

# Gloucestershire COPE Family.

Other RELATED COPE BRANCHES  
originating in BERKELEY

1

**John Coap**  
(1620 ish - 1702)  
(7 x Grt Grdfthr)  
↓  
**William Cope**  
(1664 -1722)  
(6 x Grt Grdfthr)  
↓  
**Jacob Cope**  
(1690 - 1771)  
(5 x Grt Grdfthr)  
↓  
**William Cope**  
(1735-1778)  
(4 x Grt Grdfthr)  
↓  
**Hart Cope**  
(1761 - 1813)  
(3 x Grt Grdfthr)  
↓  
**William Cope**  
(1790 -1852)  
(2 x Grt Grdfthr)  
↓  
**George Cope**  
(1825 -1889)  
(Grt Grandfather)  
↓  
**Egbert Cope**  
(1866 -1939)  
(Grandfather)  
↓  
**Egbert Jn Cope**  
(1899 -1983)  
(Father)  
↓  
**Michael E.W. Cope**  
(Website owner)  
(1926 -

← A reminder of MY DIRECT Line of DESCENT

Page 1 of 10 of PDF file. Use PDF up & down arrows.

I have very little information about the earliest generations of my family. I'm very lucky to have found the 1669 lease of Leigh Farm and the wills and inventories and so on but my 6<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> great grandfathers are complete unknowns, as are all their siblings. We know quite a bit about **Hart Cope** due in some measure to the Settlement Order and the fact that we spent so much time trying to find out his place of birth. For example, because of the Jenner connection we learn from Pages 421/2 for Tuesday October 1812 of Jenner's diary that he:-

"Dined with Mayor & Corporation.

John Hailing Senr. - elected Mayor for the year ensuing.

William Smith & Samuel Greening - elected Constables

Shepherd, Samuel Pearce, Hart Cope & Wm. Lawrence senr. - elected Ale Tasters

Joseph Latch Senior - elected Scavenger"

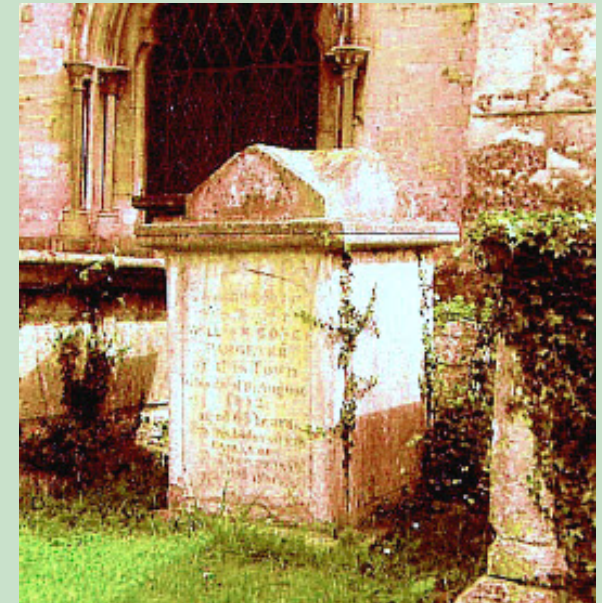
This information was given to me by Robert Haines of Berkeley, who was also a member of the Berkeley Library Local History Society in the early 1990's.

**Hart Cope** and his young siblings found themselves in rather dire straits early in their lives. He was born early in 1761. He had one younger brother and 5 younger sisters, the youngest of whom, Martha, was born in 1774. Their Mother died in 1776 and Father in 1778, when Hart was just 17, with 6 youngsters to look after. This must have been hard. **Hart's** future wife, **Elizabeth Hopkins**, was 9 years older than him and I wonder if she had been a friend of (or had been helping) Hart's parents to look after their children? Hart probably looked upon her as a mother figure in the early days. However they had 4 daughters and 3 sons (including twins **John** and **Mary** who died aged about 4 weeks).

**Hart Cope's** only brother was **James Cope**, born and buried in Westerleigh. On 20/2/1794, James married a widow named **Sarah Nicholls**. At present I don't know Sarah's age at marriage or whether she already had a family, but I do know they had a daughter Hannah Cope, baptised on 25/12/1795. I may be on the wrong path here but in 2009 I discovered a family in the Bitton area named **Nicholls-Cope** and thought there might possibly be a connection. Was this Sarah Nicholls' family by her first marriage who added Cope after the second? Just in case, I've included a **Nicholls-Cope** Family Tree on page 4 of the Family Trees section. (See also pages 9 & 10 of this doc.)

