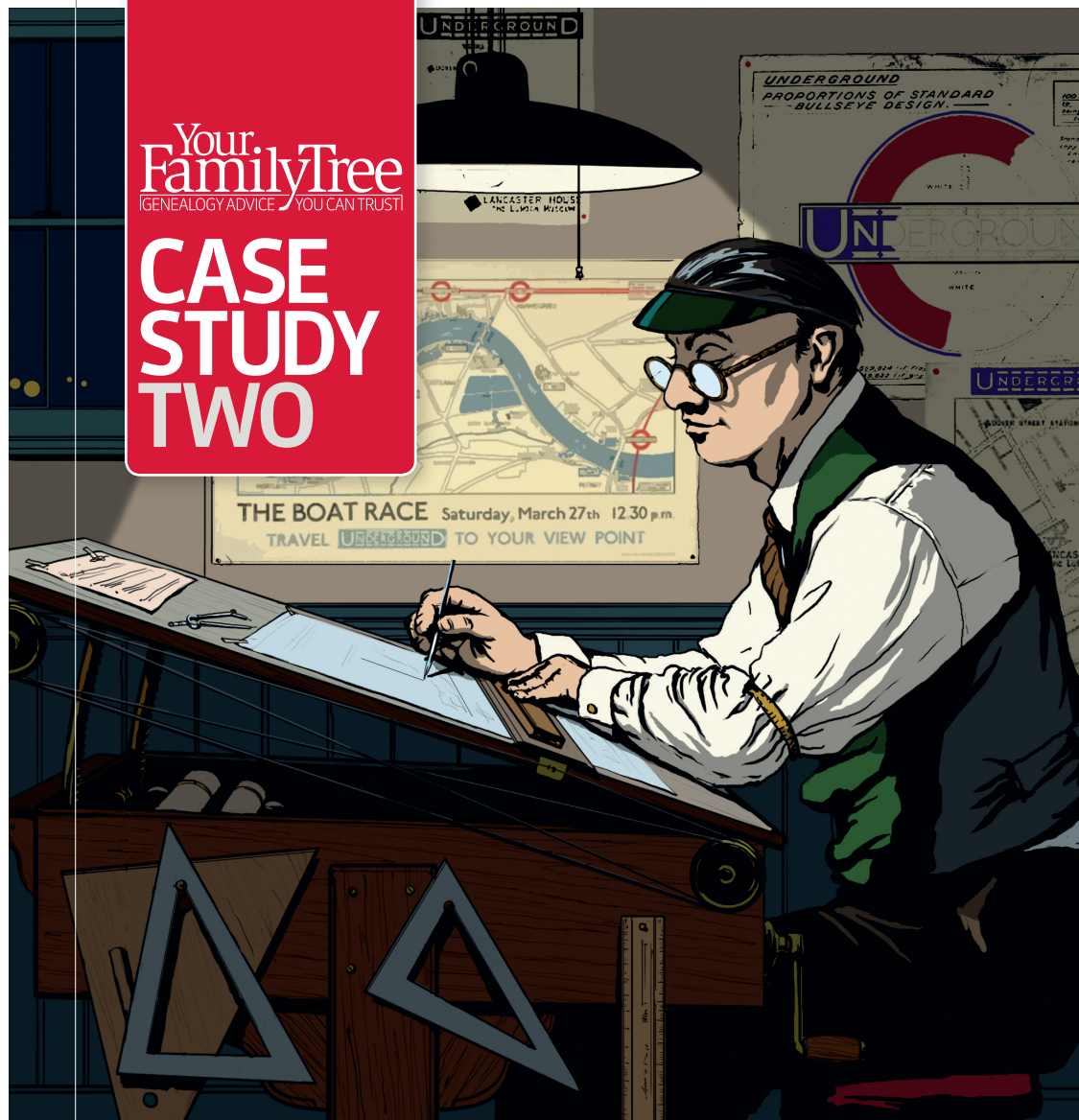


CASE STUDY TWO



Mind the map

Timeline of the Tube

The first Underground railway in London opened in 1863 and the routes were plotted on a geographical map. From 1900, the map was frequently updated with new stations and lines. From 1907, the lines from different companies became unified together, and in 1913 the maps began to feature the familiar 'Bulls eye' logo. MacDonald Gill was the first to stylise and simplify the map by removing the background detail. Pocket booklets began to be made of linen coated card to improve the durability but the scale was still a problem.

The first of Frederick Stingmore's maps were published in 1926. Influenced by Gill, he removed surface detail including the Thames, though the river returned in 1928. Stingmore condensed the outer lines to focus on central London. His schematic layout influenced Harry Beck's classic design of 1933. Beck, based his on electrical circuit diagrams.



