

# Granny Garner

Mrs. Lilian Garner, the White Witch of Canewdon Essex  
History and genealogy about her and her ancestors



William Wallworth

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# Granny Garner of Canewdon, Essex

## History of Mrs. Lilian Garner (1890-1982)

Researched and compiled  
by William Wallworth

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Part I

History of Mrs. Lilian Garner of Canewdon, Essex, England  
5th generation of the Higby family

**Lilian May Higby ( 1890 - 1982 )**

Wife of Joseph Henry Garner





18. **LILIAN MAY HIGBY** was born on 18 December 1890 in Barrackpore, Bengal, British India and was baptized on 17 January 1891 at Fort William, Bengal, British India.

Father: Walter Higby (No. 13)

Mother: Lucy Scerri

## In British India

### ~ 1890 and 1891

From the GRO Army Birth Indices, we find:

On page 15 Army Returns. - Births. - 1886 to 1890

*Surname. - Name. - Station. - Year. - Page.*

Higby .....Lillian May .....Barrackpore .....1890 .....293

From the British India Office Births & Baptisms:

Baptisms Solemnized at St Patrick's Chapel, Fort William, during the 1st quarter 1891

*When Baptized. / Said to be Born. / Child's Name. / Sex. / Parent's Names. / Surname. / Abode of parents. / Father's Profession. / Name of Priest or Minister by whom the ceremony was performed.*

1891 Jan. 17 / 1890 Dec. 18th / Lilian May / Female / Walter & Lucy / Higby / Fort William / Sergt. R. Artillery (Southern Division) / Rev. F. [T?]. Lobert

Image of the record:

Appendix 7C, Ecclesiastical No. 1.

*BAPTISMS Solemnized at St. Patrick's Chapel, Fort Will.*

WHEN BAPTIZED.			SAID TO BE BORN.			Child's Christian name.	Sex.	PARENTS
Year.	Month.	Day.	Year.	Month.	Day.			Christian.
1891	Jan.	17	1890	Dec.	18th	Lilian May	Female	Walter & Lucy Higby

*Lilian, during the 1st quarter 1891.*

FATHER'S NAMES.		Abode of parents.	Quality, Trade, or Profession of Father.	Name of Priest or Minister by whom the ceremony was performed.
Surname.	Given names.			
Higby	Lilian	Fort William	Sergt. R. W. W. (Southern Division)	Rev. F. J. Lobert

### ~ 1891

Lilian's sister, Daisy Ethel A. Higby, died in 1891 in British India.

### ~ 16 May 1891

Lilian's mother, Lucy Higby, died at the age of 25 on 16 May 1891 in British India.

## In England

### ~ 1895

Walter Higby and his daughter Lilian came back to England in 1895.

### ~ also in 1895

Lilian's father, Walter Higby married Susan Ann Upham in 1895 in Essex, England.

### ~ 1897

Lilian Higby was in Portsmouth, Hampshire when her half-brother, Walter, was born in 1897.

### ~ on the night of the 31st of March and the 1st of April 1901

In 1901, Lilian M. Higby, age 10, in school, was living with her father and step-mother in Guston, Kent.

From the 1901 census of Guston, Kent:

Broadlees Gro No. 3 B

4 - Number of Rooms occupied if less than five

*Name / Relationship / Marital status / Age & Sex / Profession / Birthplace*

Walter Higby / Head / M / 35 M / Coy Sergt Major S R. G. A. / S.X. Canewdon

Susan A do / Wife / M / 33 F / ----- / Sussex Blatchendon

Lilian M do / daur. / S / 10 F / school / India Barrackpore

Walter H. V. S. do / son / S / 3 M / do / ----- / Hants. Portsmouth

Images of the record:

12	Broadlees Gro No 3 B	1			4	Walter Higby	Head	M	35		
						Susan A do	wife	M		33	
						Lilian M do	daur.	S		10	
13	do No 3 C	1			4	Walter H. V. S do	son	S	3		
						Edith Turner	Wife	M		15	

ales		Own account	Home	
3	Coy Sergt Major S R. G. A			S.X. Canewdon
				Sussex Blatchendon
	school			India Barrackpore
				Hants Portsmouth

## In Hong Kong

~ 25 June 1902

On a passenger list dated 25 June 1902, Sgt. W. Higby and his wife and two children sailed from London to Hong Kong on the ship Britannia.

From the UK and Ireland, Outward Passenger Lists:

Schedule B.

Form of Passenger List.

*Ship's Name / Master's Name / Tons per Register / Where bound*

Britannia / F H Seymour / 3413 / Sydney

Date 25 June 1902.

Names and Descriptions of Passengers.

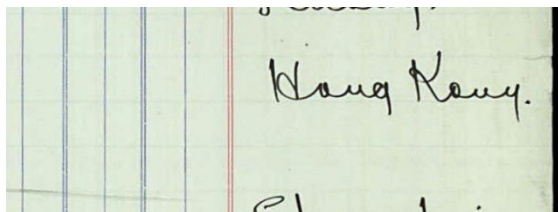
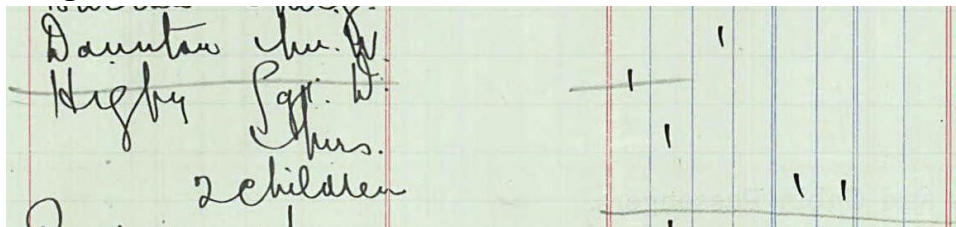
*Port of Embarkation / Names of Passengers / ( details ) / Port at which Passengers have contracted to Land*

London / Higby Sgt. W. / Male - Married / Hong Kong

(London) / ----- Mrs. / Female - Married / (Hong Kong)

(London) / ----- 2 children / 1 Male & 1 Female - Children age between 1 and 12 years  
/ (Hong Kong)

Images of the record:



## In England

### ~ before or on 1908

Lilian Higby started living with her grandparents, William and Sarah Higby in Canewdon, Essex before or on 1908. Her father and step-mother and their son remained in Hong Kong.





