

**EXTENDED FAMILIES:** The BURROWS, FIFIELD, HUGHES, MEADOWS, SMITH, BROADY, HALFORD, A'BEAR, DAY, DANGERFIELD, COLLINS, CUMMINGS, HOPSON, MUMFORD, WESTBURY, HATHERALL, ROSE, WRIGHT, PHELPS, PAGE, CROMWELL and GOOLDING Greater Family:

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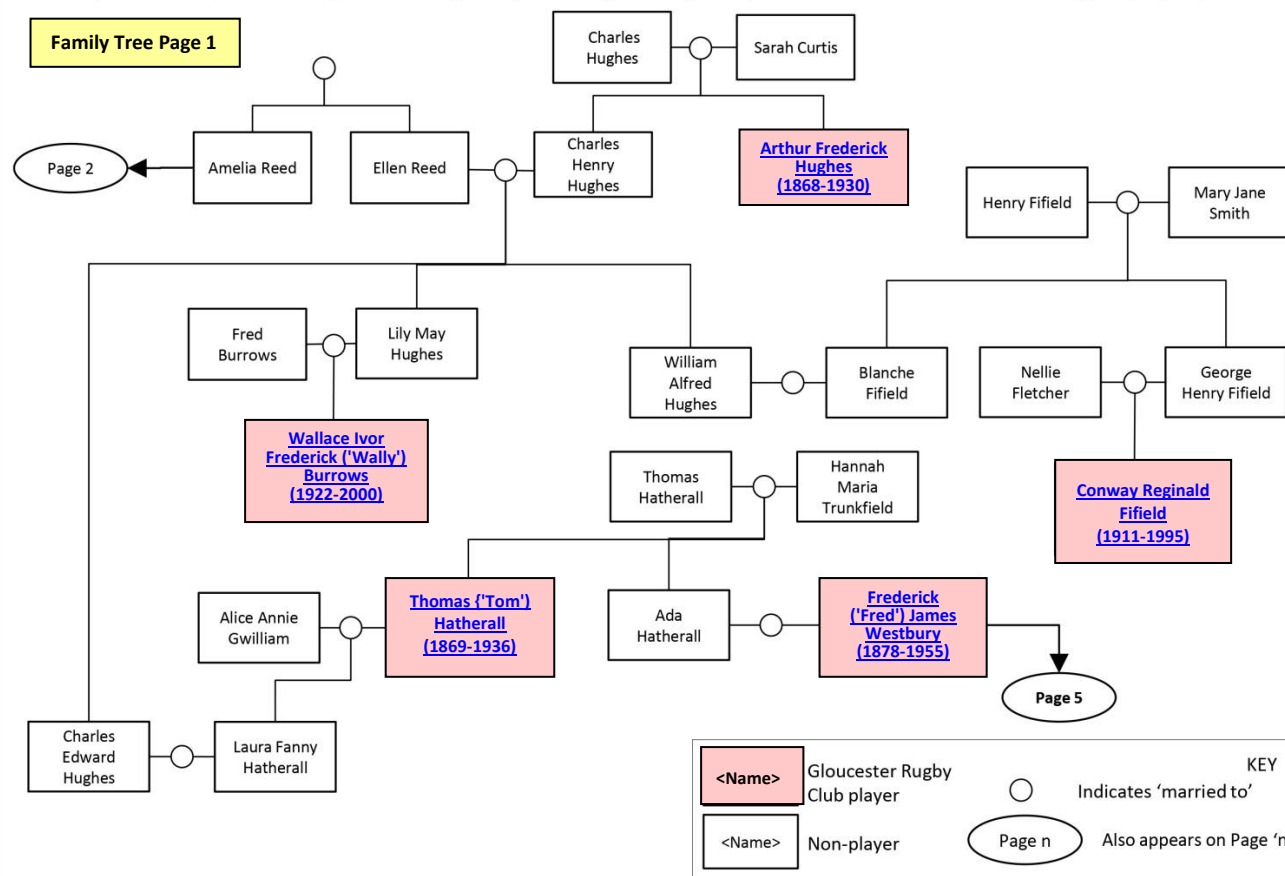
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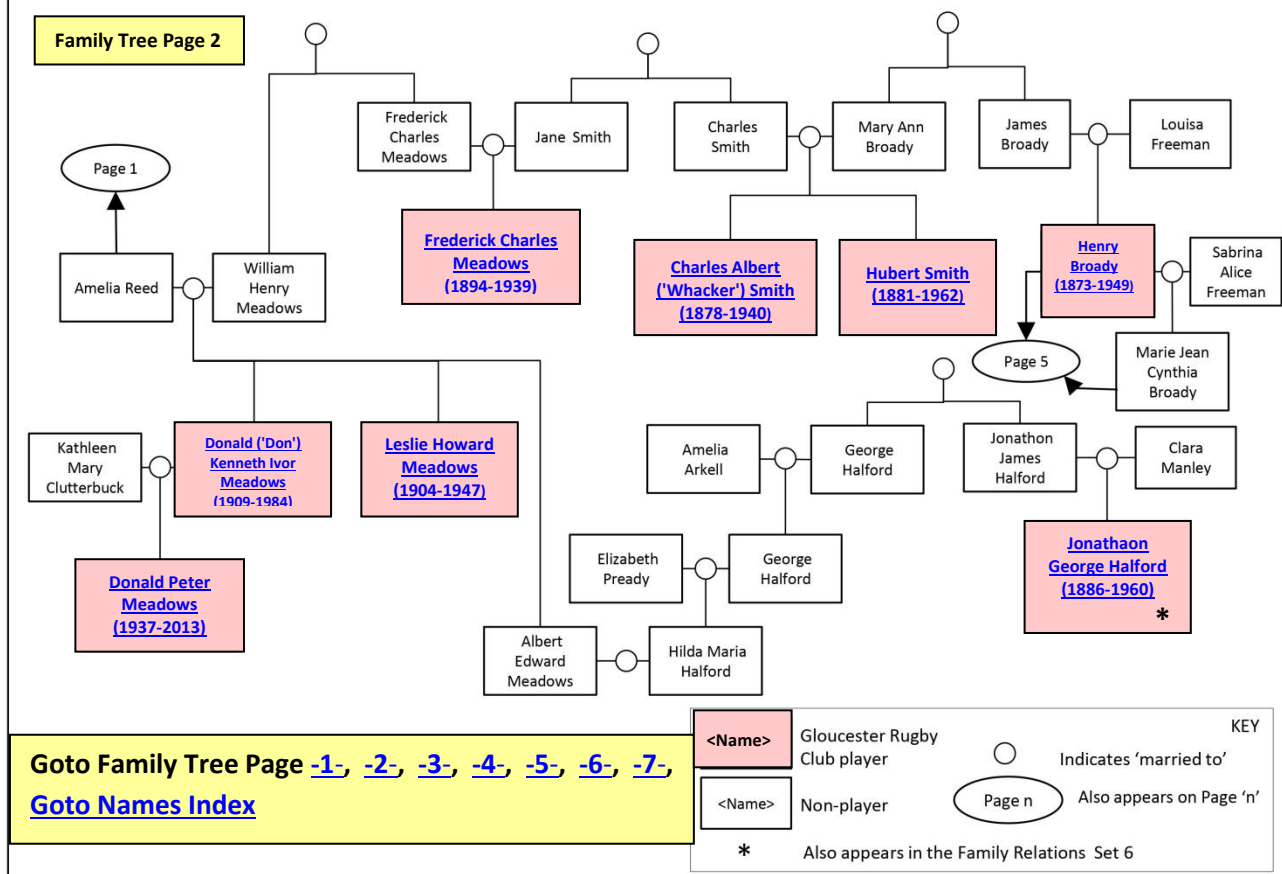
