

# The Gardhams

the story behind my family tree



Jane Gardham

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*The Gardhams: From the left - Jim, Olive, Dot, Jase and Alfred in around 1940*

# The Gardams

In 1700 (or thereabouts), my seven times Great Grandfather, Thomas Gardam (he didn't have an 'h' in his surname), was born in the East Riding of Yorkshire.

During his life, Thomas worked as a shepherd. He died in Rowley (to the east of Hull) which is still so rural that it is just a blank space on the map.

When he died in 1740 his son, my Great Great Great Great Great Granddad, Thomas Gardam was just 13. Thomas was the oldest of five brothers - Robert, Martin, Roger (who died when he was just three years old) and Stephen. He worked as an innkeeper and was also a church warden for Hotham Church.

Thomas married Mary Freeman on 12th June 1752 at Hotham and they had five children - (Great Great Great Great Great Granddad) John,



*Main Street, Hotham in the 21st century.  
Photograph by Ben Stephenson*

Thomas, Mary, William and Ann. All the children are recorded on Census returns as having the all-important 'h' and are now Gardhams rather than Gardams.

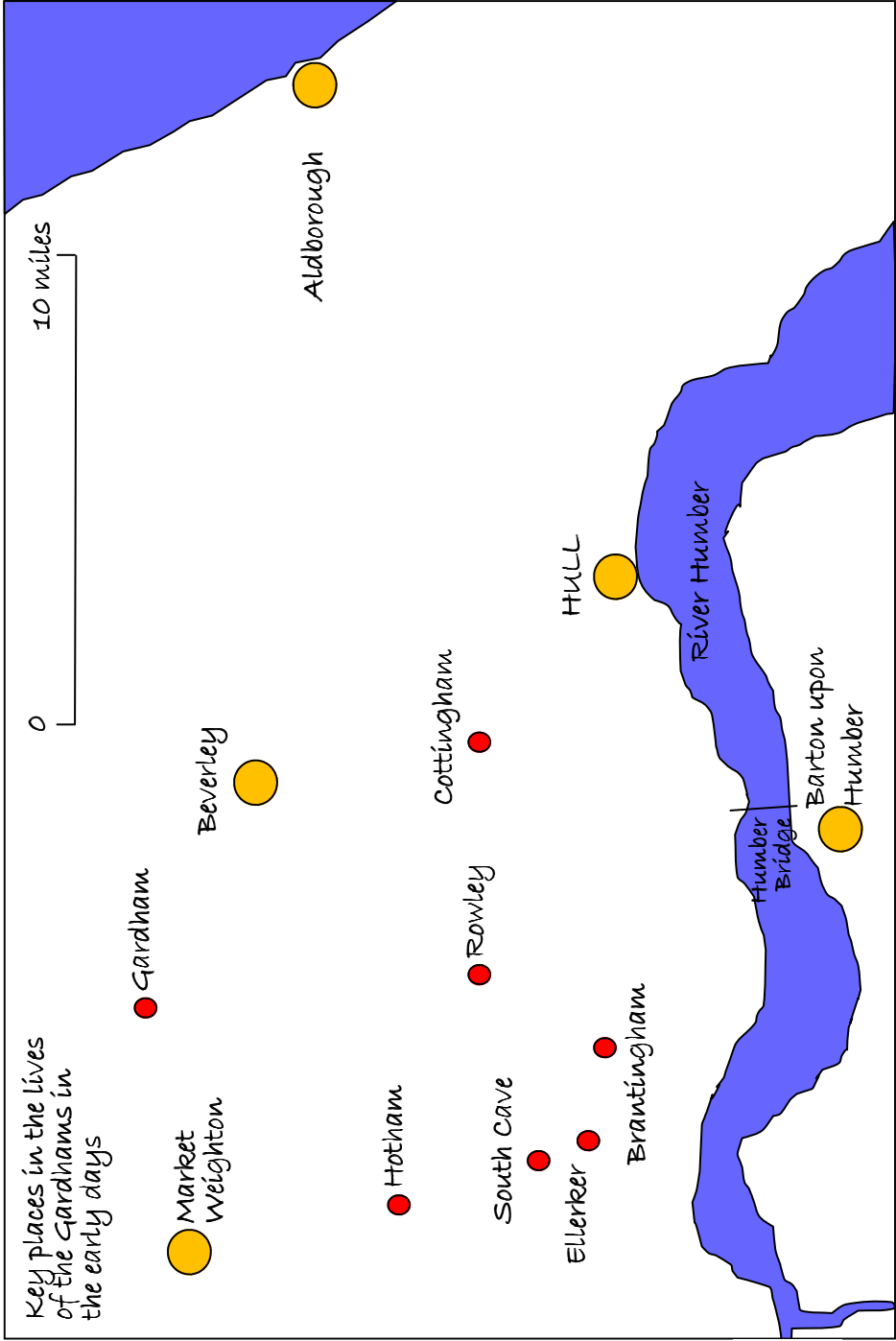
Mary lived until she was 78 years old, dying in Hotham in 1808. Her husband died 20 years before her.

