Customs, traditions & glorious folk song ALL YEAR ROUND

Old Hampshire remedies to keep you healthy in winter, from members of the Hampshire Federation of Women's

For stiffness: apply hedgehog fat $For \ chilb lains: apply \ primrose$

To prevent colds: rub a tallow candle on the

For fits: fry some mice whole and eat them or alternatively the livers of 40 green frogs prepared and dried.

Source: It Happened in Hampshire - Doings, Sayings, and Interests, past and present, (1936), Compiled and arranged by Winfred G. Beddington and Elsa B. Christy, Hampshire

FEBRUARY

St Valentine's Day, 14 February, is said to be the day birds begin courting - and not just birds, according to this Hampshire saying:

When the elder leaf is as big as a mouse's ear, that when a man is at his most dangerous.



Museums Service



FEBRUARY/MARCH

Pancake Day is Shrove Tuesday, the day before Ash Wednesday which begins the forty days of fasting for Easter, during which the consumption of eggs and butter was forbidden. So pancakes were made to use up these supplies. Pancake races are held at Beaulieu, Gravshott and Fareham



The Tichborne Dole, Lady Day, 25 March



This traditional charity dates back to the 12th century. On her death bed. Lady Mabella Tichborne asked that a donation of flour be made to the poor each year. Local legend is that her husband, Sir Roger, did not approve of ner charity, and agreed to the bequest on condition that



Photo: ©Homer Sykes www.homersykes.com

the Dole consisted only of produce from land that she was able to encircle while carrying a burning torch. Mabella is said to have crawled around a 23-acre field (still called 'The Crawls') before the torch went out. The Dole is still delivered today. Adults from the parishes of Tichborne and Cheriton are entitled to claim one gallon of flour, and children half a gallon. The Tichbornes are among the most prominent English Catholic families and were often in trouble in the 16th century. Chideock Tichborne was executed for his part in the 'Babington

Rogationtide begins in the sixth week after Easter and culminates in Ascension Day, 'Holy Thursday', forty days after Easter Day. It is the traditional time for Beating the Bounds, still carried out by several Hampshire parishes. The original purpose was to confirm parish boundaries. The clergy and leading men of the parish went round the boundaries, accompanied by children, usually boys. The marker stones were beaten, usually with willow rods, and sometimes the children were beaten to make sure they remembered

MAY

3 May Day

Many May Day customs are celebrated at sunrise. Wickham Morris Dancers gather at dawn to dance in Wickham Square



Photo: © Wickham Morris

Wickham Horse Fair

Wickham's annual horse fair. held in late May, is a big event and an important gathering for the gypsy community. Photo: © Chris Moorhouse

May Day singing from the Bargate, Southampton

May Day has long been greeted in Southampton by singing from the top of the Bargate, most recently by the choir of King Edward VI school (up to 2004). Photo: © urban75.org.photos

JUNE

5 Aunt Sally, Botley



The Aunt Sally is a traditional game often seen at fêtes and village gatherings in and around June and has been recorded in the Botley area. An Aunt Sally was originally a figurine head of an old woman with a clay pipe in her mouth and the object was for players to throw sticks at the head in order to break the pipe. This is a rare survival of the Aunt Sally figure in the Hampshire County Museum collections.



Photos: © Hampshire County Museums Service

(HAMPSHIRE FOLKLORE)

You may safely shear your sheep When the elder blossoms peep.

24 June is the **Feast of St John the Baptist**, and one of the old Quarter Days when rents became due and servants were hired. Quarter days occur every three months close to the two solstices and two equinoxes starting with Lady Day (25 March), then Midsummer Day (24 June), Michaelmas (29 September), and ending with Christmas (25 December).

6 St Swithun's Day, 15 July Saint Swithun was Bishop of Winchester from 852 to his death on 2 July 862 and was later adopted as

there. Today he is known for the proverb which says that if it rains on St Swithun's Day, it will rain for forty days. The traditional explanation is

Skull of St Swithun at Evreux. Photo: © Dr John Crook info@john-crook.com that Swithun wished to be buried out of doors, so that he could enjoy the rain, 'the sweet gentle rain', and when his body was moved to an indoor shrine in 971 he indicated his displeasure with a deluge. His remains were later split between a number of smaller shrines

St Swithun's day if thou dost rain For forty days it will remain St Swithun's day if thou be fair For forty days 'twill rain no more

and his skull is at Evreux Cathedral in Normandy.

