

WILLIAM DUGDALE MEADEN

1828-1903

MARY BROWN

1831-1906

WILLIAM was the eldest son of ROBERT DUGDALE MEADEN and MARY ANN CLARK.

He was born in SOUTHAMPTON, on the 2nd December 1828,
And Baptized on the 8th JANUARY 1829.

He had two sisters MARY ANN DUGDALE MEADEN and HARRIET DUGDALE MEADEN. He also had a brother GEORGE DUGDALE MEADEN.



MARY BROWN was born in Richmond Surrey in 1831 and was christened on the 19th AUGUST 1831 at St Mary Magdalen Church, Richmond. Her parents were EDWARD CHARLES and ELIZABETH BROWN.



WILLIAM DUGDALE MEADEN and MARY BROWN married in Southampton on the 26th April 1852. He and his wife went to live in Reading Berkshire, where presumably he worked as an Iron Moulder. Their first child WILLIAM ROBERT was born at 14 St John's Street Reading on the 10th March 1853, but was baptized at St Mary's Southampton.

As the eldest son, and heir WILLIAM DUGDALE MEADEN inherited the previously mentioned plot of land in Southampton, which, with the help of his mother, who was living in Southampton, he sold on the 11th May 1854, for £4 13s 9p.

The size of the plot of land was 5 perches, about 27mtrs.



Amongst my father's box of bits and pieces, I came across two old pocket watches, both of solid silver and in need of repair, which I

vaguely remember playing with as a child. On closer inspection I found the larger watch has the initials "WM" on the front and is hallmarked C1850. Along with the watch I found the Winder, on which are the words: - H A Barrs Watchmaker 21 West St Reading. It is intriguing and has possibly one of two likely explanations. (1) That William Dugdale used the proceeds from the sale of the land to purchase this watch, which I am told would have cost about £5.00, or (2) that he Purchased it as it was a bequest in ROBERT DUGDALE's Will.

Shortly after this he moved with his family to Brighton. WILLIAM DUGDALE MEADEN's second son HENRY EDWARD was born there shortly afterwards.

WILLIAM DUGDALE MEADEN worked as an IRON MOULDER at the BRIGHTON RAILWAY FACTORY, and later became the FOREMAN of IRON MOULDERS.

He and MARY had 11 children 9 boys and 2 girls.

They were: WILLIAM ROBERT who was born on the 10th March 1853, at 14 Saint Johns Street Reading (baptized 16th March 1853 at St Mary's Southampton) and who died aged 22 months, at 42 New York Street Brighton on the 16th January 1855 from Pertussis (whooping cough) with inflammation.



HENRY EDWARD, who was born 22nd January 1855 at 22 New York Street, became a Brass/Iron Moulder at the same Brighton Railway Factory.



FANNY, who was born on the 14th March 1857, at 17 Ann Street Brighton and who died 9 months later, on the 3rd December 1857, at 9 Milton Road Brighton. Like her brother William, she also died from Pertussis, this time with convulsions.



GEORGE who was born in Brighton in 1858, he became an Iron Foundry Labourer, at the Railway Works. (I state the Railway foundry each time, because there were five other foundries in Brighton at this time.)



ROBERT who was born on the 22nd January 1861, at 1 Milton Road Brighton, and probably died some time between 1871 and 1881. I say this because there is no mention of him in the 1881 census.

MARY ELIZABETH, who was born at 1 Milton Road Brighton 6th August 1863 and died 16th September 1866, aged 3. Seven months after falling on her head. She died from convulsions. Her death certificate has her as ELIZABETH, probably because Mary was never used, as it was also her mother's name.



CHARLEY, who was born on 23rd April 1865, at 1 Milton Road Brighton. His given name on his birth certificate was CHARLEY, not CHARLES as is given in the 1871 and 1881 censuses.

At the age of 24 CHARLES, was recorded as being a Solicitors Clerk in Brighton.

As a point of interest, in the year 1897, Edgar Everest, Sussex F A representative and Councillor Charles Meaden, met at the Imperial Hotel in Queens Road to form the towns first professional club, Brighton United Football Club.

As Charley would have been 32 years old it is quite possibly him, as there are no other Charles Meaden's to be found in any Brighton census around this time.



JAMES and JOHN, who were twins, were born at 1 Milton Road Brighton
29th October 1868.

John was born at 1745hrs and James at 1800hrs

In the 1891 census, at the age of 22, JAMES gives his occupation as that of a FOUNDER; again the most likely place is the Railway Factory. (FOUNDERS and MOULDERS were part of the same process,

Moulders made the moulds from the patterns, and the Founder produced the molten metal for pouring. Often they would help one another.)

JOHN gives his occupation as an ACCOUNTS CLERK, but on his death certificate is stated to have been a SOLICITORS CLERK. JOHN died, a bachelor at his home 39 De Montford Road, Brighton aged 54, from Neurasthenia and Angina Pectoris, a severe nervous condition and extreme chest pain, 14th March 1923.

His brother William Edward was Present.



LOUIS who was born on 16th February 1871, at 8 Wellington Terrace Brighton.



WILLIAM EDWARD who was born on 11th October 1875, at 8 Elm Grove Brighton.

The 1891 census has WILLIAM, at the age of 15 as a CYCLE MACHINIST.



CHARLEY married CLARA HARRIET MUTTON in EAST CHILTINGTON, SUSSEX on the 9th December 1896. CLARA was the daughter of DAVID MUTTON a confectioner.

They had a daughter CLARA SYLVIA MEADEN, who was born at 84 Kings Road Brighton on 20th of October 1897; she married CHARLES SMART at Lewes in the Sept Qtr of 1918. Also a son CHARLEY D MEADEN, born in Brighton December Qtr 1913
CLARA HARRIET died in Steyning Sussex in 1934.