Incidentally, at this time only some people (and no women) could vote. Trawling through the 1834 electoral register has yielded just one relative - William Gardham, who was in Hotham and qualified to vote by virtue of owning a house and garden in the village. William was one of Great Great Great Great Granddad John's sons.



*St Oswald's Church at Hotham. This church has been around since Norman times so is probably where Thomas was warden and where he married Mary.*

*© Ian S (geograph.org.uk)*





# The family moves south

Great Great Great Great Granddad John Gardham was born in Hotham, as were his parents, in 1762 when his mother, Mary, was 32 and his father, Thomas, was 35.

John married Mary Baterman who was nine years younger than John. Mary was the daughter of William Baterman (a blacksmith) and Thomason. John's mother and sister were also both called Mary.

Mary and John had seven children. Great Great Great Great Granddad Martin was the youngest. When Martin was born, his grandmother, Mary was still alive - she died when he was five.

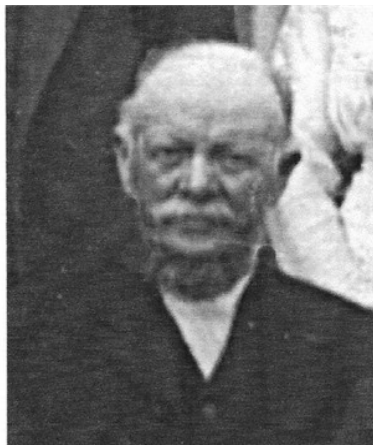
When Martin, an agricultural labourer, was 23 he married Elizabeth Todd who worked as a cook. Martin and Elizabeth had 12 children, all of whom were born in Ellerker, four miles south of Hotham, including Great Great Great Granddad John Gardham. Martin died in Ellerker when he was 58. His wife outlived him by 25 years, dying when she was 81. They both outlived their son, William, who died at sea. Was he a sailor? Or a fisherman?

All three share a grave in St. Anne's Church, Ellerker.

# John's siblings

John had eleven brothers and sisters: Sarah, Mary, Alice, Hannah, William, George, Helen, Elizabeth, Ann, Martin and David.

While earlier Gardhams don't seem to have appeared in the papers before, we can learn something of John's siblings through the family notices.



*John's brother, my Great Great Great Granduncle David Gardham. John was 13 when David was born.*

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## MARRIAGES

February 12 at West Teignmouth Church, Mr. William S. Cockram, to Miss Alice Gardham, of Ellerker, Yorkshire.

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Older sister Alice married in Devon: *Trewman's Exeter Flying Post, February 19, 1857*

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## DEATHS

GARDHAM—On the 20th inst., at Elliker, near Brough, after a long and painful illness, Helen Gardham aged 40 years.

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Helen was ten years younger than John and died young: *The York Herald, September 22nd 1884*

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## DEATHS

GARDHAM—At Ellerker, Anne Elizabeth, widow of the late George Bateman Gardham, passed peacefully away Feb. 25th, aged 94 years. Interment at Ellerker Friday 3 o'clock.

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Anne was the wife of John's younger brother, George: *The Daily Mail, February 27th 1936*

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## DEATHS

GARDHAM—Nov 13th. Ann Elizabeth, eldest daughter of the late David Gardham, of Welton, aged 64. Funeral at Welton on Tuesday. Nov. 17th, at 2.30pm.—At rest.

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The death notice of John's brother David's daughter: *The Daily Mail November 16th 1931*

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John's brother Martin was two years younger than John. He started his working life as an agricultural labourer as did most of his brothers. It does seem that at some point he became a local notable as his wife's funeral was covered in some detail by the Daily Mail, a national newspaper.

