

Margaret Ellen Rochfort

Margaret Ellen Rochfort was born on 16th September 1839 and baptised on 19th January 1840 at St. James', Calcutta. For this record her father Marcus Gustavus Rochfort was listed as headmaster of the Madrassa College. She was just 18 when she married landowner and indigo planter Patrick Smith, of the McLulichs Clan Campbell, in Calcutta in 1857.¹

On the 5th November at St John's Church by the Reverend A Hamilton, Patrick Smith esquire 2nd son of Captain Alexander Smith late of Her Majesty's 91st Highlanders to Margaret Ellen 4th daughter of the late M. G. Rochfort esquire.

Patrick was a son of Alexander Smith and Agnes White, who were married at Glasgow on 30th July 1821, as recorded in the parish register.²

21st Lieut Alex^r Smith 42 Reg^t and of the P. of Killin to Miss Agnes White North West P. of Glasgow.

Alexander and Agnes had seven children, born at around two year intervals between 1822 and 1831 and then with a gap until 1834, and all births were registered at Kilninver and Kilmelford, Argyle as follows.³

James White Smith	26 Aug 1822
Janet Muir Smith	29 Mar 1824
Patrick Smith	13 Dec 1826
William Smith	11 Dec 1827
Isabella Campbell Smith	18 Oct 1829
Lillias Smith	18 Aug 1831
Joanna White Smith	10 Jan 1834

Although married and having had their children in Scotland the family lived on the Isle of Man. They were there for the 1841 census, living at Ronsalsway in the parish of Malew. The only person missing was the elder son James who may have gone to India because it was there at Calcutta that he married 15 year old Marion Melville Smith, daughter of Charles Richard Smith on 25th May 1857.⁴

The 1851 census finds Alexander, aged 62 and listed as Lt HM 42 Regt, and Agnes Smith aged 55, living with their son-in-law James White, who was a farmer on the Isle of Man but who had been born in Bengal and who had married their daughter Janet. The only other Smith children in this household were Lilly (Lillias) and Joanna.⁵

Sometime between the 1841 and 1851 census collections Patrick Smith followed his elder brother to India and was himself a married man six months after James.

Four children were born to Patrick and Margaret over the next eight years, Alexander, Marion, Mary and Geraldine, but Marion only lived for one day. When the children were very young the family moved to Balliacandy which was apparently a delightful place. Around 1867 Patrick Smith took over the indigo factory at Katli which had become run down after his brother (James?) and partner had left it some years before. In between reinstating and supervising the Katli factory, Patrick and his family spent time on a large houseboat on the regular trips to check on Patrick Smith's other business interests.⁶

The children's early education was ably undertaken by their mother in India but as they approached their teens the decision was made that they be sent to England to further advance their education. In fact Margaret and her children arrived in England in the spring of 1876 and spent the first ten months with other family members at the Isle of Man.

Patrick's father Alexander Smith had died sometime between 1851 and 1861, but his mother continued to live on the Isle of Man. When the census man came around in 1861 Agnes was living in Coburg Road, now a widow, looking after a bevy of grandchildren – James White, 14, son of James and Janet White (née Smith); 12 year old twins Ann and Lilly Tulloch, daughters of Isabella Tulloch (née Smith); and Charles Smith, 9, born in India to William White Smith and his wife Margaret Smith (née Robson), who had married in May 1850 at Kishnaghur, when the groom was 22 and the bride 19. Agnes Smith typifies the important role of grandparents in taking care of the children of their own various and often far flung children. And looking again at this census transcript we find that, living just two doors away, were Mary Ann Rochfort and Delia Smith, having arrived from India, and fulfilling exactly the same fostering role for each other's children.⁷

For the 1871 census, and five years before Margaret Smith brought her children to England, Agnes Smith, still at 8 Coburg Street, was 'host' to her daughter Isabella Tulloch and granddaughter Lily Tulloch, and also in charge of two other grandchildren, Agnes Annie Smith, 17, and Alexander Smith, 18, two more of the children born in India to her son William White Smith and Margaret Sarah Smith. The tendency for this family to give the same names to their offspring can be very confusing.⁸

Having caught up with family, Margaret and her two daughters moved to Cheltenham in 1877 so that the girls could be enrolled at the prestigious Cheltenham Ladies College. It was there at 7 Lansdown Crescent that Margaret Ellen Smith headed up a household comprising a number of extended family members.⁹