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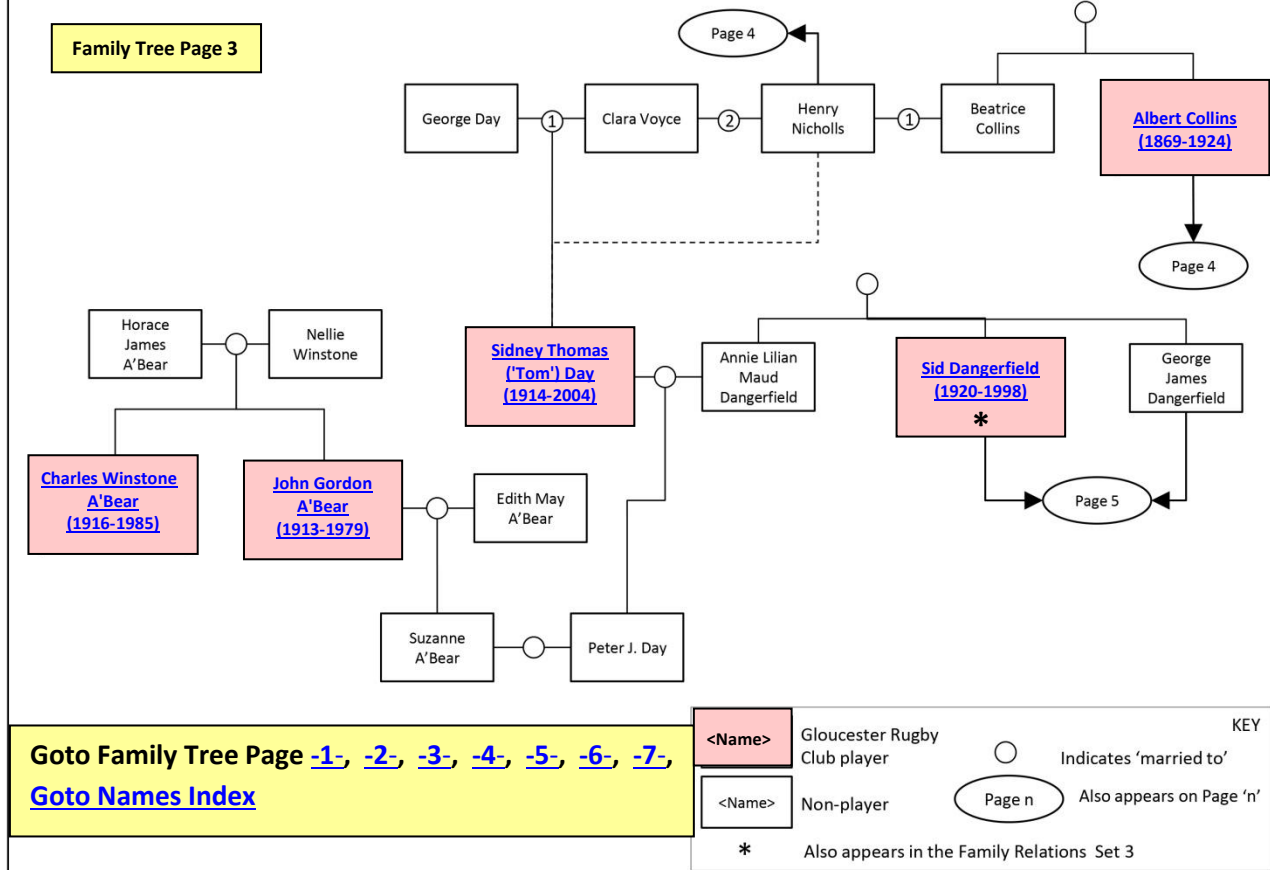
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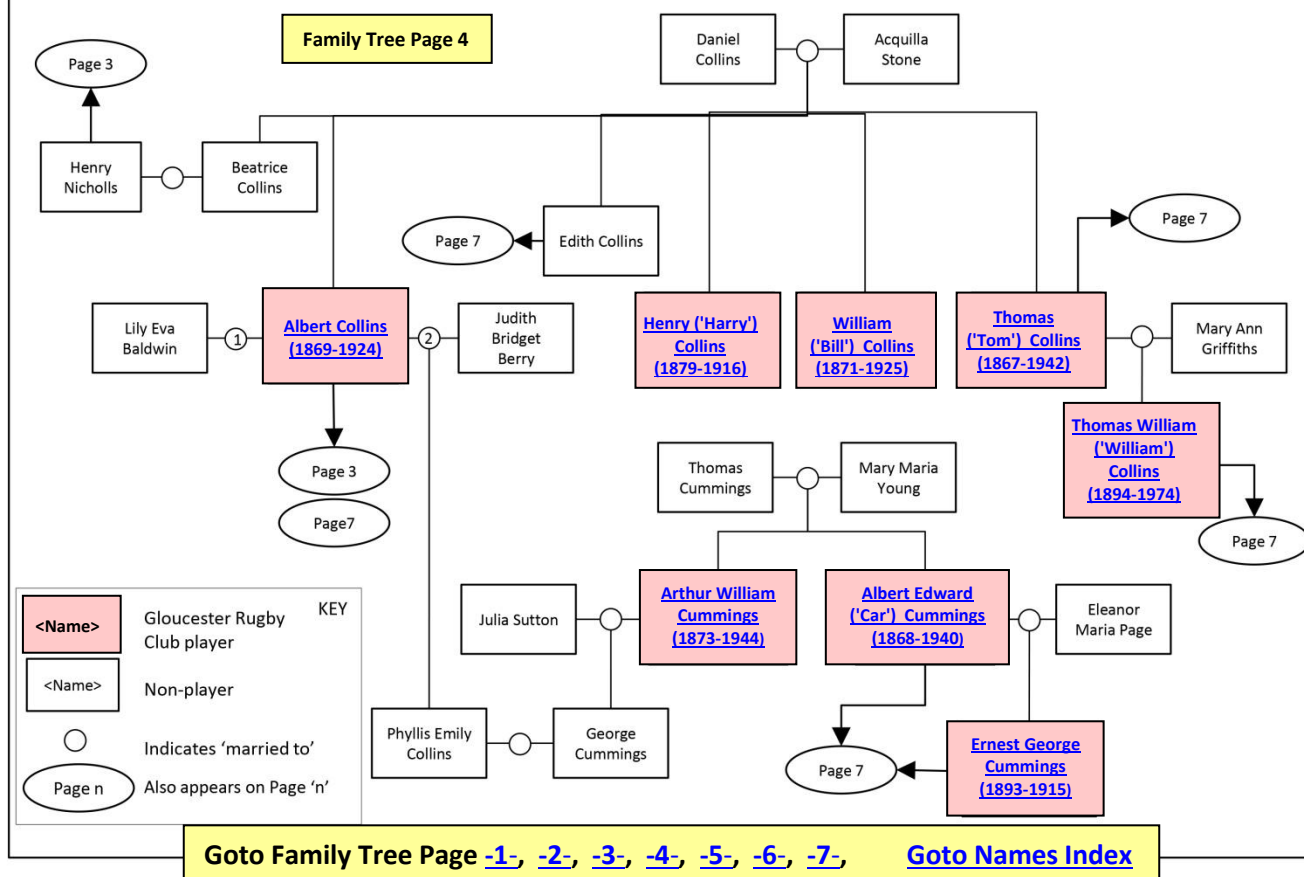
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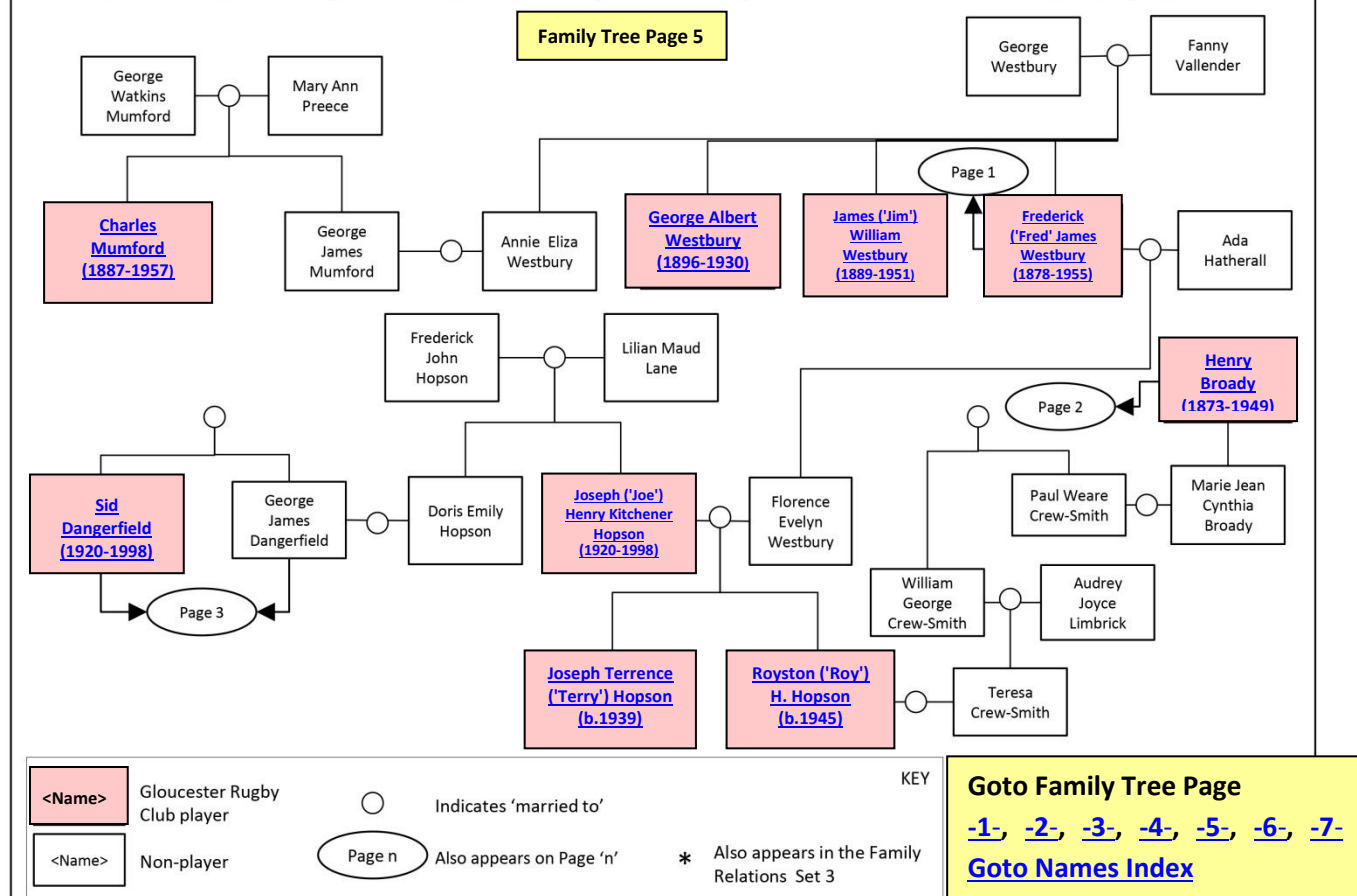
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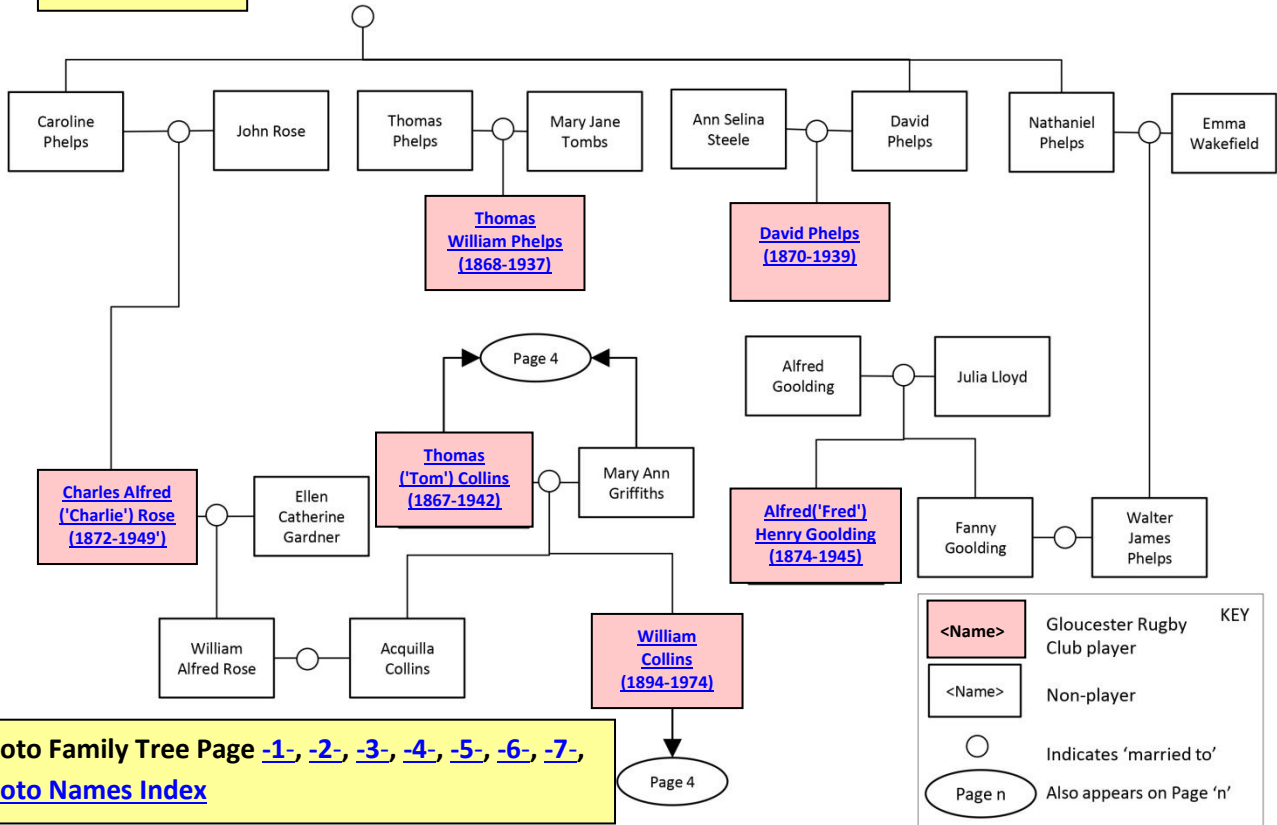