The Vicarage Cottage in Canewdon, Essex as it appears in 2009.

The Higby family been living in this place for about 100 years by the time of Mrs. Lilian (Higby) Garner's death in 1982. Her grandparents, William and Sarah Higby lived in it for a long time before.

## **~ 1908**

Mrs. Higby and Miss Lillian Higby were some of the ladies involved in decorating the church for a festival event.

From the newspaper, Southend Standard and Essex Weekly Advertiser, Thursday 22 October 1908:

### **CANEWDON.**

THE CHURCH RESTORATION. --- The annual harvest thanksgiving services were held in the Parish Church on Sunday. For some weeks past another stage of the restoration of this beautiful and historic building has been in progress. The inner ceiling to the roof of the nave has been removed revealing a mass of beautiful timber, bearing indisputable signs of being as old as the tower itself. i.e., dating from 1464. The removal of this ceiling brought to light several defects in the roof. All the tiles were removed, and the roof has been put into a thoroughly safe and water tight condition. All this has been efficiently done by Messrs. Kemp and Allen, of Rochford, under the watchful eye of the Vicar (Rev. C. R. W. Hardy). For the festival, the sacred edifice had been beautifully decorated by Mrs. Hardy, who undertook the altar and communion rails; Mrs. Reeve, the choir stalls; the Misses Guiver, the pulpit; Mrs. Higby and Miss Lillian Higby, the font, lectern, pillars and window recesses. There were large congregations. The Vicar prefaced his sermon in the morning by alluding to the lateness of the festival, owing to the work of restoration. But it gave them the opportunity of meeting on what they might say was the birthday of the parish of Canewdon. On that day 892 years ago, between the spot where they were worshipping, and a radius of two or three miles, was fought what was known as the battle of Ashingdon, in which the able, but heathen Canute defeated Edmund Ironsides and became King of England. From this monarch the parish took its name.

## **~ 1908**

In the year 1908, the first automobile arrived in Canewdon, Essex.

A news reporter from London came to visit "Frederick" Pickingale. The news of him being over 100 years old reached London.

The automobile drew the attention of many of the people of Canewdon including 17 year old Lilian Higby.

From the book, *Modern Wicca: a History from Gerald Gardner to the Present*, by Michael Howard, 2010:

Pages 57 and 58

“In October 1977, a few days before Hallowe’en, I decided to visit Canewdon in the hope of finding out more about Pickingill”

“Lillian Garner was eighty-seven years old when I met her, but her mind was, as they say, “as bright as a button.” She invited me in for tea, and told me that she remembered George Pickingill from her childhood as a village character and eccentric old gentleman. She recollected when the first car came to the village that he had his photograph taken beside it.”





**HALE AND HEARTY AT 105.**



**Essex centenarian takes a ride on the first motor car he has ever seen. His impressions are given on this page. ("Lloyd's News" photo.)**

The above two pictures of George Pickingale were taken that day by the reporter.

The top one was the one that Lilian Garner had in her possession for many years. Eric Maple had taken a picture of it when he visited Lilian Garner in 1959-1960. She gave it to Mike Howard in 1977.

Seeing how many times the Pickingill and Higby families could have meet (see Part II on the Higby ancestors), I think George Pickingill probably gave it to Lilian's grandparents, William and Sarah Higby because they were friends and more. I would assume that the reporter had more than one copy made for George Pickingale.

The second picture was in the newspaper Lloyd's Weekly Newspaper, Sunday 13 September 1908.

## ~ 1911

In 1911, Lilian Higby, age 20, was living with her grandparents, William Charles and Sarah Ann Higby, in Canewdon, Essex.

From the 1911 census of Canewdon:

No. of Schedule - 85

Postal Address - Near Church Canewdon Rochford Essex

Number of Rooms in this Dwelling - 4.

Signature - M<sup>r</sup> Higby

*Name / Relationship / Age & Sex / Marital status / Years Married / Children born alive / Children living / Children died / Profession / Birthplace / Nationality*

William Charles Higby / Head / 72 M / Married / - / - / - / - / Old Age Pensioner / Essex Eastwood

Sarah-Ann Higby / Wife / 68 F / Married / 49 / 5 / 4 / 1 / ----- / Essex Canewdon

Lilian Higby / granddaughter / 20 F / Single / - / - / - / - / ----- / India - Barrapour  
- Resident Brit Sub by parentage

Image of parts of the record:

	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
1	William Charles Higby	Head	72		Married					Old Age pensioner
2	Sarah-Ann Higby	Wife	68		Married	49	5	4	1	
3	Lilian Higby	Granddaughter	20		Single					



14.	15.	1
Wes - Easton		
Wes - Canewdon		
Wes - Canewdon	706	Wes - Canewdon
Residence	by parentage	

### ~ 10 February 1914

Lilian May Higby married **JOSEPH HENRY GARNER** on 10 February 1914 at the Register Office in Rochford, Essex.

From the marriage certificate:

1914. Marriage solemnized at The Register Office in the District of Rochford in the County of Essex

No. 177

When Married. Tenth February 1914

*Name. / Age. / Condition. / Rank or Profession. / Residence at the time of Marriage. / Father's Name. / Father's Profession.*

Joseph Henry Garner / 26 Years / Bachelor / Petty Officer Telegraphist R. N. / Canewdon Rochford / Joseph Garner / Gas Engineer

Lilian May Higby / 23 Years / Spinster / ----- / Vicarage Cottage Canewdon Rochford / Walter Higby / Sergeant Major R.G.A.