Margaret E Smith	Head	M	40	Wife of Patrick Smith Indigo Planter Bengal	Calcutta, British Subject
Mary L R Smith	Daur	U	19	Scholar	Calcutta, British Subject
Marie G R Smith	Daur		15	Scholar	Calcutta, British Subject
Agnes A Smith	Niece	U	27		Kishnaghur, British Subject
Delia Smith	Sister	W	51		Calcutta, British Subject
Arthur H Sears	Nephew		16		Taunton, Somerset
Edith M Hoyle	Niece		12	Scholar	Calcutta, British Subject
Eliza Escott	Serv	U	27	Cook Domestic	Bognor, Sussex
Sarah J Horne	Serv	U	22	House Maid	Kensington, London

The two daughters were Mary Lilian Rochfort Smith and Marie Geraldine Rochfort Smith. Agnes Annie Smith, niece, was the granddaughter who had been staying with Agnes Smith in 1871. Presumably Edith (Edythe) Hoyle, daughter of Margaret's sister Marie Catherine Hoyle, was also enrolled at the College. Son Alexander was, for the same census, a married man.

In deciding where to place their female offspring the Smith and Hoyle families may have consulted the 'bible' "Index Scholasticus – Sons and Daughters" a guide to parents in the choice of educational institutions preparatory to professional and other occupations of their children. Alternatively they would have heard from other Anglo-Indians that the mild weather and the medicinal baths of Cheltenham were well suited to those used to the heat of India. In the preface to his 1872 edition of the Index, the author Robert Kemp Philp expressed his regret that great Public Schools like those for boys were not more numerous and liberally provided for the higher education of women. However, the Cheltenham Ladies College was listed and described as follows.¹⁰

Established for the purpose of providing for the Daughters of Gentlemen sound and religious Education of the highest order on moderate terms. The Proprietary consists of 155 shares, and every Pupil must be nominated by a Proprietor, and approved by the Council. Besides the Regular Students, who attend daily, there is a considerable number of Occasional Students who attend Courses of Lectures, or take Lessons. Ever since the establishment of the College the Council have insisted on a thorough Examination of all the Classes. Each year they have appointed independent Examiners, many of whom have been public Examiners in the Universities of Oxford and London, besides some of the Assistant Commissioners on the Schools Enquiry. The Council are careful to appoint the best Teachers that can be procured.

No Boarders are received, but Homes for Boarders are sanctioned by the Council. Numerous families, especially from India, come to reside at Cheltenham, and send their children to the College.

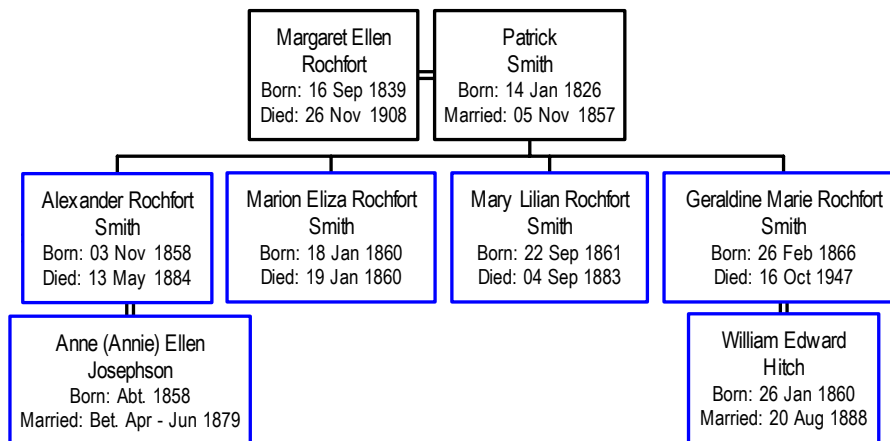
Several of the Pupils have taken Honours in the Oxford University Local Examinations for Girls, and in the Cambridge and the London University Examinations.

Course of Instruction - Holy Scriptures, Ancient and Modern History, Geography, English Language and Grammar, French, German, Writing, Euclid, Algebra, Arithmetic, Reading, Natural Science, Chemistry and Electricity, Natural Philosophy, Literature; Drawing, Calisthenics, Needlework, &c. Courses of Lectures to advanced Students are given in Science, Literature, and History.

