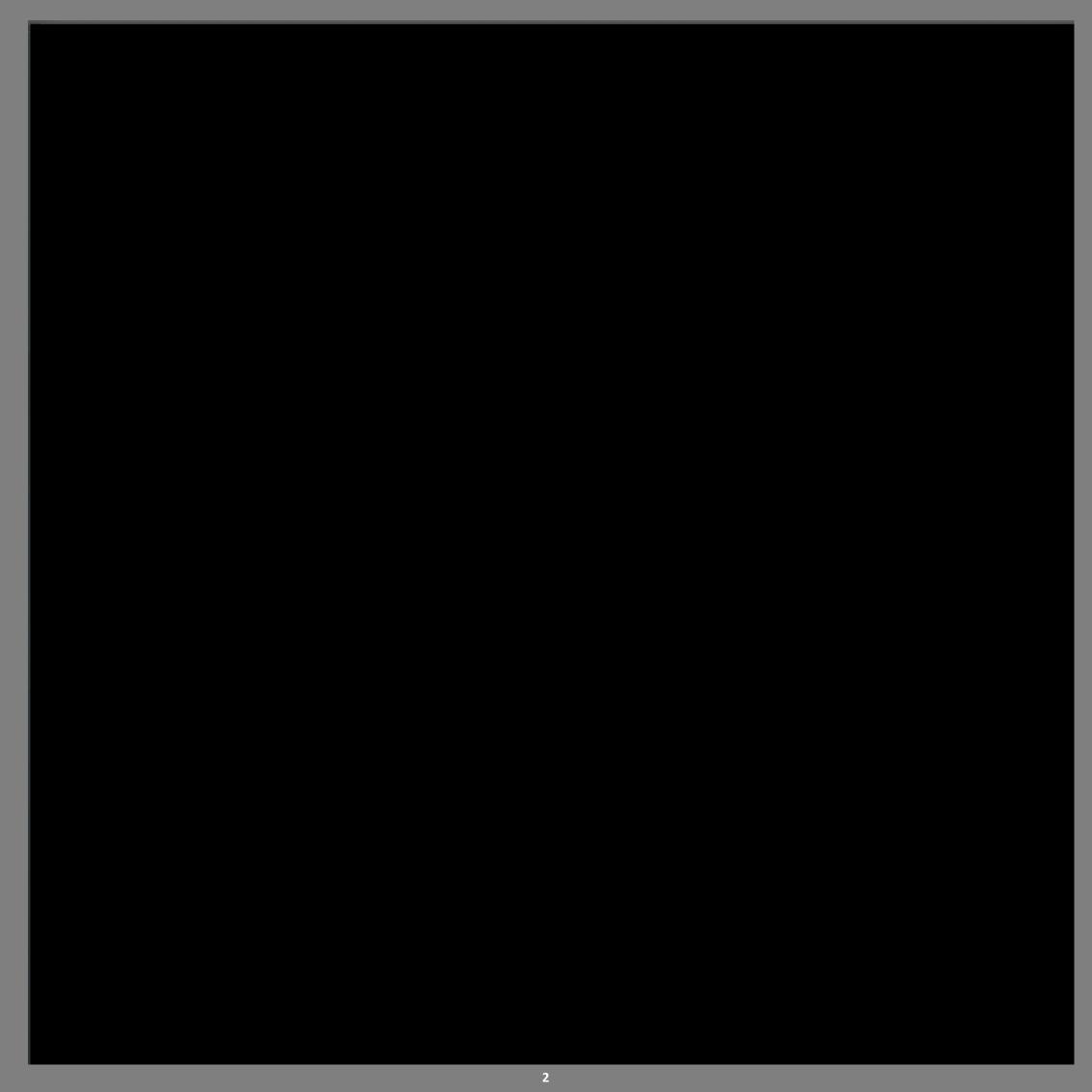
John Bingley (1871 - 1947)

Family Pictures and Stories



John Bingley (1871 - 1947)



Family Pictures and Stories

Acknowledgements and sources:

I am very grateful to my mother Elizabeth Maskill (daughter of John Hampden Bingley), and David and Tim Wish (sons of Kathleen Bingley) for sharing their memories and stories of John (Grandpa) Bingley.

Most of the photographs originally came from the Bingley-Tate photograph collection.

I also used various internet websites to obtain other material, including Ancestry, FamilySearch, FindMyPast, and 'Our Mansfield and Area'.

Abbreviations:

b. = born
CHM = Caroline Helen Maskill
EAM = Elizabeth Anne Maskill (nee Bingley)
GDW = (George) David Wish
NEP = Nottingham Evening Post
TJW = Timothy John Wish

Note:

This book was created for Bingley family members, and is not intended for wider publication (copyright restrictions may apply to some material).

John Bingley

Born: 17 March 1871, Grimesthorpe, Yorkshire

Died: 27 September 1947, Sheffield, Yorkshire

Father: John Bingley, scissor forger (1825 - 1870)

Mother: Mary (nee Mallinson) (1836 - 1907)

Sisters: Frances Mary (b. 1863), Beatrice (b. 1867), Emily (b. 1869)



St Thomas Church, Brightside, where John Bingley was christened on 30 April 1871

Grandpa Bingley's father died from rheumatic fever complications four months before the young John was born.

At the 1871 census, when John was two weeks old, the family was living at 67 Winco Road, Grimesthorpe (near Sheffield).