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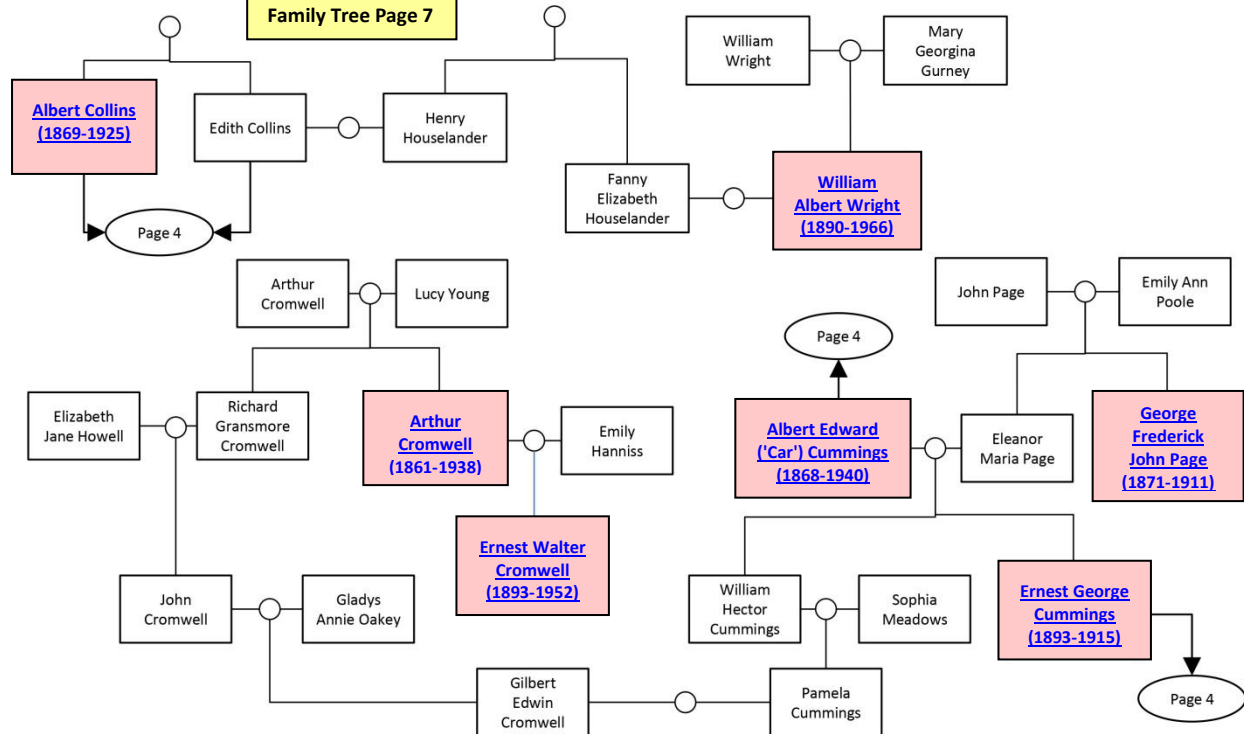
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**Wallace Ivor Frederick ('Wally') Burrows** was born in Cardiff on 5 January 1922 the son of Frederick Burrows (1889-1970) and Lilian May Burrows (née Hughes) (1898-1963); the couple had three children. Wally's mother was the niece of [Arthur Frederick Hughes](#) who, as Wally's grandfather's brother, was his great uncle. Wally's uncle, his mother's brother William Alfred Hughes was also the uncle by marriage of [Conway Reginald Fifield](#). Wally lived in Cardiff for a short period before the family returned to Gloucester. After leaving school he started an apprenticeship as Compositor at Gloucester Newspapers Limited. However the Second World War intervened and interrupted his apprenticeship. With the Government encouraging sporting fixtures as home front moral boost the Gloucester Rugby Club needed extra players to fulfil its fixtures as the regular players were called up by the Armed Forces. **Wally took this opportunity to represent Gloucester and played nine games in the 1940-41 season before joining the Royal Air Force (RAF).** After a year in training he was posted as Fitter-Armourer (Guns) to the Helwan Centre just outside Cairo, supporting RAF missions across North Africa. Here **Wally gained a reputation as an elusive fly half and in the regular Middle East Rugby Internationals took the opportunity to represent the land of his birth by appearing in the Wales XV.** His exploits on the rugby field were noted back in Gloucester and on his return he played a further 79 games for the Gloucester First XV between 1945 and 1952. He scored a total of 12 tries. He also played 47 games for the Gloucester Second XV between 1946 and 1952, scoring 13 tries. He was also awarded three Gloucestershire County caps in the 1948-49 season. In 1942 he had married Peggy Kathleen Organ at All Saints Church and the together they had two children. After finishing his apprenticeship Wally utilised his RAF skills and opened a garage in Barnwood. He died on 30 October 2000 aged 78 years; his wife, Peggy, had died seven years earlier in 1993. There is a [detailed profile of Wally Burrows](#) in the People/Player Profiles section of this website.

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#### The **FIFIELD** Family – **Conway Reginald Fifield**

**Conway Reginald Fifield** was born on 11 January 1911 at Gloucester, the son of George Henry Fifield (1880-1940), a Railway Worker, and Nellie Fifield (née Fletcher) (1880- 1957); the couple married in 1903 and had seven children. Conway's auntie Blanche who was his father's sister, married William Alfred Hughes and as such was also the auntie of [Wallace Ivor Frederick Burrows](#). Conway never married and lived either with his parents or finally with his brother Frank Fifield. He was primarily employed as a Labourer with the railways. **As a scrum half, Conway played in 142 matches for the Gloucester First XV between 1930 and 1937, scoring 14 tries and 15 games for the Gloucester Second XV scoring 4 tries. He was also awarded 9 Gloucestershire County caps between 1930 and 1932.** Conway whilst living at Sidney Street, Gloucesters, died on 13 July 1995 aged 84 years.

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**Arthur Frederick Hughes** was born in 1868 at Longford, the son of Charles Hughes (1836-1920), a Dock Labourer, and Sarah Hughes (née Curtis) (1838-1910). The couple had twelve children and the family lived in Alma Place, Gloucester and Hempstead. Arthur's brother Charles Henry Hughes was the grandfather of [Wallace Burrows](#) and hence Arthur was his great uncle. On 3 August 1890 at All Saints Church Arthur married Kate Wakeman; he listed his occupation as Professional Cricketer. He couple lived variously at Millbrook Street, East End Road and Great Western Road, Gloucester and had thirteen children. Arthur's occupation of Professional Cricketer was gradually succeeded by him becoming a Carpenter and then a Clerk to the Gloucester Sanitary Authority. **Arthur as a full-back and threequarter played 186 games for the Gloucester First XV between 1886 and 1896 scoring one try but landed 47 conversions, one penalty and one drop goal. He also played 11 games for the Gloucester Second XV between 1886 and 1888 and was awarded 23 Gloucestershire County caps between 1886 and 1896.** Arthur died in July 1930 after a short illness aged 62 years and is buried in Gloucester Cemetery. His wife, Kate, died in 1954 aged 81 years. There is a [detailed profile of Arthur Hughes](#) in the People/Player Profiles section of this website.

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The **MEADOWS** Family – Brothers **Donald ('Don') Meadows** and **Leslie Howard Meadows** and their cousin **Frederick Charles Meadows**. **Donald Peter Meadows** was the son of Don Meadows.

**Donald ('Don') Kenneth Ivor Meadows** was born in Gloucester on 14 February 1909 the son of William Henry Meadows (1862-1933), a Carpenter, and Amelia Meadows (née Reed) (1868-1926). The couple had seven children including Don and his brother [Leslie Howard Meadows](#) who would also play for Gloucester. Their mother's sister Ellen Reed married Charles Henry Hughes and was the grandmother of [Wallace Ivor Frederick Burrows](#); her son William Alfred Hughes was the uncle of [Conway Reginald Fifield](#). On 21 August 1936 Don married Kathleen Marie Clutterbuck at Hartbury Church; the Best Man at the wedding was his team mate **John Thomas ('Tom') Stephens\*\***. The couple had two children including [Donald Peter \('Pete'\) Meadows](#) who would play for Gloucester. **Don as a stand-off played 305 games for the Gloucester First XV between 1927 and 1939 scoring 28 tries; with his kicking this amounted to 221 points for the Club. He captained the Club in the 1936-37 season. He was also awarded 16 Gloucestershire County caps between 1930 and 1937.** Don died at Gloucester on 10 January 1984 aged 75 years. His wife, Kathleen, died in 1994 aged 88 years. There is a [detailed profile of Don Meadows](#) in the People/Player Profiles section of this website.

\*\* A detailed profile of **John Thomas ('Tom') Stephens** pedigree can be found in The Halford, Bagwell, Manley, Jackson, Dix, Mace, George, Pegler, Keyes, Stephens, Hamblin and Goddard Greater Family (**Family Relationships Set 6**) which is in the People/Families in Gloucester Rugby/Gloucesters [Players' Family Inter-relationships section](#) of this website.