Fees - inclusive Terms for half-yearly session : - For the Third Division, 6 gs.; Second Division, 8½ gs. ; First Division, 11 gs. Pupils of the College are received as Boarders by Ladies approved by the Council, the Inclusive Terms being 50 gs per annum.

A rough calculation in today's (2011) terms would make the fees per half year range from about £305 to £400, and the annual cost for boarding pupils out would equate to £2,500 each. Even taking account of the rental for 7 Lansdown Crescent, it was clearly far more economical for the girls to live at home with their own family.

Margaret Smith has not been found in any English census returns after 1881. From events surrounding their daughter Mary Lilian we know that both Margaret and Patrick Smith were in England in August/September 1883. At some stage Margaret went back to India because it was there, on 26th November 1908 that she died at the age of 69 at Ootacamund, Madras, having outlived three of her four children. The record states that her marital status was a married woman and that her husband's name was Patrick and this implies that he was still alive when Margaret died. However I have not found any other references or record for Patrick Smith's death.¹¹



Alexander Rochfort Smith

Just short of one year after their marriage Margaret and Patrick Smith welcomed the birth of their son Alexander Rochfort Smith, named for both of his paternal grandfathers. He was born on 3rd November 1858 and baptised at Calcutta on 2nd January 1859. He may have been sent as a young boy to England for his education but I have not found him in the census records enrolled at any school or staying with any relatives prior to 1876 when his mother and sisters arrived there in 1876, so maybe he came with them, by which time he would have been 18 years old.

While no doubt delighted at the birth of a son, I am not sure that his parents would have been quite so thrilled only 20 years later to welcome a daughter-in-law into the family fold. At the tender age of 20 Alexander married Anne (Annie) Ellen Josephson who was the same age as the groom, with her birth having been registered at Lymington for the Oct-Dec quarter of 1858. Their marriage was registered at St George, Hanover Square, for the Apr-Jun quarter of 1879. The young couple was living at 27 Cleveland Gardens, Barnes, for the 1881 census and they had a one-year old daughter whose birth had been registered for the Jan-Mar quarter of 1880 at the Isle of Wight.¹²

Alexander R Smith	Head	M	22	Undergraduate (University of London)	Barrackpore, India
Anne E Smith	Wife	M	22		Lymington, Hants
Gladys R Smith	Daur	U	1		Ventnor, Isle of Wight
Melinda P Boulton	Serv	U	20	General Servant	Devon

I imagine that running a household as an undergraduate would have made finances a bit tight, but Alexander was able to afford some domestic help. The marriage was cut prematurely short with the death of Alexander at the age of only 25 in 1884. Someone, presumably a family member, placed a notice in the Times to mark this distressing event. There is no mention of his wife in the notice, but perhaps nothing should be read into this omission?¹³

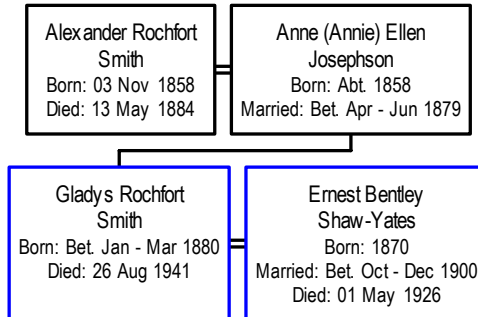
On the 13th May, at London, ALEXANDER ROCHFORD SMITH, aged 25, only son of Patrick Smith, Esq., of Katly, in Bengal, and Cheltenham. Calcutta papers, please copy.

Widowed at a very young age, Anne Smith was found with her widowed mother for the next three census years. In 1891 she was the head of the household at 1 Jubilee Terrace, Portsea. Apart from her daughter Gladys and her mother Ellen, Anne's household included a cousin, Robert Harvey, a Colour Staff Sergeant in the army who was listed as married, and another cousin (probably Robert's son) – 3 year old Roy Edmund Harvey whose birth had been registered at Portsea for the Apr-Jun quarter of 1887. When the 1901 census was taken Annie and her mother were living at 30 St Peter's Grove, Portsmouth and listed as follows. The occupation column was not filled in. Reading between the lines, it is likely that Ellen and Robert Harvey were more than just cousins..¹⁴

