

CHAPTER TWO

The connection with the Isle of Wight begins with the Trinder and Kimber families

2.1 The Trinder family arrive on the Isle of Wight

As mentioned in the Introduction, the first family connection that I have found with the Isle of Wight was when George_{T1} and Elizabeth_{WM} TRINDER's son John_{T1} came to live on the Isle of Wight in 1854.¹

2.1.1 John_{T1} and Elizabeth_H TRINDER move to Seaview

John_{T1} TRINDER moved to live in Seaview on the Isle of Wight with his wife Elizabeth_H (née HALL) soon after their marriage in 1854. Elizabeth_H had been born in 1828 in Itchen, near Southampton, and so she may already have been familiar with the Isle of Wight as a nearby place (see Map 7).

Whatever motivated John_{T1} and Elizabeth_H to move across the water to the Island, it can in hindsight be seen as a wise and forward-looking decision. Their arrival on the Island came at the very beginning of the growth in interest in the Isle of Wight as a holiday destination, which was to continue throughout the nineteenth century. The building of Osborne House between 1845 and 1851 as a summer home and rural retreat for Queen Victoria and Prince Albert had helped to make it a fashionable destination for holidays, which by then had become more affordable to the middle classes. The Island was also seen as a romantic retreat by many famous poets and literary figures of the time, such as Tennyson, Dickens and Swinburne.²

Passenger ferries had begun to serve the Island from the early nineteenth century, and the development of the mainland railway network between London and Portsmouth had begun in 1841, although travelling to Portsmouth consisted of a series of journeys on branch lines. But by 1860 a direct mainline route from London to Portsmouth and Southsea was running.³ Many middle-class families had begun to move out of the crowded parts of London to the leafier suburbs in west London, and with a direct route to the coast they could travel more easily to the Isle of Wight. The Island's own railway network began in 1862 and by 1890 there was an extensive network of lines criss-crossing the Island. This growth in tourism led to the development of seaside towns on the Island that had previously been small rural hamlets. The details of John_{T1}'s life that I have been able to piece together indicate his family's growing prosperity in their new surroundings.

¹ Map 8 shows the various Island localities in which members of the families settled.

² Between 1817 and 1819 John Keats lived in Carisbrooke and Shanklin, and in 1813 Jane Austen stayed on the Island and mentioned it in her novel, *Mansfield Park*. In 1849 Charles Dickens rented Winterbourne in Bonchurch, where it is believed he wrote his novel *David Copperfield*. Algernon Charles Swinburne lived in the neighbouring house East Dene, Bonchurch, in 1865. In 1852 Alfred Lord Tennyson rented and later bought Farringford House in Freshwater and lived there until his death in 1892. His friendship with poets and artists of the time resulted in many of his well-known artistic and literary friends visiting the Island. Members of Tennyson's circle of friends were photographed by the celebrated Victorian photographer, Julia Margaret Cameron, who lived at nearby Dimbola Lodge, now a museum and gallery dedicated to her life and work.

³ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Portsmouth_Direct_line (accessed 17 March 2018).

In 1861^c we find that John_{T1}, at the age of 32, is recorded as a coachman at the Crown Hotel in Seaview. His wife Elizabeth_H was 33, and by this time they had four children: Elizabeth_{T1} (born 1855), John_{T2} (born 1857), Stephen (born 1858) and Simeon_{T2} (born 1860). The registration district for all these births was St Helens, and the children were all baptised at St Helen's Church in the nearby village of St Helens which, at that time, was the Parish Church for Seaview, but the children were no doubt born at their home in Seaview itself. Notice the repetition of family given names.

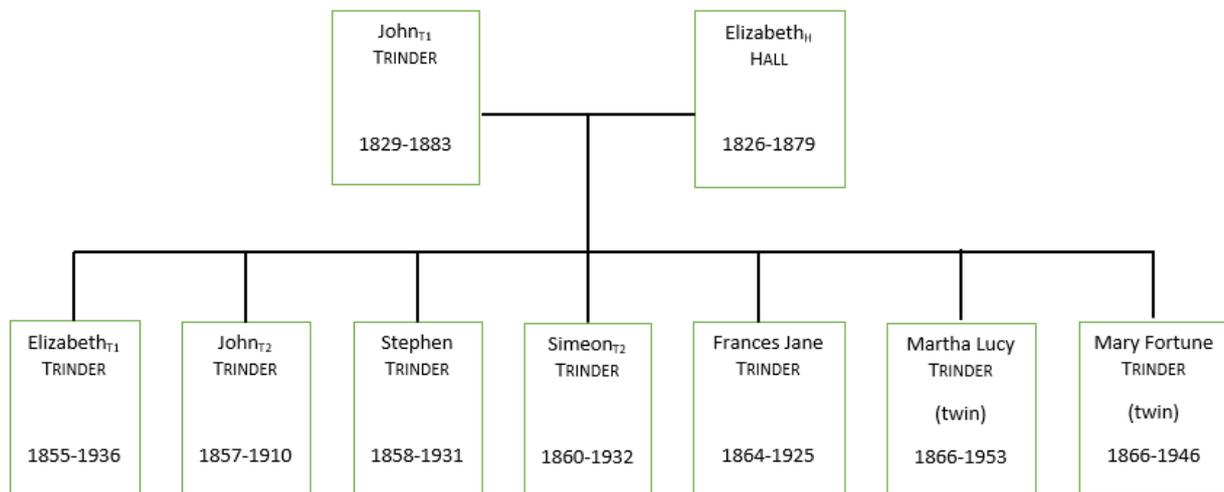


Figure 2.1: The family of John_{T1} TRINDER and Elizabeth_H HALL

By 1871^c John_{T1} had become the landlord of the Crown Hotel in Seaview and they had three more children: Frances Jane (born 1864) and twins, Martha Lucy and Mary Fortune (born 1866). John_{T1}'s wife Elizabeth_H died in 1879, aged 53. In 1881^c John_{T1} was still living at the Crown Hotel and as well as being the Innkeeper there, he was also the Postmaster. He died two years later in 1883, aged 54. The twins, Martha and Mary, were only thirteen when their mother died and seventeen when their father died. We will hear more about them in Chapter Five.