Married in the Register Office by Licence before me, W. Carter Wood Registrar William Gregson Supt. Regr:

This Marriage was solemnized between us, {

J. H. Garner

L. M. Higby

In the Presence of us, {

G. A. Allent

X The mark of William Higby

Image of part of the record:

1914. Marriage solemnized at <i>The Registrar Office</i> in the District of <i>Rockford</i>					
Continued—					
No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.
177	<i>Tenth February 1914</i>	<i>Joseph Henry Garner</i>	<i>26 Years</i>	<i>Bachelor</i>	<i>Petty Officer Telegraphist R.N.</i>
		<i>Lilian May Higby</i>	<i>23 Years</i>	<i>Spinster</i>	—

Joseph Henry Garner was born May 22, 1887 and was a son of a Joseph Garner a Gas Engineer.

Joseph was listed as a Petty Officer Telegraphist in the Royal Navy.



Photograph of Joseph Henry Garner

**~ before the marriage, in 1913**

From Paul Cooper's collection of family documents, we have the following:

H.M.S. "Britomart," at Hankow,

12th February 1913.

Sir, I have the honour to submit that Joseph Henry Garner, Petty Officer Telegraphist, O. N. 226,386, is recommended for Warrant Telegraphist, and that his name may be placed on the Roster in accordance with Article 871a King's Regulations and Admiralty Instructions (Addenda 1911).

Copies of Service Certificate and Wireless Telegraphist's History Sheet are attached.

I have the honour to be, Sir, Your Obedient, Servant, [H ?] Darwall Lieutenant & Commander. The Commanding Officer H.M.S. "Vernon".

## **~ 6 November 1918**

In 1918, Joseph Garner received appointment to be Warrant Telegraphist on His Majesty's Ship Hyacinth.

From Paul Cooper's collection of family documents:

By Command of the Commissioners for Executing the Office of Lord High Admiral of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, &c. C.W.

To Mr. Joseph H Garner R. N.

The Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty hereby appoint you Warrant Telegraphist of His Majesty's Ship "Hyacinth" for staff of the Commander-in-Chief, Ca[ ]e. and direct you to repair on board that Ship. Your appointment is to take effect from the 6th November 1918. You will receive a further communication as to passage (see A.M.O. No 9. 1918)

By Command of their Lordships. O. Murray  
Portsmouth Admiralty, S. W. I. 6-11-18

## **~ 1921**

In 1921, Joseph and Lilian Garner were living at 20 Chichester Road, North End, Portsmouth, Hampshire.

Joseph was listed as a Warrant Telegraphist in the Royal Navy.

From the 1921 census of Portsmouth:

No. of Schedule. - 344

Rooms. - 2

Signature - J. H. Garner

Address - Mr. Garner 20 Chichester Road North End

*Name. / Relationship. / Age, Years - Months. / Sex. / Marital status. / Birthplace. / Nationality. / Occupation. / Place of work.*

Joseph Henry Garner / Head / 34 - 1 / M / Married / Staffordshire Smethwick / ----- /  
Warrant Telegraphist Royal Navy / Royal Naval Barracks, Portsmouth /



Lilian May Garner / Wife / 30 - 6 / F / Married / India Barrakpore / Resident / House duties / ----- /

Image of part of the record:

on back hereof.		(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)
1	Joseph H. Garner	Head	34	1	M	Married	Staffordshire Sunderland		Warrant Telegraphist 811/0 Royal Navy
2	Lilian May Garner	Wife	30	6	F	Married	India Barrakpore	Resident 1010	House duties
3									

~ 1939

In 1939, Joseph H. and Lilian M. Garner were living in the Vicarage Cottage in Canewdon, Essex.

From the 1939 Register of Canewdon:

No. of Schedule - 117

Vicarage Cottage

Sub. No. / Names. / Sex. / Birthdate, date-month-year. / Marital status. / Occupation.

1 / GARNER Lilian M. / F / 18 Dec 90 / M / Unpaid Domestic Duties

2 / GARNER Joseph H. / M / 22 May 87 / M / Telegraphist Lt. R. N. (Ret - (on side margin) Air Raid Warden - PWC DSO 112323 Royal Navy (Retired)

Images of the record:

Vicarage Cottage	119	1	GARNER Lilian M.	-	F	18 Dec 90	M
		2	GARNER Joseph H.	-	M	22 May 87	M
Unpaid Domestic Duties							
Telegraphist Lt. R. N. (Ret)							
			Air Raid Warden				
			PWC DSO 112323				
			Royal Navy (Retired)				

~ 20 August 1955

Joseph Henry Garner died at the age of 68 on 20 August 1955 in the Vicarage Cottage in Canewdon, Essex and was buried 27 August 1955 in the churchyard of St. Nicholas in Canewdon.

From the parish register of St. Nicholas, Canewdon:

Burials 1955 - Page 96 No. 766

Joseph Henry Garner / Vicarage Cottage Canewdon / August 27 1955 / 68 /  
Christopher Ludlow

Image of the record:

No. 765				
Joseph Henry Garner	Vicarage Cottage Canewdon	August 27 1955	68	Christopher Ludlow.
No. 766				

From the England & Wales, National Probate Calendar:

Page 478

1955

GARNER Joseph Henry of Vicarage Cottage Canewdon Essex died 20 August 1955  
Administration London 21 September to Lilian May Garner widow. Effects £294 2s. 8d.

Image of the record:

**GARNER** Joseph Henry of Vicarage Cottage Canewdon **Essex** died  
20 August 1955 Administration **London** 21 September to Lilian  
May Garner widow. Effects £294 2s. 8d.

From the gravestone in the churchyard, it says:

**CHERISHED MEMORIE(S)**  
**OF**  
**JOSEPH HENRY GARNER**  
**LIEUTENANT R. N.**  
**1887 - 1955**



The gravestone for Joseph Henry Garner

**The three men who ventured into Canewdon... and since then they were involved with the study and writing about witchcraft...**



## ~ the Winter of 1959-1960



Photograph of Eric Maple from 1973

Eric Maple came into Canewdon in the winter of 1959 to 1960, while he was taking a vacation to recover from some illness.