The Hoyle Connections

Anne E Harvey	Head	M	42	Lymington, Hants
Ellen Josephson	Mother	W	72	Newport, Isle of Wight
Roy E Harvey	Son	S	13	Southsea, Hants

However, by the time of the 1911 census Annie had reverted to her widow status and to using her married name. Still living in the Portsmouth area, Annie Smith, aged 52, and Ellen Josephson aged 82 were the only occupants of 48 Lennox Road, North Southsea.¹⁵

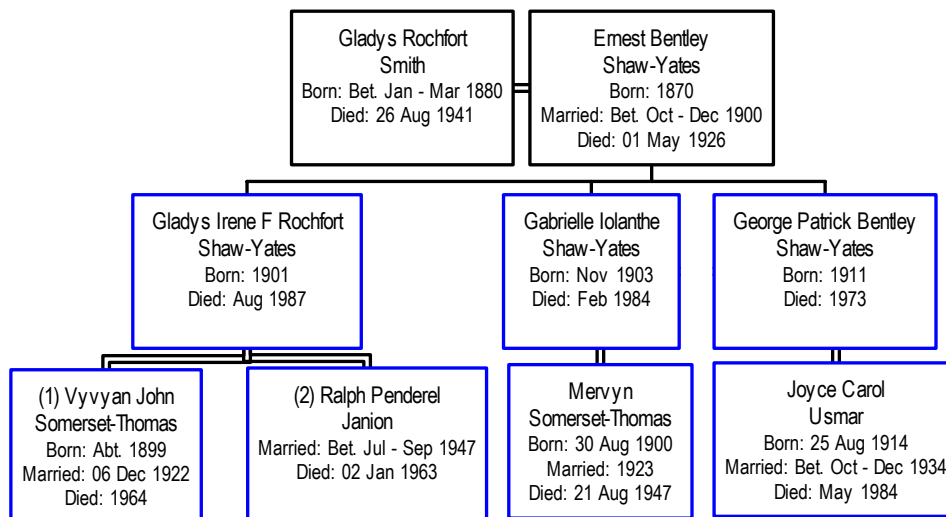


Gladys Rochfort Smith

In 1900 Gladys Rochfort Smith married Ernest Bentley Shaw-Yates. The marriage was registered at Portsmouth for the Oct-Dec quarter. Ernest had been born at Whiston, Yorkshire, in 1870, son of Robert B Shaw-Yates and his wife Elizabeth Ellen. Robert, an Ironfounder, died at the age of 40 when Ernest was only three. His mother remarried in 1882 to Wolseley Partridge Emerton, a lawyer with property – Banwell Castle in Somerset and Oakwood Hall in Yorks. It was at Banwell Castle that Ernest was staying, and described as living on own means, for the 1891 census. For the June 1911 census both Ernest and Gladys are recorded as having private means. They were living at Barsby Lodge, Pelham, Ryde on the Isle of Wight. They had two daughters, Gladys Irene Rochfort and Gabrielle Iolanthe. Very shortly after the census Gladys gave birth to son George Patrick Bentley. Ernest Shaw-Yates died in 1926 at the age of 56 and appointed a solicitor (in fact his brother-in-law who, in 1892 had married Ernest's sister Eva Elizabeth Shaw-Yates in 1892) to administer his estate.¹⁶

SHAW-YATES Ernest Bentley of Welling Ryde Isle of Wight died 1 May 1926 Probate London to Beauchamp Edward Tyrwhitt solicitor. Effects £29064 1s 2d.

His widow continued to live at Wellington, Ryde, and it was there that she died on 26th August 1941 at the age of 61. Her will was proved on the 8th January 1942 by her executors – George Henry Rigby and her son George Patrick Bentley Shaw-Yates.¹⁷



Marion Eliza Rochfort Smith

The first daughter of Patrick and Margaret Smith was a very sickly baby who survived only one day. She was born and baptised on 18th January 1860 and died and was buried on 19th January 1860 at Calcutta.¹⁸



Mary Lilian Rochfort Smith

It was through Anne O'Grady that I found out more about the life of Mary Lilian Rochfort Smith, a life cut short, prematurely, in tragic circumstances. In recounting her tale I have relied heavily on a memoir written in honour of the girl who was known to her family and friends as Teena Rochfort Smith.¹⁹

Mary Lilian Rochfort Smith was born in Calcutta on 22nd September 1861 and baptised there on 20th October of that year. She was a small and frail baby and her Indian ayahs called her 'Teeny' and from then on she was known to her family and friends as Teena. Her early years were spent in India where her father was a landowner and indigo planter. When she was six her family moved to Katlee where they lived in comfortable circumstances with a fine house, large gardens and an orchard, and where Mary Lilian enjoyed riding her pony and playing with her pets, including two tiger-cats. Together with her brother and sister, she was taught by her mother, until the time for the children to be taken to England to complete their education.

