

The Warren Family of Great and Little Munden

Researched by John Wareham

On 29 October 1796, John Warren married Elizabeth Wallis in Great Munden church. Elizabeth, the daughter of William and Sarah, was baptised on 24 March 1776 in Great Munden.

Details of John's parents are not known. There is a record of a John Warren aged 70 being buried on 13 April 1835 at Great Munden. However, in the 1760's there are no Warrens recorded as living in the parish. It was not until Edward and Anne Warren moved into the parish from Kelshall that records appear. Between 1776 and 1783 Sarah, two Edwards, Richard, John and Francis were born to Edward and Anne. Both Edwards and John died soon after birth. Edward was involved in parish affairs and was appointed Overseer of the Poor in 1777 and Constable in 1779.

John and Elizabeth had three children (Mary, Thomas and Mary) born in Great Munden, before moving to Little Munden where James Warin was baptised on 12 January 1806. On Christmas Eve 1831, James Waring married Susan Phyphers at Little Munden.

Susan was baptised on 19 March 1809 at Standon, the third child of Samuel and Ann. She had a younger brother - Thomas, baptised 12 June 1812 at Standon. In adulthood Thomas lived in Little Munden. Despite being illiterate, he became a pig farmer and dealer employing five men and took part in parish affairs. In 1837 and 1839 he was Constable and in 1842 to 1845 and 1851 & 1852 Overseer of the Poor. His position led him to become the victim of a criminal act. In 1835 at the Hertford Midsummer Quarter Sessions, William Head aged 17 of Little Munden was sentenced to seven years transportation for the larceny of 60 pence, 240 halfpence and 36 farthings.

James and Susan first lived in Haultwick where Edward was born. By 1837, they were living at Whitehill, where James David, Esther, Charles, Henry (Waring on 22 September 1845) and Ellen were born. In 1848, they were at Potters Green where Levi Jonas and another James were born. They were still there in November 1849 when young Charles was buried. However, by the time of the census in March 1851 they had left the parish.

Henry (Wareham) next appears in March 1871 at Shadwell in London's East End, where he married Susannah Welch - born 18 July 1825 in Bridge Street, Hitchin the daughter of William and Sarah. Here they have a child Henry. Times must have been difficult as they return to Hertfordshire, where a daughter Emma is born in Hoddesdon. Again they decide to return to London where Esther is born, but by 1877 they decide to return permanently to Hertfordshire. William Edward (Wareham) was born at Factory Farm, Cheshunt Park on 12 August 1877 and a further child Margaret was born at Hoddesdon.

At the time of the census in April 1881, Henry and Susannah (Whareham) and Henry, Emma, Edward and Margaret were living in Duke Street, Hoddesdon. Around the corner in North Road lived James and Susan with their unmarried sons Edward and James and granddaughter Esther.