Now to progress to Hart's youngest son, **John** who was born 2 years after his twin brother John had died, eventually married **Beatrice Cordy** in 1819 and their Family Tree appears as Tree "C" on page 2 of the Family Trees section. Hart's eldest son was of course my 2 times great grandfather but I know nothing about any other of Hart and Elizabeth's children.

My 2 times great grandfather **William Cope** married **Elizabeth Watts** but we are still looking for the marriage after 25 years of searching! As far as I'm aware he was the first Pargeter in the family and was a practical man - also making our gate-legged table out of old pews ex- Berkeley Parish Church. Picture over page. Their grave is near the west door of



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(Above) The gate-legged table made by William Cope in about 1810. The family of 10 dined (standing up) round this table!

(Picture right) Two things seem strange about this unflattering photo (ca. 1886.) What were the men doing wearing “school” caps! The one top left is my Grandfather, Egbert, aged about 20. They all look very serious, unhappy even, and are wearing “button holes” so what on earth was the occasion? I think they were in their garden behind Pump Cottage in Berkeley. The old lady in black at the front is my Great Grandmother **Eliza (nee Greening)** who would have been about 66 in October 1886. Frederick (top left with “full set”) was a founder of a Railway Trades Union and was badly treated for his pains! One of his grandsons is the famous single-handed round the world yachtsman Valentine Howells.



Berkeley's Parish Church and is pictured on the right. Last time I visited in 2007, it was very overgrown by ivy and brambles. They had 7 sons, three of whom, including twins George and Henry, died in infancy. The 3<sup>rd</sup> son to die was another Henry, their last child.

Their eldest daughter **Eliza Cope (1819 - ?)** married a **Master Mariner** named **Stephen Willington** in the early 1850's. He died quite young leaving Eliza with 2 young children, a boy and girl. Eliza took up dressmaking to make a living. The girl **Clara Hester Eliza Willington** married **Henry Hulland** school master of Berkeley. Interestingly I received from Judith Robbins in Victoria, Australia a loose leaf folder with a history and trees of the Willington/Wellington/Hulland/Robbins families and was subsequently in touch with a Jimmy Hulland in Cheltenham.

**William and Elizabeth's** eldest son **William Cope (1822- 1877)**, was also a Pargeter in the family business having been apprenticed to his father. He remained a bachelor and is buried with his parents. He might have been the “William Cope” who was the subject of Stephen Jenner painting but we cannot be sure. I have a suspicion he might have been a bit of a rake but have no solid foundation for this!

Next in line is **George Cope**, my Great Grandfather, whose wife **Eliza (nee Greening)** is pictured above. George was also a twin, lucky to survive I think, whose twin sister **Sarah Ann Cope** married a **Joseph Merrett** in 1849. He was a Mason and came from a large local family, some of whom were also in the building trade. On the next page is a postulated Tree for some of the abundant Merrett family to be found in the locality.

The next sibling was **Elizabeth Cope (1828 - ?)** who married a **John Rodgers** who I think was a clerk in London, so presumably they settled down there. She was a straw bonnet maker before marriage and I know nothing more about this couple.