When John_{T1} died, his estate, although not massive, was quite substantial. As the son of a servant in the village of Heckfield, his move to the Isle of Wight, which at the time must have been something of a gamble, seemed to have paid off.

TRINDER John.

Personal Estate £1,342 4s. 3d.

25 January. The Will of John Trinder late of the "Crown" Hotel Sea View Isle of Wight in the County of Southampton Hotel Keeper who died 12 December 1883 at the "Crown" was proved at the Principal Registry by John Trinder of Sea View Hotel Keeper the Son one of the Executors.

Figure 2.2: Entry for John_{T1} TRINDER in the National Probate Calendar, 1884 [£168,015*]

(John TRINDER of Sea View Hotel was his oldest son, John_{T2})

The site of the Crown Hotel, where John_{T1} spent nearly 30 years, can still be identified. It is on the shore at Seaview, next to the old Methodist Chapel which is now Warren's boat-building shed. In between there is a slipway, which is known as Crown Slip, named after the Crown Hotel (IWFWI 1974). The hotel was bought at auction after John_{T1}'s death and subsequently demolished in 1885, when a

private house was built there. Photos of the Crown Hotel and the same view after its demolition appear in Parsloe & Parsloe (1979: 80–83).

2.1.2 Simeon_{T1} TRINDER and his family follow his brother, John_{T1}, to the Isle of Wight

Eliza_{T1} TRINDER's youngest brother, Simeon_{T1}, was born in 1834, and in 1851^C, when he was seventeen, he was working as a groom at the home of the Gregory family at Stivichall Hall, near Coventry. This was presumably where he met his future wife, Matilda_C CRABTREE, who was employed in the same house as a housemaid.⁴ She was nine years older than Simeon_{T1} and came from Little Sutton, Sutton Coldfield, 24 miles away. But it was not until ten years later that they married, in July 1861 at St Martin's Church, Salisbury, when he was 26 and she was 35. 1871^C shows that, following their marriage, Simeon_{T1} and Matilda_C TRINDER's three children were born in Salisbury: Emma Violet (born 1862), Matilda_T Jane (born 1865) and Henry Simeon (born 1868). Matilda_T Jane's birth certificate shows Simeon_{T1}'s profession as a railway guard. At some point between the birth of Henry Simeon in 1868 and 1871^C, the family must have followed Simeon_{T1}'s older brother John_{T1}, who had been living on the Island from 1854, since in this census Simeon_{T1} and his family were all living six miles away from John_{T1} at 8 Fitzroy Street, Sandown, and Simeon_{T1} was working as a licensed victualler and brewer at the neighbouring Castle Inn.



Figure 2.3: The Crown Hotel with the Trinder family in about 1870: notice the twins near the door

Photo: Historic Ryde Society

⁴ The transcription of 1851^C for Stivichall Hall which I found online (<https://www.ancestry.co.uk>, accessed 16 December 2018) has both Simeon_{T1} TRINDER and Matilda_C CRABTREE's names erroneously transcribed, as Simon Linder of Heckfield and Matilda Galton of Little Sutton.

Moving forward another ten years, in 1881^C we find Simeon_{T1} and his family still living in Fitzroy Street, and their address is listed as the Castle Brewery. In November 1882, Matilda_C died, leaving Simeon_{T1} with their three children aged twenty, seventeen and fourteen.

The Castle Inn in Fitzroy Street is still operating and we were able to enjoy a drink there recently (2017), although there is no sign of the brewery itself now.

2.2 The Kimber family comes to the Isle of Wight

2.2.1 Aunt Bet's early years

As we saw in Chapter One, Mary Elizabeth KIMBER (Aunt Bet) was born in Winkfield in 1853. She was only six years old when her mother, Maria SUMPTON, died and just eighteen months later Eliza_{T1} TRINDER became her step-mother. We next come across her when she was eighteen, in 1871^C, when she was employed as a nurserymaid at Ascot Rectory, near Winkfield, looking after the two small children of the Rector and his wife. Ten years later in 1881^C we find her, then aged 28, working as a nurse at Lambrook House, Winkfield Row, Berkshire. In 1860 Robert Burnside had bought this establishment with the intention of tutoring the sons of courtiers at Windsor Castle.⁵ When Aunt Bet was working there, there were eleven boys who were boarders, as well as Robert Burnside's own family, a matron and other servants.⁶ One of the boarders was Lord Alfred Douglas, who was later to become the lover of the author and poet Oscar Wilde.



Figure 2.4: Lambrook House School, Winkfield Row in 2017

2.2.2 Aunt Bet's marriage to Simeon_{T1} TRINDER

On 25 March 1884 Simeon_{T1} TRINDER, having been a widower for eighteen months, married Mary Elizabeth KIMBER in St Peter's Church, Cranbourne, very near to the Kimber family home in Lovel Road, Winkfield. Thus she became Mary Elizabeth TRINDER, who my mother knew as Aunt Bet, although she

⁵ <http://www.lambrookschool.co.uk/History-of-Lambrook> (accessed 4 April 2018).

⁶ The school is now an Independent Preparatory School: <https://www.lambrookschool.co.uk> (accessed 4 April 2018).

was also known to her family as Betty and Bessie. We will recall that she was the eldest daughter of George_{K1} KIMBER and his first wife Maria SUMPTON, and so was the eldest half-sister of my great-grandmother Frances Emily KIMBER and would become the half-aunt of my grandfather Basil NASH.