Some time between 1871 and 1876 the family moved to a beerhouse called 'the Coach and Horses' at 300 High Street, Attercliffe. John's mother Mary had taken over the pub licence from her stepfather, Thomas Hudson. In 1881 John Bingley and his family are recorded as still living at this pub.

However, at the beginning of 1883 John's mother Mary married John Smith, another innkeeper, and the family moved to his pub – 'the Queen's Head' at 20 Sheaf Street, Sheffield Park.

By 1891 John was a student mining engineer, his stepfather had died and the Bingley family was still living at the Queen's Head.

By 1901, John Bingley was a colliery manager living in Bolsover Woodhouse, Derbyshire, with his wife May. Next door, in Portland House, was John Houfton, general manager of the Bolsover Colliery Company, for which John Bingley also worked.







May Elizabeth Millson



Born: 14 May 1880, Chesterfield, Derbyshire

Died: 7 October 1959, Sheffield, Yorkshire

Father: John Hampden Millson, clothier / tailor (1841 - 1902)

Mother: Elizabeth (Tettie) Gothard (1851 - 1931)

MARRIAGE.

BINGLEY-MILLSON.—At the Parish Church, Bolsover, by the Rev. A. Vaughen Colston, John, only son of the late John Bingley, of Grimesthorpe, to May Elizabeth, fourth daughter of J. H. Millson, of Belleveu, Bolsover, Chesterfield.

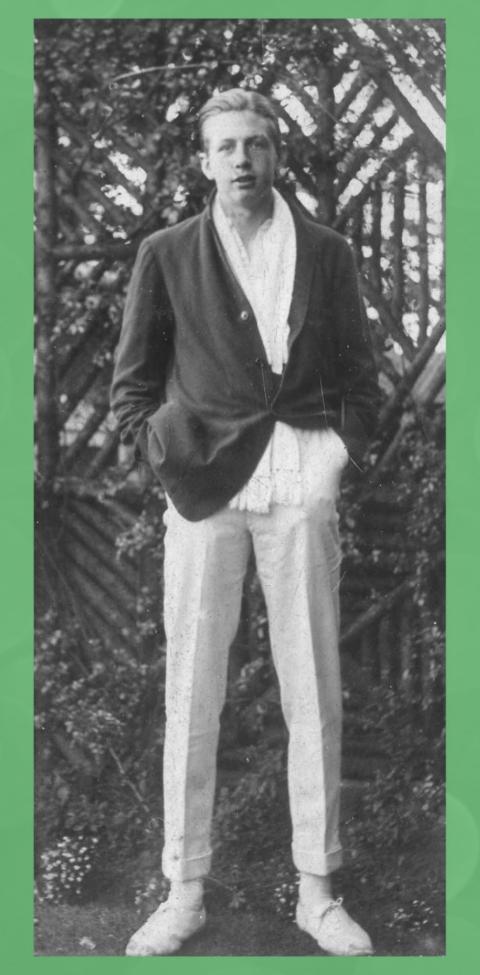
Millson family, spring 1896 (From left to right)

Back row: Alice (b. 1878), Alfred (b. 1877), Bertha (b. 1873), Harry (b. 1872), Marian (b. 1871), Frank (b. 1875) Middle row: May (b. 1880), Dorothy (b. 1884), John, Kitty (b. 1885), Tettie (holding Phyllis b. 1895), Mollie (b. 1887) Front row: Jean (b. 1889), Hilda (b. 1891)

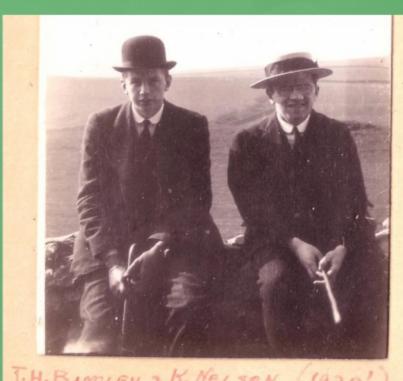
John and May Bingley's children



John Hampden Bingley (26 March 1902 - 23 December 1980)







Kathleen Mary Bingley (14 April 1906 - 1982)









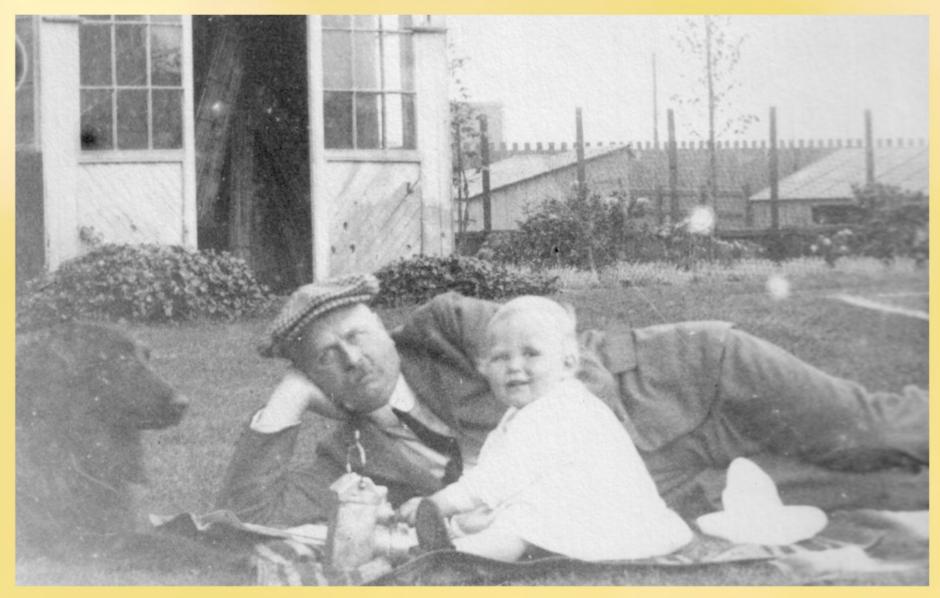




M. E.B. K.M.B. 2. GOTHARD. (AUS: 1915)



Richard Alan Bingley (RAB) (14 December 1914 - 1982)