#### ELLERKER

INTERMENT.—The death occurred on Monday morning of Mrs M.A. Gardham, wife of Mr Martin Gardham, after a long illness. The interment took place on Wednesday afternoon at Ellerker Churchyard. The service was conducted by the Rev W. Nakwell, curate-in-charge. The chief mourners were the husband, Miss E Gardham, Miss Ruth Gardham and Mrs Hurd (daughters), Mr William and David Gardham (sons). Miss Lily and Dora Gardham (granddaughters), Mrs Hazel, Mrs Robinson and Mrs Kirby (sisters), Mr Thos. Yorke (brother), Mrs Thresh (sister-in-law). Mr and Mrs Geo. Gardham (brother and sister in law), Mrs F Allison (niece), Mr M Gardham (nephew), Mr and Mrs Yorke (nephew and niece), Mr and Mrs H. Boulton (nephew and niece), Mrs Hulse, Mrs Bean, Mrs Noble, Mr and Miss Wood, Mrs H Bristow, Mrs Gill, Mrs Harper, Mrs Williamson, and many others. Mr T. Watson was the undertaker.

*John's son, Martin attended: The Daily Mail August 5th 1922.*

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#### DEATHS

GARDHAM—On July 31st, at Ellerker, Mary Ann, beloved wife of Martin Gardham, 68 years. Funeral on Wednesday afternoon, at three o'clock.

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The death notice of Martin's wife: *The Daily Mail, August 1st 1922*

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#### HEARD UNDER S. CAVE CLOCK

The remains of a sister of Mr Martin Gardham were conveyed from Stone, in Staffordshire, for interment in South Cave Cemetery on Saturday.

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When John's sister died, the Daily Mail reported her being a sister of Martin: *The Daily Mail, September 29th 1924*

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#### DEATHS

GARDHAM—May 27th, suddenly, at Ellerker, Martin Gardham, aged 81. Funeral at Ellerker on Thursday at 3.0pm.

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Martin's own death notice: *The Daily Mail, May 28th 1930*

# The First World War

While I don't know what Alfred and Jane did in the First World War and how they contributed to the war effort, I do know that Alfred's younger brother, John Thomas Gardham served in the Loyal North Lancashire Regiment. In 1914, Alfred was aged 30, John Thomas was just 18.

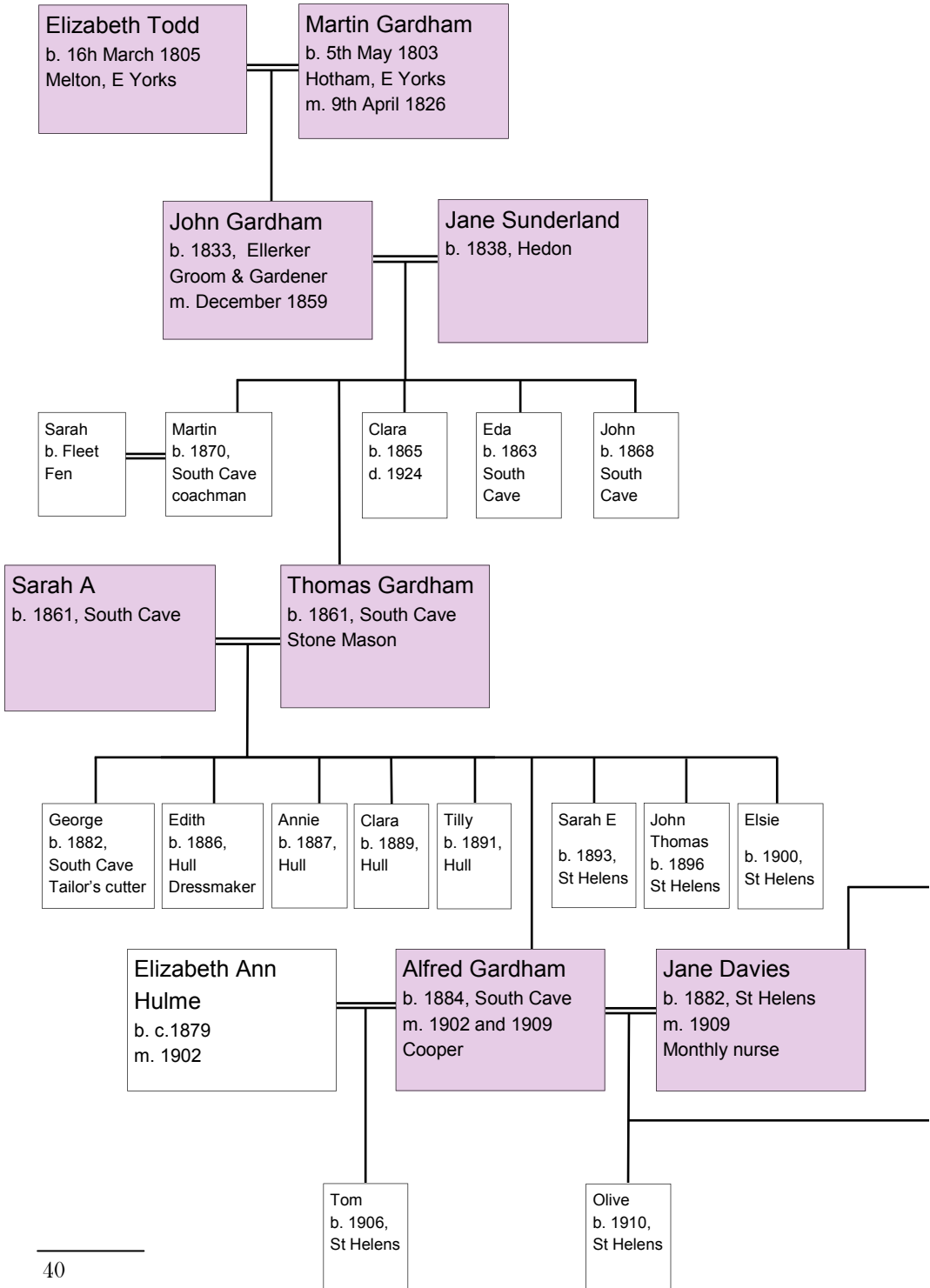
The Loyal North Lancashire Regiment was one of seven infantry regiments recruiting in Lancashire and was known as 'The Cauliflowers'. Many battalions of the Cauliflowers served in France.