It was initially something of a mystery to know how it was that Simeon_{T1} and Aunt Bet had come to know each other, since he had grown up in Heckfield and was living on the Isle of Wight, while she grew up in Winkfield and was subsequently living and working near Windsor. However, the mystery was solved by establishing the family trees. We will recall that after the death of his first wife Maria SUMPTON (Aunt Bet's mother), George_{K1} KIMBER had married Eliza_{T1} TRINDER. Aunt Bet's husband Simeon_{T1} was in fact Eliza_{T1}'s youngest brother, making him a step-uncle to Aunt Bet, and so he and Aunt Bet must have known each other for many years. Simeon_{T1} was nineteen years older than Aunt Bet: when George_{K1} married Eliza_{T1}, Aunt Bet was eight years old and Simeon_{T1} was 27, and when Aunt Bet and Simeon_{T1} married, she was 31 and he was 50. So at the age of 31 she became step-mother to his three children, Emma Violet, Matilda_T Jane, and Henry Simeon TRINDER, who were then aged twenty-two, nineteen and sixteen.

2.2.3 Gertrude_{K1} KIMBER marries Henry Simeon TRINDER

By 1885, Simeon_{T1} had moved from the Castle Inn and brewery in Sandown to become the landlord of the Stag Inn in Lake (a village a mile away, between Sandown and Shanklin).⁷ The Stag Inn was built around 1840 and stood next to the site of the former toll-gate at the entrance to the Newport Road. Above the door it featured a fine carving of a stag by a local builder, but which is no longer there.⁸



Figure 2.5: The Stag Inn, Lake, with its wooden carving of a stag, c.1900

Photo by permission of Hilton Price

In 1891^C we find Aunt Bet living at the Stag Inn with her husband Simeon_{T1} and his youngest daughter Matilda_T Jane TRINDER, then aged 25, who was a teacher at the National School in Sandown.

⁷ Hampshire & Isle of Wight Directory 1885 (London: Kelly).

⁸ <http://www.lakeparishcouncil.org.uk/local-information/local-history/> (accessed 2 February 2018).

Gertrude_{K1} KIMBER, aged 22, was recorded as a visitor and is listed as Simeon_{T1}'s niece (since she was the daughter of Simeon_{T1}'s older sister Eliza_{T1}), although she was also of course Aunt Bet's half-sister.

We may surmise that this visit resulted in a further link between the families, since three years later Gertrude_{K1} married Henry Simeon TRINDER (Simeon_{T1}'s son by his first marriage, and thus Aunt Bet's stepson). The wedding took place on 22 January 1894 in the nearby church, Christ Church, Sandown, when Gertrude_{K1} was aged 25. A year later, on 29 March 1895, the couple had a son, Nigel Harry TRINDER, who was baptised in Sandown on 2 June 1895. Sadly his mother Gertrude_{K1} died, aged 26, in the autumn of the same year. She was buried on 25 November 1895 in the graveyard at Christ Church in Sandown.⁹



Figure 2.6: The grave of Gertrude_{K1} KIMBER

IN LOVING MEMORY OF GERTRUDE
THE BELOVED WIFE OF HENRY SIMEON
TRINDER
WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE NOV 21 1895
AGED 26 YEARS

2.2.4 Aunt Bet steps in

It must have been a very difficult time for Henry Simeon, having lost his wife and being left on his own with a small baby. It is clear that Aunt Bet stepped in and that she and Simeon_{T1} brought up Nigel, who was both her step-grandson and her half-nephew. Henry Simeon (sometimes recorded as Harry) lived alone and worked as a tobacconist at various addresses in Sandown until his death in 1949: 8 High Street, 35 Bridge Street and finally, 2 St John's Road.

2.2.5 The birth of Raymond and death of Simeon_{T1} TRINDER

In January 1898, three years after Nigel's birth, Aunt Bet, at the age of 44, and Simeon_{T1}, now aged 63, had a son of their own, Raymond TRINDER. In 1906, when Raymond was just eight years old, his father Simeon_{T1} died, aged 71, of heart failure, leaving Aunt Bet to look after Nigel and Raymond at

⁹ Location of the grave of Gertrude_{K1} KIMBER: Christ Church, Sandown, plot 8-81 (certified at the Isle of Wight Records Office).

the Stag Inn, where she continued as the landlady. Simeon_{T1} was buried at Christ Church, Sandown.¹⁰ The following details from a press report of the coroner's inquest on Simeon_{T1} give an interesting insight into the lives of Aunt Bet and her family:

On Wednesday afternoon Mr F A Joyce, Coroner, held an inquest respecting the death of Simeon Trinder, landlord of the Stag Inn (where the inquest was being held). Mr J H Perkin was chosen foreman of the jury. Having viewed the body, the following evidence was taken. Mrs Trinder, widow of the deceased, said he would have been 72 in April next. He had kept the house for 24 years. He never complained much, but occasionally of indigestion. He had not been attended medically for the past year. He had never complained of his heart. On the 16th he got up about nine o'clock and began his usual work. Last Saturday he complained of a pain on the right side, which she put down to a chill, but she did not think sufficiently of it to call in a doctor. On the previous morning she had had conversation with him, and about half-past ten her sister [Annie Mullis KIMBER?: see 2.8.2] came to her and said he had been drinking some neat brandy, a thing which he had never before done, and she became frightened. She followed her from the bar to the front room and asked him what was the matter, and he said he thought he was "going." He was at the time standing up. She went with him into the back yard, but he came back. Meantime she had gone upstairs, and she told her sister to send for Dr Collis, and deceased's son [Henry Simeon TRINDER?: see 2.2.3]. She asked him to get upstairs which he did, and she helped him to undress. When he got into bed she gave him some more brandy, but she found he did not swallow it properly. She tried again, but on doing so she noticed him give one or two sighs and he was gone. He died about three minutes after she had got him to bed.

Isle of Wight Observer, Saturday 20 January 1906.