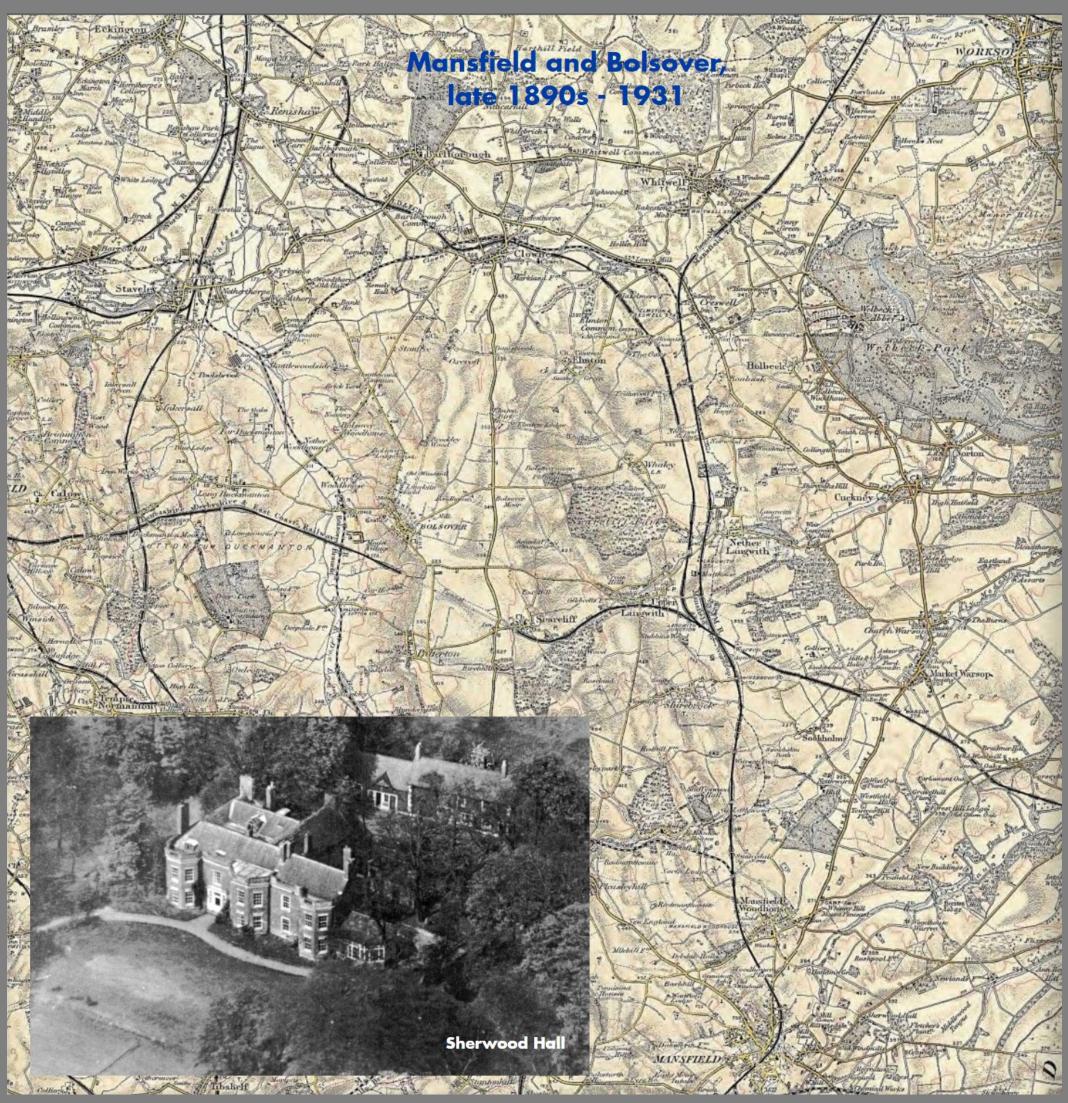




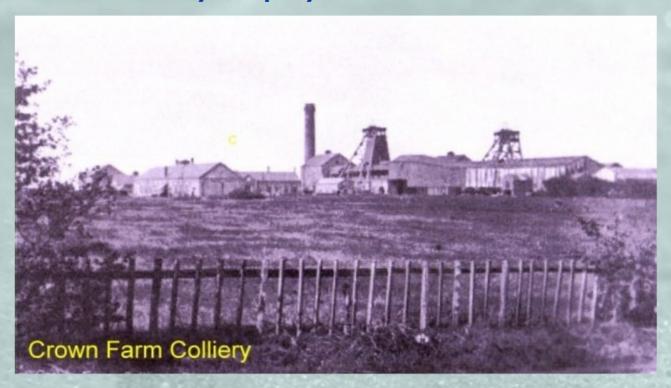








Bolsover Colliery Company





John Bingley worked for the Bolsover Colliery Company for about 30 years in Bolsover and Mansfield.