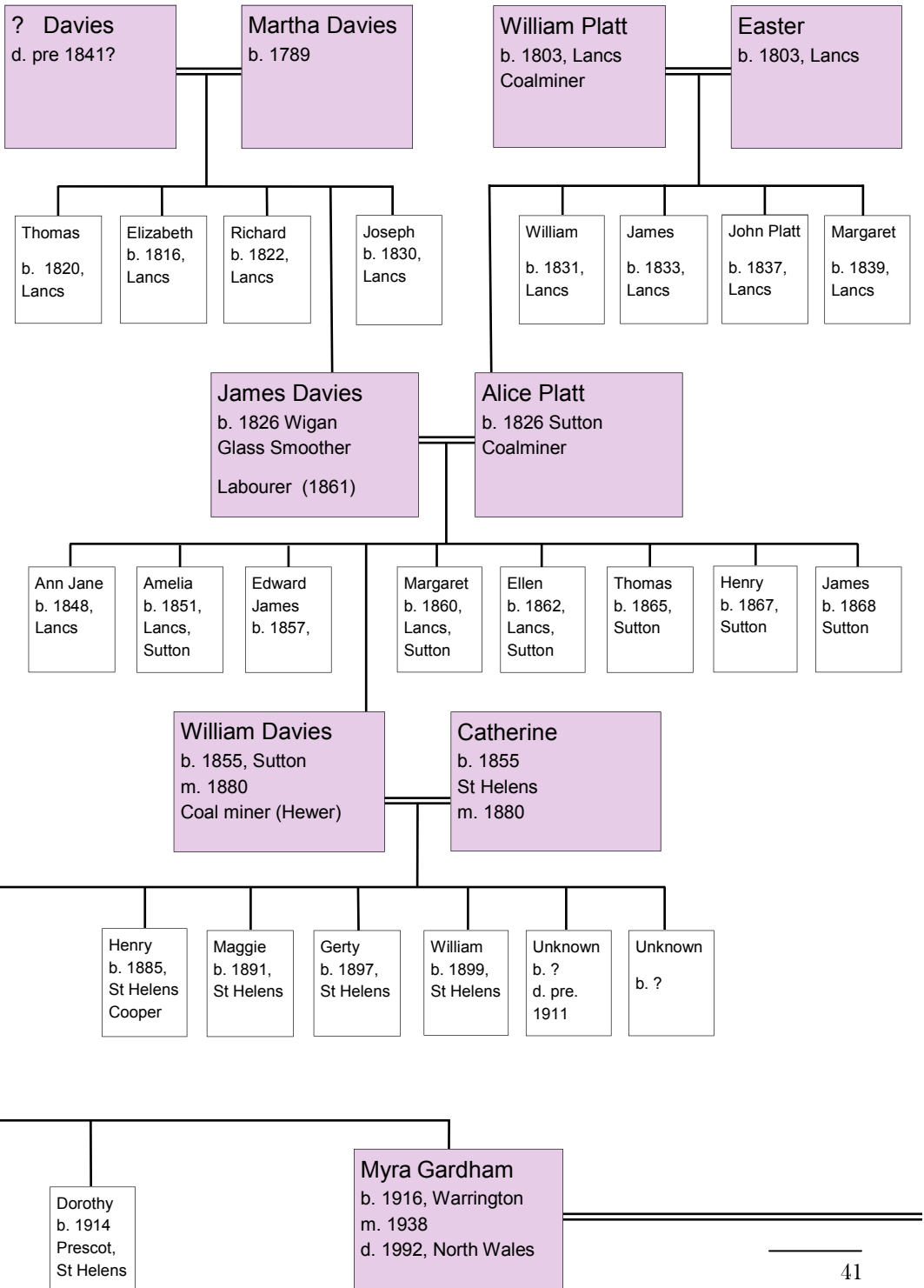


*British War Medal and Victory medal awarded to John Thomas*

*Below—the Cauliflowers in 1916 with new steel helmets.*







**William Spencer**  
b. 1806 Derbyshire

**Mary**  
b. 1805 Derbyshire

Hannah  
b. 1829  
Derbys

Thomas  
b. 1831  
Ashbourne  
Carter

Elizabeth  
b. 1832  
Lymm,  
Cheshire

George  
b. 1836  
Derbys

Sarah  
b. 1838  
Derbys

**William Spencer**  
b. 1822, Ashbourne,  
Derbyshire

**Elizabeth Warner**  
b. 1821, Derbyshire,  
Ashbourne

**Selina Poole**  
b. 1847, Wolves  
m. 1863, Wolves  
d. 1902, Warrington

**John Spencer**  
b. 1846, Staffs / Derbys  
Forge Labourer

Sarah  
Ann  
b. 1851,  
Wolves

Elizabeth  
b. 1855,  
Ashbourne  
Dressmaker

Harriet  
b. 1860,  
Wolves

Elizabeth  
b. 1865,  
Wolves  
d. 1872

James  
b. 1869,  
Wolves

Eliza  
b. 1878,  
Wolves

John  
b. 1880  
Wolves

William  
b. 1884,  
Warr'n

Arthur  
b. 1887,  
Warr'n

