

Davies Lineage

On-line records have been traced back to 1717 through a family search site focusing on Carmarthen and the Parish of St Peter. The generations prior to Thomas Davies born around 1790 are possible relatives. From 1790 however confidence in the information is reasonable high as, it will be noticed, many of the names crop up through the generations when people liked to name their children after brothers, daughters, uncles, aunts, etc.

David Davies (born about 1717) married Mary Howell (born about 1719) on 30th November 1742. They had two children:

Thomas - baptism 26th February 1743
Jane - baptism 15th June 1749

Thomas married Elizabeth Aperby (born about 1745) on 11th February 1764. They had twelve children.

Thomas - baptism 10th December 1764
John - baptism 29th January 1769
Charlotte - baptism 23rd July 1781
James - baptism 2nd January 1785
Thomas - baptism 17th August 1787
Mary - baptism 22nd May 1788
Sarah } baptism 4th November 1789
Elizabeth }
Mary - baptism 13th June 1790
William }
Catherine } baptism 7th June 1791. William died at birth.
Anne }

It is presumed that the first Thomas and Mary both died when children as later offspring were given the same names.

Thomas (1787) at the time of his son David's marriage was a butcher living at Penhrose Cottage, Carmarthen. He married Ann Williams (born 1789/91) in St Peter Parish in November 1810 and the couple had at least seven children

John - baptism 5th May 1814
Mary - baptism 2nd May 1817
Ann - born 1820
David - baptism 4th August 1822 at Lammas St Independent
Elizabeth - baptism 19th June 1825
Henry - baptism 6th July 1828 at Lammas St Independent
James - baptism 28th March 1837 at Lammas St Independent

The 1841 census shows they also had living with them five members of the Leonard family. The book 'Four Cheers for Carmarthen' by Pat Molloy provides an excellent description of Carmarthen life in the 19th century and early 20th century. Many of the working class had to share accommodation, which could explain why Penhrose Cottage housed two families.

David was born in Carmarthen, probably in Penrose Cottage. He married Jane Cadwallader in Carmarthen on 27th February 1849 and at the time of John's birth was, like his father, a butcher living in St Catherines Street, Carmarthen. By the time of John's marriage he was a General Labourer, having migrated to the Pembrey area probably to work at the iron & steel works. (Additional interesting information on the Cadwalladers is available.)

David and Jane had six children:

John Gomer	- born 1852
Walter	- born 1854
James	- born 1856
Elizabeth	- born 1860
Caroline	- born 1862
Frederick	- born 1865

In 1851 David and Jane were living in Pontrepath, St Peter, Carmarthen. David was a butcher.

In 1861 they still lived in Pontrepath, St Peter, Carmarthen with children John, Walter, Samuel (James?) and Elizabeth.

In 1871 they had moved to Friar's Court, Carmarthen with sons John, Walter, James and Frederick and daughters Elizabeth and Caroline.

In 1881 they were living at 10, Carway Terrace, Pembrey with their daughter Elizabeth (General Servant) and son Frederick. By this time David was a General Labourer. It appears that Caroline had moved out and was employed as a general servant for John Swire and his four daughters at Rock House in Pembrey. John Swire was a coal merchant from Lancashire born in 1818. He married Louisa Mowbray in 1845 and, after moving to Carmarthenshire, married Louisa Jane Goode in 1855. He survived both wives and died in 1895.

Pat Molloy's book also mentions the flight of industry from Carmarthen in the latter part of the 19th century, which probably explains why John Davies moved first to Pembrey and thence to Bridgend.

According to the 1891 census it appears that Frederick was living at 1, Sandy Road, Pembrey employed as a seaman (possible, as his grandfather Cadwallader was a mariner). Frederick was married to a grocer (Elizabeth) and they had a daughter Gladys and son George. By 1901 Frederick was a ships pilot and the couple had three more daughters (Beatrice, Jessie and Laura) and two more sons (Howard and Redvers). They were living at 5 Albert Street, Llanelly. By 1911 they had two more daughters (Edith and Anita) and another son (Charles). Ten children in all! That's what sea air does for you!

John Gomer was born on 25th June 1852 in Carmarthen, his parents living at St Catherines Street, Carmarthen at the time. He married Mary Jane James on 1st May 1880 in Pembry, Burry Port, and moved to 53 Newcastle Hill, Bridgend after 1881. It would seem that his brother Walter was probably a witness on his marriage certificate. John was an Iron & Brass Moulder, probably working at the iron foundry near Pembrey, when he got married. His father, David, was a Labourer at the time. Mary Jane was born on 4th January 1858 in Haverfordwest of George and Hannah James.