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**Donald Peter ('Pete') Meadows** was born in Gloucester on 5 June 1937 the son of [Donald \('Don'\) Kenneth Ivor Meadows](#) and Kathleen Meadows. Pete's uncle, his father's brother, was [Leslie Howard Meadows](#). In 1963 he married Roberta A. Turner at the Church of St Bartholomew, Redmarley D'Abitot. **Pete a versatile back, made 144 appearances for the Gloucester First XV between 1957 and 1969, scoring 23 tries and 96 games for the Gloucester Second XV between 1954 and 1971, scoring 22 tries and 96 games for the Gloucester Second XV between 1954 and 1971, scoring 22 tries. He was also awarded 4 Gloucestershire County caps between 1961 and 1963. Pete died at Gloucester on 28 January 2013 aged 76 years.**

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**Leslie Howard Meadows** was born in Gloucester on 11 September 1904 the son of William Henry Meadows (1862-1933), a Carpenter, and Amelia Meadows (née Reed) (1868-1926). The couple had seven children including Leslie and his brother [Donald \('Don'\) Meadows](#) who would also play for Gloucester. Their mother's sister Ellen Reed married Charles Henry Hughes and was the grandmother of [Wallace Ivor Frederick Burrows](#); her son William Alfred Hughes was the uncle of [Conway Reginald Fifield](#). Leslie was the uncle of Don's son, [Donald Peter \('Pete'\) Meadows](#). In 1930 Leslie married Kathleen Carrington Windo and together the couple had four children. During the Second World War he served with the Army and fought in the Middle East, Italy and Greece. **Leslie, a forward, made 25 appearances for the Gloucester First XV between 1927 and 1930, scoring 3 tries and 6 games for the Gloucester Second XV between 1924 and 1929, scoring 1 try.** He died on 15 September 1947 aged 42 years whilst living in Sweetbriar Street, Gloucester. His wife, Kathleen, re-married in 1954 and died in Gloucester in 2001 aged 94 years.

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**Frederick Charles Meadows** was born in Gloucester in November 1894, the son of Frederick Charles Meadows (1864-1925), a Fruit and Vegetable Merchant, and Jane Meadows (née Smith) (1862-1940). The couple married in 1887 and had six children; Frederick's father was the brother of William Henry Meadows who was the father of [Donald \('Don'\) Kenneth Ivor Meadows](#) and [Leslie Howard Meadows](#) who were therefore Frederick's cousins. Frederick's mother, Jane, was the sister Charles Smith, the father of [Charles Albert \('Whacker'\) Smith](#) and [Hubert Smith](#) who were also Frederick's cousins. In 1911 whilst living in Westgate Street Frederick assisted his father who was a Fish and Fruit Merchant. With the outbreak of the Great War he enlisted on 3 September 1914 and served with C Battery, 240<sup>th</sup> Brigade, Royal Field Artillery (Territorials). He was wounded in 1918 and finally demobilised and returned to civilian life in March 1919. He continued to live in Westgate Street and worked as a Fish Merchant. On 29 January 1931 he married Doris Joanna Brazil and the couple had one child. **Frederick, a centre, played 58 games for the Gloucester First XV between 1921 and 1924, scoring 11 tries and 26 games for the Gloucester Second XV, scoring 8 tries.** Frederick died at Gloucester on 2 July 1939 aged 45 years; the Gloucester Rugby Club and his Army unit, the Royal Field Artillery (Territorials), were officially represented at his funeral at St Mary de Lode Church.

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**Charles Albert ('Whacker') Smith** was born in Gloucester on 18 July 1878, the son of Charles Smith (1855-1885), a Corn Porter, and Mary Ann Smith (née Broady) (1858-1923). The couple were married in Gloucester on 26 May 1878 and had four children including Whacker and his brother [Hubert Smith](#). His mother was the sister of James Broady, the father of [Henry Broady](#) who was therefore his cousin. Whacker's aunt, his father's sister, married Frederick Charles Meadows and was the mother of [Frederick Charles Meadows](#) who was also Whacker's cousin. After the death of his father in 1885, his mother married Robert Price five years later; Whacker would eventually have 14 step-siblings. For a time Whacker lived in Hare Lane with his brother [Hubert Smith](#) and his wife Lydia and was employed as a Labourer. On 22 September 1913 Whacker married Martha Ada Fowler at the Registry Office in Gloucester. The couple had ten children although two did not survive infancy. However within a year of their marriage, Whacker was called up on 29 August 1916 to serve in the Great War but was not mobilised until 30 July 1917 as Sapper, 314043, 73<sup>rd</sup> Marine Company, Inland Waterways and Docks (IW&D), Royal Engineers. On 8 September 1918 at 3.45 am in the dark, he was involved in an accident whilst tying up a barge at Richborough in Kent, when he fell down a hatch which had previously been incorrectly fastened into the hold, injuring his right leg; the Court of Inquiry ruled that it was an accident. After the war he earned a living as a Timber Porter at Gloucester Docks. **Whacker as a wing played 270 games for the Gloucester First XV between 1896 and 1908, scoring 142 tries and 10 games for the Gloucester second XV between 1897 and 1899 scoring 7 tries. He was also awarded 20 Gloucestershire County caps between 1899 and 1907, scoring 9 tries and one England International cap against Wales in Cardiff in 1901.** Whacker contracted influenza and died within a few days at the Gloucester Royal Infirmary on 20 January 1940 aged 61 years. His wife, Martha, died in 1945 aged 55 years. There is a [detailed profile of Charles Albert \('Whacker'\) Smith](#) in the People/Player Profiles section of this website.

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**Hubert Smith** was born in Gloucester on 25 October 1881, the son of Charles Smith (1855-1885), a Corn Porter, and Mary Ann Smith (née Broady) (1858-1923). The couple were married in Gloucester on 26 May 1878 and had four children including Hubert and his brother [Charles Albert \('Whacker'\) Smith](#). His mother was the sister of James Broady, the father of [Henry Broady](#) who was therefore his cousin. Hubert's aunt, his father's sister, married Frederick Charles Meadows and was the mother of [Frederick Charles Meadows](#) who was another cousin of Hubert. After the death of his father in 1885, his mother married Robert Price five years later; Hubert would eventually have 14 step-siblings. The family lived variously at Deacon Street and Quay Court in Gloucester. On 29 October 1904 Hubert married Lydia Keeling at All Saints Church and the couple, living in Hare Lane, had three children. Initially employed as a Labourer, he became a Fish Fryer by 1911. In August 1914 Hubert enlisted as Private, 2712, in the 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Gloucestershire Regiment, along with many other rugby players. **He appears to have resumed his rugby career whilst in the Army and his progress, along with his fellow players, was reported throughout in the Citizen.** Hubert, as centre or half-back, made 69 appearances for the Gloucester First XV between 1903 and 1909, scoring 15 tries and 62 games for the Gloucester Second XV between 1903 and 1911, scoring 37 tries. Hubert died in Gloucester on 6 May 1962 aged 81 years. His wife, Lydia, died in 1953 aged 73 years.

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## The **BROADY** Family – Henry Broady

**Henry Broady** was born in Gloucester on 16 December 1873, the son of James Broady (1853-1934) and Louisa Broady (née Freeman) (1854-1932). The couple married in August 1873 and had eleven children including Henry. The family lived variously in Ninefoot Road, Tredworth Road and Nelson Street, all in Gloucester. Henry was initially employed as a Labourer but specialised to become a Blacksmith's Labourer; his entire occupation would be spent as a Labourer. On 18 July 1899 he married Sabrina Alice Freeman and the couple had seven children. Henry's aunt Mary Ann Broady was the mother of [Charles Albert \('Whacker'\) Smith](#) and [Hubert Smith](#) who were therefore Henry's cousins. One of Henry's daughters, Marie Jean Cynthia Broady married Paul Crew-Smith and was the aunt of Teresa Crew-Smith who married [Royston \('Roy'\) H. Hopson](#). Henry, as a wing, played 15 games for the Gloucester First XV between 1895 and 1898 scoring 1 try and 15 games for the Gloucester Second XV over three seasons, scoring 11 tries. Henry died in Gloucester in 1951 aged 77 years, while his wife, Sabrina, had two years previously in 1949 aged 68 years.

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## The **HALFORD** Family – Jonathon George Halford

A detailed profile of **Jonathon George Halford's** pedigree can be found in The Halford, Bagwell, Manley, Jackson, Dix, Mace, George, Pegler, Keyes, Stephens, Hamblin and Goddard Greater Family (**Family Relationships Set 6**) which is in the People/Families in Gloucester Rugby/Gloucesters [Players' Family Inter-relationships section](#) of this website. There is also a [detailed profile of Jonathon George Halford](#) in the People/Player Profiles section of this website.

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## The **A'BEAR** Family – brothers **Charles Winstone A'Bear** and **John Gordon A'Bear**

**John Gordon A'Bear** was born in Gloucester on 16 July 1913, the son of Horace James A' Bear (1879-1945), an Ironmonger, and Nellie A'Bear (née Winstone) (1855-1958). The couple were married at Cheltenham in 1911 and had four children including John and his brother [Charles Winstone A'Bear](#); his father served on the Gloucester Rugby Club committee. On 15 July 1939 at St Peters Church, Mount Royal, Canada, John married his cousin Edith May A'Bear. The couple lived in Denmark Road, Gloucester and had two daughters. The eldest, Suzanne, married Peter J. Day the son of [Sidney Thomas \('Tom'\) Day](#) who had married Annie Dangerfield, the sister of [Sid Dangerfield](#). John was employed as a Builders Merchant. Called up during the Second World War he served as a Telegraphist in the Royal Navy and was in West Africa at the end of the conflict. John as a second row forward, played 211 games for the Gloucester First XV between 1933 and 1941, scoring 24 tries; he was captain for the 1937 to 1939 seasons. He also played 14 games for the Gloucester Second XV between 1935 and 1939, scoring 2 tries. John was awarded 14 Gloucestershire County caps between 1935 and 1939, scoring 2 tries. John was Best Man at the wedding on 11 April 1936 of his long-time partner in the second row **Roy 'Digger' Morris**\*\* (317 games for the Gloucester First XV 1931 to 1949 and 19 Gloucestershire County caps). John died at Elmbridge Road, Gloucester on 19 January 1979 aged 66 years. His wife, Edith, died in 2002 aged 88 years. There is a [detailed profile of John Gordon A'Bear](#) in the People/Player Profiles section of this website.