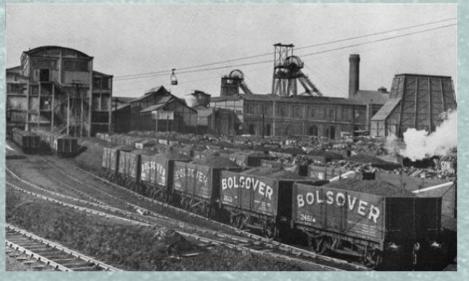
After initially sinking mines in Bolsover, Derbyshire, in 1903 he moved to Mansfield, Nottinghamshire, to become the first manager of Crown Farm Colliery. During at least some of this time, the family lived in Forest House, Eakring Road, Forest Town.

In 1918 it appears they moved back to Bolsover for two or three years, where they lived in Portland House.

The Bingley family then returned to Mansfield in about 1921 to live in Sherwood Hall on the main Ollerton Road, and in 1923 John is listed as the general manager of the Bolsover Colliery Company.

The Bolsover Colliery Company was considered innovative, making special provisions for its workforce. New housing areas were built with facilities such as shops, churches and social clubs. In Mansfield, Forest Town was built for this purpose.

Under John Bingley's management, the Crown Farm mine broke national coal-producing records. Production started in 1905, and increased from 500 tons a day in 1906 to around 4,000 tons a day in 1908. The total for the year 1909 was over one million tons. This was considered especially remarkable as there was only one working shift a day. By 1923 there were 2,217 employees working underground and 644 working above ground.





Grandchildren's stories - Grandpa Bingley's mining career

"What is a sinking Manager? One of the most important managers in all colliery companies.

"The first thing to be done when a colliery is set up is to dig a pit in an area where it is believed that there is coal. It has always fascinated me to try and work out how it was done. The hole was dug out of the ground and the hole was lined with bricks, I do not know how many layers of brick but I assume more than one. It is easy to see how you build a brick wall starting at ground level and going upwards but I still do not how you built a wall downwards.

"... There was very little mechanical earth moving equipment and it was not very reliable. The men who built the pit shafts would all have building skills of many types: carpenters, metal workers, brick layers, electricians, plumbers, hydraulic engineers, gas engineers, general engineers and labourers. These men all belonged to a trade union.

"To give you some idea of who did what, one of Grandpa's jobs was to collect the money from the bank, Possibly in Chesterfield or closer in the village of Bolsover. He went to the bank in a pony and trap with a driver. He always carried a pistol. He would have target practice at home and make sure that the local pub knew how well he shot. One can imagine the gardener taking the targets to the pub. He never had to use the pistol in anger." (TJW)



"My grandfather John Bingley was a mining engineer who ran the Bolsover Colliery Co. which in those days was on a par with Shell today. Sinking pits in all the right places in NE Derbyshire, Notts etc.

"He was provided with a Manor House Sherwood Hall, a chauffeur and a car, servants – cook and maid, 2 gardeners, and 2 chicken farmers who also looked after the shoot he was given.

"I remember being told that during the 1914-18 war and before and during the 'troubles' – economic unrest – during the war 1914-18 and after, and in the depression and general strike, he purchased a Webley-Scott automatic PISTOL to deter any one who was keen to hold him up and steal the wages which he collected across the moors in a pony and trap!!" (GDW)



"The 'men' had to pay for their 'stalls' (areas allocated for them to work within the mine) and many managers were 'bribable' in this respect. Not so John Bingley. The miners were paid on results and a better quality 'stall' provided a higher % of coal and cash. By the miners he was known as the most honest man to walk the streets of Mansfield.

"This was confirmed more years later and bore dividends:- JH and Rhona needed help in the house and 'Esther' came – with her ex-miner husband Ben's blessing – 'anything to help Mr Bingley's son – he was the straightest man as I ever knew!" (EAM)

John Bingley in the Mansfield news

SHERWOOD FOREST GOLF CLUB

FACING THE PROBLEM OF A BIG DEBT.

A BIG DEBT.

The Sherwood Forest Golf Club, at a special general meeting last night at Mansfield, under the presidency of Mr. J. P. Houfton, considered the report of a sub-committee with reference to the financial position, suggestions as to how money should be raised to carry out alterations to the course and clubhouse, and the appointment of a whole-time secretary and a steward and stewardess.

It was stated that the club had a debt of £2,309 8s. 9d., and it was recommended that the entrance fee be increased to £7 7s. when the number of male playing members reaches 250, and that all subscriptions raised by one guines. On the motion of Mr. C. F. E. Smith it was resolved to increase the subscription, but the recommendation as to the entrance fee was not carried.

Mr. J. Bingley hoped members who had not taken up shares would do so.

The committee were asked to give further consideration to the proposals to alter the course at a cost of £800, and the clubhouse at an estimated cost of £1,200.

NEP 25 November 1920

SEQUEL TO MANSFIELD MEN'S DRUNKEN ESCAPADE.

DRUNKEN ESCAPADE.

Three Mansfeld men—Chaa Brittain, brick-layer, Wm. G. Toon, and Wm. Hy. Parrott, minera—we e charged to-day with being found in a fowl-pen at Sherwood Hall, Mansfield, the residence of Mr. J. Bingley, at 2.50 a.m. on November 25th, for an unlawful purpose.