The couple had seven children:

Frederick Cadwallader was born on 4th July 1881 and died on 12th July 1883.

Stanley, born on 22nd January 1883, was a solicitor's clerk before signed up and joining the Machine Gun Corp on 27th April 1916. He was a casualty of the First World War, dying in the trenches in France on 1st January 1918. He was awarded three medals, which includes a 1902 South African Transvaal medal. This suggests that he also fought in the Boer War, which seems likely as he owned a sword which is now in the possession of George's granddaughter Merle (McKeown). The medals are in the possession of George's grandson Geoffrey. Stanley never married.

Laura Jane was born on 23rd December 1885 and died on 7th May 1890.

Alcwyn, born on 9th May 1887, joined The Welsh Regiment of the Territorial Force on 18th May 1912 serving for five years, of which two were spent in France. Alcwyn's wife was Gladys (details unknown) and they had no children. The only records of an Alcwyn's wedding are to a Miss Jones in Q3 1924 in Llanelly and a Miss Rees in Q1 1930 in Llandilofawr. Possibly, his wife was one of these two.

Caroline was born on 9th June 1889 and died on 17th May 1892

George, born on 9th February 1891, was the youngest son and the only one to have children.

Annie Luisa, born 10th October 1892, was the only daughter to survive into adulthood. She married Illtyd Rosser Thomas, a Coal Hower living in Port Talbot, on 9th October 1941 but he unfortunately passed away on 13th May 1947 age 61. She never remarried and spent most of her life looking after her mother. Annie had a wicked sense of humour and was always fun to be with. In old age she always liked a drop of brandy in her tea and when she moved from Newcastle Hill she was known by all who new her as 'Auntie Annie'. On one occasion someone must have got access to her house and stole her money. Many neighbours called round and put money through her letter to compensate her for the loss. It is believed she ended up with more money than what was stolen in the first place. A popular lady! She was eventually moved to an old people's home which soon led to her death in 1995 age 103. I guess she just gave up after losing her home.

In 1891 Mary was alone in Newcastle Hill with Stanley, Alcwyn and George. We don't know the whereabouts of her husband John.

In 1901 John and Mary were both in Newcastle Hill with Stanley (Solicitor's Clerk), Alcwyn, George, and Annie. They had one visitor – 16 year old Kate Davies (possibly a relative).

In 1911 Mary was alone again with Alcwyn (a Collier Labourer), George (Stationary Engineman) and Annie (Dress maker). Again, they had one visitor – 14 year old Gertie James (Tailoring Apprentice); she could possibly have been a relative of Mary. Once again, where John was is unknown.

John died in June 1920. Mary died on 12th July 1953.

George was born at 74 Newcastle Hill, Bridgend on 9th February 1891. When he was 13 years old he was a member of the local church choir. On the 8th April 1910 he enlisted in the Glamorgan Territorial Force joining the 7th (Cyclist) Welsh Regiment and was discharged on 9th April 1914. He also appears in uniform in August, from a photograph with his wife Martha and newly born son George Otto. He joined Britain's Electricity Board after the war and was presented with a Long Service Certificate at the end of 1954, presumably on his retirement.

George married Martha Punter on 22nd April 1914 by whom he had three children:

George Otto, born 16th August 1914, married Kathleen Peal Harrison, born 7th December 1914, on 28th January 1939. They had two children: Valerie Kathleen (b.23.12.1939; d.2.9.2013) and Geoffrey Leonard Otto (b.22.10.1941). George died on 15th May 1991 and Kathleen on 11th March 2002.

Leonard, born in Q2 1918, married Mary Smith, on dd-mm-yyyy. They and had one daughter, Merle, born on dd.mm.1941. Leonard died on dd.mmm.yyyy with Mary passing away soon after on dd.mmm.yyyy.

Muriel, born in Q1 1916, married Leslie Beynon in Q3 1939. After this marriage ended in divorce she married Emlyn Anderson on dd-mm-yy. As the couple were unable to have children they adopted a baby girl in yyyy and named her Judith. Muriel died on dd.mmm.yyyy and Em on dd.mmm.yyyy.

Following the death of his wife Martha on 9th March 1942 George employed a housekeeper, Olive Thompson (Born 30th April 1903), whom he married on 30th September 1944. They had one daughter, Lynne.

Lynne, born 4th February 1946, married Paul Daniels (born 30th July 1948). They had one daughter, Rachel, born in 1974.

George died on 22nd December 1977 and Olive on 30th August 1975.