\*\* There is also [a detailed profile of Roy 'Digger' Morris](#) in the People/Player Profiles section of this website

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**Charles Winstone A'Bear** was born at Cheltenham on 18 January 1916, the son of Horace James A' Bear (1879-1945), an Ironmonger, and Nellie A'Bear (née Winstone) (1855-1958). The couple were married at Cheltenham in 1911 and had four children including Charles and his brother [John Gordon A'Bear](#); his father served on the Gloucester Rugby Club committee. Charles started his career in the Police Service but was later articled to Messrs Steel, Lane and Yeend, Solicitors and became a qualified solicitor after the Second World War and practiced at East Retford in Nottinghamshire. During the Second World War he served initially as a Sergeant in H Squadron, 2<sup>nd</sup> Royal Gloucestershire Hussars, Royal Armoured Corps and fought in the Middle East including Egypt, East Africa, the Western Desert, Tobruk, Sudan, Greece and Syria. On 6 June 1942 during the Battle of Knightsbridge in Libya he won the Military Medal for bravery after rescuing his troop leader Second Lieutenant Proctor. In 1943 he was granted a commission as a Second Lieutenant in the Tank Regiment. A stylised representation of Charles as a tank commander was portrayed on the pub sign of the *Black Swan* on the corner of Southgate Street and Commercial Road. In 1969 the name changed to *The Yeoman* in recognition of the fact that it was now the headquarters of the Gloucestershire Hussars Old Comrades Association. Although the pub is now closed, the sign can still be seen on display at the Soldiers of Gloucestershire Museum, Gloucester Docks. After demobilisation in September 1945 he married Muriel Mitchell at Southwell, Nottinghamshire in the same year and the couple had three children. **Charles as a back row forward, played 1 game for the Gloucester First XV in 1940 and 4 games for Gloucester Second XV in the 1938-1939 season.** Charles died in February 1985 at East Retford aged 68 years while his wife, Muriel, died in 2004 aged 83 years.

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The **DAY** Family – **Sidney Thomas ('Tom') Day**

**Sidney Thomas ('Tom') Day** was born in Gloucester on 14 April 1914, the son of George Henry James Day (1889-1915) and Clara Day (née Voyce) (b.1891). The couple married in Gloucester on 28 May 1910 and had three children including Tom. However Tom's father died in 1915 and Clara now a widow re-married in 1920 to William Henry Nicholls, a widower, whose wife Beatrice (née Collins) had died in 1918 and was the sister of [Albert](#), [Harry](#), [Bill](#) and [Tom Collins](#). Hence Tom now had three step-siblings from the marriage of William Nichols and Beatrice Collins; however a further three siblings would subsequently come from the marriage of his mother, Clara, to William Nicholls. On 29 May 1938 at Holy Trinity Church, Longlevens, Tom married Annie Lilian Maud Dangerfield who was the sister of [Sid Dangerfield](#) who became Tom's brother-in-law. The couple had two sons, the eldest being Peter J. Day who married Suzanne A'Bear, the daughter of [John Gordon A'Bear](#) and as a result Peter's wife became Tom's daughter-in-law. The couple lived in Hemmingsdale Road while Tom worked as a Foundry Core Maker. **Tom, as a prop, played 267 games for the Gloucester First XV between 1936 and 1951, scoring 20 tries; he captained the team for the 1950-51 season. He also played 6 games for the Gloucester Second XV between 1946 and 1949, scoring 1 try and was awarded 16 Gloucestershire County caps between 1946 and 1949, scoring 1 try. H. After retiring from playing he served in various administrative positions including Club President 1995-1996.** Tom died in Gloucester in 2004 aged 90 years while his wife, Annie, had previously died in 1991 aged 77 years. There is also a [detailed profile of Tom Day](#) in the People/Player Profiles section of this website.

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## The **DANGERFIELD** Family – Sydney ('Syd') Frederick W. Dangerfield

A detailed profile of **Syd Dangerfield's pedigree** can be found in the Welsh, Dangerfield and Bloxsome Greater Family (Family Relationships **Set 3**) which is in the People/Families in Gloucester Rugby/Gloucesters [Players' Family Inter-relationships section](#) of this website. There is also [a detailed profile of Sid Dangerfield](#) in the People/Player Profiles section of this website.

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The **COLLINS** Family – brothers **Albert Collins**, **Henry ('Harry') Collins**, **William ('Bill') James Collins** and **Thomas ('Tom') Collins** and **Tom's son William Collins**.

The brothers [Albert Collins](#), [Henry \('Harry'\) Collins](#), [William \('Bill'\) Collins](#) and [Thomas \('Tom'\) Collins](#) were the sons of Daniel Collins (1847-1894), a Dock Labourer, and Acquilla Stone (1848-1895). The couple married in May 1866 at St Mary de Lode Church and had eleven children and four of the eight sons would play for the Gloucester Rugby Club. The family lived variously at Tiveys Court and Lower Quay Street, Gloucester.

**Albert Collins** was born at Gloucester in February 1869. He was the brother of [Bill Collins](#), [Tom Collins](#) and [Harry Collins](#) and the uncle of Tom's son, [William Collins](#). His sister Edith Collins married Henry Houselander who was the brother-in-law of [William Albert Wright](#). On 12 August 1889 he married Eva Lily Baldwin at St Nicholas Church. The couple lived in Quay Street while Albert worked as a Lighterman. Together they had six children. However Eva died on 4 April 1902 aged 33 years, just 2 months after the birth of their last child. In 1911 Albert re-married in Worcester to Judith Bridget Hall (née Berry) and the couple had six children. One of their daughters, Phyllis Emily Collins married George Cummings the son of [Arthur William Cummings](#), the nephew of [Albert Edward \('Car'\) Cummings](#) and the cousin of [Ernest George Cummings](#). Albert was 45 years old when the Great War started but he still enlisted on 12 September 1914 as a Private (5232) in the 5<sup>th</sup> (Reserve) Battalion, Worcestershire Regiment. The battalion was initially stationed at Plymouth but in 1917 moved to Harwich where it joined the Harwich Garrison to defend the east coast in the event of a German Invasion. Albert was subsequently transferred as a Private (673175) to the Labour Corps before being demobilised. **Albert, a half back, played 131 games for the Gloucester First XV between 1889 and 1895, scoring 28 tries and 7 games for the Gloucester Second XV scoring 3 tries. He was also awarded 7 Gloucestershire County caps.** Albert died on 10 January 1924 aged 55 years at the Gloucester Royal Infirmary after a short illness with Pneumonia and Pleurisy. His wife, Judith, died at Gloucester in July 1963 aged 82 years.

There is [a detailed profile of Albert Collins along with his three brothers](#) in the People/Player Profiles section of this website.

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**Henry ('Harry') Collins** was born in Gloucester in July 1879. He was the brother of [Albert Collins](#), [Tom Collins](#) and [Bill Collins](#) and the uncle of Tom's son, [William Collins](#). His sister Edith Collins married Henry Houselander who was the brother-in-law of [William Albert Wright](#). After a period of work as an errand boy he joined the British Army in 1894 and served with the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, Gloucestershire Regiment in Egypt, India and Ceylon. He fought with his battalion in the Second South African War (Boer War) (1899-1902) and survived the 118 days of the famous Siege of Ladysmith; he was awarded the Queen's South Africa Medal with clasps for Orange Free State and Defence of Ladysmith. He was discharged in October 1906 and returned to Gloucester to work as an Engine Driver at Priday, Metford and Company Limited. In 1907 he married Florence Edith Eldridge and the couple had three children. With



the outbreak of the Great War Harry enlisted in the Worcestershire Regiment on 3 September 1914 but was immediately transferred to his old battalion, the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, Gloucestershire Regiment and landed in France on 5 November 1914. On 9 January 1915, eleven weeks later, he was wounded in the right hand which necessitated the amputation of his forefinger (trigger-finger). After twelve weeks in hospital and several operations and a period of convalescence he was discharged as unfit for active service and fit only for light duties. However he subsequently learnt to shoot and bayonet fight with the other hand and he returned to France on 25 February 1916, joining the 10<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion, Worcestershire Regiment on 4 March 1916. Harry fought in its ranks up to the time of his death. On 4 July 1916 the battalion attacked the fortified village of La Boisselle on the Somme. He survived the initial attack on 3 July which cleared the village of Germans but was caught in a shell blast just before the battalion was relieved. His body was never identified and he is commemorated amongst the 'Missing of the Somme 1916' on the Thiepval Memorial; he was 37 years of age. His wife, Florence re-married in April 1917 and died in Gloucester in 1970 aged 80 years old. **Harry, a forward, played 99 games for the Gloucester First XV between 1902 and 1908 scoring 9 tries and 5 games for the Gloucester Second XV. He was also awarded 2 Gloucestershire County caps.**

There is [a detailed profile of Harry Collins along with his three brothers](#) in the People/Player Profiles section of this website.

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**William ('Bill') James Collins** was born in Gloucester in 1871. He was the brother of [Albert Collins](#), [Tom Collins](#) and [Harry Collins](#) and the uncle of Tom's son, [William Collins](#). His sister Edith Collins married Henry Houselander who was the brother-in-law of [William Albert Wright](#). He married Ellen Louisa Bubb at St Mary de Lode Church on 5 August 1900. The couple variously lived in Clare Street, Princess Court and Westgate Street. Bill was employed as a General Labourer and then as a Millwright's Labourer before joining the City Flour Mills. The couple had five children but whilst living in Westgate Street, Ellen died on 18 July 1909 aged 33 years. On 24 December 1910 Bill married Ann Keziah Young (née Vale), a widow of four years, at St Mary de Lode Church. Ann had twelve children by her previous marriage to Douglas Young but five had died in fancy so Bill now became step-father to seven children. **Bill, a forward, played 45 games for the Gloucester First XV between 1891 and 1897, scoring 3 tries and 40 games for the Gloucester Second XV scoring 11 tries.** Bill died on 30 June 1925 in Gloucester aged 54 years. His wife, Ann, died at Gloucester in 1940 aged 72 years.

There is [a detailed profile of Bill Collins along with his three brothers](#) in the People/Player Profiles section of this website.

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**Thomas ('Tom') Collins** was born at Gloucester on 5 May 1867. He was the brother of [Albert Collins](#), [Bill Collins](#) and [Harry Collins](#). His sister Edith Collins married Henry Houselander who was the brother-in-law of [William Albert Wright](#). He married Mary Ann ('Polly') Griffiths at St Lukes Church on 3 April 1893. The couple lived at Alma Terrace while Tom was worked as a Labourer and was mainly employed at Gloucester Docks. The couple had eleven children although two died in early childhood, but of the surviving children, one [Thomas William Collins](#) would also play for Gloucester. One of their daughters, Acquilla Collins married William Alfred Rose, the son of [Charles \('Charlie'\) Alfred Rose](#). **Tom, as a forward, played 85 games for the Gloucester First XV between 1887 and 1895, scoring 3 tries and 10 games for the Gloucester Second XV; he was a member of the XV which played in Gloucester's first match at Kingsholm on 10 October 1891. He was also awarded 8 Gloucestershire County caps. Tom retired from**

playing after sustaining a serious leg injury during a match; the Club organised a benefits match for him at Kingsholm in March 1901. Tom died in June 1942 aged 75 years whilst living in the Cooperative Buildings in Westgate Street; his funeral was held at St Nicholas Church and he was buried in Gloucester Old Cemetery. His wife, Mary, had previously died in 1935 aged 69 years.

