

New Gibbs Family Tree Newsletter - August 2017



This is my second newsletter; I have found the responses and words of encouragement from so many of you very rewarding. In addition my follow up emails and posted copies have connected with more family

Once again I encourage you to send me any family updates and to forward this newsletter to your wider family and invite them to subscribe by emailing me at gibbsftree@gmail.com

Do you recognise this elegant lady portrayed on the Tyntesfield staircase? Click on the underlined text to take you to her tree record to confirm (all underlined text in the newsletter is a link to more online details), or on her photo to see her details in my proposed future version of the family tree.



Family Updates - hatches, matches, dispatches ...

Please do let me know about family births, marriages and deaths and other family news, not only so that I can keep the Family Tree living and accurate, but also to let the wider family know.

- [Hermione Davina Janet](#) (Joe and Leonie Gibbs) married Robbie Parry at Belladrum in May
- [Susannah](#) (Simon and Pippa Gibbs) married Dominic Ash in May
- [Eustace Hubert Beilby Gibbs](#), 3rd Baron Wraxall, died at home on Wednesday 17th May 2017, aged 87
- [Phoebe Jemima Magro](#) was born on 14th June to Dr Jessica Gibbs (Rachel) and Dr Michael Magro
- [Anna](#) (Jack and Charlotte Gibbs) married her fellow teacher Stuart Foster in July

I am sure that with such a large extended family there must be many more events that I don't know about, so please keep the news coming!

Gibbs Family Tree Website Enquiries

- Robert, a historic buildings advisor on behalf of Haberdashers Aske's Boys School in Elstree, Hertfordshire, has been given the task of unpicking the history of Aldenham House. He sent me an interesting [leaflet on the gardens](#) which at Vicary's death in 1932 were looked after by 58 gardeners and the envy of Kew.
- Steven and Jody Gibbs inquired about Henry Gibbs who first appears in the records about 1693 in the Carolinas, and may be a son of another Henry Gibbs who left Somerset for the Americas some time post Restoration. "It as if our Henry appears miraculously with no forbearers in what was wilderness".



Tonya (Breezy) Gibbs from Halifax, Nova Scotia wondered if she was related. So did Clarice for Peter James Gibbs from Swindon.

Creative Cousins: Actors, Artists, Artisans and Authors

While the Gibbs families have a rich history of Merchants, Bankers, Soldiers and Clergy, many cousins have channelled their energies into other creative careers or hobbies. To kick this off I have listed a few that I know of, but please do let me know of other family members who we can recognise for their talents, so that we can all share in the creativity of our cousins.

Actors:

[Pip Brignall](#) is an English actor, born in Peru, where his parents Claire and Simon are back working with the church. He is currently producing a play about Conchita Cintron, the Latin bullfighter, and in discussions with various venues and festivals in South America for a tour in 2019.





Polly Misch graduated last year from RADA and recently completed her first professional tour with Jane Austin's Emma. All the family went to see her last night at the Cambridge Arts Theatre.

Artists:

Tom Misch (her younger brother) is having great success with his Tom Misch Band, filling a Somerset House concert this July, and has a great new single about living "South of the River" in London. Middle sister Laura Misch often accompanies him on sax, and released her own album earlier this year. Charlie Gibbs, Sarah's daughter plays drums and vocals in a Brighton band called Jipsy Magic, and got married last year to Holly.

Artisans:

Thomas Crawley produces stunning Bespoke Furniture Designs in Herefordshire

Authors:



Tony Gibbs has released his first novel, Soul Mates - "seamless integration of science fact and supposition" as a motoring accident changed everything for Tom. Available on Amazon
Tony mentioned that his nephew Ian (son of Raymond) had just launched a novel on Amazon, but I don't have any details.

Tracking our Italian cousins

An Italian who contacted me about Gibbs gravestones that he had uncovered in the overgrown abandoned English cemetery in Genoa peeked my curiosity about merchant connections there, so when Juliet and I recently made a trip to the lakes in Northern Italy I took the opportunity to investigate.

Constance Gibbs, the only daughter of Charles Gibbs who lived much of his life and died in Genoa, married Captain Giulio Adamoli. Giulio fought with Garibaldi, travelled widely, was a Senator, and represented Italy for his last 20 years in Cairo, where he died. We visited his family "castle" in Besozzo, now converted to apartments, and had lunch at a mountain refuge high above Lake Maggiore dedicated to their favourite grandson Giulio Adamoli De Grandi who died at 20 in a climbing accident on the sea cliffs at Portofino.