AUGUST

Wearing the Rose on Minden Day, 1 August

Minden, fought on 1 August 1759, was among the battles of the Seven Years War, and the scene of an unprecedented (and unrepeated) feat of arms in which infantry attacked cavalry without support and were victorious. It was a kind of successful Charge of the Light Brigade. According to the usually-accepted story, six British infantry regiments were ordered to advance 'on beat of drum' against the cream of the French cavalry, in co-ordination with their own cavalry and artillery. But they misinterpreted the order to mean 'with beat of drum' and advanced alone. This should have been suicidal, but the regiments drove the cavalry from



The 1st Batallion The King's Own Scottish Borderers and the red roses in their caps.

the field, engaged and defeated the French foot guards and then marched back to their own lines. Various stories say they marched through a rose garden when going into action, or picked wild roses from the nedgerows, or picked the flowers on the way back, and stuck them in their hats. Since then, the Minden Regiments have worn the rose. The 37th Foot which fought at Minden became the Royal Hampshire Regiment, now merged into the Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment, and they carry on this proud tradition.

Sea Cricket on The Bramble Bank

Cricket Match. Photo: © Mike Jone

The Bramble Bank is a Solent sandbar which is uncovered at low tides and is the bizarre location for an annual cricket match which started in the 1950s. The opposing teams come from the Island Sailing Club (Isle of Wight) and the Hamble-based Royal Southern Yacht Club. They arrive by boat, wait for the tide to expose the 200 metre 'pitch' and immediately leap from their boats to erect the wicket and temporary drinks bar .The teams usually play for **CHURCH** about an hour.



The Knights of the Green, Southampton Southampton's **Old Bowling Green** is reputed to date from 1299 and to be the oldest in the world. Every



'knighthood' competition is held when members play for a silver medal. The winner becomes a 'Knight of the Green'. is

ANDOVER

ROMSEY

LYNDHURST

Beaulieu

SOUTHAMPTON

addressed as 'sir', and officiates in future

and tail coat.

OCTOBER

St Mary the Virgin, Twyford

Photo: ©Steve Rigg

Local tradition

states that early

in the 18th century

William Davis was lost

when suddenly the bells

of Twyford church rang

out. Hearing their

location and realising that he was heading in

the wrong direction he

into a deep quarry. In

RINGWOOD

stopped and discovered

that he was about to plummet

gratitude, Davis bequeathed

provided for the

bell ringers.

NEW MILTON

£1 for a peal of bells to be

rung annually with a feast

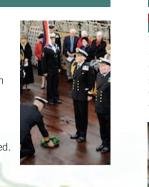
and riding through fog

Bellringer's Feast,

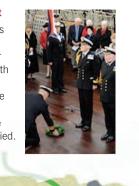
knighthood competitions dressed in top hat

10 Trafalgar Day, Gosport On **21 October**, Naval Officers gather on the Quarterdeck of HMS Victory to mark Trafalgar Day and to remember the death of their greatest hero, Lord Nelson. Wreaths are laid at the exact spot where Nelson was shot and in the Cockpit on the Orlop deck below, where he di Photo: © 'The News'. Portsmouth

OCTOBER Titchfield Carnival, last Sunday in month Titchfield Bonfire Boys Society continue an old tradition - the Titchfield Village Carnival. Established in 1880 the Carnival has grown to become one of the longest surviving carnivals in the South. From midday until **9pm** it features a parade through the village, a funfair, a variety of floats, fireworks, and a bonfire.

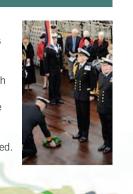










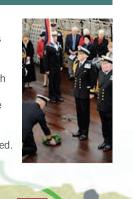


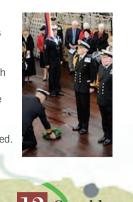






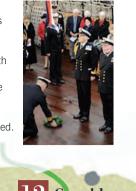








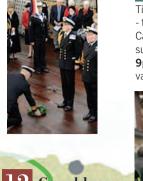
















WINCHESTER 2 Tichborne Cheriton

Botley 43

Titchfield

FAREHAM













Overton

A303





ALTON

PETERSFIELD

OHAVANT

WATERLOOVILLE

PORTSMOUTH

Spithead

SHANKLIN

VENTNOR

been revived and can be seen over the Christmas period. Otterbourne Mummers give one their play, dating from 1857, on the Sunday

OCTOBER

Norman Conquest originally designed to protect the

landowner and fix rights and standards for tenants.