From the book, *Modern Wicca: a History from Gerald Gardner to the Present* - By Michael Howard, 2010:

Page 47 - in the chapter of "The Pickingill Connection"

"Eric Maple had first visited the Essex witch village of Canewdon in 1959 while staying in the area to recover from an illness. Having an interest in the local folklore he heard tales from the older villagers about the witches who lived there fifty or sixty years before."

"When Eric Maple investigated the folk traditions of Canewdon in the winter of 1959-1960 he found stories about the witches living in and around the village in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries had survived among the local farming community."

~ April 1967



Photograph of Professor Ron Hutton from 2014

Ron Hutton read Eric Maple's work and felt that he needed to go to Canewdon and investigate.

From the book, "Triumph of the Moon: A History of Modern Pagan Witchcraft" by Ronald Hutton:

Page 297 in the Chapter of "Old Craft, New Craft"

"..... Such Data certainly existed in the 1960s, when people still survived who had lived in Canewdon at the opening of the century and known Pickingill. One was 'Granny' Lillian Garner, who had been one of Maple's chief informants. Another was Jack Taylor, then in a retirement home at Rayleigh. In April 1967 I spent some time in the district myself, inspired by Maple's book to collect further information. What I found exactly supported his original body of material, which is hardly surprising as it was gained from the same sources ..... It confirmed the impression given by Maple, that Pickingill's clients, though numerous, were drawn mainly from rural south-east Essex. My only significantly new quantity of testimony was provided by Jack Taylor, whom Maple seems to have missed, and it was wholly in harmony with the latter's other evidence."

Page 458 in the "Notes to pp. 297-308"

“20..... Mike Howard, talking to Lillian Garner in October 1977, heard a slightly different account of Pickingill from her, notably the detail that he had visitors ‘from all over, including abroad’, which accords better with Bill Liddell’s portrait...”

**~ October 1977, a few days before Hallowe’en**



Photograph of Michael Howard

A decade after Ron Hutton went there, Mike Howard went to Canewdon to find out more about George Pickingill.

From the book, “Modern Wicca: A History from Gerald Gardner to the Present”  
By Michael Howard, 2010:

Page 57 and 58 in the chapter of “The Pickingill Connection”

“In October 1977, a few days before Hallowe’en, I decided to visit Canewdon in the hope of finding out more about Pickingill..... I called at the vicarage and asked the aged minister if he could help me in my quest.... he kindly suggested that an elderly lady called Granny Garner might be able to help me, and he directed me to her cottage in the lane leading up to the church. Apparently she had been Eric Maple’s chief informant in the village and he had described her as the last white witch in Canewdon.

Lillian Garner was eighty-seven years old when I met her, but her mind was, as they say, “as bright as a button.” She invited me in for tea, and told me that she remembered George Pickingill from her childhood as a village character and eccentric old gentleman. She recollected when the first car came to the village that he had his photograph taken beside it. She revealed that her own mother had told her that Mr. Pickingill was the leader of a local coven of witches. Apparently her mother was actually a member of the coven and said that the witch master had “many visitors” from outside the village who came seeking his occult knowledge. Before I left, Lillian gave me the original of the photograph of George Pickingill that was published in Eric Maple’s book *Dark World of the Witches*. A photograph of Granny Garner herself standing at the door of her cottage was reproduced with Maple’s article on the Canewdon witches published in the encyclopedic work *Man, Myth and Magic* in the 1970s.”

From a website “Old George Pickingill and the History of Modern Witchcraft”, website constructed for Bill Liddell:

“Mike Howard visited Canewdon in 1977 and met ‘Granny’ Garner. Lillian Garner was Eric Maple’s chief informant when he visited Canewdon in the winter of 1959/60. He described Mrs. Garner, who was born in 1890, as the last of Canewdon’s ‘white witches’. She told Mike Howard in 1977 that her mother had informed her that George Pickingill was the leader of the Canewdon witches, and that he had ‘many visitors’ who came seeking his knowledge of occult arts. (Bill Liddell, 1999)”.



~ 1970



Picture of Granny Garner at the door of her cottage.

This is most likely the back door to her garden. The tower of the Canewdon church in the background.

As mentioned above, a picture of Lilian Garner appeared in the magazine, Man Myth and Magic. In an article, “Canewdon” on page 401 of volume 3 of the hardcover illustrated encyclopedia edition of “Man Myth and Magic”.

She was not mentioned by name. However, it was in the article "Canewdon" that was written by Eric Maple.

## ~ 16 November 1982

Lilian May Garner died at the age of 91 years on 16 November 1982 in Shoebury Hospital, Shoeburyness, Essex.

From the death certificate:

Entry No. 242

Registration District: Southend on Sea, County of Essex

*Date and place of death / Name and surname / Sex / Maiden surname / Date and place of birth / Occupation and usual address /*

Sixteenth November 1982 Shoebury Hospital, Shoeburyness / Lillian May GARNER / female / HIGBY / 18th December 1890 India / Widow of Henry GARNER, Naval Lieutenant Shoebury Hospital, Shoeburyness

Images of part of the record:

DEATH		Entry No.	242
Registration district	Southend on Sea	Administrative area	
Sub-district	Southend on Sea	County of Essex	
1. Date and place of death			
Sixteenth November 1982 Shoebury Hospital, Shoeburyness			
2. Name and surname		3. Sex	Female
Lillian May GARNER		4. Maiden surname of woman who has married	HIGBY
5. Date and place of birth			
18th December 1890 India			
6. Occupation and usual address			
Widow of Henry GARNER, Naval Lieutenant Shoebury Hospital, Shoeburyness			
7 (a) Name and surname of informant		7 (b) Qualification	

Lilian Garner is buried in the churchyard of St. Nicholas in Canewdon near her husband's burial location.

There is no cemetery stone for her.

The burial records for Canewdon for 1982 is not available online.

From the emails from Paul Cooper, a great-grandson of Lilian Garner, dated Friday, December 4, 2009 and ---- :

“..... I have many wonderful memories of my gran garner and though it was common knowledge in my family that she was a white witch, I was too young to question her about it...”

