
THE SOMERSET AND DORSET FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY



President: SIR MERVYN MEDLYCOTT Bt. F.S.G.

Registered Charity No. 1010351

Foreword by the President of the Somerset & Dorset Family History Society.

This CD of the history of some Somerset and Dorset parishes is published as part of our commemoration of the 30th anniversary of the founding of this all-voluntary Society. Our aim is to help anyone anywhere in the world who is researching ancestors who may have been in Somerset and Dorset for at least part of their lives.

The articles on the CD are reproduced from ones that have been published in our award-winning journal, *The Greenwood Tree*, over these past 30 years. While there have been several contributors, special mention must be made of Alan and Betty Nineham, founders of one of our nine area groups, who have researched and written a large majority of the articles.

We hope the descriptions of the parishes will at least provide some background material in support of your research, a word picture of the life and times of your ancestors.

Good hunting.

Sir Mervyn Medlycott

President, Somerset & Dorset Family History Society.

EDITORIAL

About this CD

Most of the articles are reproduced from two regular series in our journal: '*Spotlight on a Parish*' or '*Somerset Snapshot*' (the latter written by our Editor, Colin Dean). However, for this CD, we have added other articles on particular places and two collections of bygone images of the Bridport area and North Somerset kindly contributed by two of our members. We have also included the Spotlight article on Newfoundland in Canada, which has close links with Dorset.

Many of the original articles were not illustrated, therefore we have taken the opportunity of this media to add old and new photographs, many of them in colour, which have been contributed by members and others too numerous to mention here. For Dorset, we have largely avoided using present-day pictures of the parish churches, as these are covered by a companion Society CD '*A Study of Churches in Dorset*' by Alan Brown, details of which may be found on our website or in the journal. For Somerset, we have tried to include pictures of the parish church wherever possible. Other Church photos may be found in the collection on our

website. Where reference is made in an article to the Dorset County Record Office, this should now be read as the Dorset History Centre.

To navigate between the articles in PDF format, just click on the name of the article in file index.pdf, and the [Back to Index](#) link at the end of each article. Alternatively, in Windows Explorer, you can click on the filename for the article. On clicking on a link, if your computer asks if you wish to open a PDF file with Active Content, or save it to disk, it is safe to do either.

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Acknowledgements

It is impossible to mention everyone who has contributed to this CD, but we particularly wish to thank the following: Gordon Oaten for donating his unique collection of Edwardian photographs of Somerset; Rodney Fry for his collection of old postcards of Bridport, West Bay & Symondsburry; Thelma Munckton (who wrote many of the Somerset Spotlights) for her old photo of South Lytchett Manor; Jean Chapple for her old photos of Sturminster Newton; Delia Horsfall for photocopying many of the earlier articles not on computer; and FWB Printing for kindly supplying the later articles on CD. Finally our sincere thanks to Colin Dean, Murial & Arthur Monk for their advice & encouragement and for taking a number of the photographs, which lightened our load. If we have left anyone out, please accept our apologies.

We hope you find this publication both interesting and useful.

Phil Sherwood & Debby Rose, Joint Editors.

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