# Gloucestershire COPE Family.

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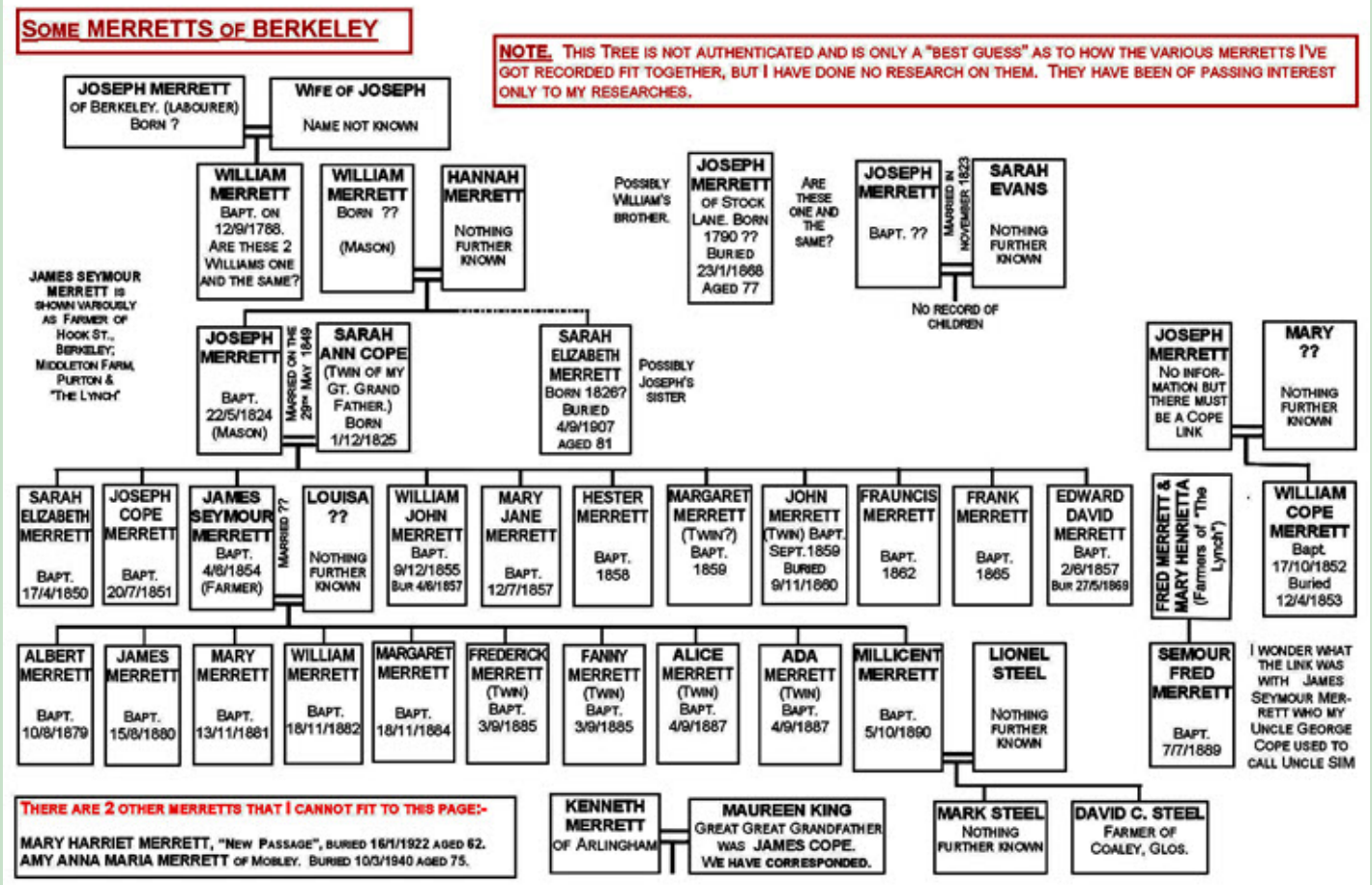
Next in line came **James Cope (1831 - 1905)**. James started off as a Tiler/Pargeter in his father's business but later became an Inn-keeper in Ham, possibly the Salutation Inn. I got to know a bit about this family from one of their descendants. **James** married **Mary Hale** in 1852 and was buried in Ham, a hamlet adjacent to Berkeley. I've included a small Family Tree "D" on page 3 of the Family Tree Section.

Next comes **Caroline Cope (1833 - 1909)** who was a Dressmaker. She remained a spinster and I have just learnt from a correspondent that she spent much of her adult life in the Horton Road, Wotton, Asylum located just outside the city of Gloucester.

Finally there was **John Cope (1836 - 1868)** who married **Eleanor, Ellen or Helen Cullimore** and they had 6 children. John was originally apprenticed to the family business as a Plasterer but eventually became Innkeeper at the SWAN public house. He died at a very young age (32) when Ellen took over the reins as publican. See Tree "E" on page 4 of the Family Tree section.

The next generation was that of my Grandfather who was the youngest of 11 children, 10 of whom survived to adulthood. His eldest sister, who was 21 years older than him, was **Eliza Cope** who lived to a grand age (1845 - 1941) and who I did see fairly frequently when I was quite young, while she was living out her old age in my Grandad's large house. She used to say that as a child of 11 she remembered the men returning from the Crimean War in 1856. She married fairly late on in life to a Mr. Evans who was a teacher in South Wales, and a widower with a youngish family. I know nothing more of their family life, except that Eliza took over as mother to the Evans children.