**John H Spencer**  
b. 1890, Warrington  
m. 1910  
Wire drawer

**John Spencer**  
b. 1911,  
Warrington

Frances  
b. 1911,  
Warr'n  
d. 1911

Phyllis  
b. 1913  
Warr'n

Freda  
b. 1915  
Warr'n

Douglas  
b. 1918  
Warr'n

Iris  
b. 1923  
Warr'n

**Dorothy Swardill**  
b. 1757, Crathorne,  
Yorks  
d. 1823 Stockton

**Henry Terry**  
b. 1743  
d. 1821 Stockton,  
Durham

**William Leggatt Terry**  
b. 1782, Stockton, Durham  
Carrier (hide-tanner)  
d. 1863 Warrington Union  
Workhouse

**Elizabeth Lomax**  
b. 1795, Warrington  
Laundress  
d. 1862, Warrington

**Sarah Usherwood**  
b. 1820, Warrington  
Wire maker  
d. 1880

**Thomas Lomax  
Terry**  
b. 1819, Warrington  
Blacksmith

**Ellen**  
b. 1839, Co. Mayo  
m. in Ireland pre 1861  
Housekeeper  
d. 1898, Preston

Elizabeth  
b. 1846,  
Warr'n

William  
b. 1850,  
Warr'n

John  
b. 1855,  
Warr'n

**Thomas CE Terry**  
b. 1864, Warrington  
m. 1883  
Wire drawer

**Mary Connor**  
b. 1863, Warrington  