Hearing a noise in the out-premises at the hall, Wm. Soar, the night watchman, investigated, and saw two men getting away by scaling a 7ft. wall. The other man, Brittain, was on the other side of the wall, in the fowlpen, and was defained. Subsequently P.c. Birkin saw Toon and Parrott at 10, Smith-street, Mansfield, and told them they were suspected of having been with Brittain. Toon said, "Yes, is Charles locked up?" and Parrott refitled, "We were there."

At the police station the three men were charged with being on the premises for an unlawful purpose, Toon replying, "We were there all right."

Mr. E. B. Hibbert said the defence was that the men were drunk and did not know how they got to the fowl pen, and were not there with any felonious intent. Having been drinking heavily, they took a midnight stroll to walk off their condition, and taking a short cut through Sherwood Hall Park they came up to a fence and found themselves in an enclosure. They were trying to find their way out when Soar came upon the scene.

One of the defendants caused some laughter by saying they "got lost," and asserted it was possible for drunken men to climb a 7ft, wall.

The Mayor (Councillor S, Beazley) told Toon that he had an unenvisible record and would be sentenced to two months hard labour. Parrott and Brittain would each be sentenced to one month.

NEP 1 December 1920

AT FOREST TOWN.

VISIT TO A MINER'S COTTAGE.

The King and Queen had a magnificent reception at Forest Town, which they entered by the Clipstone road. The Royal car travelled at a spanking pace till the schools were reached, but then slowed down to give the children an opportunity of greeting their Majesties. The young people were gathered on platforms in the schoolyard, and as the Royal party passed along they observed them to the scho.

A special road had been laid through the First Avenue to the club and institute, the gift of the Avenue to the club and institute, the gift of the Bolsover Colliery Company to their workpeople. The institute, which stands in specious grounds, cost the company over £10,000. First-avenue was gay with flags, flowers, draperies, and bunting, and brillient sunshine added a final touch of brightness to the scene. The householders along the route had risen to the occasion, and the perfect cleanliness and order of the cottages elicited an approxing glaffor from the Ousen as the car passed. ing glafice from the Queen as the car pass

From the entrance of the avenue to the front of the institute buildings a guard of homour, numbering 700 men and boys, all in the employ of the Bolsover Company, was lined up. It included the Mansfield Colliery Boys' Brigade, the cadet corpe, and ambulance brigade, and the ambulance and Boys' Brigades from Crewell and Bolsover, the latter having been brought in the ambulance to the latter having been brought in the ambulance and latter having been brought in the ambulance is a second training the latter having been brought in the ambulance is a second training the latter having been brought in the ambulance is a second training the latter having been brought in the ambulance is a second training the latter having been brought in the ambulance is a second training the latter having been brought in the ambulance is a second to be a seco latter having been brought in by a special train on the Great Central and New Mansfield Railways, detraining near the Mansfield Colliery.

IN A MINER'S COTTAGE.

The King and Queen expressed a desire to in-spect one of the miners' cottages, and the motor accordingly drew up in the first avenue just short of the institute gates. Their Majesties alighted and entered the house of Mr. Elijah Mottishaw, a butty miner—that is to say, a contractor—at the Mansfield Colliery. Mr. Mottishaw, a hale, bearded figure, has worked underground since he was 14 years of age, and that is 42 years ago.

The visit was entirely unexpected. Mr. Mottishaw

and his wife were naturally nervous at first, but the Royal visitors, by their gracious and kindly bear-

ing, quickly put them at their ease.

The King shook hands with Mr. Mottishaw, and chatted with him, while Mrs. Mottishaw showed the Queen over the spotless parlour and kitchen. Their Majesties were introduced to the other members of the family, and the Queen, observing a portrait of herself in a brooch which Miss Mottishaw wore remarked that it was an excellent likeness.

Leaving the house, amid ringing cheers, the exalted visitors walked to the institute, and took their stand on a specially erected platform covered with red baize. The artistic facade of the in-stitute made a fine background for the scene, and in front stretched the lawns and playing fields, with the verdant fringe of Sherwood Forest in the distance.

The Duke of Portland presented Mr. R. M. Knowles (chairman of the Bolsover Colliery Company), Mr. J. P. Houfton (managing director), and Mr. W. H. Carter (manager of the colliery) and Mr. J. Bingley (agent). To Nottinghamshire miners the other presentations were of especial interest, for the representations were of especial interest, for the representatives honoured were Mr. J. G. Hancock, M.P. (agent), Mr. C. Bunfield (secretary of the Notts. Miners' Association), Mr. W. Carter (assistant secretary), and Mr. L. Spencer (treasurer). With the last-named her Majesty chatted for some moments.

The Royal cars drove out of the other gate of the institute and travelled to Newstead Abbey, where the King and Queen were due to take lunch with Miss Webb.

Each scholar at Forest Town was presented with a medal to commemorate the great occasion.

GROWING VILLAGE.

Memorial Stone of New Church Laid at Forest Town.

DUKE OF PORTLAND'S GENEROSITY.

Forest Town, the mining village just outside Mansfield, has now a population of over 3,000, and the place has long out-grown the little mission church. It has therefore become incumbefit upon the inhabitants to put forth efforts for the provision of a new and much more commodious permanent building. Both the Rev. H. and Mrs. Bull, who have for some months past been in charge at Forest Town, are showing the people a laudable example in the energetic efforts on behalf of the church, being ably supported by Mr. and Mrs. J. Bingley and a large number of residents, who have promised to raise £600.