Next was **George Cope (1847 - 1868)**, the eldest brother and a bachelor, who was a sailor. He drowned in the accident described in the extract of a newspaper cutting printed on the next page, together with an early photo and some details of the ship. My grandfather would have been just two years old when his oldest brother drowned. I think George's loss to the family must have been the driving force behind Grandfather's exceptionally strong swimming capabilities.



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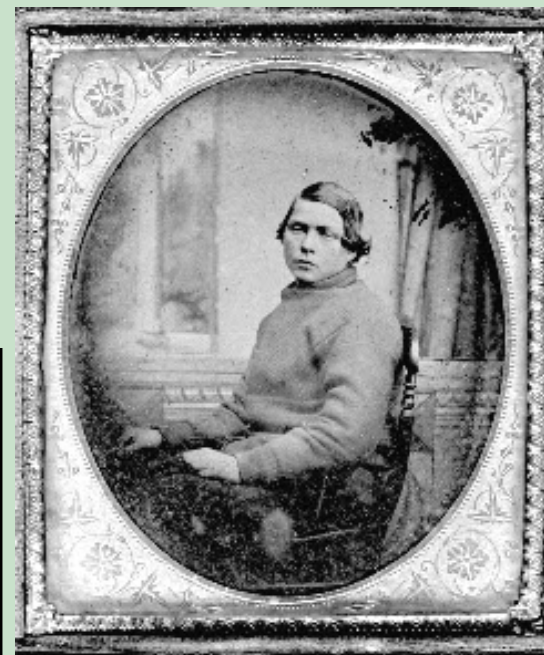
Schooner

## A SAILOR DROWNED AT FLEETWOOD.

An inquest was held at the Police Station, Fleetwood, on Thursday last, before M. Myers, Esq. Coroner, upon the body of a sailor named George Coupe (sic), 21 years of age, who was drowned in the River Wyre on Tuesday last. The deceased was sculling in a boat to reach the buoy in order to loose a rope attached to the schooner "Charlotte Ellen" which was about to sail to Barrow. The deceased endeavoured to step over the rope but failing to do so, was thrown into the water. Assistance was immediately obtained, but 4 hours elapsed before the body was recovered. The Jury returned a verdict of "Accidentally Drowned."

The ship was actually the *Charlotte Helen*, details of which I found on [www.berwickshipyard.com](http://www.berwickshipyard.com) She was built in 1859 by Gowans and was a 132 ton Schooner operated by James Fisher & Son of Barrow. They are still in existence. There is also a very brief history of the vessel, which tells us that in March 1862 Charlotte Helen and her crew rescued the crew of an American ship called the Marengo that had foundered on a voyage between Huelva and Cardiff. The *Charlotte Helen* was sunk in collision with a screw steamer "Rambler" of Glasgow, south of Cape Finisterre on 22<sup>nd</sup> August 1878 (some 10 years after George had died). She was bound from Seville for Carrickfergus with 270 tons of sulphur ore. Captain Dickenson of Lancaster, the mate and cook were drowned but two other crew members were rescued by the steamer and landed at Naples.

(Right)  
George  
Cope in  
about  
1863  
aged  
about 16.



The next youngest child was **William Cope (1849 - 1925)** a Plasterer/Mason who worked for the family business and married **Eliza Hosey**. They had 11 children and lived in Berkeley for some years. William must have had a "roving eye" and his wife eventually took the unusual step for those days of leaving him, taking most of the younger children to Canada, where they settled in Montreal. I know quite a fair amount about some of their children as I've located living relatives. The eldest son, **Walter George Cope**, pictured on the right early in 1900 just before he went to New Zealand, did reasonably well for himself as a Spring Maker in Dunedin. He had 2 sons about whom I know very little. **Bertha Alice**, one of the older daughters, stayed behind and became postmistress at Cam Post Office. Two of the youngest sons, **Frederick George** and **Albert John** enrolled with the Canadian Expeditionary Force and were killed in the 1<sup>st</sup> World War (and are remembered on the roll of Honour board in Berkeley parish church). The very youngest son, **Ernest Egbert Cope (1894 - 1966?)** married and went from Canada to U.S.A. See Tree "F", on page 5 of Family Trees.