Tales from the underground

How solving a family mystery led our reader to discover a Tube connection

By **Louise Skelley**



Louise is a teacher and freelance writer. She has researched both lines of her tree, and published her Thorneycroft family history through www.blurb.com.

You never know what surprises you'll find when researching your family tree. But unravelling the complexities of handwriting and language helped me to break a brick wall that then led me to one of London's most

iconic images and the formation of a famous map.

Various family members have delved into our Stringman history – a name I disliked as a child. There are only two Stringman families in England, and the Lancashire ones believe their name has a connection with Stringfellow, which comes from the craft of stringing bows or someone who was a 'strong fellow'. We assumed the same applied to our Stringman family.

However, my problem was that before 1872, there's no trace

TOLPUDDLE

Martyrs

In 1834, six farm labourers were sentenced to transportation for protesting about their low wages. They became the Tolpuddle Martyrs and were later pardoned

of my 3x great grandparents, James and Ann Stringman, or their six children born before that date. It was almost as if we hadn't existed before then.

Sting in the tale

According to the 1891 and 1901 censuses, James Stringman was born around 1837-1840 in Alvediston, Wiltshire and his wife was Ann Snook. My parents had searched for James and Ann's marriage certificate without any luck, but luckily they found a marriage of Ann Snook to James Stingimore in 1859, in Alvediston. This wasn't followed up, but the name is similar to Stringman, and his wife, the date and location fitted.

In 2003, I was given custodianship of the Stringman research. Now, I had the internet to help my search, in particular the ability to try soundex and wildcard searches. I searched Stringman marriages, widening

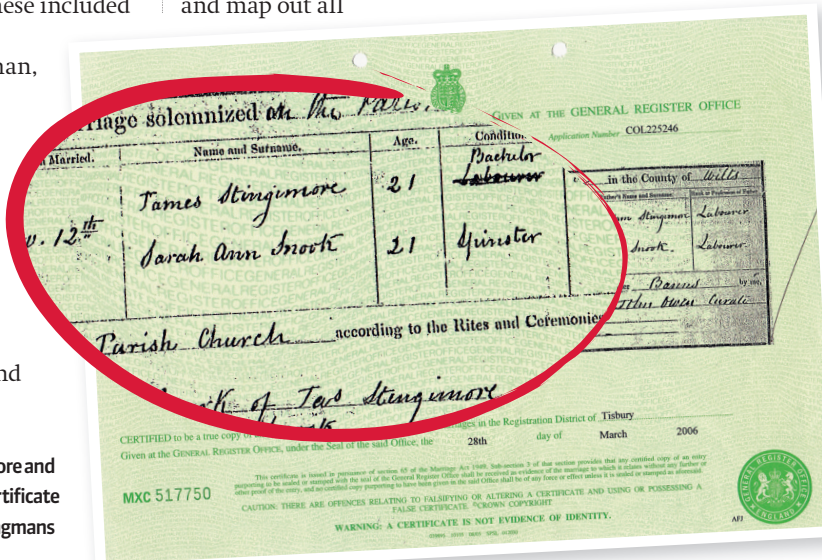


Home St Mary's Alvediston was the Stingemore/Stringman family parish

the searches as much as possible, but again there was nothing. I decided to send off for the Stingimore certificate from the General Register Office. Ann Snook turned out to be Sarah Ann although she signed her name Ann. Her father was shown as Luke, and when I searched the census records from 1841 to 1881 I found only one Luke Snook in the whole country whose age was in line for him to be her father. I then located Ann's christening record in Hindon in 1840. The date and place agreed with the 1891 and 1901 censuses.