Court Leet meetings are legacies of laws dating from the

They were held by the Lord of the Manor or his Steward

who appointed the Bailiffs and other minor officials and

petty transgressions. Southampton still has the right to

Hampshire has a strong tradition of

mumming plays, and ninety-four

locations for traditional

Christmas Mummers have

been recorded. Although

many groups died out

century some have

in the early 20th

had the power to enquire into and punish crimes or

judge crimes but not to punish.

DECEMBER

12 Christmas Mumming

8 Southampton Court Leet, 29 October

hefore Christmas. Others, such as Crookham and Overton (pictured) perforn at several locations on Boxing Day. The Crookham Mummers can be seen outside the George and Lobster pub at **noon on Boxing Day**, to enact a play that has been performed in Crookham village since 1880. Overton Mummers perform their ancient play outside The

Greyhound pub at 2pm on Boxing Day. There are also many Morris dance Grayshott sides that perform local plays over the





NON-CALENDAR CUSTOMS

naiden's crowns/garlands

Maidens' Garlands, Abbotts Ann, near Andover



in the parish, usually but not exclusively female, who had led an unblemished life and had died unmarried. The garland was carried over the coffin at the funeral and then hung in the church, where it stayed until it rotted away. Originally made of fresh flowers in more recent times they have been made of white paper. Among the forty-three extant virgins' crowns at Abbotts Ann are a garland for a boy of 15 who died in the last year of the Great War and the most recent for Florence Jane Wisewell who died in 1953.

14 The Wayfarer's Dole, Winchester

Weary pilgrims might find food and drink at the St Cross Hospital and Almshouse of Noble Poverty in Winchester. This is a 12th century foundation famous The Wayfarer's Dole for its Wayfarer's

Photo: © David F. Gallagher Dole. Today's Dole, comprising bread and ale is still given at the Porter's Gate to visitors who request it.



1624 'John Barlevcorn' first registered.

Mozart in London.

Civil Wars 1642-1651. Execution of Charles I.

YEARS FOLK MUSIC **1557** Stationers' Company begins to keep register of ballads

1893 English County Songs published by Lucy Broadwood and John Fuller Maitland. First attempt at a national folk Mary Tudor queen. Loss of English colony at Calais. song book.

> 1898 Folk Song Society founded by Kate Lee and A.P. Graves **1899** Folk Song Society publishes first Journal. Queen Victoria dies. Edward VII on throne.

1886-91 William Henry Long begins collecting song words on

Baring-Gould, Sussex Songs by Lucy Broadwood

English Folk Songs by William Barrett

Isle of Wight. Songs of the West published by Sabine

(daughter of Henry), Traditional Tunes by Frank Kidson

Rhapsodies by Ralph Vaughan Williams, Green Bushes

by Percy Grainger. Mary Neal's Esperance Club begins to

give public performances of folk songs and morris

1907 English Folk Song: Some Conclusions published by

Herbert MacIlwaine. First book to give detailed

1911 English Folk Dance Society founded by Cecil Sharp.

instructions on morris dancing

Cecil Sharp. First theoretical book on English folk song.

1909 Last volume of Folk Songs from Somerset published by

First volume of Morris Book published by Cecil Sharp and

1660s-70s Samuel Pepys makes private ballad collection. 1903 Cecil Sharp and Ralph Vaughan Williams begir **Restoration places Charles II on throne** 1765 Reliques of Ancient English Poetry published by 1904 Kate Lee dies. Folk Song Society re-founded by Lucy Thomas Percy. First printed ballad collection

Customs, traditions and

glorious folk song

1905-6 George Gardiner begins collecting in Hampshire. Percy Grainger begins collecting in Lincolnshire 1780s Robert Burns collects songs for Scots Musical

French Revolution begins. Revolutionary and Napoleonic Wars. 1802-3 Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border published by Sir

1780s-1830s Romantic Movement in literature and music

1787-1803 Scots Musical Museum published

Battle of Waterloo. 1820 Oldest folk singers collected from by George Gardiner

Surrey and Sussex. Folk song collecting begins in Russia

1843 Old English Songs published by John Broadwood. Queen Victoria on throne. Nationalist Movement in music. 1852 George Gardiner born.