**Elizabeth Harriet Cope (1851 - ?)** was an Assistant Teacher at a local school before marrying **Charles Jobbins** who worked for one of the Railways and was working in Ilkeston, Derbyshire in 1874 and Carlisle in 1882 as a pointsman on both occasions. They had at least 2 daughters (1 in Berkeley, 1 in Long Eaton, Derbyshire) and 2 sons, both in Carlisle, whose baptisms were recorded in the Berkeley Parish Magazine that liked keeping up with former residents. I know little else about them but was given access to the family tree of one of their descendants through Genes Reunited.

Next came **Alfred Cope (1853 - 1920)** who gained a scholarship to Rugby School and became a master at a Greenwich school, followed by one somewhere between Hillingdon and Uxbridge, where he married **Sophia Martha Bradfield** familiarly called "Patti". Alfred's health



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was not good so he got the Headmastership of a small village school in "The Scowles" near Coleford, Forest of Dean. They had 3 sons (all of whom married at least once) and 4 daughters (only one of whom married - late in life). I know a lot about this branch of the family, who mostly live(d) in Australia, through personal contact with my 2<sup>nd</sup> cousins and some of their children.

The eldest son **Alfred Reginald Cope (1883 - 1973)** was a business man and also a considerable amateur artist. He tried making an ancestral connection with the Hanwell Copes in the early 1950's. Another son, **Selwyn Arthur Cope**, was an Officer in the Army during and a few years after W.W.1 spending most of his time in India. The third son, **Charles Egbert Cope**, a teacher, emigrated to Melbourne, Victoria. His only son, **John Cope** married Pixie Patricia Prince in January 1960 in Lorne Victoria. They have 2 sons **Martin Benedict Cope** who is married and has a daughter and a son, and **David Charles Cope**. **John Cope** retired in 1987 as a Principal Research Scientist in the Chemical Physics division of the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation in Australia. From 1949 - 1952 he did Solid State Physics research at Bristol University. He made visits to St. Briavels in the Forest of Dean (where his father's widowed 2<sup>nd</sup> wife had a nice cottage) during 1993 and 2005. This is where we met up a couple of times, once with his older son **Martin**. Both his daughters married Australians and have families with whom I'm in touch. They are **Patti Beatrice Cope** who married **Cecil John Cant** (now deceased) and had 3 sons and a daughter who all married and have families of their own, and **Joan Paulina Cope** who married **Brian Albiston** and have a daughter and 2 sons who also have families of their own. **Charles Egbert Cope** wrote his memoirs of growing up in The Scowles, near Coleford in the Forest of Dean, which, having been typed up, runs to eleven A4 pages. The youngest but one daughter **Marion Cope (1895 - 1986)** owned and ran a small "Dame" school in Richmond, Yorkshire before retiring to Coleford in the Forest of Dean. This family's Tree "G" can be seen on page 6 of the Family Trees section.

**George and Eliza Cope's** next born was **Emily Susanna "Emma" Cope (1855 - ?)** who was employed as a "schoolroom maid" at Berkeley Castle according to the 1871 Census. Emma married **Edward Beavan or Bevan** who was born in Hereford and was employed in the Midland Railway as a Porter and they settled in Stapleton, Bristol. They had at least two daughters **Ellen Alice Bevan (1880)** and **Clara Cope Bevan**, but I know nothing more of this family.

Next was **Frederick Cope (1857 - 1930)**, another older brother of my grandfather, who was married twice. His 1<sup>st</sup> wife, **Elizabeth Ann Guest Hangar**, had two daughters, **Clara Elizabeth Cope**, who eventually married a **Mr. Davies** and had a girl and a boy, and **Rosina Maud Cope** who married a Turf Accountant named **Valentine David Jones**. They had no children. **Elizabeth** died on 27/12/1883, just 12 days after the birth of her daughter, Rosina Maud. **Frederick** married his 2<sup>nd</sup> wife, **Charlotte Holly Prince**, a nurse at Swansea's new (at that time about 1885-ish) hospital. Their first 3 children were little girls, **Alice, Ella and Dora**, none of whom lived beyond 23 months. What



Ca 1899. Alfred & Sophia Cope's family. L - R. Charles, Eleanor, Sophia, Beatrice, Alfred, Arthur & Marion.