“..... Yes ..... in 2009. Visited Canewdon again because of your website for the first time since gran garners funeral when I was 16... brought back great memorys of a wonderful lady and her spooky house”.

## Children of Joseph Henry and Lilian May (Higby) Garner

20. **JOSEPHINE M. X. GARNER** was born in 1914.  
Josephine married Arthur N. S. Cooper and they had several children.

21. **JOSEPH W. GARNER** was born and died in 1915.

Many thanks to the following who contributed to the work:

**Paul Cooper** - the great-grandson of Lillian Garner who in 2009 contributed photographs of the family and added some comments for my old website article on Lilian Garner.

**Cody Sim** - Who sent copies of the pages from the Man Myth and Magic of the article “Canewdon” by Eric Maple which included a picture of Lilian Garner.

Sources:

1. Photograph of Lilian Garner. From Paul Cooper's collection of family photographs. Digital Photographs attached to three emails all dated Monday, December 21, 2009 Yule - Winter Solstice, 3:30 PM.
2. 1890 birth of Lillian May Higby. Births, GRO Army Birth Indices (1881 to 1965) 1886-1890, <http://www.findmypast.com>. Page 15 1890. Searched on December 25, 2008 Thursday 7:12 PM.
3. 1890 birth and 1891 baptism of Lilian May Higby. British India Office Births & Baptisms, online at Findmypast.com. Archive reference N-1-215, Folio 49, Parish register from the Presidency of Bengal. Searched on May 23, 2025 Friday 12:24 AM.
4. 1901 census of England, Kent, Guston, ALL, District 17, image no. 4, online at Ancestry.com. Public Record Office reference: RG 13/840, original page no. 3, stamped page no. 74. No. of Schedule 12, household of Walter Higby. Searched on December 16, 2008 Tuesday 2:56 PM and rechecked on May 8, 2025 Thursday 10:10 PM.
5. 1902 Sgt. W. Higby and his wife and two children sailed to Hong Kong. UK and Ireland, Outward Passenger Lists, 1890-1960, online at Ancestry.com. London, 1902, Jun, image no. 77. Passenger list of Britannia dated 25 June 1902. Searched on May 13, 2025 Tuesday 10:31 PM.
6. Photographs of the Vicarage Cottage in Canewdon, Essex. From Paul Cooper's collection of family photographs. Digital Photographs attached to three emails all dated Sunday, December 6, 2009, 9:42 AM, 1:18 PM and 4:02 PM.
7. 1908 Mrs. Higby and Miss Lillian Higby mentioned in a church event. Southend Standard and Essex Weekly Advertiser. Thursday 22 October 1908, page 4. British Newspaper Archive, online at [www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk](http://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk). Searched on March 27, 2025 Thursday 8:29 PM.
8. Modern Wicca: A History from Gerald Gardner to the Present" By Michael Howard 2010. Page 57 and 58 in the chapter of "The Pickingill Connection", it mentioned Granny Lilian Garner. December 9, 2009 Wednesday 3:35 PM.
9. 1908 a Lloyd's News representative visits "Frederick" Pickingale. Lloyd's Weekly Newspaper, Sunday 13 September 1908, page 2. British Newspaper Archive, online at [www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk](http://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk). Searched on March 23, 2025 Sunday 12:08 AM.
10. Photograph of George Pickingill that was in Mike Howard's possession. He originally got it from Mrs. Lilian Garner of Canewdon, Essex in the late 1970's.
11. 1911 census of England and Wales, online at Ancestry.com. Essex, Canewdon, ALL, 11, images no. 170 and 171. No. of Registration District - 195; No. of Registration Sub-District - 1; No. of Enumeration District - 11. Household of William Charles Higby. Searched on January 17, 2009 Saturday 2:55 PM and rechecked on March 30, 2025 Sunday 1:27 AM.
12. 1914 Marriage Certificate of Lilian May Higby and Joseph Henry Garner. From the General Register Office, Southport, Merseyside, England. Received on December 1, 2009 Tuesday 10:00 AM.
13. Photograph of Joseph H. Garner. From Paul Cooper's collection of family photographs. Digital Photographs attached to three emails all dated Monday, December 21, 2009 Yule - Winter Solstice, 3:30 PM.
14. 1913 Naval Document concerning Joseph Henry Garner Petty Officer Telegraphist. From Paul Cooper's collection of Family Documents. Scan attachment from email dated Sunday December 6, 2009 9:42 AM.