1932 Folk Song Society and English Folk Dance Society merge to form present English Folk Dance and Song Second World War. **1878** Nursery Rhymes and Country Songs published by M.H.

First World War.

1910 George Gardiner dies.

1948 Last folk singer collected from by George Gardiner dies. King George VI on throne.

Acknowledgements

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The Nobleman (or Squire) and the Thresherman The Unquiet Grave

The Sailor and His True Barbara Allen

The Rainbow The Foggy Dew John Barleycorn



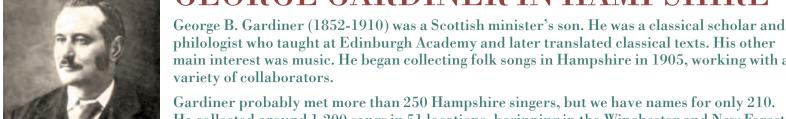
HE SONGS GEORGE GARDINER found in Hampshire were the usual mixture of ballads and lyrics collected all over southern England. However, Hampshire is a maritime county with two major ports, so as might be expected songs about sailors predominate. 'A Sailor's Life' is about a girl who goes to sea in search of her sweetheart ('Sweet William'), and drowns herself when she learns of his death. 'The Sailor and his True Love' is a 'token' ballad in which the girl gives the sailor a ring as a token of her love, and has a rousing refrain popular wherever folk songs are sung. 'The Rainbow' or 'Captain Ward' is about a pirate from the days of James I. Captain Ward was the pirate and the Rainbow the king's ship sent in pursuit of him.

Cross-dressing is a familiar accompaniment to songs about soldiers and sailors. Besides 'A Sailor's Life', there are a number of songs in which women disguise themselves in order to seek loved ones or simply lead a life away from the constraints of hearth and home. This matches historical reality. Women were aboard warships in many of the battles of Nelson's navy, and there are several instances of female soldiers whose sex was only discovered when they were wounded Cross-dressing is represented here by 'The Female Highwayman'.

Popular ballads were 'Barbara

Allen', 'John Barleycorn' and 'The Unquiet Grave'. 'John Barleycorn', which is at least as old as the seventeenth century, tells the story of the barley grain from planting to its apotheosis as beer, and celebrates its victory over all those who treat it disrespectfully. 'Barbara Allen' is mentioned in Pepys' Diary, in 1666, but was first printed in 1780. 'The Unquiet Grave' is the story of a husband who dies young, and 'The Foggy Dew' is a tale of unhappy love. It may simply be a song of seduction, but there are as many interpretations of the title as there are versions. Important features of Hampshire folk song, though not represented among the most popular, included Robin Hood ballads and folk carols.





philologist who taught at Edinburgh Academy and later translated classical texts. His other main interest was music. He began collecting folk songs in Hampshire in 1905, working with a variety of collaborators.

Gardiner probably met more than 250 Hampshire singers, but we have names for only 210. He collected around 1,200 songs in 51 locations, beginning in the Winchester and New Forest areas, and tending to move north and eastwards. An unusual feature of

his work was his concentration on workhouses at a time when most collectors assumed that the natural home of folk song was the

Gardiner was still hard at work in 1909 when he became ill and returned to Scotland. He died from kidney disease at Melrose on 19 January 1910. Very little of his work was published in his lifetime or for many years afterwards. Fifty Hampshire songs appeared in the Folk Song Society's 1909 Journal, and in the same year sixteen songs were printed in a volume of the Folk Songs of England series. In the 1960s the Gardiner manuscripts were edited by Frank Purslow and four songbooks beginning with Marrowbones (1965) published the material, along with songs collected by Henry Hammond in Dorset. *Marrowbones* has recently been re-published and it is intended to re-publish the other volumes.



IN THE TOWN

Nearly all the singers George Gardiner met in towns and cities were in workhouses, but in Alresford, Bournemouth, Petersfield, and Southampton he collected from people whose social standing ranged from butchers, bakers and candlestick makers to solid citizens. His Alresford contacts included the Eddolls



Henry Eddolls' baker's and grocer's shop in West Street, New Alresford. The singer and Town Crier Sidney Childs (1839-1911) worked for him.

family, originally from the Calne area of Wiltshire. George Eddolls (1867-?) was a butcher, and Henry Eddolls was a baker and grocer. He did not sing, but employed the singer Sidney Childs, who was also the Town Crier. In 'The Dean' area Gardiner met Thomas Hounsome, a blacksmith, and his neighbour William Henning, a publican. Henning was a colourful character, a staunch Conservative who in 1910 insisted on voting in the General Election. He was pushed to the polling station in his bathchair, from which he flew the Union Jack.



