

As always I first of all start by apologising for the gap between Newsletters, but at least this time it is only ten months between issues. My aim is to get it down to 6 months so I will endeavour to get something to you again in the early UK summer (if it comes by about June).

My main preoccupation for the last few years has been a major re-ordering project in our local church. The picture shows the finished results.

A part of our project that has really been neglected recently is that of DNA, I have completely updated or [DNA Page](#) and if you are a male Hagger and we have not yet tested your Hagger branch why not have a simple DNA test to see what other branches you are connected to genetically. Please contact me if you would like to take part.



## **New Book with Hagger Connections:**

### **Murder at Wrotham Hill by Diane Souham**

This book is about the murder at Wrotham Hill in 1946 of which [Harold Hagger](#) was convicted of and later hung for.

What of the book, I personally enjoyed reading it and found it interesting. It is well written and explains the crime, the investigation, the court case and finally the hanging. However, the book gives far more information with a lot of background information on the victim, Harold, Fabian who led the detectives and Albert Pierpoint the executioner. There is also a lot of background on life in England immediately after the second world war. A number of Hagger researchers get a mention particularly Martin Hagger who provided a lot of information on Harold and his family.

The book is published by Quercus and has a retail price of £18.99, I bought it from Amazon where it is available at a lower price either in hardback or in a Kindle version.

Some of you may remember the TV series Fabian of the Yard and this murder featured in the episode - The Wrotham Hill Murder. Sometime ago I picked up a copy of Fabian of the Yard by Robert Fabian and case 22 is about this story. The picture shows two stills from the episode. Unfortunately I am told the BBC no longer has a copy of the tape of this episode.

## Families we have recently been researching

This family starts with **Elisha Hagger marrying Elizabeth Atheroyd in 1818 at St Mary Stoke, Ipswich**. We have found ten likely children baptised up to 1837. From the 1851 census we see Elisha was living in Witnesham and was born in Tuddenham both in Suffolk and was a Farm Bailiff. The other members of the family we have traced to the 1851 census were also in Witnesham. Son Elisha born in 1818 was married to Elizabeth Wells and was an Ag Lab an occupation very common amongst Hagers. Elisha junior and Elizabeth had 4 children we have found and was still living in Witnesham and an Ag Lab in the 1861, 71 and 1881 census and he died in 1898, we have not found him in the 1891 census.

Here is a family that is sometimes a one g Hager and at others a two g one. At the moment the family starts with **Thomas born about 1712 at Croydon Cum Clapton in Cambridgeshire**, Thomas married **Elizabeth Chapman in 1739** and they had eight children. The only one we have really is James baptised at Croydon in 1750, he married Jane Peters in 1775 at East Hartley in Cambridgeshire they had five children again baptised at Croydon and for a number of these children we can trace them for another 3 generations. By the time of the 1891 census the family were scattered with only one small group still in Croydon with the others in Essex and Middlesex.

One branch of the family headed by Walter the Great x 3 Grandson of Thomas settled in Wood Green. Walter was born in Croydon in 1880 and married Dinah Mary May in 1900 at Wood Green. Walter and Dinah had 9 children.

One of our Therfield Hagers, **Richard born in 1757 in Therfield**, but for some reason migrated to **Preston in Lancashire**, he was married to Ann and they had nine children all baptised as Roman Catholics in Preston. We have not finished putting this family together but they were still in the Preston area in the 1891 census.

Another family we have been trying to piece together is a family based in **Polar, London headed by John married to Mary**. Although we have a lot more information about his son **Richard who was baptised in 1701 at St Dunstons, Stepney**. We not only have his apprentice indentures and will (proved in 1764) but also the indentures of four of his apprentices and the record of his marriage to Anne Harding in 1730. Richard was a haberdasher and carpenter. Richard also had a second marriage to Elizabeth Rudd in 1742. He had three children with Anne and four with Elizabeth.

***If you have a connection to any of the above families please contact Peter so you can swap notes.***



You can read about one branch of Hagers on the [Bourn Hagers page](#). Recently I was walking in this part of Cambridgeshire and came across Bourn windmill.

## Marriage Indexes

I have mentioned previously the progress we have been making towards collecting spouse information on Hagger marriages between 1837 and 1911. One area where we have really grown our index information has been London where Martin Hagger has checked to see which marriages he could find from the LMA entries on Ancestry. We have 1,882 marriages in our database for this period, so far we have identified the spouse information in 1,074 case and in many cases we have far more information than just the spouses name. Often we have the date and place of marriage and details of the fathers. So if you have a marriage during that period and do not have the details see if we can help you.

As many of our Haggars originated in the area around Therfield in Hertfordshire I show a map of this area dated 1787.



*We hope 2013 is a good year for you and yours and that you have a good Family History year. Hopefully we will have a meet up for those that can make it on the 9th March at Kelshall / Therfield. Details will be sent out when we know them.*

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