Ca 1915. L - R. Alfred, Beatrice, Arthur (I think), Marion, Sophia ("Patti"), on lawn, Grace, who died 7/8/1930, aged 30.

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did that do to the family emotionally? In retrospect it was discovered that **Charlotte** was a Diphtheria carrier, but after treatment she had 6 more healthy children. They all eventually settled at Port Talbot. **Frederick** started work as an apprentice Tiler/Plasterer in his Father's business but within 10 years was employed as a Fireman by Great Western Railway. He was a Wesleyan Methodist and a staunch supporter of the Labour movement, spending a lot of time with Kier Hardy (1856 - 1915). **Frederick** undoubtedly played a leading role in establishing the Railway Union and became a bit of a thorn in the side of management, as a result of which he was demoted and sent to Port Talbot. It is thought he ended up as Foreman at Port Talbot station. I have contact with a number of Frederick's descendants and therefore will not include any more details other than to say that one of his grand daughters, **Angela Cope**, before she became a school teacher and married another school teacher, was runner-up to the 1977 Mastermind Finalist. She was also a J.P. and Deputy Chairman of both the Southend Bench and the Juvenile Panel. She has written a history of the Rochford and Southend Benches. Another grandson with whom I'm in touch, lives in Pembrokeshire and his claim to fame concerns the world of Single handed trans-Atlantic Yacht Racing. He is **Valentine Howells**, who was one of 5 entrants to the first ever race in 1960. He repeated this in the 2<sup>nd</sup> race in 1964, for which there were 14 entries, and in spite of being rammed at the start by an over enthusiastic spectator and having to go in for repairs, he managed to come 3<sup>rd</sup> overall behind Taberley (the famous French yachtsman) and Francis Chichester (now the famous Sir Francis). He's written a couple of erudite books on his sailing exploits:- "Sailing Into Solitude" and "Up that Particular Creek". See Tree "H" on page 7 of the Family Trees section.

**Francis Cope (born 12/12/1859 lived for only 5 weeks)**

**Alice Cope ( 1861 - 1895)** was a solicitor's clerk and school teacher before she married **Thomas Wilson**, an Engineer, whose name combination have to be one of the commonest I've ever come across! Alice died quite young in Darlington so it is probable that her husband was employed by the railways and that she died in childbirth. I know nothing more of them or their family.

**Rosa Cope (1864 - 1944)** was the youngest girl in the family, just 2 years older than my grandfather. She married **William Clarence Payne** and they had 7 daughters, which seems to be a million to 1 probability! Five daughters survived childhood, the eldest of whom, **Edith Alice Payne** married George H.H. Hansford in London before emigrating to Dunedin, New Zealand. I am in close touch with one of their grand daughters, **Marjorie Mitchell** who is married and has a family. The other surviving sisters were **Agnes Rosa Cope Payne**, **Ida Winifred Payne**, **Irene Marjorie Payne** and **Hilda Gladys Payne**. **Agnes** married **Charles James Symes**, **Ida** married **Leslie Robert Crooks**, **Irene** married **Walter Herbert Adeane Ridout** and **Hilda** married **George Andrew Groom**. I have also met the descendents of all the other four sisters and the whole family has occasional "gatherings of the



This is a group of some of Rosa Cope's grandchildren (and me) lined up outside the front wall of White Cottage, Maryport Street, Berkeley, Glos. where our grandparents were born and brought up.

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clan“ organised by one of Rosa’s Grandsons, a retired teacher from Winchester whose wife is a direct descendent of one of the brothers of the the ”hanging“ Judge Jeffreys! You can see their Tree “I” on page 8 of the Family Trees section.



① This bungalow, “Springhaven” or No. 122, Woodville Road, New Barnet, built in 1923, was where I was born in 1926 and my sister 3 years later. This picture was taken before 1937 when my parents had 2 loft rooms built. During the war we had an incendiary bomb come through the bay window on the extreme right of the picture, having glanced off the roof of the house next door!

② Monken Hadley Church where I was confirmed and sang in the Church choir. It was one of the few churches that had a dustbin-style beacon on top of the tower, and I remember the fire being lit for George V’s Silver Jubilee in May 1935.