The singer Thomas Hounsome (1857-1948) with his wife Edith and sons Phillip and Henry outside his forge. The man on the left in the straw hat may be Hounsome's neighbour William Henning (1833-1912) landlord of 'The Dean' pub. Photo © Nicholas Rea

Among singers in Petersfield was William Albery (1834-1915), a 'taxidermist and hairdresser' who was a prominent local 'character'. Some town and city people were much higher up the social scale, and Gardiner probably met them through giving lectures about his work. Bournemouth singers (Bournemouth was then in Hampshire) included the physician and surgeon George Graham (1850-1928), who contributed several excellent comic songs, and Alice Read (1855-1916?), who with her husband kept the Westbourne Hotel at 45 Poole Road. It was probably through giving a lecture in Southampton that Gardiner met Hannah Billett (1828-1923), wife of a prominent wireworker whose shop was at 110 High Street, and Fanny Dawes (1839-1919?), widow of a 'professor of music'.

IN THE **COUNTRYSIDE**

George Gardiner searched for folk songs in a different way to that of most other collectors. It was assumed that folk song was the music of the countryside, so most established a base in a rural area and tried to establish a network of contacts among local notables - clergymen, landowners, farmers, schoolmasters - who would direct them to the singers. Then they explored the area by

Gardiner had no such fixed base, and did not use the bicycle, perhaps because of poor health. He moved around, staying in hotels and having himself driven by horse carriage to a likely location in the countryside, from whence he walked from place to place. As he wrote: 'People sometimes ask me how I discover my singers. Well, I simply ask anybody. If I am driving to Micheldever or Lyndhurst, I tell the driver what I am



The Tichborne Arms, Photo: Hampshire Record Office

doing and ask him to name anyone that can sing an old-world song. If he cannot help, I go to the blacksmith or the innkeeper, who know the neighbourhood as well as most men.' Publicans he met included Benjamin Arnold (1830-1917), landlord of the Chestnut Horse pub in Easton, near Winchester, and Lydia Burke (1858-?), who kept the Tichborne Arms in Tichborne. As they themselves sang, they were presumably sympathetic to folk song, and would recommend their customers or neighbours. The singers William Mason (1854-1922) and William Stratton (1844-1913) lived near Benjamin Arnold and appear on the same page in the census return. Other pub staff were less enthusiastic about singing. Gardiner was directed to William Randall (1845-1911) in Hursley because the ex-sailor

ometimes made 'a errible noise' in the

The blacksmith would know farmers who brought horses in for shoeing, and in the age before global warming, his shop was one of the few places where it was comfortable to gather out of doors in winter. It was as much a social centre as the pub. blacksmiths included

Moses Blake (1827-1917) was parish clerk of Emery Down for over fifty years. The daughter with him is Jane, who also sang William Clark (1833-?) to Gardiner. Photo: Hampshire Record and W.J. Ellis (1858-?)

of Farringdon. Other local notabilities were themselves singers or might be able to help in the search. Moses Blake of Emery Down had been parish clerk and sexton since the church was founded in 1864, and his brother George Blake (1827-1916) was the most prolific singer Gardiner met. People like these led him to shepherds, woodmen, farm labourers, and carpenters like Richard Hall of Avington. Gardiner's greatest success was in the Preston Candover/Axford area, where he collected 164 items

from twelve people. Sarah Goodyear (1834-1915), wife of an agricultural labourer, gathered singers in her home, and herself contributed forty-one items. We have photographs of some of these people and know something about them through the remarkable collection of local folklore made by Mrs Cosier, now in Hampshire Record Office.





Photos Hampshire Record Office

Moses Mills (1826-1916) and Daniel Wigg (1825-1910) lived either side of the Purefoy Arms pub in Preston Candover. Moses is reputed to have had a cat which poached rabbits for him. One of Daniel's songs was 'God Bless the Master of this House', to the tune of 'It Came upon the Midnight Clear'.



chard Hall (1856-1931) was a arpenter living in the lodge house f Avington Park. Here he is earing the smock of a funeral II-bearer, Photo © Hall family

e photograph below, shows him n his five sons. Gardiner was so pressed by his singing that he troduced Hall to Sabine Baring Gould, another folk song collector. hoto © Hall family





Randall (1860-1934) (right - centre) were wives of farm labourers in the Preston Candover area. Gardiner noted that Martha had 'a rich contralto voice' and 'a strong instinct for the beautiful in music'. Elizabeth Randall is shown with her grandchildren, daughter and son in law Enos White, who was still singing in the 1950s and was recorded by Bob Copper.