With her mother and siblings Mary Lilian arrived in England in the spring of 1876 when she was about 15 years of age and, having spent a few months in the Isle of Man where her father's parents were living, the Smiths moved to Cheltenham, where Mary Lilian was enrolled, along with her sister, at the Cheltenham Ladies College. She passed the Oxford Local Examination in 1879 but, on the advice of her doctor, and due to her poor health, she did not sit for the College examination, instead continuing her studies at home. She and passed the Cambridge Higher Local Examination in 1880, with honours. Under the guidance of Frederick James Furnivall, a philologist and editor, an ardent promoter of early English literature, and founder of the new Shakspeare [sic] Society, Mary Lilian embarked on editing for the Society a four-text edition of Hamlet. She also undertook other literary researches and assisted James Furnivall with his own work. She was well received in literary circles, and was particularly pleased to make the acquaintance of Robert Browning whom she very much admired.

However, illness dogged her, and she was laid very low in the early summer of 1883. In August she went with her parents and sister for a holiday at Buxton which did much to restore her health. She then went with her family to visit an uncle at Goole in Yorkshire. What the memoir does not mention is that by this time her relationship with James Furnivall, nearly forty years her senior and a married man, had graduated from that of his secretary to that of mistress, and in June 1883 Furnivall had left his wife, and their 21 year old son, for his Teena. Two months later, on 4th September 1883, Mary Lilian died at the age of 21 at Burlington Crescent, Hook, in the district of Goole. The certificate, which was issued following a coronial inquiry held on 5th September, records that she died from the effects of burns accidentally received on the 28th August. The memoir gives a more detailed and graphic account of the circumstances leading to her death.²⁰

In order to burn some letters – as was her wont – she struck a match, of the bad kind called 'Domestics'. The lighted head flew off on to a needlework mat, which caught fire. She threw it down and stampd on it, but did not notice that her dress had caught fire behind. From that the lace curtains caught. She tried first to put them out, then her own clothes; but failing, rushed downstairs (where her sister was unable to get the flames under,) and then into the garden, where, when they had nearly burnt themselves out, the flames were at last extinguished. She made herself walk upstairs, where a surgeon, Mr Bramwell, had come in, and the terrible extent of her injuries must have shown an experienced eye that her speedy death was certain. But Dr. Blair and Mr. Bramwell refused to give up hope. She was delirious on Tuesday night, but rallied wonderfully on Thursday morning, and this delusive appearance led to the entertainment of fresh hopes. But renewed attacks of delirium, occasioned by the agonies she suffered, soon dispelled these hopes; and nothing was left except to soothe, as much as might be, the passage to the grave, of the charred and tortured frame; the return to the God who gave it, of the tried and loving spirit. Happily that spirit could rise triumphant over the body racked by pain, the mind distorted by delirium...The end came on the morning of Tuesday, Sept. 4. One weary watcher through the night – not admitted to the sick room [Fredrick Furnivall?] - walked for a while on the river-bank...At about a quarter to eight she passed away, so peacefully, that those gathered around her hardly knew when she had gone. She was buried in Goole Cemetery on Thursday Sept. 6, 1883.



1864



Mary Lilian (Teena) Rochfort Smith
August 1878



August 1882

To perpetuate Lilian's connection with the Cheltenham Ladies' College, and her love for Shakespeare, her family and friends gifted to the College £100 of Government Stocks, the dividend from which was to be applied annually as a "Rochfort-Smith Shakspere [sic] Prize" for the best essay by any College student, past or present, on some aspect of Shakespeare's work.