Silk doubler  
m. 1883

Margaret  
b. 1848,  
Warr'n

Sarah  
b. 1852,  
d. 1852

Samuel  
b. 1860,  
Warr'n

**Margaret (Alice)  
Terry**  
b. 1888, Warrington

William  
b. 1890,  
Warr'n  
Wire  
drawer

Thomas  
b. 1894,  
Warr'n

Elsie  
b. 1899,  
Warr'n

John  
b. 1903,  
Warr'n

Maurice  
b. 1908  
Warr'n

Mary  
Elizabeth  
b. 1885,  
Warr'n

Agnes  
b. 1892,  
Warr'n

Frances  
b. 1897  
Dress  
maker

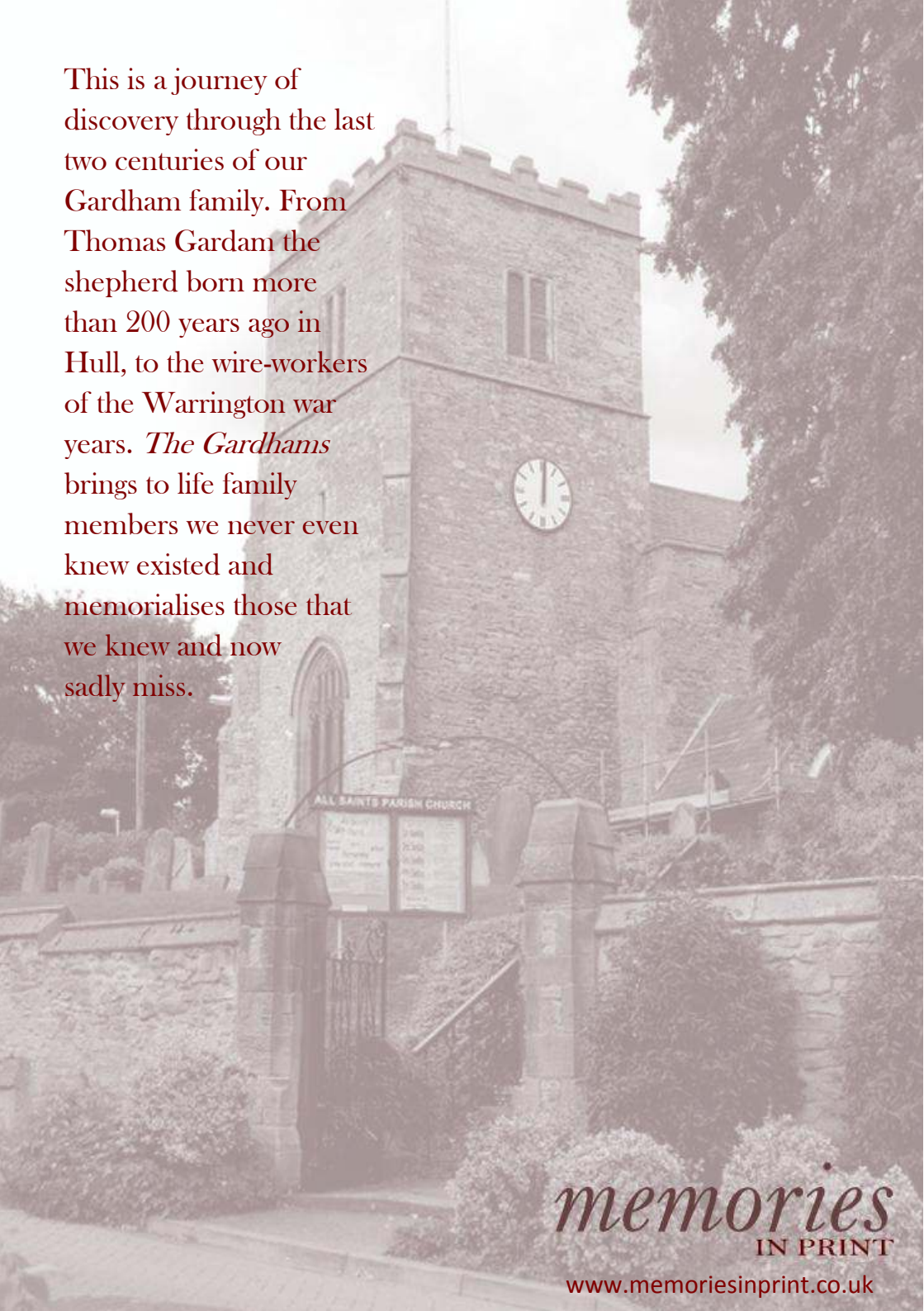
Emily  
b. 1901  
Warr'n

Gladys  
b. 1906  
Warr'n





Myra Spencer, née Gardham  
My Grandma



This is a journey of discovery through the last two centuries of our Gardham family. From Thomas Gardam the shepherd born more than 200 years ago in Hull, to the wire-workers of the Warrington war years. *The Gardhams* brings to life family members we never even knew existed and memorialises those that we knew and now sadly miss.

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