AN EDWARDIAN PASSION



The first person known to have collected in Hampshire is William Henry Long, who published the words of forty-three songs from the Isle of Wight in his Dictionary of Dialect (1886). Lucy Broadwood, later to be Secretary of the Folk Song Society, collected from one singer on the Isle of Wight in 1893. George Gardiner was assisted by Henry Hammond, a former colleague at Edinburgh Academy, the composer Henry Balfour Gardiner, and the organists and music teachers Charles Gamblin, John Guyer, and Duncan Hume. Ralph Vaughan Williams had collected from a Bournemouth lady in 1902, and returned in 1909 to accompany

Gardiner in re-visiting some of his singers and make phonograph recordings. Other collectors working in Hampshire at the same time included E. T. Sweeting, organist at Winchester College, Heywood Sumner, who collected and published eleven Hampshire folk songs, entitled The Besom-Maker and other Country-Folk Songs in 1888, and Alice E. Gillington, who worked with gypsies in the New Forest and published Songs of the Open Road in 1911.

IN THE WORKHOUSE

George Gardiner met 98 of his 210 identifiable singers in sixteen Hampshire workhouses, those of Alresford, Andover, Basingstoke, Catherington, Christchurch (then in Hampshire), Fareham, Fordingbridge, Hartley Wintney, Kingsclere, Lyndhurst Road, Petersfield. Portsmouth, Ringwood, Southampton, Whitchurch, and

Workhouse populations varied from small - there were only seventeen inmates of Catherington when the 1901 census was taken - to the very large urban



Portsmouth and Southampton ontaining hundreds of people. By the early 1900s workhouses

institutions of

had lost their reputation as places of terror and were taking on the roles of old peoples' homes and hospitals. Portsmouth Workhouse (where Gardiner collected from more than thirty people) had an infirmary capable of accommodating more than 1,000 and some of the most modern equipment, including an X-ray unit. Workhouse masters were sometimes co-operative. Most of the collecting at Portsmouth was done in the garden, while the master of Hartley Wintney himself wrote down song words



Portsmouth's Portsea Workhouse

Rob Mills. Photo Vic Smith

Most workhouse inmates were down on their luck. Thomas Arter, Master of Basingstoke Workhouse, recorded that one man forced to seek refuge in 'the house' when affairs went badly for him during an economic depression had gone on to a professional and political career in Australia, and had remained in touch. Some were very old people no longer capable of living alone, like Esther Newman (1820-1908) who Gardiner described as 'very neurotic'. She thought that Gardiner had come to kill her. Some simply could not cope with life outside, like David Marlow (1833-1911), who was first admitted to Basingstoke Workhouse in 1839 and took up permanent residence in 1883. Thomas Arter noted disapprovingly that he came from a family of 'hereditary paupers', but Gardiner described him as 'a fine old gentleman'. Others, like William Todd, the gallant old soldier, were only in the workhouse because its infirmary offered the only hospital accommodation available

NTHE 1950s, Bob Copper, from the famous Susser

folk singing family, carried on from where George

Gardiner had left off when he ran the H.H. Inn in

Cheriton, collecting from descendants of Gardiner's

community and in folk clubs.

Contrary to popular belief, the workhouse was not a prison. Inmates were given day leave at the discretion of the Master. Or, if they had friends to go to, they could discharge themselves and be re-admitted without penalty. Charles Taylor (1831-1920), a singer who was an old soldier, often left Kingsclere Workhouse literally for the weekend

SOLDIERS AND SAILORS

At least five of George Gardiner's singers had served in the armed forces. James Bounds, William Randall, and Thomas Stone served in the Navy while Charles Taylor and William Todd were in the Army. The outstanding military success was Todd, who enlisted in the Royal Artillery in 1847. He was sent to the Crimea, and at the Battle of Inkerman in 1854 helped drag two field guns into position, then served them under heavy fire which killed or wounded seventeen men around him. This outstanding act of courage and leadership won him the Distinguished Conduct Medal and the French Legion of Honour. Then he served in the Indian Mutiny, and on retirement from the Army in 1873 was Master Gunner and commander of a coastal battery. Later, he worked in the ordnance stores in Portsmouth Dockyard. Charles Taylor's career in the Rifle Brigade was less distinguished and he ended in Kingsclere Workhouse