15. 1918 Naval Document concerning Joseph Henry Garner Warrant Officer Telegraphist. From Paul Cooper's collection of Family Documents. Scan attachment from email dated Sunday December 6, 2009 9:42 AM.
16. 1921 census of England, Hampshire, Portsmouth, 01, 37, images 693 and 694. Online at Ancestry.com. Registration District.: 90; Registration Sub-District.: 1; Enumeration District: 37. No. of Schedule 344, household of Joseph Henry Garner. Searched on March 27, 2025 Thursday 11:13 AM.
17. 1939 England and Wales Register, online at Ancestry.com. Essex, Rochford Rd, Ddse, image no. 12. No. of Schedule 117, household of Lilian M. Garner. E.D. Letter Code DDSE; R.D. Rochford; Registration District and Sub-district 196-1 195-2. Searched on March 29, 2025 Saturday 11:39 PM.
18. 1955 Death of Joseph H. Garner. Civil Registration Index. Age: 68; Date: 3rd Quarter (Jul-Aug-Sep) 1955; District: Rochford; County: Essex: Vol.: 4b; Page: 529. Online at [www.findmypast.com](http://www.findmypast.com). Searched on June 6, 2009 Saturday 6:40 PM.
19. 1955 burial of Joseph Henry Garner. Canewdon, St. Nicholas, D/P 219/1/11, Burials 1859-1961, 66 images. Essex Record Office online at <https://www.essexarchivesonline.co.uk>. Image 52 left side, Burials 1955, page 96, no. 766. Searched on December 16, 2008 Tuesday 8:30 PM and rechecked on April 18, 2025 Friday 8:09 PM.
20. 1955 probate and death of Joseph Henry Garner in the index. England & Wales, National Probate Calendar (Index of Wills and Administrations), 1858-1995, online at Ancestry.com. Image 247, page 478, 1955. Searched on May 23, 2025 Friday 11:37 PM.
21. Gravestone for Joseph Henry Garner. Photographs of the Higby and Garner Family Burial plots in the churchyard of Canewdon, Essex. From Paul Cooper's collection of family photographs. Digital Photographs attached to three emails all dated Sunday, December 6, 2009, 9:42 AM, 1:18 PM and 4:02 PM.
22. Photograph of Eric Maple from 1973. Lichfield Mercury, Friday 16 November 1973. British Newspaper Archive. Searched on April 25, 2025 Friday 12:37 AM.
23. Book - "Modern Wicca: a History from Gerald Gardner to the Present" by Michael Howard, 2010. Llewellyn Worldwide, ISBN 0738715883, 9780738715889. Chapter Three The Pickingill Connection, pages: 47 about Eric Maple in Canewdon, Book on Google Books online. Searched on December 2009.
24. Photograph of Prof, Ronald Hutton, posted online in 2014. From the Isleofman.com website. Searched on May 24, 2025 Saturday 9:25 PM.
25. The Triumph of the Moon: A History of Modern Pagan Witchcraft By Ronald Hutton, 1999. Page 297 and 458, About Eric Maple and Lillian Garner mentioned. From my copy of the book that I purchased in the Spring of 2009.
26. Photograph of Michael Howard. From the website [thewitchesalmanac.com](http://thewitchesalmanac.com). Searched on May 24, 2025 Saturday 10:05 PM.
27. Modern Wicca: A History from Gerald Gardner to the Present" By Michael Howard 2010. Page 57 and 58 in the chapter of "The Pickingill Connection", it mentioned Granny Lilian Garner. December 9, 2009 Wednesday 3:35 PM.
28. Website "Old George Pickingill and the History of Modern Witchcraft", website constructed by Scott Bissek for Bill Liddell, <http://bissekart.zoomshare.com/files/pickingill/begin.html>. It mentioned Lillian Garner. November 24, 2009 Tuesday 8:15 PM.
29. Picture of Lilian Garner from Man Myth and Magic. From Cody Sim's message dated Fri 6:09 AM April 4, 2025 Friday. Information and picture from his copy of the book, in the "Canewdon" entry on page 401 of volume 3 of the hardcover illustrated encyclopedia edition of "Man Myth and Magic". Copyright 1970 BPC Publishing LTD.

30. 1982 Death of Lillian May Garner in the index. Civil Registration Index. Date: 4th Quarter (Oct-Nov-Dec) 1982; District: Southend/S, County Essex; Vol.: 9; Page: 2906. Online at [www.findmypast.com](http://www.findmypast.com). Searched on December 25, 2008 Christmas Day.
31. 1982 Death Certificate of Lillian May Garner. From the General Register Office, Southport, Merseyside, England. Received December 1, 2009 Tuesday 10:00 AM.
32. Comments about Lilian Garner from Paul Cooper. From emails from Paul Cooper, dated Friday December 4, 2009 9:50 AM and Sunday December 6, 2009 4:02 PM.

## PART II

### The earlier Higby family

#### 1st Generation

## Burdock Higby (1769 - 1840)

Husband of Sarah Cansdale

Great Great Grandfather of Lilian (Higby) Garner

**1. BURDOCK HIGBY** was born ca. 1769 and baptized on 4 February 1770 in St. Mary the Virgin church in Ardleigh, Essex.

Father: John Higby

Mother: Sarah ---?---

#### ~ 1770

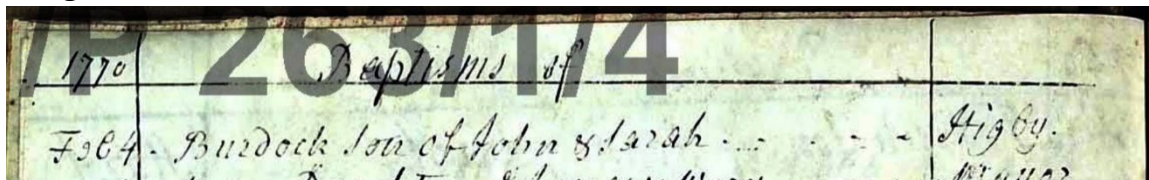
From the parish register of St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh:

Image 29 left side

Baptisms of 1770

Feb 4 / Burdock Son of John & Sarah / Higby.

Image of the record:





Several years ago I was conducting a search for a Martha Chilver / Chilvers in most of the parishes of Essex. And I found a Martha Chilvers that was baptized in Ardleigh, Essex that fits of when she would have been born using the age given at death.

Why this search ?

Thomas Pickingill married a Martha Chilver in 1777 in Canewdon, Essex. They both came from somewhere else before getting married in Canewdon and lived there life there since. Finding out where they came from has been a brick wall in the research for 17 years so far (2025).

But need more proof to say it was the same Martha Chilvers.

### ~ 3 October 1791

Bardock Hegbee married **SARAH CANSDALE** on 3 October 1791 in St. Peter church in Birch, Essex.

From the parish register of St. Peter, Birch:

Image 31 left side

Marriages 1791 (no page or record numbers)

Banns of Marriage between Bardock Hegbee & Sarah Cansdale Single Persons were publish'd in this Church three successive Sunday.