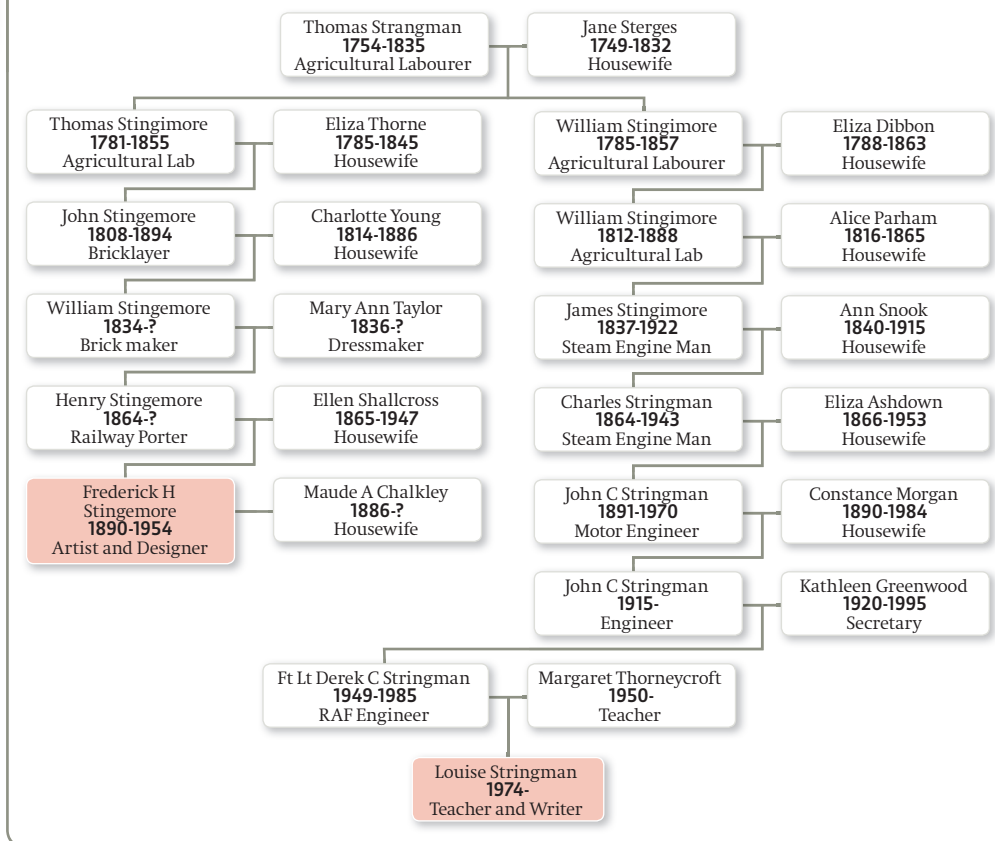
If this couple were my ancestors, maybe I could locate their missing children. A soundex search of Stingimore revealed potential children with names that agreed with those provided by family interviews done 30 years ago. Their birth certificates showed a startling agreement with census details. Suddenly, the whole family appeared and I could trace them back through the censuses. I was amazed at the huge number of subtle variations in spelling due to transcription. These included names such as Stingmore, Kingman, Stingemore and Strangemore (the images proved they'd been erroneously transcribed). My feelings about my childhood name began to fall into context when I found that being 'Stingy'

Change James Stingimore and Ann Snook's Marriage certificate before they became Stringmans



"Thomas Stingemore was nearly transported to Australia for his part in the Wiltshire Machine Breaker Riots"

THE STRANGMAN FAMILY TREE



actually derives from a person called Stingemore!

Using the Alvediston Parish registers, I located my ancestors Thomas Strangman and Jane Sterges who married in 1777. I was now able to work forward through their two surviving sons, Thomas and William, and map out all

MOSCOW

International

Frederick Stingemore also designed an early Moscow Metro map in 1935, which was black and white due to the restrictions on materials there

of their descendents to the 20th century.

Famous forebears

It transpired that Thomas Stingemore (junior) was nearly transported to Australia for his part in the Battle of Pythouse, near Tisbury in 1830. This skirmish was part of the Wiltshire Machine Breaker Riots, sometimes known as the Swing Riots. A source at the time described him as he fought off five militia as a "veritable Trojan". Thomas sustained such serious head wounds that he escaped punishment as the Judge deemed him to have suffered enough. I found him in the Salisbury Infirmary records for 1830.

Agricultural work was destined to become more mechanised. Unemployment and extreme poverty meant labourers were forced into

Swing Riots in the South

An excellent resource for researching your 'ag lab' ancestors

The Swing Riots took place in 1830-1831 as a result of poverty among agricultural labourers. Poor wages, weather and harvests, and an increase in mechanisation leading to job loss compounded the situation. Over the course of a few months, workers revolted against their employers and set about destroying the machinery that threatened their livelihood.

Historian Jill Chambers has been researching these riots throughout many southern counties. Her website (www.swingriotsriotersblacksheepsearch.com) gives a lot of background detail to these events and she has collaborated with family historians to provide an invaluable genealogical record. Jill has also produced several publications focussing on individual counties. These useful books include court records, witness accounts, family records such as letters of appeal, reward records for identifying rioters and much more. These are valuable pre-census and BMD registration records.

other work and often into the cities. The 1851 Census shows that Charles Stingimore, son of Thomas (junior) was living as a pauper. By the 1880s, most of Thomas and Jane's descendents were living in or around London and many were 'in-service'.