William Randall, who joined the Navy in 1869, never rose above being a stoker in ironclads and transport ships, but went round the world in HMS Serapis and told Gardiner about fights with American sailors in Japanese ports. Later, he went blind and earned his living by keeping poultry, knowing all his birds by touch.

James Bounds and Thomas Stone were among Queen Victoria's bad bargains. James Bounds's naval career began well as boy seaman and trumpeter, but he deserted on his first sea voyage on the corvette Volage and spent nearly two years on the waterfront at Montevideo before, apparently, giving himself up and returning to England on the ironclad Resistance. The Navy promptly got rid of him, but Bounds did not learn his lesson about his unsuitability for military life. He promptly enlisted in the 69th Regiment and had not been there long when he was court-martialled for a catalogue of offences and sent to prison. George Gardiner met him in Portsmouth Workhouse and wrote of him as 'a capital singer of chanties (i.e. sea shanties) - a man who literally throbbed with music.

Winterslow (Wiltshire). He also deserted on his first voyage, from the corvette Rattlesnake, but the Navy tried to keep him, possibly because he was a skilled man - a sailmaker. But continued bad conduct got him two courts-martial and spells in military prisons, after

ingers such as Enos White and Turp Brown. One of the regulars at the 'aitches' was

nstruction industry, Rob is well known for his fine unaccompanied solo singing of

nis father's songs and his own compositions, and is much in demand within the local

Bob Mills, a dairyman and champion cattle breeder described as 'a true singer of

His son Rob Mills carries on the tradition today. Recently retired from the

Since the 1970s Gwilym Davies and Paul Marsh have been collecting and

the knowledge about George Gardiner. Steve Jordan and Tim Radford have

conducted intensive studies of individual Gardiner singers.

researching Hampshire folk songs. More recently, Bob Askew has added greatly

which the Navy gave up. He was also in Portsmouth Workhouse when Gardiner met him.

expectations, and it was decided to adjourn

to 'the large pub near the Rufus Stone'. This

Chef, on the A31. The evening began well but

the landlord soon decided they were making

too much noise and disturbance and asked

that he was evicting one of the greatest

English musicians.

them to leave. One wonders whether he knew

must be the building which is now a Little

When Ralph Vaughan

Williams was thrown

In 1955 Ralph Vaughan

Williams was contacted

by a gypsy named Juanita

Berlin, who said she knew a version of 'The Raggle-

Taggle Gypsies', and met

yndhurst. The singing

and music did not come

up to Vaughan Williams's

her and others in an

encampment near

out of the pub

A further four men served as merchant seamen: George Bennett, George Lovett, George Kemsley, and Frederick White. Lovett and White were Australians stranded through bad luck and old age. Lovett, from South Australia, was in an institution called 'The Order of St Paul' in Alton and later in Winchester Workhouse. Frederick White was from Sydney and was laid up in Southampton Workhouse with an ulcerated leg. The perils of the sea were not reserved for men. Sabina



The troopship HMS Serapis, in which William Randa served for two and a half years. Photo: David Page, Navyphotos



HMS Rattlesnake from which Thomas Stone deserted. Photo: David Page, Navyphotos.

Ansell, Florence Cox, Catherine Curling and Martha Etheridge were widows of merchant seamen who probably never returned from a voyage, and they too ended up in the workhouse.

GYPSIES

George Gardiner's habit of looking for folk songs while walking through the countryside meant that he met a higher proportion of gypsies than some collectors. There was Jane Cole of Oakley and her sons Frank, Goliath, and Jesse. In 1901 they were living in a cottage, but in 1881 Albert Cole, a 'general dealer and hawker' headed the family and they were described as 'travellers'. Albert Doe of Bartley was also in a cottage in 1901 but in 1881 was living at Thorney Hill, Christchurch, 'in a tent', and described himself as a 'Traveller'. Susan Mitchell and the two James Rays, father and son, were found by the 1901 census taker at 'Caravans, Droxford Road' in Petersfield.