TRINDER Simeon of the "Stag" inn Lake Sandown Isle-of-Wight died 16 January 1906 Administration **London** 31 January to Mary Elizabeth Trinder widow Effects £50.

Figure 2.7: Probate record for Simeon_{T1} TRINDER, 1906 [£6,125]*

Simeon_{T1}'s estate was left to Aunt Bet and was very small, so financially things must have been quite difficult for her with two boys to look after, but she took over from her husband as landlady of the Stag, and remained there until 1923 when she was 70. We can fill in some of the details of the intervening seventeen years by looking at the stories of Nigel, the step-nephew whom she had brought up from a baby, and of Raymond, her own son.

¹⁰ Location of the grave of Simeon_{T1} TRINDER: Christ Church, Sandown, plot 10-42 (certified at the Isle of Wight Records Office).



Figure 2.8: A day out on the beach (c.1906?)
 (possibly Raymond and Nigel on the left, Basil and Gerald NASH in the front row, and Aunt Bet in black)



Figure 2.9: A family photo outside the Stag Inn and enlargement.
 Possibly it is Aunt Bet in black in the doorway with Nigel in front and Raymond on the left — maybe this was after Simeon's death in 1906. I wonder if the man fifth from the right might be Basil NASH.



*Figure 2.10: A family group outside the Royal Standard Hotel, Sandown, opposite Christ Church (c.1906?) and enlargement
(possibly Nigel on left, Raymond on front row in front of Aunt Bet in black, and Basil NASH second from right)*

2.3 Nigel Harry TRINDER

In 1911^C, five years after Simeon_{T1}'s death, Aunt Bet was still living at the Stag Inn with sixteen-year-old Nigel and thirteen-year-old Raymond. Nigel was recorded in the census of that year as working as an apprentice cook. There is also a record of a Harry TRINDER of the same age, working at the Ocean Hotel, Sandown, as a vegetable cook with his birthplace as Sandown, and I think Nigel was probably using both names and was erroneously listed as living in both places: Harry was his second given name.

Again using the name Harry TRINDER, Nigel emigrated to Canada a year later on 16 May 1912 on the Cunard ship *SS Ausonia* from Southampton to Québec and Montreal, travelling 3rd class. His profession was recorded as a cook, and his age as eighteen, although he was only just seventeen. Immediately underneath his entry was that of an eighteen-year-old girl, Ethel CALLEY, a barmaid from Sandown, who was actually just nineteen at the time of their departure.¹¹ Having previously seen in the 1939 register that an Ethel H L TRINDER was listed as married and living in Lake with Nigel TRINDER,

¹¹ UK, Outward Passenger Lists, 1890–1960.

it seemed quite likely that this was the same Ethel, whose full name was Ethel Hilda Lydia CALLEY. Their ship arrived in Québec on 26 May 1912 after a voyage of ten days,¹² and just two days later, on 28 May, they were married 'by dispensation of license' at St Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Montreal.¹³ So we must conclude that they had run away together to marry. Nigel and Ethel's voyage on the *Ausonia* took place exactly one month after the White Star Line ship RMS *Titanic* had left on its disastrous voyage that resulted in its sinking and huge loss of lives. We can only guess at the concern their departure must have caused amongst their families. Nigel and Ethel settled in the town of Copper Cliff, Nipissing, Ontario, Canada, (350 miles west of Montreal) where Nigel later worked as a policeman.¹⁴ They had four children while they were living in Canada: Dorothy Winifred Ethel (born 1916), Harry Frederick (born 1917), Catherine Wilma (born 1919) and Mary¹⁵ Elizabeth (born 1921, and perhaps named after Aunt Bet).

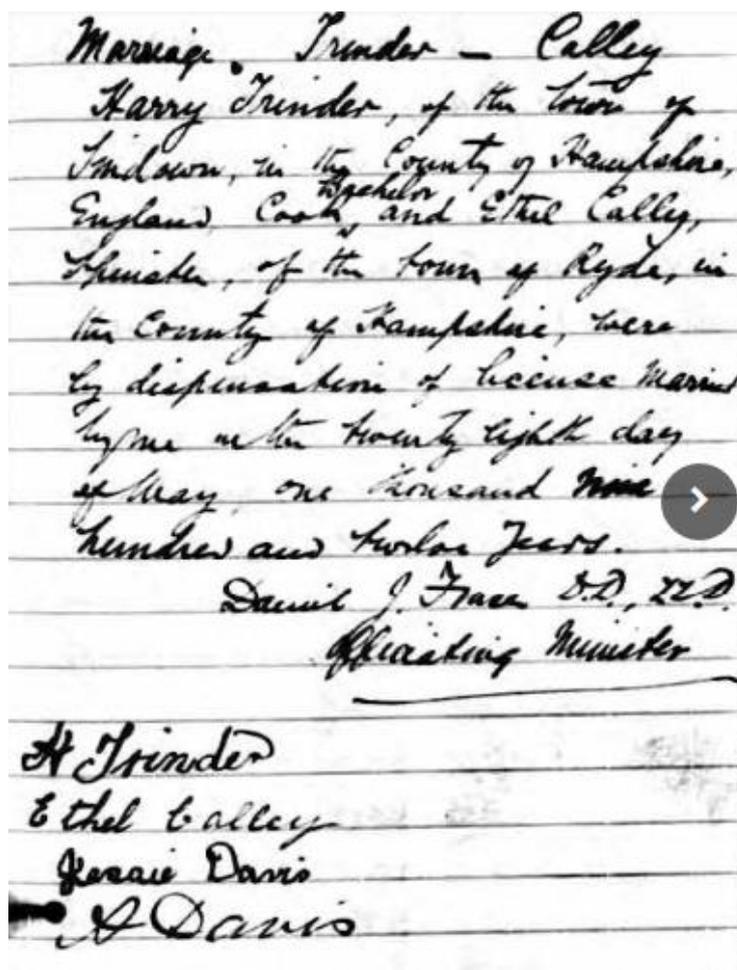


Figure 2.11: Record of the marriage of Nigel TRINDER and Ethel CALLEY

We will read more about Nigel's family in 2.6 and 5.2.3.