③ My Grandfather Egbert Cope and my Father Egbert John Cope on parade in 1916 with the Volunteer Training Corps in New Southgate, north London. This corps was the WW1 equivalent of the Home Guard.

The car, above right, was my grandparents’ 1926 Armstrong Siddeley Tourer; we went on many beach holidays and picnics to Beaconsfield and Ashridge Park, Dunstable etc. before the 2nd World War started.



My Father’s sister, Doris in the driving seat 1928.



My Mother’s brooch. Dad was in the MGC in 1917 taken POW in May 1918.



Dad — Grandpa Cope  
Volunteer Training Corps 1916



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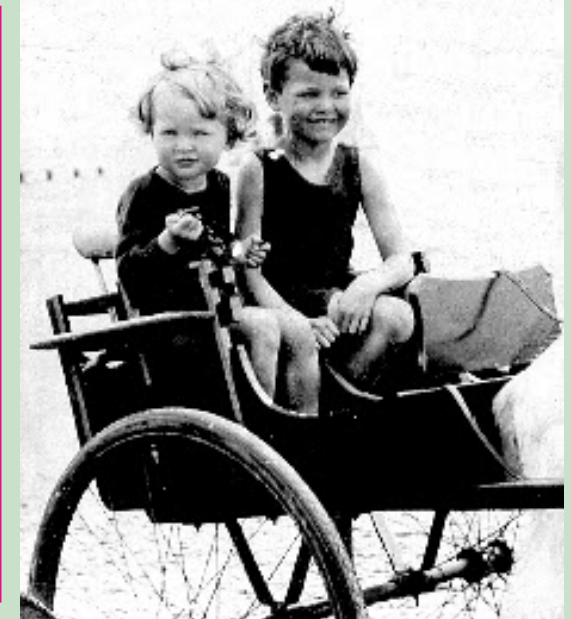
The above picture taken in about 1872 is of pupils at "The School" in Canonbury Street, Berkeley. The original negative this was taken from was almost a "ghost" and therefore required quite a bit of work to get any half decent image from it. The original has too many blemishes to make it worthwhile "cleaning up". The children, including my grandfather, look like little "gutter arabs" as my mother used to say. The school was built and sponsored by the Lord of Berkeley in about 1864. My Grandfather, Egbert Cope, is 3<sup>rd</sup> from left bottom row aged about 6 I would say (born 1866). The building must have been refurbished because when I visited the place in the early 1990's it was a Hotel.

(Right)  
Location:  
Oxford  
House, Beaconsfield  
Road, New  
Southgate,  
London,  
N.11. Sadly, it has  
been re-  
placed by a  
block of  
flats!



(Above) Uncle John Cope and Auntie Marianne Cope (siblings), playing Croquet in their parents' garden, in about 1933.

(Right)  
My  
sister,  
Helen,  
and I  
enjoying  
a goat  
cart ride  
possibly  
on  
Selsey  
beach in  
about  
1932.





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Was this the son of James Cope who was the brother of Hart Cope of Westerleigh/Berkeley, and who married widow Nicholls?

INQUEST into the Death of William Cope, otherwise Nichols, Shoe Maker of the Parish of Bitton, on 16/9/1865.

The following are Witness statements for the Coroner's Inquest.

## 1. A Form. Notice to Coroner giving information of a death.

1. Parish in which the death took place... **Bitton**
2. Date of Death or discovery of the body... **16<sup>th</sup> September 1865.**
3. Name or supposed name of the Deceased... **William Cope Nicholes** (sic)
4. The Residence, where known... **Oldland Common, Parish of Bitton**
5. Occupation... **Shoe Maker.**
6. Known or supposed age... **Sixty Nine**
7. The fullest particulars as to the supposed Cause of death...

The deceased was found drowned in Willsbridge Mill Pond this morning about 9 o'clock. Ann Worlock and some other children were passing along the opposite side of the pond when they saw a man's hat and coat at the butt of a large elm tree. They then went down to the edge of the pond and saw the body of a man in the water. They immediately went to the Mill and informed Mr. Richard Mills, the owner of the Mill and Pond who with Sumption Thompson, Israel Shellard and Richard Toghill, proceeded to the pond and took the body out of the water and immediately sent information to this station. I at once proceeded to the pond and identified the deceased and at once informed his relatives of it and conveyed him home. Upon enquiry I find that he has been drinking for several days past and that he had not been home all night. He was at the Queen's Head Inn at Willsbridge this morning at about 6 o'clock and had 1 pint of Ale. The deceased had been heard to say latterly what would become of him and his son James if his wife who is ill, was to die and that he had a mind to make away with himself. There was also a news slip laying with his clothes.