Geraldine Marie Rochfort Smith

The youngest of the four children of Patrick and Margaret Smith, Geraldine was born at Calcutta on 26th February 1866 and two months later, on 26th May, she was baptised. Together with her mother, sister and brother she went to England in 1876 and, after a short sojourn on the Isle of Man, she moved to Cheltenham. It was there, with her mother, sister, an aunt and some cousins that she was living at 7 Lansdown Crescent when the 1881 census was taken. Geraldine and her mother returned to India sometime after 1883 and, at Calcutta in August 1888 Geraldine married William Edward Hitch.²¹

Aug 20th at Calcutta WE Hitch, the National Bank of India, to Geraldine Marie Rochfort, daughter of P. Smith Esq of Katley Kishnaghur.

According to the marriage records, William Edward Hitch was a son of William Henry Hitch. Apart from the fact that William junior was recorded as fathering a son in 1889, I have no further substantiating records for him. A notice in The Times of India announced the arrival of this son.²²

Oct 2 at Calcutta the wife of W E Hitch of a son.

However, and purely speculatively, I may have found a record for William Edward Hitch's birth and, from that, some information about his family.

A William Edward Hitch was born on 26th January 1860, at Dunkeld, Perth, Scotland, to William Henry Hitch and his wife Isabella (née Elder). Father, William Henry Hitch, was a son of yet another William and his wife Elizabeth (née) Cameron who welcomed their son into the world on 2nd October 1823 at Inverness. Isabella Elder was born at Newcastle-upon-Tyne to Edward Se(a)ton and Eleanor Elder and baptised at St Andrew's in the same city on 18th August 1825. I am not sure what William Hitch did for a living, but judging from the 1841 census, by which time he had died, his widow Elizabeth was comfortably off with independent means sufficient to maintain a household with the domestic servants. Isabella was not at home when the 1851 census was collected, but her father, living at Bishopwearmouth, Sunderland, was listed as a house steward.²³

Both of their fathers were deceased when William Henry Hitch and Isabella Elder were married at St Paul's in Perth on the 30th September 1858 and they were located for the 1861 census living at Little Dunkeld with their one year old son.²⁴

William Henry Hitch	37	Excise Officer
Isabella Hitch	32	
Edward William Hitch	1	

Margaret Kay 20 Domestic Servant

I have not found the Hitch family in the 1871 census and by the time we catch up with them in April 1881 William and Isabella are the only inhabitants at 2 John Street, St Andrews, in Fife, and William is now described as a superannuated inland revenue officer. Just to finish off with the possible parents-in-law of Geraldine Marie Rochfort Smith – they moved to Camberwell sometime between 1881 and 1891 and were in residence at 7 Claude Villas, for the 1891 census. The Maria included in the household was the daughter of Isabella's sister Mary who, in 1844, had married George Jeffrey Bourne.²⁵

William H Hitch	Head	M	67	Living on own means	Inverness, Scotland
Isabella Hitch	Wife	M	65		Newcastle on Tyne
Maria Bourne	Niece	S	37		City of London
Grace Rafford	Serv	S	48	General Servant	Ipswich, Suffolk

Very shortly after the 1891 census William Henry Hitch's death at the age of 68 was registered at Camberwell for the 1892 Jul-Sep quarter. His widow just made it to the new century, with her death at the age of 74 also being registered at Camberwell for the Jan-March quarter of 1900. A notice was placed in The Times of 12th January.²⁶

HITCH – On the 10th inst., at 110 Wood Vale, Honor Oak, S.E., in her 75th year, ISABELLA, widow of the late WILLIAM HENRY HITCH, late of Inverness and Birnam. Colonial papers, please copy.

If Isabella Hitch was William Edward Hitch's mother, and assuming Edward was still in India, it would be appropriate that the colonial papers be requested to publish the notice. But when Edward went to India, and where and when he died are still a mystery.

Gerald Henry Sibbald Hitch

The baby son born to William and Geraldine Marie Hitch was baptised at Calcutta on 11th December 1889 and named Gerald Henry Sibbald Hitch. The next time we come across him in the online records is when he gets married to Phyllis A Riley. The marriage was registered at Chesterton, Cambridgeshire for the Jan-Mar quarter of 1915. By 1919 Phyllis was a widow. Gerald Henry Hitch was one of the men listed in The London Gazette of 17th November 1914 as having been appointed to the rank of temporary Second Lieutenant in the Royal Army Service Corps. He was at some point further promoted to temporary Captain, the rank shown on the record of his death in the UK Soldiers Died in the Great War 1914-1920 database. In fact he died aged 29 on 10th February 1919, after peace was declared, so I assume that he died as a result of wounds or some other condition arising from his war service. He is not listed on the Commonwealth War Graves website. The probate record gives an alternative date of death.²⁷

HITCH Gerald Henry Sibbald of 56 Buckingham Gate Middlesex died 8 February 1919 at 4 Portinscale-road East Putney Surrey Probate London 1 July to Phyllis Hitch widow. Effects £954 15s 1d.