The memorial stone of the new church, which is to be dedicated as St. Alban's, was laid on Saturday afternoon, in the presence of a large assembly, by the Duke of Portland. The Duke has shown the greatest personal interest in the project of a handsome and substantial building, which is estimated to cost £3,800, for towards this sum he has not only given the site for the church and the parsonagecomprising an area of an acre-but has also contributed the munificent donation of £2,500. In addition to the help so generously afforded by his Grace, the Bolsover Colliery Company have contributed £650 and the Church Extension Society have promised a grant of £250.

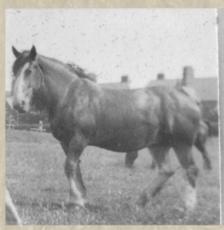
The new church, which has been designed by Mr. Louis Ambler, will accommodate 350 persons. It will consist of nave, south aisle, chancel, sacristy, clerk and choir vestries, and organ chamber, and provision is made so that when required an additional aisle may be added on the north side. The nave will be entered from a porch on the south side, and the organ chamber adjoins the clergy vestry. The church will be built of Bulwell atone, lined inside with brickwork, and the dressing will be of fine grained Meldon stone. The pillars will be octagonal in shape, and the internal work of Ancaster stone. The floor under the seats will be of wood blocks, and squares of red and yellow Mansfield stone will be used to pave the chancel and sanctuary.

The ceremony was preceded by a procession, and after the hymn "O Lord of Hosts, whose glory fills" had been sung, Mr. Ambler handed a silver trowel to his Grace, who laid the mortar, and after tapping the stone with a mallet he declared it well and truly laid.

The Rev. E. T. Harcombe said they were grateful to the Duke for coming amongst them that day, and also for his noble generosity, without which it would have been impossible for them to have proceeded with the scheme of building a house of God in Forest Town.

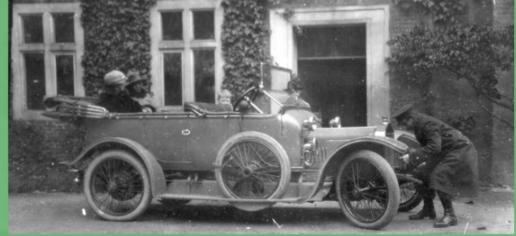


























Grandchildren's stories - life in Bolsover and Mansfield

"John married May Elizabeth Millson in 1901. I think he was perhaps in Bolsover at the time. John Hampden was born in Bolsover in 1902.

"Soon Kathleen arrived ... They moved to Crown Farm Pit and lived in 'Forest House' (on Eakring Road, Mansfield, now demolished). RAB was born here. John Hampden nearly drowned in the water butt in the green-house there. He was saved by the gardener.

"John progressed – presumably he and his family moved to Sherwood Hall, Mansfield, (now also demolished) (all this was within the same Co. I presume). They by now lived very well – gardeners, chauffeurs, house-maids, cooks and parlour-maids!

"I don't think I'm imagining the fact that in the 'Sherwood Hall Days' – it was champagne for elevenses on Sundays!

"It must have been at the end of this era that they celebrated their silver wedding anniversary. He was, although incorruptible, in a very influential position and the presents included the canteen of cutlery and the tea service which came with a silver tray [that...] really was too heavy to handle.

"One of the Millson maiden Aunts lived with them at this time: Aunty Alice. She supervised much of the house-keeping 'in the background' and left May free for her rather less serious interests.

"When JH was doing his 'practical' (down the pit) she used to get up to cook his breakfast before he started on the 6 o'clock shift – didn't trust the servants to do it properly for her 'blue-eyed boy'. She really helped establish the 'spoiling' of John and RAB and ... when 'the servant class' did not survive the war and they were both just about left 'helpless' in the kitchen apart from washing-up.

"Both [John] and JH felt the same way about church – they'd be a buttress to the church – 'support it from the outside'." (EAM)





















HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS'S BUSY DAY



THE PRINCES REPLY.

NOTTINGHAM ONE OF GREA

CAPITALS OF INDUSTRY."

HEARTY WELCOME FROM HUGE CROW

IN MARKET PLACE Nottingham's Great Market Place, which was the came selected for the

OW THE PRINCE CAME TO NOTTINGHAM.

RIUMPHAL PROGRESS THROUGH THE CITY.

VOCIFEROUS WELCOME BY RECORD CROWDS.

REAT DEMONSTRATION OF LOYALTY AND AFFECTION.

Wan have elepsed since Nottinghem put on its gale dress to a number of the Reigning House, and the great event of the an area of the second of the most of by the attracts. In the position to be marked "with a white one." There is a number of the position Galiston, "We have not known thee as thou oughtest the contract of the contract

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The senting of the Prince.

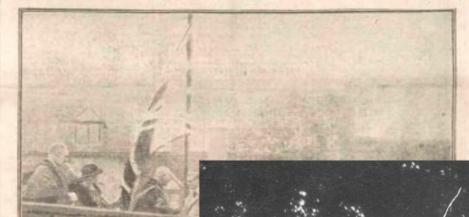
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DEBT CANCELLATION.

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JOURNEY FROM WELBECK

THE PRINCE'S EARLY MORNING RIDE.

DUCKESS OF POBTLAND'S NOTTH. LACE DRESS.

The Prince of Wales was an early rises at We G, and went for a riste in the beautiful par



DUKE OF PORTLAND AND THE PRINCE.

"ONE OF THE HARDEST WORKERS IN THE COUNTRY."

OPENING OF MINERS' WELFARE CENTRE.