Should you think this a case for an inquest the nearest and most convenient place for holding it will be at the house of Peter Fudge of Oldland Common.

8. Name, rank and station of the Police Constable filling up and transmitting this paper... **Thomas Clarke, Sargeant Oldland Common Station**
9. Date and mode of transmitting this paper... **16th September, 1865**  
**(Sgd) Thomas Clark, Sgt**

By Post

To:-

**William Gaisford, Esq.,** (Interestingly this man is one of the caricatures in Jenner's "William Cope" painting)

**Coroner, Berkeley.**

## 2. A Form. Witness Statements from a number of people.

Information of Witnesses severally taken and acknowledged on behalf of our Sovereign Lady, the Queen, touching the death of **William Cope, otherwise Nichols** at the House of **William Nichols Cope** in the Parish of **Bitton** in the County of Gloucester on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of September, 1865 before William Gaisford, one of Her Majesty's Coroners for the said County, on view of the body of the said person then and there lying dead.

**Benjamin Mills, sworn.**

"I am a Miller in the employ of Mr. Mills at Willsbridge. On Saturday morning last, between 8 and 9 o'clock in consequence of the information I went to the Mill Pond at Willsbridge in the Parish of Bitton and saw the body of a man in the water, a hat and coat under a tree close by and his apron hanged up. I got the body out with the assistance of other persons, laid it on the grass and sent for Sargeant Clarke. The body was then given into his possession - there were no marks of violence upon the body.

**(Sgd) Benjamin Mills**

**James Collier, sworn.**

I knew the deceased and last saw him on Saturday morning. He came to my house about 7 o'clock on that morning quite sober and had half a pint of Burton and said he wanted to rest himself. I did not observe anything strange in his manner - he conversed as usual and left about eight o'clock quite sober - he went towards Bristol.

**(Sgd) James Collier**

**Sargeant Thomas Clarke, sworn.**

The body viewed by the Jury is the same as was shown to me by Benjamin Mills as having been taken out of the Mill Pond and is that of Benjamin Nichols - it was on the Longwells Green side and I found the clips and cord now produced by the side of deceased's clothes - he has been drinking lately.

**(Sgd) Thomas Clarke**

**Peter Fudge, sworn**

I live next door to the deceased - his wife has taken ill about 3 weeks ago & that seemed to affect his mind. He used to cry and exclaim "oh dear what shall I do if my wife ...."

**(Unsigned)**

**Martha Cope, sworn**

Deceased was my husband - he left my house about 9 o'clock on Fridat morning and I never saw him alive afterwards. He had been very restless and seemed to take my being ill very much to heart. On Thursday night he seemed bad and said he seemed as if he could hang himself - the cord now produced is part of our clothes line.

**(Sgd) Martha Cope**

**3. Finally there is an official document titled "An Enquisition". This is signed by all 12 Jurymen.**

Taken for our Sovereign Lady the Queen at the house of **Peter Fudge at Oldland Common** in the Parish of **Bitton** in the County of Gloucester on the **18th** day of **September** in the year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Sixty **Five** before William Gaisford, one of the Coroners for our said Lady the Queen, on view of the body of **William Nichols Cope** now here lying dead upon the oaths of the several Jurors whose names are hereunder written and seals affixed good and lawful men of the said County, duly chosen, and who being now here duly sworn and charged to enquire for our said Lady the Queen, when, where and by what means the said **William Nichols Cope** came to **his** death, say upon their oaths that **on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of September in the year aforesaid of the Parish aforesaid the dead body of the said William Nichols Cope was found deceased in a certain Mill Pond called Willsbridge Mill Pond but how or by what means the said William Nicholls Cope became so drowned there is no sufficient evidence to prove.**

In Witness whereof etc etc. **(Signature of the Coroner William Gaisford)** plus those of the 12 Jurors as follows:-

**Isaac Flicks; John Taylor: Job Fudge: Thomas Ashley: John Fudge: William Joy: Peter Fudge: Job Joy: Moses Jefferis: Robert Elms: James Davis: and Richard Mills**