (1802-66) was born in Whitchurch. In 1841 confectioner Samuel (35), his wife Charlotte (30) and their children John (11), William (3), and Elizabeth (2) were recorded as living on the High St. in Whitchurch. Charlotte Venables died on 14<sup>th</sup> October 1847.

The 1851 Census (below) records widower “baker and confectioner” Samuel Venables, 49, ‘assistants’ sons John Venables, 21, and William Venables, 13, scholar son Samuel Venables, 9, daughter Elizabeth Venables, 12, house servant Elizabeth Miller, 29, b. Malpas and apprentice Wilson Smith, 18, b. Whitchurch all living in the shop on Whitchurch High Street.

Household No.	Name and Surname of male Person who abode in the house on the Night of the 30th March, 1851	Relation to Head of Family	Condition	Age of male persons	Sex	Rank, Profession or Occupation	Ward Name
16 High Street	Samuel Venables	Head	Mar	49	M	Baker & Confectioner	St. John
	John	Son	Un	21	M	Assistant	St. John
	William	Son	Un	13	M	Assistant	St. John
	Samuel	Son	Un	9	M	Scholar	St. John
	Elizabeth	Daughter	Un	12	F	At Home	St. John
	Elizabeth Miller	Serv	Un	29	F	House Servant	St. John
	Wilson Smith	App	Un	18	M	Apprentice	St. John
16 High Street (Clerk's Yard)	James	Head	Un	46	M	Baker & Confectioner	St. John
	Jane	Wife	Un	44	F	At Home	St. John
	James	Son	Un	32	M	Apprentice	St. John
	Elizabeth	Daughter	Un	31	F	At Home	St. John
	Jane	Serv	Un	22	F	House Servant	St. John
17 High Street (Clerk's Yard)	Thomas Roberts	Head	Un	47	M	Baker	St. John
	Jane	Wife	Un	44	F	At Home	St. John
	Henry	Son	Un	21	M	Assistant	St. John
18 High Street (Clerk's Yard)	William Jones	Head	Mar	51	M	Baker	St. John
19 High Street (Clerk's Yard)	George Hughes	Head	Un	27	M	Baker	St. John
	Elizabeth	Wife	Un	24	F	At Home	St. John

In 1861, still living on the High St. were widower ‘baker and confectioner’ Samuel Venables, 59, assistant baker and confectioner son William, 23, cabinet-maker son Samuel, 19, shop assistant Mary Oldbury, 18, b. Knighton, housemaid Sarah Gregory, 21, b. Wem and errand boy Henry

Evanson, 16, b. Whitchurch. Samuel died on 26<sup>th</sup> December 1866 in Whitchurch.

His son William Venables continued to run the shop and married Sarah Hughes in 1862 in Audlem. In 1871 the household in the High Street Shop consisted of 'confectioner and corn dealer Methodist Local Preacher' William Venables, 33, his wife Sarah Venables, 29, their family Samuel H Venables, 7, Thomas B Venables, 5, Frederic W Venables, 3, Edwin M Venables, 1, servant Jane Howell, 20, nursemaid Jane Motterham, 15, and apprentices John V Jenkins, 14, and Richard Hopley, 14. It seems likely that William paid for the window in St. John's commemorating his father.

In 1881 the Census for Venables' Yard, Whitchurch High St. recorded 'grocer and baker' William Venables, 43, Sarah Venables, 39, 'grocer's assistant' Samuel H(ughes) Venables, 19, 'grocer's assistant' Thomas B(uckley) Venables, 15, scholars Edwin M. Venables, 10, Lucy E. Venables, 3, and Joseph L. Venables, 8, plus mother-in-law Sarah Hughes, 60, and servant Ellen Thomas, 15. In 1884 Thomas Buckley Venables emigrated to Canada and was followed before 1891 by his father William Venables.

William's son Samuel retained the shop and at 58 High St. in 1891 lived master grocer Samuel H(ughes) Venables, 27, his wife Sarah J Venables (*née* Williams), 28, Ethel Venables, 2, Dorothy L Venables, 11 months old, and servant Charlotte Sheratt, 16.

In 1901 grocer and confectioner Samuel H Venables, 37, lived at 60 High St. with his wife Sarah J Venables, 39, and family Ethel Venables, 12, Dorothy Lucy Venables, 10, Harry Jack Venables, 6, Alice M Venables, 4, Arthur M Venables, 3, and Beatrice A Venables, 6 Months, plus housemaid Lillie M Hockley, 26. Samuel died in 1907. The death of son Harry Jack Venables in WW1 is commemorated on a plaque in St. John's.

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