A tribute to the capacity of the Prince of Wales for hard work was paid by the Duke of Portland on Saturday when he opened the miners' welfare centre which has been inaugurated by the Bolsover Colliery Company at Edwinstowe. The Prince, who during his Midland tour a few days ago, was the guest at Welbock of the Duke of Portland, sent the following message to the duke: "As you are formally opening Edwinstowe Hall on Saturday I take this opportunity of saying how delighted I am, and how interested and impressed I was with all I saw. Please congratulate the directors of the Bolsover Colliery Company on the institution and organisation of their new welfare centre and wish all success to their splendid scheme, and

"I believe the Prince of Wales to be one of the most remarkable young men of our time," said the Duke of Portland. "May be have health and strength to continue the splendid work which he has undertaken and which he carries on in so satisfactory a manner." Ten-hour days, he added, were common experiences in the Prince's life. He never spared himself for one moment, and his spirits and the interest he took in the people among whom he moved never flagged. He was one of the hardest workers in the country.

BAD OLD DAYS GONE.

Referring to the welfare work of the Bolsover Colliery Company, the duke said it was a development quite in harmony with the spirit of the present age. The bad old days when employers paid their people so much money for so much work, when the min looked upon the masters as tyricals and the masters is died apon the men as more things, had, he believed, gone for ever.

The new welfare institution is situated in Edwinstowe, on the edge of Sherwood Forest. It omprises Edwinstowe Hall and an estate of 14 acres and, in addition, meadowland of about 20 acres. The hall has been converted into a modern club with billiard rooms, card rooms, and lounges. Another building on the estate contains a dermitory of a hundred beds and a large dining hall.

The centre is particularly intended to be a weekend home in connection with the numerous organication, existing among the 8,000 employees of the company.









The officials and men of the Mansfield Colliery made a presentation on Saturday to Mr. J. Bingley, the manager, who has removed to Bolsover. One of the gifts was a handsome drawing-room suite to Mr. Bingley and his wife.

NEP 18 August 1918



Children's marriages





John Hampden Bingley married Rhona Margaret Temple Tate, 12 July 1927











Richard Alan Bingley married Jean Marsden, 1945



Grandchildren's stories - why did Grandpa leave the Bolsover Colliery Company?

"... Grandpa was in charge of sinking new pits as he was v. successful in choosing the right location and as such had control of all the materials needed to build them. He was called to a meeting with the Chief Exec and was accused of using these materials for his own house. (which seemed odd as the company owned Sherwood Hall) and Grandpa said 'If that's all you think of me...' and walked out to start Abrafract." (GDW)

"The job which Grandpa had at the Bolsover Colliery Company I am sure was well paid but also it provided him with large country houses, horses, cars and servants. It seems rather odd that he should have left. The following is how I understand it happened. There may well be more to it than the tale that my Mother told me...

"The chairman of the Bolsover Colliery Company was a very wealthy and influential man. One day the chairman went to see Grandpa at his office and asked him to deliver a load of building materials to a building site where the chairman was building who knows what. Grandpa went to his boss and explained that the Chairman had ordered him to transfer a load of building materials to his building site at no charge.

"Several years later Grandpa was called before the board of directors and the chairman accused him of stealing building materials from the company's stock for use on his own house. To which Grandpa replied 'If that's what you think of me then I resign forthwith'." TJW

"His own honesty was as a religion to him. He was uncorruptable to a degree. The workmen loved him for it but, due to their nature, the management / directors were not his admirers.

"Prior to his leaving the Co. they despatched him to the USA on the pretext of his learning some more about mining. In his absence his books were gone through with a tooth comb, but the disappointed management found absolutely nothing with which they could counter his accusations of dishonesty about themselves.

"Although the management had found no ammunition with which they could conveniently dispose of his services – and times were extremely hard, John left the Co. and the rich life which it had given to him and the family to set up Abrafract Co (...approx.. 1930)." (EAM)

Sheffield 1930s - 1940s





"Why that particular industry no one seems to know as he had no experience of manufacturing grinding wheels which was a comparatively NEW industry as everyone used sandstone wheels up to then. These gave the operators pneumoconiosis and did not last very long." (GDW)

[There was a large grinding wheel that apparently dominated the landscape of John's birthplace Grimesthorpe in the olden days – maybe that had an influence? (CHM)]

"...Abrafract ... apparently went from crisis to crisis in the early days...

"RAB during the war was a sergeant in the Home Guard – being in a reserved occupation trying to get Abrafract up and running." (GDW)



"Together with 'old man Fisher' and another, [John] invested his savings and touted round his friends and relations to capitalise the new venture in Sheffield. When they had got all the money together the three met and grandfather and Mr Fisher were horrified to learn that 'Mr No 3' had it in mind that they should then all abscond with the funds! (To 5. America or similar). But the villain had met his match and was found hanging (by his own hand) in the works one morning!!

"So – Bingley and Fisher began to make grinding-wheels and other abrasive products. (Aunty Kathleen mixed the first one with the aid of some kitchen scales and a bucket, she said so anyway)." (EAM)

"The company was registered in 1926 by John Bingley who had to raise money from friends and people that he had met in his previous job which was Sinking Manager of the Bolsover Colliery Company.