A notation on Gerald's medal card reads²⁸

Mrs Phyllis Hitch applies for medals due in respect of the services of the late Capt G. H. S. Hitch, 20.1.20

The request was processed and the medals were duly dispatched nine months later on 28th October. The address to which the medals were to be sent was Brunswick Lodge, 5 Newmarket Road, Norwich. Using this snippet of information we can extrapolate from the census and birth and marriage registration records that Phyllis Riley was a daughter of Walter and Kale Eliza Conduit, who had married at Winchester in 1878. Her birth was registered at Norwich for the Jul-Sep quarter of 1893. Phyllis's paternal grandparents were George and Mary Riley. George, a brewer's engineer for the 1861 census, and his wife had spent time in America where three of their children were born, including their son Walter Riley. Walter followed his father into the brewing industry and he, his wife, and some of their children, including young Phyllis, were living at 5 Newmarket Road, Norwich, for the 1901 census.²⁹

Walter Riley	Head	M	49	Brewer (employer)	America (British Subject)
Kate Eliza Riley	Wife	M	47		Winchester, Hampshire
Walter Alfred Riley	Son	S	21	Brewer	Norwich, Norfolk
Kate Evelyn Riley	Daur	S	16		Norwich, Norfolk
Reginald Conduit Riley	Son	S	15		Norwich, Norfolk
Elsie Gilmore Riley	Daur	S	12		Norwich, Norfolk
Frederick Charles Riley	Son	S	8		Norwich, Norfolk
Phyllis Riley	Daur	S	7		Norwich, Norfolk

The Hoyle Connections

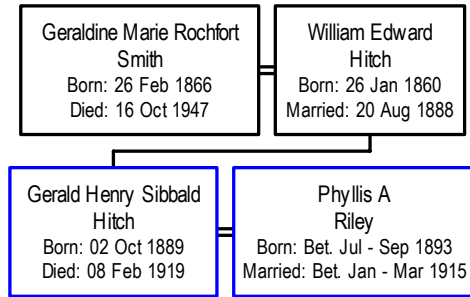
Theresa Mary Conduit	S-i-L	S	37	Living on own Means	Winchester, Hampshire
Maria Spearing	Serv	S	23	Housemaid Domestic	Bedow, Norfolk
Sophia Bryant	Serv	S	28	Cook Domestic	Burgate, Suffolk

By the time of the 1901 census Walter Riley was a widow, but he was still living at Newmarket Street and his household included his son Frederick and his daughters Elsie and Phyllis as well as three domestic servants.³⁰

Phyllis may have remarried if she is the bride of the Norwich marriage registration for Apr-Jun 1922 between Phyllis Hitch and Sidney F Durrant. If so, Sidney was likely to have been Sidney Frederick Durrant, born about 1889 at Norfolk and who, for the 1911 census, was at home at 20 Eaton Road, Norwich, with his parents and siblings. At the time his father, Frederick Durrant, was a managing director of a drapery concern and Sidney was listed as an insurance clerk. He had also served with the Norfolk Regiment in WWI and was Captain Durrant when demobilised.³¹

As far as Geraldine Hitch is concerned, I found a record of death of an 80 year old Geraldine M R Hitch for the Oct-Dec quarter of 1947 at Isle of Wight. The death certificate tells us that Geraldine Marie Rochfort Hitch died at St Bede's, Salisbury Road, Ryde, on 16th October 1947, widow of William Hitch, a bank clerk. She died from a combination of exhaustion and senility, and M F Ramsay was present at the death. I am not sure, but would think that St Bede's was a nursing home.³²

Until further information comes to hand which may support or refute my speculation on the provenance of William Edward Hitch the following chart is tentative.