2.4 Raymond TRINDER, Aunt Bet's only son, dies aged 17 in Gallipoli

When the First World War started in 1914, Raymond was only sixteen. Along with many other young boys and men from the Island, Raymond joined up to the Isle of Wight Rifles, Hampshire Regiment, as a rifleman.¹⁵ Sadly he was amongst those who were killed in action in Gallipoli on 12 August 1915, aged just seventeen.¹⁶

¹² Quebec, Canada, Vital and Church Records (Drouin Collection), 1621–1968.

¹³ <http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/immigration/immigration-records/passenger-lists/passenger-lists-1865-1922/Pages/item.aspx?IdNumber=5897&> (accessed 20 Sep 2018).

¹⁴ 1921 Census of Canada.

¹⁵ Isle of Wight Rifles, Hampshire Regiment, regimental number 1952.

¹⁶ Raymond's name is listed at the Helles Memorial, Gallipoli, Canakkale, Turkey (Panel 125–134 or 223–226 228–229 & 328).

The IOW Rifles were fully mobilised on 4th August 1914. In April 1915 they were sent to Bury St. Edmunds for training, and then on to Watford for the summer. The 1/8th (Isle of Wight Rifles, Princess Beatrice's) Battalion formed part of the 163rd Brigade and set sail from Liverpool on RMS *Aquitania* on the night of 30th July 1915. The attack in Gallipoli began on the 6th August, the day they arrived at the island of Lemnos. The IOW Rifles entered the conflict on the 10th August, landing at Suvla Bay and were in reserve for the first two days. 120 Isle of Wight Riflemen were killed at Gallipoli, 81 on the first day of action on the 12th August, and at least 45 Island soldiers from other regiments also lost their lives in that disastrous campaign. Gallipoli saw around 58,000 Allied soldiers and 87,000 Ottoman Turkish soldiers killed, with around 300,000 men, from both sides, seriously wounded.¹⁷

It is hard to imagine how Aunt Bet coped with her loss, and not being able to bury her son must have been devastating. Three years before she had had to cope with Nigel's departure with Ethel to Canada: he also was only seventeen and she must have known that there was every chance that she would not see him again. So life in Lake must have felt very empty, but she continued to be a great support to others, including my grandfather Basil NASH (her half-nephew), his wife Rose and their daughter Betty (my mother): this part of the story continues in Chapter Three.

It must have been some comfort to Aunt Bet to see the various commemorations to Raymond and his fellow soldiers and the recognition of his sacrifice for his country. Raymond is commemorated on four memorials on the Isle of Wight. Two of these are in Lake: at the Church of the Good Shepherd and on the War Memorial. The other two are at the Drill Hall in Newport and the Chapel of St Nicholas at Carisbrooke Castle. It seems strange now to know that I used to pass the first two of these memorials on a daily basis on my way to school in Sandown without knowing there was any family connection. In the Church of the Good Shepherd, which is only a few minutes' walk from the Stag Inn, there is a brass plaque in memory of three of the church's choristers, one of whom was Raymond. Nearby there is also a memorial window (see Figure 2.12). No doubt Aunt Bet was amongst the crowd when the War Memorial in Lake was unveiled in 1920 (see Figure 2.13).¹⁸ It must have been a proud but sad moment for her.

¹⁷ <https://www.iow.gov.uk/azservices/documents/1386-The-Isle-of-Wight-Rifles-and-Gallipoli-v-3.pdf> (accessed 10 February 2018).

¹⁸ More photos can be viewed at <http://www.isle-of-wight-memorials.org.uk/> (accessed 16 December 2018).

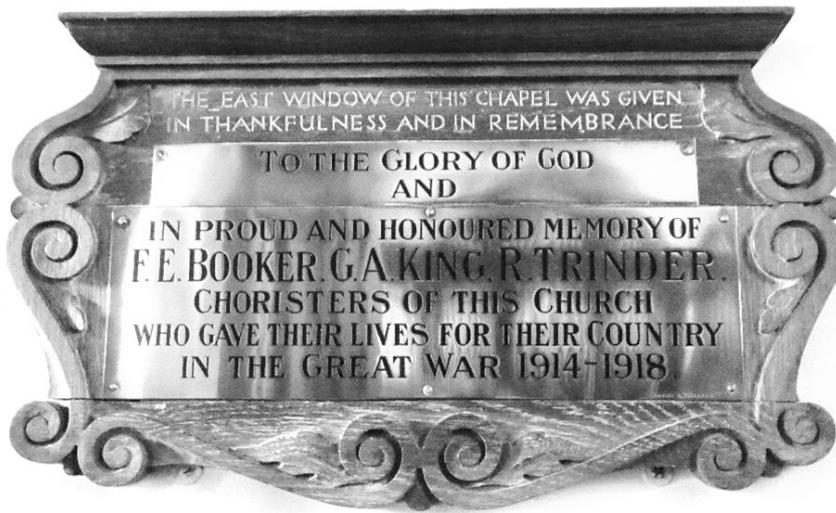


Figure 2.12: The memorial plaque and the east window in the Church of the Good Shepherd, Lake



Figure 2.13: The unveiling of the Lake War Memorial in 1920

Photo by permission of Hilton Price

2.5 Aunt Bet leaves the Stag Inn

In 1923, seventeen years after the death of her husband Simeon_{T1}, Aunt Bet, now 70, gave up running the Stag Inn and moved to live in Ventnor near her half-sister Frances and her husband Benjamin NASH. After Benjamin's death in 1929, Aunt Bet moved to live in the flat at 1 Pier Street, Ventnor, with Frances. We will read more about Aunt Bet's time in Ventnor in 3.3.