There is [a detailed profile of Tom Collins along with his three brothers](#) in the People/Player Profiles section of this website.

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**Thomas William ('William') Collins** was born in Gloucester on 2 May 1894, the son of [Thomas \('Tom'\) Collins](#) (1867-1942) and Mary Ann ('Polly') Collins (née Griffiths) (1866-1935). He was the nephew of his father's brothers [Albert Collins](#), [Bill Collins](#) and [Harry Collins](#). William worked as a Riveter's Mate and until 1942 lived at the Cooperative Buildings in Westgate Street with his father and his two brothers Henry and Jack. In 1942 at the age of 46 years he married Edith May Thomas; the couple did not have any children. **William, a half-back played 58 games for the Gloucester First XV between 1920 and 1925, scoring 9 tries and 10 games for the Gloucester Second XV, scoring 2 tries.** William died at Gloucester in 1974 aged 79 years while his wife, Edith, died in 1981 aged 80 years.

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The **CUMMINGS** Family – brothers **Arthur William Cummings** and **Albert Edward ('Car') Cummings**, Albert's son **Ernest George Cummings**

**Arthur William Cummings** was born in Deerhurst on 6 April 1873, the son of Thomas Cummings (1841-1923), a Blacksmith, and Mary Maria Cummings (née Young) (1836-1910). The couple had married at Ashchurch on 15 October 1859 and had eight children. Arthur was the brother of [Albert Edward \('Car'\) Cummings](#) and the uncle of Albert's son, [Ernest George Cummings](#). Albert lived with his parents in Guinea Street, Gloucester and worked as a General Labourer. On 16 January 1897 he married Julia Sutton and together they lived in Theresa Street and had four children although three of them died in infancy. Their remaining son, George Cummings, married Phyllis Emily Collins who was the daughter of [Albert Collins](#). On 7 July 1908 his wife, Julia, died at the Gloucester Royal Infirmary, aged 34 years; Arthur never remarried. **Arthur, as a back, played 20 games for the Gloucester First XV between 1894 and 1899, scoring 3 tries and also played 29 games for the Gloucester Second XV, scoring 2 tries. He was also awarded 1 Gloucestershire County cap.** Arthur died at Gloucester in 1944 aged 71 years.

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**Albert Edward ('Car') Cummings** was born at Deerhurst on 1 December 1868, the son of Thomas Cummings (1841-1923), a Blacksmith, and Eleanor Maria Cummings (née Page) (1836-1910). The couple had married at Ashchurch on 15 October 1859 and had eight children. Car was the brother of [Arthur William Cummings](#). He lived with his parents in Guinea Street and trained as a Journeyman/Blacksmith. On 7 April 1890 he married Eleanor Maria Page and the couple moved to Union Street and had seven children including [Ernest George Cummings](#). Car's wife, Eleanor, was the sister of [George Page](#) who was therefore Car's brother-in-law. Car earned his living as a Blacksmith. In 1892 he joined the 3<sup>rd</sup> Gloucestershire Militia and in 1914 with the outbreak of the Great War, Car and his son Ernest George Cummings enlisted – Car in the 10<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Gloucestershire Regiment (New Army) and Ernest in the



5<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Gloucestershire Regiment (Territorials). Car however as an Army Reservist was sent to France on 2 February 1915 to join the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, Gloucestershire Regiment which included several Gloucester players and particularly [Fred Goolding](#) who he had played with in 27 matches in the 1897-98 season. However Car returned to Britain following the death of his son [Ernest George Cummings](#), and put his Blacksmith's skills to good use in supporting Britain's war industry at the National Steel Factory at Lancaster. **Car, as a half-back, played 47 games for the Gloucester First XV between 1896 and 1898, scoring 3 tries and 20 games for the Gloucester Second XV between 1896 and 1899, scoring 3 tries. He was also awarded 4 Gloucestershire County caps.** In later life Car lived with his daughter and her family in Sherborne Road, his wife, Eleanor, having died in 1926 aged 58 years. Car died on the 24 July 1940 after a long illness, aged 71 years.

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**Ernest George Cummings** was born in 1892 in Gloucester, the son of [Albert Edward \('Car'\) Cummings](#) (1868-1940), a Blacksmith, and Eleanor Maria Cummings (née Page) (1868-1926). Ernest was the nephew of Car's brother, [Arthur William Cummings](#) and his mother's brother, [George Page](#). The family lived in Union Street where he was employed as a Labourer at the Engineering Works. In September 1914 Ernest and his father enlisted for service in the Great War, Car in the 10<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Gloucestershire Regiment and Ernest in the 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Gloucestershire. Ernest landed in France on 29 March 1915 but within 28 days he was shot in the head by a sniper in Ploegsteert Wood and died at 8.30 at night having never regained consciousness. He is buried in Ploegsteert Wood Cemetery, an immaculately kept Commonwealth War Graves Commission cemetery amidst the dense and unkempt woodland of Ploegsteert Wood. **Ernest was a scrum-half at St Marks Rugby Club but between 1911 and 1913 he played 7 games for the Gloucester Second XV where he was known by his father's nickname of 'Car'.**

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The **HOPSON** Family – **Joseph ('Joe') Henry Kitchener Hopson** and his sons, **Joseph Terrence ('Terry') Hopson** and **Roy Hopson**

**Joseph ('Joe') Henry Kitchener Hopson** was born in Gloucester on 7 July 1915, the son of Frederick John Hopson (1882-1928), a Deal Carrier, and Lilian Maud Hopson (née Lane) (1883-1966). The couple had married in Gloucester in 1904 and had eight children. Joe's sister, Doris Emily Hopson, in 19xx married George James Dangerfield, the brother of [Sid Dangerfield](#). Joe's father fought in the Great War with the 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Gloucestershire Regiment but died ten years after the end of the war in 1928. On 11 March 1939 Joe married Florence Evelyn Westbury St Marks Church, Gloucester. Florence was the daughter of [Frederick \('Fred'\) James Westbury](#) and the niece of [James \('Jim'\) William](#) and [George Albert Westbury](#). Joe's father-in-law was therefore [Frederick \('Fred'\) James Westbury](#). The couple had two children, [Joseph Terrence \('Terry'\) Hopson](#) and [Royston \('Roy'\) H. Hopson](#), both of whom would play for Gloucester. By 1939 the couple were living in Sherborne Street and Joe was employed as an Aircraft Fitter for the Gloster Aircraft Company. In 1942 he played in a charity rugby match for the Gloster Aircraft Company against Cheltenham RFC to raise funds for the Children's Hospital, Cheltenham. **Joe, a hooker, played 40 games for the Gloucester First XV between 1945 and 1948, scoring 1 try and 2 games for the Gloucester Second XV. He was also awarded 1 Gloucestershire County cap.** In 1957 Joe moved to Bristol to work as a Publican for Whitbread Brewery. Subsequently he returned to Gloucester to take over the Talbot Hotel and died there on 20 July 1980 whilst living at Queens Close, aged 65 years. His wife, Florence, died in 1984 aged 67 years.

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**Joseph Terrence ('Terry') Hopson** was born at Gloucester in 1939 the son of [Joseph \('Joe'\) Henry Kitchener Hopson](#) (1915-1980) and Florence Evelyn Hopson (née Westbury) (1917-1984). His brother was [Royston \('Roy'\) H.Hopson](#). Terry's grandfather was [Frederick \('Fred'\) James Westbury](#). Terry, a three-quarter, played 315 games for the Gloucester First XV between 1959 and 1970, scoring 103 tries and 29 games for the Gloucester Second XV, scoring 15 tries. He was also awarded 20 Gloucestershire County caps.

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**Royston ('Roy') H. Hopson** was born at Gloucester in 1949 the son of [Joseph \('Joe'\) Henry Kitchener Hopson](#) (1915-1980) and Florence Evelyn Hopson (née Westbury) (1917-1984). His brother was [Joseph Terrence \('Terry'\) Hopson](#). Roy's grandfather was [Frederick \('Fred'\) James Westbury](#). In July 1975 Roy married Teresa Crew-Smith at Gloucester; Teresa's aunt who had married her father's brother, was Marie Jean Cynthia Crew-Smith (née Broady), the daughter of [Henry Broady](#). Roy, a centre, played 6 games for the Gloucester First XV between 1967 and 1969 and 12 games for the Gloucester Second XV scoring 10 tries.

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#### The MUMFORD Family –Charles Mumford

**Charles Mumford** was born in Gloucester on 14 March 1887, the son of George Watkins Mumford (b.1857), a Labourer at Wagon Works, and Mary Ann Mumford (née Preece) (1861-1896). The couple were married on 16 April 1882 and had seven children, one of whom died in infancy. Charles' brother George James Mumford married Annie Eliza Westbury, the sister of [George Albert Westbury](#), [James \('Jim'\) Westbury](#) and [Frederick \('Fred'\) James Westbury](#). Charles' mother died when he was 11 years old and Charles ended up living with his uncle, his mother's brother, Alan Preece, in Suffolk Street. Charles was employed as a Labourer for a gas company. On 26 December 1914 Charles married Ann Sophia Cook whilst both were living in Sherborne Street; Charles now worked as a Painter and became a Painter of oil engines by 1939. The couple had three children. Charles, as a forward, played 85 games for the Gloucester First XV between 1911 and 1922, scoring 3 tries and at least 69 games for the Gloucester Second XV, scoring 5 tries. Charles died at Gloucester in 1957 aged 70 years while his wife, Ann, died ten years later in 1967 aged 78 years.

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#### The WESTBURY Family – Frederick ('Fred') James Westbury, James ('Jim') William Westbury and George Albert Westbury

The brothers [Frederick \('Fred'\) James Westbury](#), [James \('Jim'\) William Westbury](#) and [George Albert Westbury](#) were the sons of George Westbury (1848-1917), a Firewood Merchant, and Fanny Westbury (née Vallender) (1858-1924). The couple married on 21 June 1875 at St Marks Church and had ten children and of the six sons, three would play for Gloucester. One of the daughters, Annie Eliza Westbury would marry George James Mumford, the brother of [Charles Mumford](#). The family lived variously in Foundry Row and Columbia Street, Gloucester.