GEORGE married ANNIE FOREST on the 8th MAY 1881.

On the wedding certificate GEORGE is down as a Moulders Assistant, and ANNIE'S father as a Ginger Beer Maker.

GEORGE and ANNIE had four children:

DAISY FOREST MEADEN, born 21st June 1881 Brighton
She married Edward Farrington at Croydon on 4th February 1905
Daisy died 14th March 1939, and Edward, died 27th Aug, they were both buried in Croydon Cemetery, next to their children Eva and William Edward, who had both pre deceased their parents.
Daisy and Edward had several children; they include Arthur, who still lives in Sevenoaks and Marjorie Skeet, who is living in Australia. There were several children, who did not marry, but of those who did Arthur had a daughter and a son and Frederick who had a daughter Lesley Ann Farrington, now Ford, and who now, I believe lives in Bury St Edmund, Suffolk and has 2 daughters.

MAY EMMA E MEADEN, born 17th November 1883, at 30 Viaduct Road Brighton.

In 1901 May she was working in Croydon as a General Servant.
In the Mar Qtr of 1903 May she married Frederick Chalmers Kaye in Camberwell, and there they lived and had at least two children, a daughter May Florence Kaye, born the Sept Qtr of 1903, and a son George E Kaye born Sept Qtr 1911.

ARTHUR BENJAMIN MEADEN, born Steyning Brighton Dec Qtr 1887.

In 1915 he married Edith Uffindell in Croydon and there had a son Edward William Meaden who was born in 1916.

Edward (Teddy) married Blanche Rosina Baptiste (Dilys) in 1941.

They had one child, a daughter Cheryl who married Richard Moseley, and they have a son Adrian.

Arthur Benjamin Meaden's occupation was that of a Stone Mason and he died from pneumonia In Sept 1920 in Croydon.

His wife Edith Lived to the grand age of 99.

DOROTHY FRANCES A MEADEN, born Croydon, December Qtr
1890.

GEORGE MEADEN died in Croydon in the March Qtr 1918
ANNIE, his wife died in Croydon year unknown.



LOUIS and his brother WILLIAM EDWARD were two of the first children to benefit from compulsory education for all children, under the "Elementary School Education Act of 1880", and both did very well.

LOUIS, who later qualified as a solicitor, was at first, a solicitor's clerk, in the employ of THOMAS PLUMBRIDGE, who during this period was a witness (possibly the Best Man) at LOUIS wedding. The business address was 13 Prince Albert Street Brighton, and it was from here that he practiced for the rest of his working life, in the partnership "PLUMBRIDGE and MEADEN", later to become "PLUMBRIDGE MEADEN and JENKINS".

IN 1889, his home address was "Kenilworth" 32 Changtonbury Road Hove, considered a much more salubrious address than Brighton, where he lived with his wife ANNIE WINIFRED BARGE, born Yeovil 1871, whom he married on the 1st June 1897. They had a daughter PHYLLIS LOUISA W MEADEN, who was born in Hove December Qtr 1903. On the 2nd October 1926, and the age of 23, Phyllis sailed from London to New York with her parents for a holiday in America. They sailed on the SS Minnekahda, the voyage taking 9days each way. During the June Qtr of 1930 she married CECIL E FIELD at St Martin.

Previously, some time in the 1910's the family moved to
"Melbourne"

191 Dyke Road, where as far as I know, ANNIE WINIFRED continued to live, after LOUIS death on the 15th May 1937. She is recorded as having died in Brighton in the March Qtr of 1945.



A very interesting part of Louis's life was his involvement in swimming. He joined the Brighton Swimming Club in 1888, and became the first Secretary of the Sussex Amateur Swimming Association on 26th Jan 1895. He served the county in that capacity for 14 years, as well as being the secretary of his club from 1903 to 1913; he was also the President of the Southern Counties ASA and President of the County Association.

He was undoubtedly proud of the fact that Brighton Swimming Club is the oldest in the country and that it has been affiliated to the parent body of the ASA longer than any other club.

The notes of the Brighton swimming Club state that- "The club never had a more enthusiastic and capable officer". It also notes that only failing health prevented him from accepting the Presidency of the National Association.

LOUIS probably retired at the age of 60. We know this because, at the time of making his will in 1932 he says he was formally a solicitor, whether due to ill health or a desire to spend more time on swimming matters we don't know.

It was the club that kindly, furnished me with a photo of LOUIS.



WILLIAM EDWARD purchased a Cycle Works at 3a Hanover Square Brighton, in 1902, but continued to live at 41 De Montford Road Brighton.

On the 13th January 1904 WILLIAM married ADA CAROLINE EMILY ANSELL at St Nicholas Church in Brighton
At the time of the wedding they were both living at 7 Kew Street, and the certificate shows him as being a Cycle Manufacturer.
By 1936 the business was called Motor Repairs and had moved to 6a Islingword Road.

Two years later in 1938 it is mentioned as a Motor Cycle establishment, of the same address.
WILLIAM EDWARD is recorded in "Kelly's Directory" of 1940, as living at 72 Highdown Road Hove.



WILLIAM DUGDALE MEADEN died in PORTSMOUTH in the Kingston Lunatic Asylum 26th September 1903. The cause of death was senile decay, and his address on his death certificate was given as 15 Elm Grove Brighton, which is where he was living until some time that year, when presumably one or more of his children took him to hospital in Portsmouth. One year after his death, "Kelly's Directory" has his son JOHN living at 15 Elm Grove.



At some time after the death of her husband WILLIAM, MARY went to live with her youngest son WILLIAM EDWARD MEADEN and his wife CAROLINE at 8 Hampton Road Brighton, and it was here that she died on the 15th of December 1906, from exhaustion, as a result of a cancer of the liver.