2.6 Nigel TRINDER and his family return from Canada

It was around the time when Aunt Bet gave up the Stag Inn and moved to Ventnor that Nigel and Ethel TRINDER must have returned from Canada with their four children. I have found no record of their return journey to England, but, having found their entry in the 1921 census in Canada¹⁹, it was clearly at some point between 1921 and 1924, since in 1924^{ER} they were living at 4 Cliff Terrace, Newcomen Road, Lake, just a quarter of a mile from the Stag Inn. A further daughter, Eileen Barbara, was born in 1929 after Nigel and Ethel's return to the Island. The house at 1 Lea Road, Lake, where they were living in 1939, was built in 1931, and it would seem possible that Nigel and Ethel were the first people to live there, with their five children, Dorothy, Harry, Catherine, Mary_{T2} and Eileen, who were then between the ages of fifteen and two.

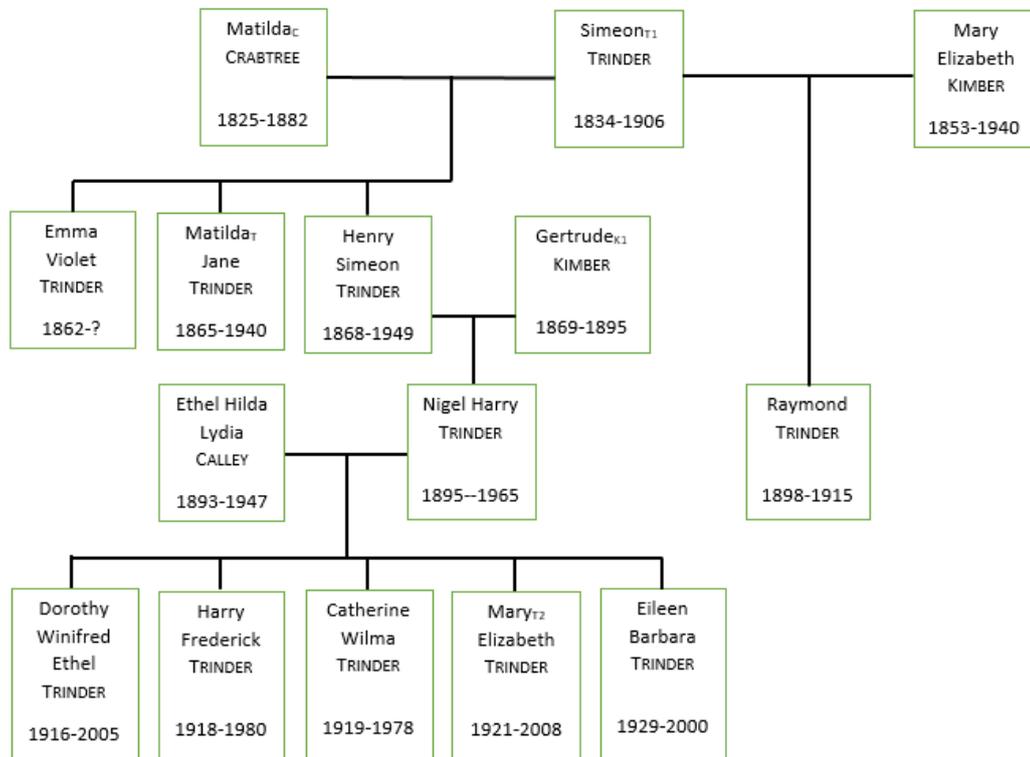


Figure 2.14: The family of Simeon_{T1} TRINDER and his two wives, Matilda_C CRABTREE and Mary Elizabeth KIMBER (Aunt Bet)

¹⁹ Canadian census of 1921.



Figure 2.15: 1 Lea Road, Lake



Figure 2.16: Trinder's tobacconist shop at
2 St John's Road, Sandown, 1956

Copyright unidentified

By 1937^{ER} Aunt Bet, then aged 83, had moved back from Ventnor to Lake to live at 1 Lea Road with Nigel and Ethel. Nigel, we will remember, was both her nephew and her husband Simeon_{T1}'s grandson, and their relationship must have been very close – more that of a mother and son – since she had brought him up from a baby after the death of his mother Gertrude_{K1} (Aunt Bet's half-sister). Two years later, according to the 1939 register, Aunt Bet was still living with Nigel and Ethel, and their daughter Catherine was also living there with them.²⁰ Catherine was listed as working as a shop assistant in a tobacconist's shop, and I suppose it is possible that she may have worked with her grandfather Henry Simeon, who, according to the 1939 register, was still living at 2 St John's Road, Sandown, and working as a tobacconist. Nigel was recorded as being a booking clerk for a coach company. John_{N4} NASH recalls:

I remember Nigel TRINDER and his wife. When I was twelve or thirteen [c.1933–4] I used to ride over from Ventnor to Lake to see Nigel and his family.

2.7 The death of Aunt Bet

Aunt Bet died in the autumn of 1940, aged 87, and was buried on 2 November in Sandown Cemetery, which is only a few hundred yards from the Trinder's family home at 1 Lea Road, Lake. The closeness of the relationship between Aunt Bet and Nigel is suggested by the fact that Nigel and Ethel chose to be buried close to Aunt Bet: no doubt when she died, Nigel and Ethel bought the adjacent plot for their own burial when the time came.²¹

Ethel died in 1947, aged 54, and Nigel died eighteen years later in 1965 at the age of 69. The two graves can be found near the entrance to Sandown Cemetery, underneath a beautiful flowering cherry tree: the headstone was obviously erected by Nigel and Ethel's children after Nigel's death in 1965, some 25 years after Aunt Bet's death.²² Aunt Bet seemed to have spent her life looking after other

²⁰ The record for Catherine TRINDER was later amended to include the surname BALL (she married Andrew BALL in 1941).

