

## The Goldfrap Quest

At the start of 2019, the Parish Council received a letter from a Mr John Taylor living in Warwickshire. The letter went on to explain that he had acquired a regimental staff belonging to a Captain Fredrick William Goldfrap and that he was trying to find out if there were any living descendants still in the area. I have to say I have had a most interesting journey tracing this gentleman's family tree.

His father, also Fredrick William Goldfrap was Rector of Clenchwarton from 1817. His Mother Anne Stephenson came from Berkshire. Besides Fredrick Jnr, the couple had five daughters. Young Fredrick attended the old school at Clenchwarton which was where the local shop now sits adjacent to the main road. Following his fathers' death in 1838 the family moved to Suffolk and Fredrick was sent to a boarding school at Gorleston, Suffolk and later to Trinity College Cambridge.

At the age of eighteen, Fredrick William had joined the army and was stationed at Bangalore, Madras, He was a Lieutenant in Her Majesty's 15th Hussars where he found love and married Fanny Alexandra. A Captain's daughter. They were married August 2nd 1851 and had two sons, Fredrick, Charles and Henry Compton whilst living in India. Their daughter Edith was born in Yorkshire just over a month before their Father died aged 34 years.

His son Fredrick Charles and his wife Eleanore had one daughter Violet and four sons John, Harold, Charles and Tom. Eleanore died in 1932. Fredrick Charles married again to a divorcee called Alice who moved with him and the four boys as well as her one son and four daughters. The family emigrated to California to start a new life in 1894. He died at age 69 in 1921.

From all of Fredrick Charles children, only his son Harold went on to have a child with his wife Edith Thorne. His name was Nicholas John born 1921 in Bombay India. His father just like his great grandfather was Captain in the British Officers of the Indian Army. He died in battle 6 May 1940 Alexandria, Egypt. Nicholas also joined up at the age of 18 with Queen's Royal West Surrey Regiment. In 1945 he married nurse Isabella Patricia Barge at Newmarket, Suffolk. They had three sons Christopher 1947. Twins. Richard and Robert 1949. Daughters Rosemary 1954. Jacqueline 1956 and Alison 1966.

Given that Alison was the youngest living relative of Fredrick William the 2nd, I set about finding her. I contacted every living Goldfrap that had matching trees on their ancestry account and I hit lucky with a woman living in the USA who was a distant cousin on another branch. She told me that Alison was very much alive and living in London. She was a singer in a group called Goldfrapp and suggested I look up the name on the internet. I found her website and her agency address. With all the facts I had found I made two folders from all the info and posted copies of various documents to both her agent and Mr Taylor who had made the request for help. Within days he rang me to say thank you and how pleased it was with the folder. He said in a month or so he would be going to London where will make an appointment to meet up with Alison and invited me to go with him when the opportunity arose. A few days ago, I had an email from Alison's PA who had thanked me for getting in touch and how happy they were with the folder. She also copied and added a handwritten letter from Alison to thank me. Alison has said she will at some point be visiting Clenchwarton so that she could visit the Goldfrap graves inside the graveyard at St Margaret's and would be happy to meet up with Mr Taylor and I to thank us personally.

Researched and written by Audrey Winter. ©