Among them, Thomas and Jane's 2x great-grandson Henry worked as a railway porter in Egham, Surrey. Henry married Ellen Shallcross in the September quarter of 1889 in the district of Windsor. They had two children: Frederick Henry, born 1890; and Nelly, born 1896. The family are hard to find on

TRANSPORT

Record-breaking

In 1863, the Metropolitan Railway (now part of the Hammersmith & City and Metropolitan lines) was the first underground passenger-carrying railway in the world

Entry Frederick Stingimore and family on the 1911 Census

"The London Underground map could have been entirely different if his ancestor was transported"

the 1911 Census as their surname is transcribed as Shrigemore on Findmypast (www.findmypast.co.uk). Both Frederick and Nelly were born in Virginia Water, Surrey. Frederick's occupation at the age of 20 is a "black and white artist" working for "the press".

Mapping the past

Frederick married Maude A Chalkley in the Dartford district in the September quarter of 1914. During my research I couldn't find any registered births for the couple, however, I was thrilled to discover that Frederick designed posters for the Underground Group and London Transport from 1914 to 1942. You can find his work online at the London Transport Museum's website (www.ltmcollection.org/posters/index.html). A notable poster advertised the Thames Boat Race of 1926, originals of which now fetch over £100 at auction.

However, Frederick Stingimore's best-known achievement was developing the London Underground map. It was exhilarating to discover such an intriguing and colourful heritage in my family. Unique features he came up

CONTACTS

London Transport Museum

Covent Garden Piazza, London, WC2E 7BB
w. www.ltmcollection.org
t. 02073796344

WEBSITES

Findmypast

w. www.findmypast.com

Hertfordshire Archives

w. www.hertsdirect.org

Swing Riots & Rioters

w. www.swingriotsriotersblacksheepsearch.com

with, such as compression of the outer environs and a schematic style, greatly inspired Harry Beck's design that remains the definitive map to this day.

In addition to being an artist, Frederick was also an accomplished photographer. In 2006-7, a collection of 7,483 photographic plates were painstakingly restored and digitised by a volunteer for Hertfordshire Archive service after they'd lain undiscovered for 50 years in a basement. The Archive's website (www.hertsdirect.org) writes, "Stingimore produced the first schematic maps of the London Underground in the 1920s and after his marriage in 1914, he came to live in Radlett. Many of the photographs reflect his love of the area" – he's still affectionately known in the county as 'The Underground Man'.

Frederick died in Watford in early 1954, aged 63. It's incredible to consider that if his ancestor Thomas hadn't been so badly injured, he would have been transported to Australia. Although Thomas had fathered his children by then, he wouldn't have been able to support them. Maybe history would have taken a different course and the image of the London Underground map that we know today could have been entirely different. ■

Before writing on this Schedule please read the Examples and the Instructions given on the other side of the paper, as well as the headings of the Columns. The entries should be written in ink.

The contents of this Schedule will be treated as confidential. Strict care will be taken that no information is disclosed with regard to individual persons. The returns are not to be used for proof of age, or in connection with Old Age Pensions, or for any other purpose than the preparation of Statistical Tables.

Number of Schedules 60
(To be filled up by the Enumerator)

NAME AND SURNAME	RELATIONSHIP to Head of Family	AGE (last birthday)	SEX	PARTICULARS as to MARRIAGE		PROFESSION or OCCUPATION of Person aged ten years and upwards		NATURALITY of every person	BIRTHPLACE of every person	NATURALITY of every person	BIRTHPLACE of every person
				For Males	For Females	For Males	For Females				
1. Henry Stingimore	Head	46	Male	Married		Labourer		English	London	English	London
2. Ellen Shallcross	Wife	46	Female	Married		Labourer		English	London	English	London
3. Frederick Stingimore	Son	20	Male	Single		Black and white artist		English	London	English	London
4. Nelly Stingimore	Daughter	14	Female	Single				English	London	English	London

(To be filled up by the Enumerator)

Write below the Number of Schedules in this District (Males, Females, or both) and the Number of Persons aged ten years and upwards in each of the following categories: (1) English, (2) Welsh, (3) Scottish, (4) Irish, (5) Foreign-born, (6) Other.

English 2, Welsh 2, Scottish 4, Irish 0, Foreign-born 0, Other 0

(To be filled up by, or on behalf of, the Head of Family or other person in occupation, or in charge, of this dwelling)

Write below the Number of Persons in this Dwelling (Males, Females, or both) and the Number of Persons aged ten years and upwards in each of the following categories: (1) English, (2) Welsh, (3) Scottish, (4) Irish, (5) Foreign-born, (6) Other.

English 6, Welsh 0, Scottish 0, Irish 0, Foreign-born 0, Other 0

Signature: H. Stingimore
Post Address: 244, Haverhill Road, Haverhill