Bardock Hegbee of this Parish Single Man and Sarah Cansdale Spinster of this Parish were Married in this Church by Banns this Third Day of October in the Year One Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninety One by me Francis Ellis Clerk

This Marriage was solemnized between Us {

Bardock Hegbee his X mark

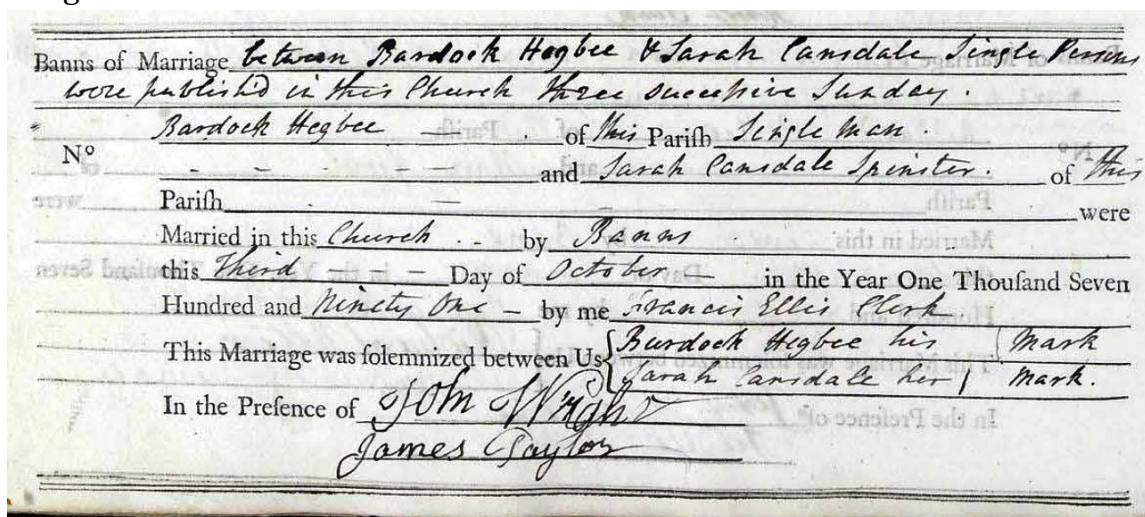
Sarah Cansdale her X mark

In the Presence of

John Wright

James Dayton

Image of the record:



Sarah Cansdale was born ca. 1773 in Essex.

Burdock and Sarah Higby were living in Birch, Essex from 1791 to at least 1803 when the last of the children was baptized there.

### ~ between 1803 and 1807

The Higby family moved from Birch, Essex to Great Wigborough, Essex.

### ~ 1807

Burdock Higby was in Great Wigborough, Essex when the 1807 Poll was taken.

From the UK, Poll Books and Electoral Registers:

Image 729

(Page 5)

The POLL

For Members To Serve In Parliament, For The Borough of Colchester,  
Taken on Tuesday and Wednesday, the 5th and 6th of May, 1807.

Candidates.

Robert Thornton, Esq.

Col. John Charles Tufnell,

Richard Hart Davis, Esq.

Image 740

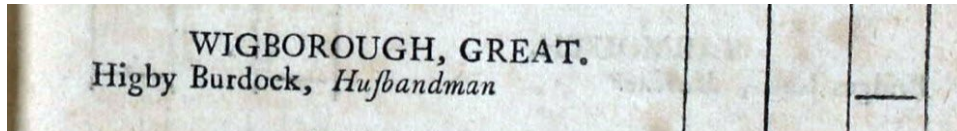
Page 27

WIGBOROUGH, GREAT.

Higby Burdock, Husbandman / TH. / TU. / D. /

He voted for Richard Hart Davis.

Image of the record:



### ~ **between 1807 and 1820**

The Higby family moved from Great Wigborough, Essex to Ballingdon, Essex.

### ~ **1820**

Burdock Higby was listed as a farmer in Ballingdon, Essex in the 1820 Poll book.

From the UK, Poll Books and Electoral Registers:

Image 1680

(Page 5)

THE POLL

for Members to serve in Parliament for the Borough of Colchester, Taken On Thursday, the 9th of March, 1820, and 5 following Days, Sunday excepted.

Candidates.

James Beckford Wildmam [ sic Wildman], Esq.

Daniel Whittle Harvey, Esq.

Sir Henry Russell, Bart.

Image 1681

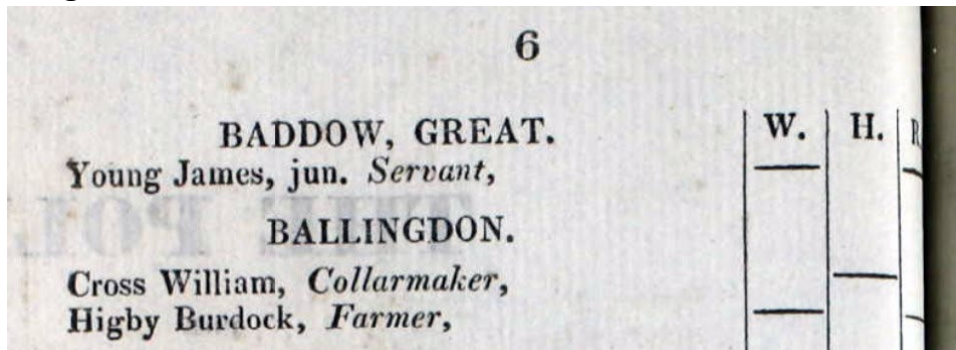
Page 6

BALLINGDON.

Higby Burdock, Farmer, / W. / H. / R. /

He voted for James Beckford Wildman and Sir Henry Russell.

Image of the record:



### ~ **between 1820 and early 1830's**

In the period between 1820 and early 1830's Burdock and Sarah Higby moved to Eastwood, Essex.

### ~ **24 December 1840**

Burdock Higby died at the age of 71 years at 9:00 A.M. on Christmas Eve, 24 December 1840, in Eastwood, Essex.

He was buried on 31 December 1840 in the churchyard of St. Laurence and All Saints in Eastwood.

From the death certificate:

Registration District: Rochford Union

1841 Death in the Sub-district of Rayleigh in the County of Essex

*No. / When and where died / Name / Sex / Age / Occupation / Cause of death /*

*Informant / When registered / Signature of registrar*

242 / Twenty fourth of December 1840 9. A.M. at Eastwood / Burdock Higby / Male / 71  
Years / Farmer / Asthma / John Higby Eastwood present at the death / First of January  
1841 / Edward Digby Registrar

Image of part of the record:

212	Twenty fourth of December 1840 D. A. M. at Eastwood	Burdock Higby	Male	71 Years	Farmer
-----	---	------------------	------	-------------	--------

From the parish register of St. Laurence and All Saints, Eastwood:

Image 22 left side

Burials 1840 - Page 36. No. 281.