"The youngest of Grandpa's three children was Richard Allen Bingley (known as RAB) who was quite a lot younger but played a big role in Abrafract." (TJW)

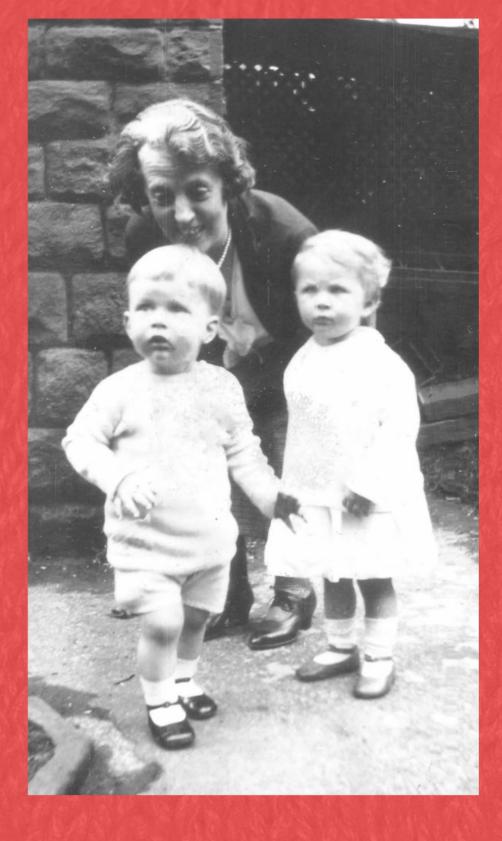




David Wish and Elizabeth Bingley with Granny Bingley, Grove Road









Grandchildren's stories - memories of Grandpa in Sheffield

"The house on Grove Road was three storeys high and it was here that I became fascinated by Granny's 'rattic' stairs..... I don't know why they moved (I think this house was also a rented one) (they did have one surviving maid there, I remember).

"John was a blunt Yorkshireman – to a point of rudeness sometimes. To his short (accountant) brother-in- law (-in-law) Percy Beard – he said while carving 'well a man can eat a whole partridge Percy – how about you?!' which finished that relationship (he was the husband of Bertha [Millson]).

"When asked 'who was your Father?', His reply was 'he was hung for sheep- stealing' (not true obviously).

"... John was stubborn [and] was often a trial to live with... But he was always kind to me – and gentle – I held him in no awe at all. Neither did his large tabby cat 'Tibby' or either of his Grandsons. Indeed Tim could do no wrong – at all. Even getting away with taking a pot-shot at those poor unsuspecting hens.

"[John] played a little golf - and drove a gig - but never a car.

"Kathleen had been married from Sherwood Hall but her husband Jack (Wish) died before the war. When war broke out [John] and Mr Fisher and RAB carried on the 'works'. Kathleen and her boys went to live with them at the bungalow they rented on Busheywood Road.

"He suffered with diabetes and his heart. He declared that things he didn't like were not good for his diabetes and that those he did like were good for it!

"He died in the entrance hall at Busheywood Road on the stretcher on which they were intending to remove him to hospital – stubborn to the last 'he did not want to go to hospital!'" (EAM)



"Brother David found what I thought must have been the same pistol [the Webley-Scott automatic]. Some time later we smuggled the pistol and ammunition out to a local wood and did some target practice. The lack of hitting the target would not have frightened any prospective robbers." (TJW)

"He never mentioned his own family. Most of this came by word of mouth from Bunty Dimond (nee Shardlow) who stayed with the family whilst her mother was ill. Grandpa would take her into the greenhouse to pick a nectarine for her. She had a 'super' time and was very fond of Grandpa Bingley.

"He was a big man (we lived with him and Grannie Bingley at 31 Busheywood Rd, Totley, Sheffield from 1939-1947 when he died). He was one of the first patients to receive INSULIN which saved his life when he developed diabetes. By which time he had 'retired' from the Bolsover Colliery Company to set up ABRAFRACT.

"He was a keen gardener but NOT at all fit so he concentrated on growing tomatoes in his greenhouse and was always first to have ripe tomatoes at Whitsuntide. Grannie and mother used to bottle them in Kilner jars which was a very useful food for us in the winter together with the eggs from the hens that roamed the garden during the war.

"Tim and I had a good time as Mother's younger brother RAB was not married and lived at home. So we 'inherited' his air gun, fishing rods, and later Grandpa's shot guns. We used to shoot rabbits in the early summer mornings at Abbeydale Golf Club about 1949-50. We used to carry the guns on our bicycles and sling the rabbits over the handle bars.

"During the war the family seemed to gather for Xmas at 31 Busheywood Road and your mother [EAM] and her parents always seemed to be with us most Xmases

"Grandpa went to work every day on the bus. It would take him over an hour. He used to catch the bus at the bottom of Busheywood Rd. into Pond at about 7.30–8 and then walk through Fitzalan aquare and the market to catch another to Beulah Rd, Hillsborough. Mother's car was put up on blocks during the war in the garage as petrol was only available for the essential war work. So from 1940–1944 no car. Plenty of bikes...

"When your grandfather Uncle John came back from the war and started to reorganise Abrafract into profit he organised a local taxi to pick up Grandpa B and take him to work and back home. This suited Grandpa because he could bring bags of coke from the works in the taxi to heat his prized greenhouse and tomatoes which were ready before Whitsun – the earliest in the district." GDW)



















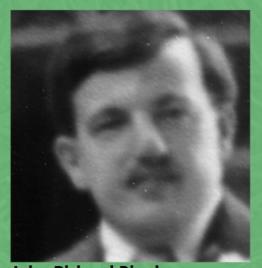


John and May Bingley's children and grandchildren





Eileen Jane Bingley (b. October 1947)



John Richard Bingley (9 July 1949 - 1991)



Elizabeth Anne Bingley (b. 4 December 1931)



George David Wish (b. January 1932)



Timothy John Wish (b. August 1933)