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**Frederick ('Fred') James Westbury** was born on 16 April 1878 and whilst living in Columbia Street he attended school and then left to become a General Labourer. Fred was the brother of [James \('Jim'\) William Westbury](#) and [George Albert Westbury](#). On 20 June 1903 he married Ada Hatherall, the sister of [Thomas \('Tom'\) Hatherall](#) who became his brother-in-law. The couple lived in Worrall Street with Fred being employed as a Deal Porter at a timber factory. The couple has seven children, one of whom drowned aged 8 years in the River Severn. One of their daughters Florence Evelyn Westbury married [Joseph \('Joe'\) Henry Kitchener Hopson](#) who had two children [Joseph Terrence \('Terry'\) Hopson](#) and [Roy Hopson](#); Fred was therefore the grandfather of [Joseph Terrence \('Terry'\) Hopson](#) and [Roy Hopson](#). Fred prior to 1914 became a Labourer at Gloucester Docks. During the Great War Fred, at the age of 38 years was called up for service on 29 August 1916 but was not mobilised until 19 July 1917 when he was posted as Private, 122202 to No.8 Company, Royal Army Medical Corps (RAMC). He was classified medically as Category B2 and consequently did not serve overseas. He was discharged from the Army on 14 May 1919. Fred, a forward, played 89 games for the Gloucester First XV between 1899 and 1910, scoring 14 tries and 56 games for the Gloucester Second XV, scoring 8 tries. He was also awarded 5 Gloucestershire County caps. Fred died in Gloucester in 1955 aged 76 years while Ada died eight years later in 1963 aged 81 years.

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**James ('Jim') William Westbury** was born in Gloucester on 11 January 1889. Jim was the brother of [Frederick \('Fred'\) James Westbury](#) and [George Albert Westbury](#) and the uncle of Florence Evelyn Westbury who married [Joseph \('Joe'\) Henry Kitchener Hopson](#). In 1913 Jim married Elizabeth Burford and the couple had two children and having initially worked in a timber yard, he was subsequently employed at the Gloucester Railway Carriage and Wagon Company. On the outbreak of the Great War Jim enlisted in September 1914 in the 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Gloucestershire Regiment. He landed on the Gallipoli Peninsula in July 1915 and was wounded in August 1915. After recovery and a period in Egypt he was transferred to the Labour Corps on the Western Front where he was wounded for a second time. Jim, a back row/second row forward played 2 games for the Gloucester First XV between 1910 and 1912 and 18 games for the Gloucester Second XV between 1909 and 1912 scoring 3 tries. Jim died at Gloucester on 24 September 1951 aged 52 years. His wife Elizabeth died in 1964 aged 73 years.

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**George Albert Westbury** was born in Gloucester on 29 February 1896 George was the brother of [Frederick \('Fred'\) James Westbury](#) and [James \('Jim'\) William Westbury](#) and the uncle of Florence Evelyn Westbury who married [Joseph \('Joe'\) Henry Kitchener Hopson](#). Initially George worked with his father who was a Firewood Merchant but by the 1920s he worked for Price Walker and Company Limited who ran a timber saw mill; he worked for this company until the time of his death. With the outbreak of the Great War, George enlisted in the 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Gloucestershire Regiment and then transferred to the 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion (King's) Shropshire Light Infantry (KSLI). In 1918 he was fighting on the Western Front with the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, KSLI and was taken prisoner at Lagnicourt on 21 March 1918. He was held as a Prisoner of War at Freidrichfeld Camp and Parchim Camp, Germany, until the end of war. Shortly after the war in July 1920 he married Beatrice Emily Silvey in Gloucester and the couple had five children. George, a forward, played once for the Gloucester First XV in the 1923-24 season. George died on 30 December 1930 aged 34 years while his wife survived him by almost fifty years and died in 1979 aged 81 years.

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## The HATHERALL Family – Thomas ('Tom') Hatherall

**Thomas ('Tom') Hatherall** was born in Gloucester in December 1869, the son of Thomas Hatherall (1848-1918) and Hannah Maria Hatherall (née Trunkfield) (1848-1922). The couple married in Gloucester on 2 September 1867 and had twelve children although five died early in life. The couple lived variously in Guinea Street and Sweetbriars Street while Tom worked initially as a Deal Carrier at Gloucester Docks and later as a Labourer Gloucester City Corporation. One of Tom's sisters, Ada Hatherall married [Frederick \('Fred'\) James Westbury](#) who was therefore Tom's brother-in-law. On 17 October 1896 at St Marks Church Tom married Alice Annie Gwilliam. The couple lived in Suffolk Street and Columbia Street and had six children, two of whom died in infancy. One of their daughters Laura Fanny Hatherall married Charles Edward Hughes whose sister Lily May Hughes married Fred Burrows and was the mother of [Wallace Ivor Frederick \('Wally'\) Burrows](#). **Tom, a forward, played 33 games for the Gloucester First XV between 1896 and 1898, scoring 2 tries and 7 games for the Gloucester Second XV.** Tom was unable to start in one game for Gloucester after an accident whilst working at Messrs Nicks and Co. Deal Yards, when he fell thirteen feet from a pile of deals seriously injuring his elbow which required treatment at the Gloucester Royal Infirmary. Tom died in Gloucester in December 1936 aged 67 years while his wife, Alice, died twenty-five years later in 1961 aged 86 years.

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## The ROSE Family – Charles ('Charlie') Alfred Rose

**Charles ('Charlie') Alfred Rose** was born in Gloucester on 1 August 1872, the son of John Rose (1827-1902), a Boot and Shoe Maker, and Caroline Rose (née Phelps) (1835-1900). The couple married in Gloucester on 2 December 1860 and had eight children. Charlie's mother was the auntie of [David Phelps](#) and [Thomas Phelps](#) who were therefore Charlie's cousins. A further cousin Walter James Phelps married Fanny Goolding who was the sister of [Fred Goolding](#). Charlie was employed as a Sawyer and a Deal Porter; he would be a Timber Sawyer at Price Walker and Company Limited for over forty years. On 24 June 1894 at St Lukes Church, Gloucester, Charlie married Ellen Catherine Gardner and the couple had seven children, three of whom died in infancy. One of their sons, William Alfred Rose married Acquilla Collins who was the sister of the Collins brothers, [Albert Collins](#), [Henry \('Harry'\) Collins](#), [William \('Bill'\) Collins](#) and [Thomas \('Tom'\) Collins](#) and also the auntie of [Thomas William Collins](#). During the Great War Charlie served with the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, Gloucestershire Regiment alongside [Albert Edward \('Car'\) Cummings](#) and [Alfred \('Fred'\) Henry Goolding](#), [Harry Berry](#) and [Harry Barnes](#); both of latter two men would be killed in action in May 1915 at Aubers Ridge. **Charlie, a forward, played 114 games for the Gloucester First XV between 1893 and 1899, scoring 4 tries and 25 games for Gloucester Second XV between 1893 and 1896, scoring 1 try. He was also awarded 4 Gloucestershire County caps.** Charlie died at home in St Catherine Street after a long illness on 19 December 1949 aged 77 years; he was buried in Gloucester Old Cemetery. His wife, Ellen, died six years later in March 1955 aged 80 years. There is also a [detailed profile of Charlie Rose](#) in the People/Player Profiles section of this website.

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**William Albert ('Albert') Wright** was born in Gloucester on 5 March 1890, the son of William Wright (1859-1940), a Deal Carrier, and Mary Georgina Wright (née Gurney) (1870-1952). The couple married at St Mary de Lode Church on 3 March 1889 and the couple had four children. They lived variously at St Mary Street and Deacon Street. Albert was a Waterman but in later life also became a publican of the Ship Inn at Gloucester Quay. On 1 August 1910 at St Luke's Church, Albert married Fanny Elizabeth Houselander. Fanny was the sister of Henry Houselander who had married Edith Collins, the sister of [Albert Collins](#), [Henry \('Harry'\) Collins](#), [William \('Bill'\) Collins](#) and [Thomas \('Tom'\) Collins](#) and also the auntie of [Thomas William Collins](#). The couple had five children – one of their children died in 1950 aged 38 years when he slipped carrying his dog up a ladder from a boat and fell in to the River Severn and drowned. This is a particularly sad tale especially as Albert had rescued many people from drowning in the river and was recommended for the Royal Humane Society medal although it was never awarded; in July 1939 a dramatic rescue of a 9 year old boy was captured in a newspaper photograph after Albert fully clothed jumped into the river – the photograph showed Albert holding the boy as they climbed out of the river. A second son Craftsman James Wright with the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (REME) was declared Missing for 16 months but despite his parents worst fears he was eventually found to be a Prisoner of War in an Italian camp. **Albert, a forward, played 25 games for the Gloucester First XV between 1919 and 1923, scoring 4 tries and 46 games for the Gloucester Second XV between 1919 and 1928, scoring one try.** Albert died on 14 November 1966 aged 76 years and was cremated at the Gloucester Crematorium. His wife, Fanny, died in February 1953 aged 62 years.

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The **PHELPS** Family – cousins **Thomas William Phelps** and **David Phelps**

**Thomas William Phelps** was born in Gloucester in November 1868, the son of Thomas Phelps (1846-1914), a Timber Worker, and Mary Jane Tombs (1849-1908). The couple had married St Mary de Crypt Church on 30 August 1868 and had nine children, three of whom died in early childhood. The couple lived variously in Exhibition Street, Clarence Town Street and Forty Foot Road. Thomas's father was the uncle of [David Phelps](#) who was therefore Thomas's cousin. Another cousin Walter James Phelps married Fanny Goolding who was the sister of [Fred Goolding](#). A further cousin who was the son of his father's sister, Caroline Phelps, was [Charles Alfred \('Charlie'\) Rose](#). On 26 March 1894 Thomas married Clementina Barnes. The couple lived in Barton Terrace and had three children, one of whom died in infancy. Thomas was employed as a Carpenter and Joiner most of his life and for his final 23 working years he was employed by Price Walker and Company Limited who ran a timber saw mill. **Thomas, a half back, played 4 games for the Gloucester First XV between 1889 and 1892 and 74 games for the Gloucester Second XV between 1888 and 1894, scoring 19 tries. He was also awarded one Gloucestershire County cap in the 1889-1890 season. After retiring from the game he took up refereeing and was appointed an examiner for the Gloucester Referees Society.** Thomas had been treated for a heart problem for many years and after going for a walk he became unwell and was helped back home to his house in Stroud Road. A doctor was summoned but he became unconscious and died before the doctor arrived on 28 April 1937 aged 69 years. His wife, Clementina, had died over 20 years earlier on 17 July 1915 aged 43 years.