I have since had exchanges with a guy that used to play in the grounds of the castle with another grandson; he has sent me various photos and stories, but it seems that the only descendant left is an elderly great-granddaughter in Rome whose father was a drug addict who deserted the family.

Nicholas Gibbs has researched various family connections; he took a DNA test which indicated a fascinating DNA chart of Italians with the same DNA; the result of the Gibbs presence on the peninsula?

Look on the Bright side

Prim Bright from Australia has been investigating the Gibbs and Bright family connections; next year 2018, marks the 200th anniversary of the closely entwined business and family relationships.

Richard Bright of Ham Green, Somerset and George Gibbs Snr. of Redland, Glos., were friends and well established West Indian Merchants when they decided, in 1818, to bring Richard's son Robert into the firm, which by 1839 became Gibbs Bright & Co. It was by 1963 the largest trading partnership in the Southern Hemisphere with interests in mining, shipping, pastoral activities (with several million acres of sheep and cattle stations), insurance, building materials, timber and merchant banking.

The young Robert Bright, aged 23, and George Gibbs, 39, based in Bristol, took over their fathers' trading business, expanded into Australia with branches in Melbourne, Brisbane and Sydney, as well as Dunedin in New Zealand. The company was owned by the two families until the 1980 acquisition by HSBC. During these years there were many working visits by Gibbs family members to Australia and Bright family members to London.

Inevitably such a close association between two families resulted in marriages which brought delight to their parents. Robert and Caroline (née Tyndall) Bright's daughter Isabel Marianne married the Rev. John Lomax Gibbs in 1860. Their daughter Isabel Alice Gibbs married Professor Dudley Julius Medley in 1890 and their son married his third cousin Emmeline, the daughter of Alice Clara Franck Newbolt née Bright in 1916. Furthermore, James Franck Bright's daughter Emily Gertrude married John Arthur Gibbs in 1902, and many other interconnecting marriages involving the Tyndalls and the McCauslands.

Future of the Gibbs Family Tree

I noted in my previous that Gibbs Family Tree website has become outdated and inflexible. I have now

set up an alternative website for development and testing which I intend to switch over to when all family information is copied over and sponsors happy for me to do so. It has several advantages:

- easy for me to update and add new pages and features to
- displays better on mobile devices (phones, tablets etc.)
- based on commercial software which is frequently enhanced and maintained
- tree provides web privacy for living persons (only family with a login can see photos and info)
- will be much cheaper to run in the long term than our current bespoke tree

The new tree is at www.gibbsfamilytree.com (the current tree is at www.gibbsfamilytree.co.uk)

You can login to the family tree (not main website) with username: `gft_view` and password: `gibbs@gft`

John Francis Gibbs from Queensland, Australia, send me this photo of his Great-Grandfather Rev. John Lomax Gibbs with all the family from around 1910. You

can find "[whose there](#)" [details here!](#)

I encourage you to send me copies of old family gatherings with the people identified. There are quite a few family groups on the site now.

And of course portraits / headshot photos of individuals bring them alive on the tree display.



Gibbs Family Tree Trivia

Joe Gibbs wrote from the stronghold of the offshoot Clan Gibbs at Belladrum Estate, near Inverness. It might amuse sasenach Gibbsees to know that there is a Belladrum tartan which can be worn by any Gibbs who so desires. Kilts for boys and mini kilts, maxi kilts for girls, scarves at <https://www.nakedhighlander.com>

I recently acquired from [AbeBooks](#) a first edition of the Pedigree of the Family of Gibbs, printed in 1890, signed by Henry Martin Gibbs for F. George. Where has this book lain for the last century, but it's now back in Gibbs hands!

Next edition I'll investigate whether Gibbs family benefited from or were involved in slavery?



Riding JOGLE Britain End to End

A cheeky addendum to this newsletter, as I set off from John O'Groats, with 4 retired friends from Cambridge, to cycle to Lands End (the JOGLE), unsupported and carrying all our own kit. 1,150 miles against the prevailing winds; we are hoping that the Scottish elements in September will be gentle on us.

You can find out more about us, the CamJOGLEs, follow our training and journeys progress, and support us at www.camjoglers.co.uk

To encourage us on our way we hope to raise money for charities; World Bicycle Relief, who mobilise people in rural Africa through the power of bicycles.



Many thanks for your support ... Mike

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