

# INTRODUCTION

I grew up in Ventnor on the Isle of Wight for the first fourteen years of my life, and during the last 30 years I have been a frequent visitor, staying at Chelsea Cottage, the holiday home in Ventnor that my husband, Chris, and I bought in 1984. For some time I have been intrigued to discover how it was that my mother's family, the Nash family, had such a strong connection with the Isle of Wight. The story has turned out to be much more complicated than I could have imagined and gone back further than I had expected.

Working out the family tree has been intriguing and has involved many hours of research and detective work. Every George seemed to marry an Eliza or Elizabeth (and in one case, two Elizas), and very often children were named after their parents or other family members. So there are frequent occurrences of given names such as George, John, Thomas, Charles, Eliza and Elizabeth, which made it all the more confusing at times.

Much of the information has come from censuses, which are taken every ten years, and while these can give a snapshot of family life on one particular day, information is often missing about the intervening years, and I have had to make some guesses about these along the way. Official records have provided the basis for the story I tell, but there is always more that could be discovered and I would be very pleased to hear if anyone has any information that would help to verify, complete or amend what I have found. Please bear in mind that I am not a professional historian and this is just an attempt to share what I have discovered.

A short summary follows...

My mother Betty (née NASH) had often spoken of an Aunt Bet, who ran the Stag Inn in Lake on the Isle of Wight, with whom my mother had spent some of her early childhood. However it was only during a conversation with my mother's cousin, John<sub>N4</sub> NASH, in 2017 that I discovered that Aunt Bet's married name was TRINDER. This was the crucial clue that enabled me to discover all that follows.

I found out that Aunt Bet's maiden name was Mary Elizabeth KIMBER and that she was an older half-sister of my great-grandmother, Frances Emily KIMBER of Winkfield (Berkshire). The Nash connection with the Isle of Wight was through my great-grandfather Benjamin Edward NASH's marriage to Frances Emily KIMBER in 1886.

I initially assumed that the connection between the Kimbers and the Trinders was first established in 1884 when Aunt Bet married Simeon<sub>T1</sub> TRINDER from Heckfield (Hampshire). But it subsequently turned out that the Kimber family of Winkfield were intertwined with the Trinder family of Heckfield in an intriguing and complex way.

The connection between the families actually goes back further to a marriage in Winkfield 23 years earlier, in 1861, when George<sub>K1</sub> KIMBER married his second wife, Eliza<sub>T1</sub> TRINDER. George<sub>K1</sub> already had four children by his first wife, of whom Aunt Bet was the eldest. I discovered that Eliza<sub>T1</sub> was the older sister of Simeon<sub>T1</sub> TRINDER, who later became Aunt Bet's husband. Thus Aunt Bet came to marry her step-mother's youngest brother, and George<sub>K1</sub> KIMBER and Eliza<sub>T1</sub> TRINDER were to become my great-great-grandparents. Other marriages took place on the Isle of Wight subsequently, linking the Kimber and Trinder families still further.

The very first family connection with the Isle of Wight goes back to when the TRINDER family came to live there around 1854. Another of Eliza<sub>T1</sub> and Simeon<sub>T1</sub> TRINDER's brothers, John<sub>T1</sub> TRINDER, and his wife, Elizabeth<sub>H</sub> (née HALL), moved to Seaview as a young couple soon after their marriage (see **2.1**).

I will begin by looking at the origins of the Trinder, Kimber and Nash families. Although I have details of all of these families which go back much further, for the purpose of this story we will start with the following members of these three families: George<sub>T1</sub> TRINDER (born 1799), George<sub>K1</sub> KIMBER (born 1830) and John<sub>N1</sub> NASH (born 1804).

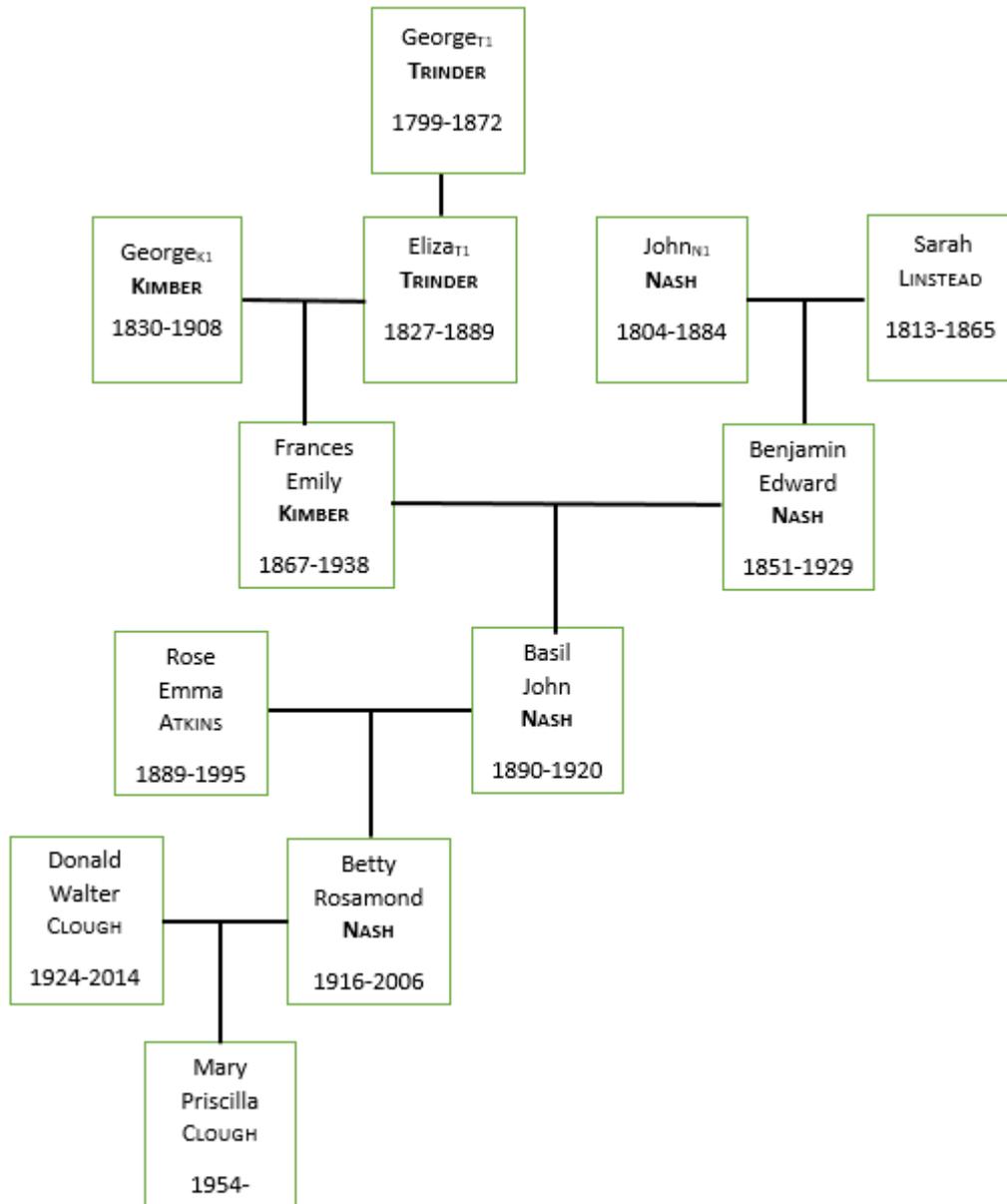


Figure Intro 1: My family line from George<sub>K1</sub> KIMBER, George<sub>T1</sub> TRINDER and John<sub>N1</sub> NASH