²¹ Location of the grave of Mary Elizabeth TRINDER: Sandown Cemetery, Lea Road, Lake, plot E 473 and of Nigel and Ethel TRINDER: Sandown Cemetery, Lea Road, Lake, plot E 472 (certified at the Isle of Wight Records Office).

²² We notice that the headstone records the incorrect year for Aunt Bet's death, giving 1942 instead of 1940 as given on her death certificate. Also, according to the records for Births and Deaths she would have been 87.

people, especially family members, and I like to think that it may have been Aunt Bet who my mother Betty was named after.



IN LOVING MEMORY
OF
OUR DEAR PARENTS
ETHEL TRINDER
DIED SEPT 1947 AGED 54 YEARS
NIGEL TRINDER
DIED MARCH 1965 AGED 69 YEARS
AND BESSIE TRINDER
DIED NOV 1942 AGED 86 YEARS

Figure 2.17: The gravestone of Ethel and Nigel TRINDER and Aunt Bet (Bessie TRINDER)



Figure 2.18: The Trinder family graves underneath the flowering cherry tree, Sandown Cemetery

On 5 August 1949, two years after the death of Ethel, Nigel's father, Henry Simeon TRINDER, then aged 80, died and was buried in the churchyard at Christ Church, Sandown, where his wife, Gertrude_{K1}, had been buried 54 years earlier. After Ethel's death, Nigel remained at 1 Lea Road, and in 1951^{ER} he was living there with his youngest daughter Eileen, as well as his daughter Mary_{T2} and her husband,

Frank MILLER. After Henry Simeon’s death the family must have kept the house on at 2 St John’s Road in Sandown, as by 1956^{ER}, Nigel and Eileen had moved to live there.

2.8 Some other Kimber connections with the Isle of Wight

2.8.1 Maria KIMBER

In 1881^C, three years before Simeon_{T1}’s marriage to Aunt Bet, when he was still living with his first wife Matilda_C at the Castle Inn in Sandown, his half-sister, Jane MULLISS, was living next door to them at 4 Fitzroy Street. Living with her were two young girls, both recorded as servants. One was Jane Mulliss WARE, who was a niece of Jane MULLISS (and no doubt named after her aunt).²³ The other was Maria KIMBER, one of Aunt Bet’s younger half-sisters (and an older sister of my great-grandmother Frances Emily KIMBER). Later that year, on 18 May 1881, Jane MULLISS died at Castle Cottage in Fitzroy Street: she was then 63 and she might perhaps have needed servants or family members to care for her. More about Jane’s interesting life follows in 4.2.

Another connection that came to light was that my mother recalled going to stay as a child with a family in Yorkshire. She had mentioned the name Dorothy DUCKWORTH, but I had never realised that there was a family connection. During my research I found that Dorothy was in fact the daughter of Frances KIMBER’s sister, Maria, and thus Dorothy DUCKWORTH and my grandfather Basil NASH were first cousins.

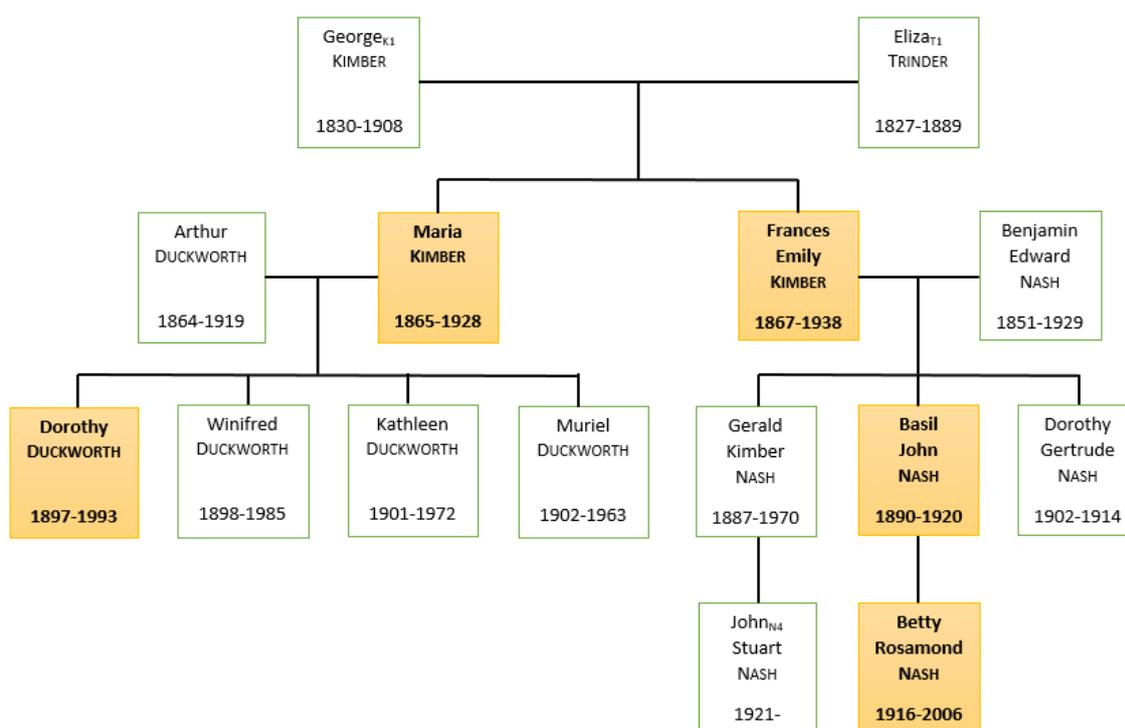


Figure 2.19: The families of Maria and Frances KIMBER

Maria’s husband Arthur DUCKWORTH was born in Rochdale (Lancashire) where, at the age of seventeen, he was a pharmaceutical chemist apprentice. Ten years later, in 1891^C, he was boarding

²³ Jane Mulliss WARE was the daughter of Eliza_{T1}’s sister, Mary_{T1} TRINDER, who was married to William_{W1} WARE.