Chalk, Jane Challis, Thomas Childs, Sidney Chivers, Charles Cooper, George Curling, Catherine Dandridge, John Doulton/Dolton, Willia Edwards, Martha Etheridge, Maria Fennemore, Fred Frankham, Mr E Gamblin, Frank Garratt, William Saylor, Philip odfrey, William Goff or Gough, Dav Guvat, Robert Heather, Thomas Holland, Willian Iling, James Matthews, John Moore, Richard Newman, Esther Vicholson, Robert Norman, John Phillimore, Stepher hilpott, James ine or Pyne, Carolin Rolf, Joseph Rowles, Thomas Saville, Henry Shilley, Frank Wheatley, Alfred Wiltshire, Charles Wright, Mr

Eddols, George Hartley Wintn Basingstoke Fulford, Alfred Greening, John Gulliver, William Henning, Willian Winchester Hills, Mrs Jackson, John Basingstoke King, Henry King, Mary Alresford Mead, Charles Basingstoke Neil, James Read, Alice Stansbridge, Henry VILLAGES Basingstoke Alexander, William Hartley Wintne Arnold, Benjamin Southamptor Blake, Henry Blake, Moses Blake, Jane Bone, William Bowes/Bowers, 7 Braxton, Henry Southampto Bull, Susan Portsmouth Basingstoke

Brooman, Jame Brown, William Buckland, James Bull, Charles [elde Bull, Charles [young Bull, Samuel Burgess, William Burke, Lydia Carter, John Channon, Jame Childs, James Clark, Charles Clark, William Collier, George Collis, Julia An Collis, William Davey, William Digweed, George Ellis, William Joh Falconer or Faulkner, Gilmore, Thomas Godwin, Henry Goodyear, Alf Goodyear, Danie Goodyear, Sarah Hall, Charlotte Hall, Richard Harrington, Frank Haynes, Richard Hiscock, George Hiscock, James Hobbs, Charles Hobbs, Isaac Hopkins, Mrs

Chalton Lake, James Laney, Richard Lee, Henry Mason, William Matthews, Elizabeth Mills, William Munday, Alfred Munday, Martha Newman, Danie North, Mrs Oliver, Alfred Oliver, Charles Osman, Fred Phillips, Frank Purkiss, Henry Randall, Elizabet Randall, Henry Read, Richard Saunders, Mr Smith, William Stockley, William Stratton, William Stride, Alfred Titheridge, Richard Whiteland, George Wigg, Daniel Wilkins, William Bartley Titchfield Windsor, James Woodhouse, Charles Micheldever

SOLDIERS & SAILORS Royal Navy

Kemsley, George I Randall, William Stone, Thomas Taylor, Charles odd. William White, Frederick

Royal Navy

Basingstoke

Petersfield

Fordingbridge

Portsmouth

Hartley Wintne

Hartley Wintne

Portsmouth

Andover

Andover

Hartley Wintne

GYPSIES

Cole, Frank Cole, Jesse Doe, Albert Mitchell, Susar Ray, James (senior) Ray, James (junior)

TOWNS

Albery, William

Can you find your family name among these Hampshire singers? All were born between 1820 and 1880, and died between 1907

and 1948. How can you find out whether you are related? You

www.hgs-online.org.uk/ and the census information on

music collected from these people, visit www.efdss.org

WORKHOUSES

Winchester

Portsmouth

Alderman, Thoma:

Bateman, Charles

Ansell, Sabina

Bell, Charles

Bennett, George

Biggs, Charles

can start by using the Hampshire Genealogical Society's website

www.ancestry.co.uk For more information about the songs and

Southamptor St Denys Chidell, Mrs Cooper, Thomas A Southamptor Dawes, Frances Southampto Graham, Dr Georg Alresford Alresford Hounsome, Thom Alresford Alresford Lyndhurst Lyndhurst

Petersfield

Medstead

Bartley **Emery Dowr** Jpper Farringd Micheldever Marchwood Marchwood Marchwood Marchwood Twyford Ellisfield arringdor Wield Micheldever Farringdon Whitchurch Axford Axford

East Stratto Minstead Bartley Easton Axford Johnson, Jam Axford

Axford Axford Axford Axford Minstead Lower Bartley Stoney Cross Twyford

Preston Candove North Walthan **Bishops Sutton** Titchfield Easton Farringdon Preston Candove

Passfield