Notes

- ¹ India Office Family History Search N/1/56 f.45; FIBIS Birth Announcements taken from East India Register Source Year 1840; FIBIS Bombay Times and Journal of Commerce Edition 1857 19 Nov; Family Search India Marriages 1792-1948; I wonder if Thomas Smith (who married Delia Rochfort) and Patrick Smith were related and if so, how?
- ² Family Search Scotland Marriages 1561-1910; Killin Parish Register 361/00 0030 007.
- ³ Family Search Scotland Births and Baptisms 1564-1950.
- ⁴ HO107/1464/4/18/p4.
- ⁵ HO107/2524/36/p15; Family Search India Marriages 1792-1948; Lilius Smith married James W D Keogh, and one of their sons, Alexander Keogh, married Jeannie Margaret Hoyle, a daughter of George William and Marie Catherine Hoyle who were brother-in-law and sister respectively of Margaret Ellen Rochfort.
- ⁶ Teena Rochfort-Smith A Memoir, 1861-1883, pp3-4.
- ⁷ RG9/4422/83/p15; Family Search India Births and Baptisms 1786-1947; Family Search India Marriages 1792-1948.
- ⁸ RG10/5773/212/p19.
- ⁹ Teena Rochfort-Smith A Memoir, 1861-1883, pp3-4; RG11/2547/53/p11.
- ¹⁰ Index Scholasticus – Sons & Daughters, Robert Kemp Philp, Virtue & Co, London 1872 – Google Book.
- ¹¹ Family Search India Deaths and Burials 1719-1948.
- ¹² Family Search India Births and Baptisms 1786-1947; FreeBMD Marriage Index 1837-1915; RG11/848/31/p18; FreeBMD Birth Index 1837-1915.
- ¹³ The Times Wednesday May 21 1884.
- ¹⁴ RG12/871/72/p8; FreeBMD Birth Index 1837-1915; RG/13/1006/26/p6.
- ¹⁵ RG14PN5549 RG78PN252 RD90 SD2 ED28 SN297.
- ¹⁶ FreeBMD Marriage Index 1837-1915; RG10/4703/19/p32; FreeBMD Death Index 1837-1915; RG11/1026/55/p28; Oxford University Alumni 1500-1886; RG12/1919/27/p11; RG14PN5721 RG78PN260 RD93 SD3 ED6 SN258; England & Wales Death Index 1916-2005; England & Wales National Probate Calendar (Index of Wills and Administration) 1861-1941.
- ¹⁷ England & Wales Death Index 1916-2005; The London Gazette 30 January 1942.
- ¹⁸ Family Search India Births and Baptisms 1786-1947, Family Search India Deaths and Burials 1719-1948.
- ¹⁹ Family Search India Births and Baptisms 1786-1947; Teena Rochfort-Smith A Memoir, 1883.
- ²⁰ FreeBMD Death Index 1837-1915; certified copy of Death Certificate DYC907446.
- ²¹ Family Search India Births and Baptisms 1786-1947, India Marriages 1792-1948; FIBIS the Times of India Marriages 1888 25 Aug 1888.
- ²² FIBIS The Times of India Births 1889 7 Oct 1889.
- ²³ Family Search Scotland Births and Baptisms 1564-1950, England Births and Christenings 1538-1975; 1841 Scotland Census Parish:Inverness ED34 p12; HO107/2395/148/p2.
- ²⁴ FreeBMD Death Index 1837-1915; Statutory Marriages 387/01 01921; 1861 Scotland Census Parish:Little Dunkeld ED6 p10.
- ²⁵ 1891 Scotland Census Parish:St Andrews and St Leonards ED2 p22; RG12/468/147/p79; FreeBMD Marriages 1837-1915.
- ²⁶ FreeBMD Death Index 1837-1915; The Times Friday Jan 12 1900.
- ²⁷ Family Search India Births and Baptisms 1786-1947; FreeBMD Marriage Index 1837-1915; The London Gazette 17 November 1914 p9407; UK Soldiers Died in the Great War 1914-1919; England & Wales National Probate Calendar (Index of Wills and Administration) 1861-1941.
- ²⁸ British Army WWI Medal Rolls Index Cards 1914-1920; England & Wales Marriage Index 1916-2005.
- ²⁹ FreeBMD Birth Index 1837-1915; RG9/357/124/p34; RG13/1845/121/p43.
- ³⁰ RG14PN11316 RG78PN614 RD225 SD2 ED27 SN108.
- ³¹ RG14PN11313 RG78PN614 RD225 SD2 ED 24 SN9; British Army WWI Medal Rolls Index Cards 1914-1920.
- ³² England & Wales Death Index 1916-2005.