with a family and working as a pharmaceutical chemist in New Windsor. It was possibly here, close to Winkfield, that he first met Maria, though they married in 1895 in St Paul's Church, Shanklin, which is where her father, George_{K1} KIMBER was then living. They then moved to Ilkley (Yorkshire), where they had four daughters: Dorothy DUCKWORTH (born 1897), Winifred DUCKWORTH (born 1898), Kathleen DUCKWORTH (born 1901) and Muriel DUCKWORTH (born 1902). Arthur continued his career as a pharmaceutical chemist and they lived at 3 Brook Street, Ilkley.²⁴ John_{N4} NASH remembers them all coming down to Ventnor to stay at 1 Pier Street with his grandmother Frances, and he kept in contact by telephone with them for many years. Arthur and Maria both died in Ilkley; Arthur in 1919 and Maria in 1928. Winifred married Laurie GOODMAN in 1927 and they moved away from Ilkley, but Dorothy, Kathleen and Muriel remained in Ilkley until their deaths. In the 1939 Register the three unmarried sisters were recorded as living together at 1 Oakburn Road, Ilkley, and Kathleen had followed in her father's footsteps and was working as a chemist's dispenser. They continued living in the same house for many years and they all died in Ilkley: Muriel died in 1963, aged 61, Kathleen in 1973, aged 72, and Dorothy in 1993, aged 97.



Figure 2.20: 3 Brook Street, Ilkley, home of the DUCKWORTH family

2.8.2 Annie Mulliss KIMBER

Another interesting character in the Kimber family was Aunt Bet's half-sister, Annie Mulliss KIMBER. She was Eliza_{T1}'s first daughter and so was also Simeon_{T1}'s niece. Here is another instance of the naming of a child after Jane MULLISS, which indicated the importance of Jane to both families, and it was this occurrence of Mulliss as a given name in the Kimber family that was a vital clue in helping me to piece together the links between the Kimber and the Trinder families.

As we saw in Chapter One, in 1891^C Annie Mulliss KIMBER had been living in Bromley with her younger sister Frances, who was by then married to Benjamin NASH and had two young boys, Gerald and Basil NASH. Ten years later, in 1901^C, now aged 37, she was living at the Stag Inn with Simeon_{T1}, Aunt Bet, Nigel TRINDER, aged six, and Raymond TRINDER, aged three. Annie never married, and it seems likely that she spent her time helping her sisters to look after their children. She remained on the Island; in the year of her death in 1911, when she was aged 49, she was living on her own at 4 Reno Cottages, Lake, and was buried in Shanklin Cemetery with her father, George_{K1} who had died three years earlier (see **2.8.3**).

²⁴ Currently a White Stuff shop (2018).

2.8.3 George_{K1} and Eliza_{ME} KIMBER's arrival on the Isle of Wight

We read in 1.2.3 that by 1895, George_{K1} KIMBER and his third wife Eliza_{ME} had retired and moved to live in Shanklin on the Isle of Wight. Their move to the Island was not altogether surprising, as George_{K1}'s eldest daughter, Aunt Bet, was by then married to Simeon_{T1} TRINDER and was living in the neighbouring village of Lake, and another two of George_{K1}'s daughters, Maria and Annie Mulliss KIMBER, were also living on the Island in the Lake area.

We can see that 1895 was a year in which much happened in the Kimber family on the Isle of Wight, with the birth of George_{K1}'s grandson, Nigel TRINDER, and his christening in June, shortly followed in the death of George_{K1}'s daughter (Nigel's mother) Gertrude_{K1}, and her burial on 25 November at Christ Church, Sandown. In October, between these two events, George_{K1}'s daughter Maria married Arthur DUCKWORTH in St Paul's Church, Shanklin before they moved to live in Ilkley.



Figure 2.21: George_{K1} KIMBER (photo taken in Shanklin)

In 1901^c George_{K1} and Eliza_{ME} were living at Yew Tree Villa in Landguard Road, Shanklin. George_{K1} died of a stroke in 1908, aged 78, and was buried on 16 March 1908 in Shanklin Cemetery.²⁵ His daughter, Annie Mulliss was present at his death and her address at the time was given as the Stag Inn, Lake. Records show that Annie Mulliss KIMBER, who died in September 1911, aged 49, was buried in the same plot as George_{K1}. I found the grave, but there was no headstone.²⁶

In 1911^c, George_{K1}'s widow, Eliza_{ME}, was living at 2 The Terrace, Hope Street, Shanklin. She died in 1926, aged 83, and was also buried in Shanklin Cemetery. I found her grave and although the headstone was broken into a number of pieces, it was readable. This confirmed her second name was MAXWELL rather than MANSULL as had appeared in some records.²⁷

2.8.4 Gertrude_{K2} Catherine KIMBER

Another connection that came to light is that Gertrude_{K2} Catherine KIMBER, the daughter of Aunt Bet's younger brother Charles_{K1}, married Frederick Charles SMITH (born 1880 in Cork) in Christ Church, Sandown, in 1910 and the same year gave birth to their daughter, Catherine Alma SMITH. They were living in Brownlow Road in Lake, just a five minute walk away from the Stag Inn at the time of the 1911 census, and no doubt would have had quite a lot to do with Aunt Bet; they would have known Nigel just before he set off for Canada in 1912, and Raymond before he joined the Isle of Wight Rifles in 1915.

²⁵ The place of George_{K1}'s death is recorded as 5 Oaklands, Garfield Road, Shanklin.

²⁶ Location of the grave of George_{K1} and Annie Mulliss KIMBER: Shanklin Cemetery, plot J4, grave 1304 (certified at the Isle of Wight Records Office).

²⁷ Location of the grave of Eliza_{ME} KIMBER (née MAXWELL): Shanklin Cemetery, plot M, grave 2497 (certified at the Isle of Wight Records Office).