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**David Phelps** was born in Gloucester in October 1870, the son of David Phelps (1844-1907), a worked at Gloucester Wagon Works, and Ann Selina Steele (1853-1931). The couple married in Gloucester on 25 December 1869 and had ten children of which David was the eldest. The family lived variously in Exhibition Street, Theresa Street, Philip Street, Linden Road and Lysons Avenue. He worked as a Fitter at the Gloucester Railway Carriage and Wagon Works along with his father and his brother, James. David's father was the uncle of [Thomas Phelps](#) who was therefore David's cousin. Another cousin Walter James Phelps married Fanny Goolding who was the sister of [Fred Goolding](#). A further cousin who was the son of his father's sister, Caroline Phelps, was [Charles Alfred \('Charlie'\) Rose](#). David did not serve in the Great War as he worked in a protected occupation ('starred' occupation) for the Gloucester Wagon Works which not only manufactured much needed railway wagons but also partially converted into a munitions factory. However one of David's brothers, Frederick Phelps served as a Private in the 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Gloucestershire Regiment and died on 3 July 1916 at La Boisselle during the Battle of the Somme aged 30 years; his body was never recovered and he is commemorated amongst the 'Missing of the Somme, 1916' on the Thiepval Memorial. On 21 August 1931 and five months after the death of his widowed mother with whom he had been living, David, aged 61 years, married Elizabeth Brain, aged 42 years, at St James Church. The marriage was short-lived as Elizabeth died after three years in 1934 aged 45 years. On 31 August 1935 David married Annie Violet Sarah Keyse at St Michaels Church; the couple had no children. **David, a forward, played 43 games for the Gloucester First XV between 1890 and 1895, scoring 2 tries and 67 games for the Gloucester Second XV, scoring 10 tries.** David died on 10 January 1939 aged 68 years and was buried at Gloucester Cemetery; David died twelve hours after the death of his younger brother James who was 61 years old; both men were Freemen of the City of Gloucester. David's wife, Annie subsequently re-married in 1952 to Henry G. Tilley and died in 1985 aged 84 years.

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The **CROMWELL** Family- father and son **Arthur ('Joe') Cromwell** and **Ernest Walter Cromwell**

**Arthur ('Joe') Cromwell** was born in Gloucester in 1861, the son of Arthur Cromwell (1832-1897), a Carpenter and Joiner, and Lucy Cromwell (née Young) (1831-1900). The couple married in 1851 and had nine children, two of whom died in infancy. Joe's nephew John Cromwell, the son of his brother Richard Gransmore Cromwell, married Gladys Annie Oakey and had 9 children, one of whom Gilbert Edwin Cromwell married Pamela Cummings who was the granddaughter of [Albert Edward \('Car'\) Cummings](#) and the great-niece of [George Page](#). The family lived primarily in Bedford Street and Joe became a Paper Hanger and then a general House Decorator. On 24 July 1881 at Gloucester Joe married Emily Hanniss and the couple had eleven children, five of whom died in infancy. One of their sons, [Ernest Walter Cromwell](#) would also play for Gloucester. The family lived variously in Mitre Street and Commercial Road. Sadly Emily died in Gloucester on 4 December 1914 aged 52 years. Ten years later on 3 May 1924 Joe would re-married to Mary Elizabeth Strong (née Vines). **Joe, a forward, played 121 games for the Gloucester First XV between 1881 and 1894, scoring 20 tries and 7 games for the Gloucester Second XV between 1886 and 1894, scoring 3 tries. He was also awarded 10 Gloucestershire County caps between 1888 and 1892. After retiring from playing he remained active at the Club and acted as a trainer, both as an assistant to Tommy Bagwell\*\* (247 games for the Gloucester First XV) and as the trainer for the Gloucester Second XV until he retired in 1926 aged 65 years.** Joe was an all-round sportsman as he also played hockey and acted as a trainer to the maiden junior crew at the Gloucester Rowing Club. Joe died in Gloucester on 24 December 1938 aged 77 years while his wife, Mary, died in Gloucester in 1976 aged 99 years. There is also a [detailed profile of Arthur \('Joe'\) Cromwell](#) in the People/Player Profiles section of this website.

\*\*There is also [a detailed profile of Tommy Bagwell](#) in the People/Player Profiles section of this website.

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**Ernest Walter Cromwell** was born in Gloucester on 15 October 1893, the son of [Arthur \('Joe'\) Cromwell](#) (1861-1938) and Emily Cromwell (née Hanniss) (1862-1914). The couple had married in 1881 and had eleven children and lived variously in Mitre Street and Commercial Road. Ernest, along with his brother Arthur followed their father's trade as House Decorators. In 1914, along with so many others from the Gloucester Rugby Club he enlisted in the 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Gloucestershire Regiment and fought in the Great War. Ernest landed in France on 29 March 1915 but his war service was relatively short. Before the Mills Bomb (Hand Grenade) came into service improvised devices were used. On 6 May 1915 a 'jamtin' grenade which was one such device which was known for its temperamental nature, was being demonstrated by Ernest's officer, Lieutenant Guise. However it exploded prematurely killing the officer and one other and seriously wounding the six remaining men included Ernest. He suffered severe wounds to face and his eyesight was badly affected for the rest of his life; after treatment he was invalided out of the Army on 8 November 1915. On 22 May 1926 Ernest married Ellen Adeline Lusty at St Mary de Crypt Church by which time he was residing in Parliament Street and earning his living as a Boot Repairer; the couple did not have any children. **Ernest played primarily for Gordon League but assisted the Gloucester Rugby Club when required and played 8 games for the Gloucester Second XV between 1912 and 1914; his war injuries curtailed his rugby career.** Ernest died on 4 November 1952 aged 59 years; his funeral was held at St Mary de Crypt Church, the same church where he had been baptised in 1893 and married in 1926. His wife, Ellen, died in 195 aged 97 years.

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The **GOOLDING** Family - **Alfred ('Fred') Henry Goolding**

**Alfred ('Fred') Henry Goolding** was born in Gloucester in April 1874, the son of Alfred Goolding (1853-1909) and Julia Goolding (née Lloyd) (born 1851). The couple married in Gloucester on 22 April 1872 and lived variously in Mill Street and Old Millbrook Street. One of Fred's sisters, Fanny Goolding married Walter James Phelps who was the cousin of [Thomas Phelps](#) and [David Phelps](#). Fred earned his living as Labourer until 1890 when he joined the British Arm and served with the Gloucestershire Regiment for seven years. He returned to Gloucester in 1897 as an Army Reservist and worked for Gloucestershire County Council. On 11 December 1899 Fred married Mary Keane at Holy Trinity Church, Stroud and the couple lived in Brook Street and together they had two sons, one of whom died aged 12 years. Fred had been an Army Reservist and shortly after the marriage he was mobilised and for the next three years fought with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, Gloucestershire Regiment in the Second South African War (Boer War) (1899-1902). Throughout this period he regularly sent letters home to Mary who passed them on to the *Citizen* which published them giving a well-known soldier's insight into the Boer War and the conditions in South Africa. The letters included Fred's account of being taken prisoner and being released thirteen days later in an isolated area and being forced to make his way back to the British lines with meagre rations. In 1909 Mary died aged 34 years. On 21 August 1911 Fred married Florence Beatrice Edmonds at the Register Office, Gloucester and the couple had four children of which two were born in Gloucester and two in Northwich, Cheshire. With the outbreak of the Great War, Fred was re-called to the Colours on 10 August 1914 and joined the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, Gloucestershire Regiment on the Western Front on 2 February 1915. He wrote letters home to his wife, Florence, who like Fred's first wife, Mary, allowed the *Citizen* to publish them. Fred took part in the Battle of Aubers Ridge along with [Charles \('Charlie'\) Alfred Rose](#) and [Albert Edward \('Car'\) Cummings](#) and which saw the deaths of **Harry Berry** (136 games for Gloucester First XV) and **Harry Barnes** (38 games for Gloucester First XV). Fred was subsequently wounded and returned to Britain in July 1916. He was sent to work in a munitions factory in Northwich, Cheshire and consequently he moved his family from Gloucester to Northwich. In 1918 as the Spanish Flu epidemic swept through Britain, his youngest daughter, Lilian aged 2 years died, following within a few days by his wife, Florence aged 27 years and two days after his mother, his youngest son, Roy died; all are buried in Northwich Cemetery. Fred never returned to Gloucester and remained in



Northwich for the rest of his life. In January 1920 he married for the third time to Adeline Victoria Ethel Keates and the couple had four children, one of whom died in infancy. Fred now joined the staff of the Verdin Park and Garden in Northwich and later became a gardener at the Victoria Infirmary. Fred, a forward, played 104 games for the Gloucester First XV between 1897 and 1905, scoring 9 tries. He was also awarded 23 Gloucestershire County caps between 1897 and 1906, scoring 1 try. Fred was absent for most of the period from 1900 to 1902 being away with the British Army in South Africa. This period also affected his chances of an international cap – in 1899 he had played in the North-South trial match and was tipped to be capped in the following season but by that time he was in South Africa. Fred died on 23 August 1945 aged 71 years. He was buried in Northwich Cemetery and his funeral was attended by his wife and six surviving children and his grandchildren. His third wife Adeline died in 1984 aged 91 years. There is also a [detailed profile of Fred Goolding](#) in the People/Player Profiles section of this website.

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The **PAGE** Family – **George Frederick John Page**

**George Frederick John Page** was born in Gloucester in June 1871, the son of John Page (1847-1881) and Emily Ann Poole (1846-1904). The couple married at St James Church on 4 February 1868 and had two children. In 1881 the family were living in St Marys Street when George's father, John, a Shipwright died at seas on board the *Essex* on 13 August. In 1885 Emily re-married to Adolphus Base but by 1891 she was living with her daughter, Eleanor, and he son-in-law. In 1890 George's older sister Eleanor Maria Page had married [Albert Edward \('Car'\) Cummings](#) who was therefore his brother-in-law while his nephew was Eleanor's son, [Ernest George Cummings](#). In 1896 in Stroud, George married Fanny Florence Fletcher and together they had three children. George was employed as a Railway Coach Maker. Their eldest son Ewart Gladstone Page would serve with the Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF) in the Great War. However the marriage was cut short when Fanny died in 1902 aged 28 years. In 1907 George married for the second time to a widow Florence Ashbee and together they had two children. George was now employed as a Carpenter at an indoor games factory. George's second marriage was cut short by his death in 1911 aged 39 years. George, a three-quarter, played 19 games for the Gloucester First XV between 1893 and 1896, scoring 3 tries and 35 games for the Gloucester Second XV between 1892 and 1896, scoring 8 tries. After retiring he became a referee and was considered one of the finest in Gloucestershire. With the news of his death the Gloucester Rugby Club make a collection at the Watsonians match on 23 December 1911 which was donated to his widow and the four of his children who still lived with him. His wife, Florence, died in 1969 aged 89 years.

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