Name. / Abode. / When buried. / Age. / By whom the Ceremony was performed.

Burdock Higby / Eastwood / Dec<sup>r</sup>. 31. / 71 / W.C.R. Ray Curate of Eastwood.

Image of the record:

Page 36.

BURIALS in the Parish of <u>Eastwood</u> in the County of <u>Essex</u> in the Year 18 <u>40</u> .				
Name.	Abode.	When buried.	Age.	By whom the Ceremony was performed.
Burdock Higby	Eastwood	Dec <sup>r</sup> . 31.	71	W. C. R. Ray Curate of Eastwood.

No. 281.

### ~ on the night of the 6th and 7th of June 1841

In 1841, Sarah Higby, a widow was living in Eastwood, Essex. She was with her son John Higby.

From the 1841 census of Eastwood:

Name / Age & Sex / Profession / Born in County ?

John Higby / 38 M / Farmer / y

Sarah Higby / 68 F / widow / y

John Lane / 20 M / Ag Lab / y



Image of part of the record:

1	John Higby	38	Farmer	y
	Sarah Higby	68	<del>widow</del>	y
	John Lane	20	<del>lab</del>	y

~ 1844

Sarah Higby died at the age of 72 in the 3rd quarter (Jul-Aug-Sep) of 1844 in the Rochford registration district of Essex.

She was buried on 3 September 1844 in the churchyard of St Laurence and All Saints in Eastwood, Essex.

From the England and Wales, Death Index:

Name / Death registration date / District / County / Vol. / Page

Sarah Higby / Jul-Aug-Sep 1844 / Rochford / Essex / 12 / 140

From the parish register of St. Laurence and All Saints, Eastwood:

Image 24 right side

Burials 1844 - Page 41. No. 321.

Name. / Abode. / When buried. / Age. / By whom the Ceremony was performed.

Sarah Higby / Eastwood / Sept<sup>r</sup>. 3. / 72 / W. C. R. Ray Curate of Eastwood.

Image of the record:

Page 41.

BURIALS in the Parish of <u>Eastwood</u>				
in the County of <u>Essex</u> in the Year 18 <u>44</u>				
Name.	Abode.	When buried.	Age.	By whom the Ceremony was performed.
<u>Sarah Higby</u>	<u>Eastwood</u>	<u>Sept<sup>r</sup>. 3.</u>	<u>72</u>	<u>W. C. R. Ray</u> <u>Curate of</u> <u>Eastwood.</u>
No. 321.				

## Children of Burdock and Sarah (Cansdale) Higby

2. **SARAH HIGBY** was born ca. 1792 in Birch, Essex.

Sarah married 1st. a Mr. Cole, 2nd. Samuel Binks.

3. + **WILLIAM HIGBY** was born ca. 1798 in Birch, Essex.

William married 1st. Susannah Brand, 2nd. Jane Crooks.

4. + **JOHN HIGBY** was born ca. 1803 in Birch, Essex.

John married Sarah Mary Bammon.

### Sources:

1. 1770 baptism of Burdock Higby. Ardleigh, St. Mary the Virgin, D/P 263/1/4, Baptisms and Burials 1723-1790, 72 images. Essex Record Office online at <https://www.essexarchivesonline.co.uk>. Image 29 left side, Baptisms of 1770. Searched on May 5, 2025 Monday 10:29 PM.
2. 1791 marriage of Bardock Hegbee and Sarah Cansdale. Birch, St Peter, D/P 241/1/3, Marriages 1754-1812, 43 images. Essex Record Office online at <https://www.essexarchivesonline.co.uk>. Image left side, Marriages 1791. Searched on April 19, 2025 Saturday 7:45 PM.
3. 1807 Burdock Higby listed in the Poll for Great Wigborough, Essex. UK, Poll Books and Electoral Registers, 1538-1893, online at Ancestry.com. 1807, images 729 and 740, pages 5 and 27. Searched on April 27, 2025 Sunday 11:30 PM.
4. 1820 Burdock Higby listed at Ballingdon, Essex in Poll book. UK, Poll Books and Electoral Registers, 1538-1893, online at Ancestry.com. Images 1680 and 1681, page 5 and 6. Searched on April 23, 2025 Wednesday 9:54 PM.
5. 1840 Death of Burdock Higby Civil in the index. Registration Index, 1st Quarter (Jan-Feb-Mar), Year 1841, District Rochford, County Essex, Volume 12, Page 157. Searched June 7, 2009 Sunday 4:03 PM.
6. 1840 Death Certificate of Burdock Higby. From the General Register Office, Southport, Merseyside, England. Received September 24, 2009 Thursday 10:00 AM.
7. 1840 burial of Burdock Higby. Eastwood, St Laurence and All Saints, D/P 102/1/5, Burials 1812-1890, 56 images. Essex Record Office online at <https://www.essexarchivesonline.co.uk>. Image 22 left side. Burials 1840, page 36, no. 281. Searched on April 19, 2025 Saturday 9:16 PM.
8. 1841 census of England, Essex, Eastwood, Rayleigh, District 6, Image No.8, online at Ancestry.com. Public Record Office reference: HO 107/337/4, original page no. 16, stamped page no. 11. Sarah Higby in the household of John Higby. Searched on June 7, 2009 Sunday 3:38 PM and rechecked on April 19, 2025 Saturday 10:14 PM.
9. 1844 Death of Sarah Higby on the index. Civil Registration Index, 3rd Quarter (Jul-Aug-Sep), Year 1844, District Rochford, County Essex, Volume 12, Page 140. Searched on July 19, 2009 Sunday 8:18 PM.
10. 1844 burial of Sarah Higby. Eastwood, St Laurence and All Saints, D/P 102/1/5, Burials 1812-1890, 56 images. Essex Record Office online at <https://www.essexarchivesonline.co.uk>. Image 24 right side, Burials 1844, page 41, no. 321. Searched on April 19, 2025 Saturday 10:39 PM.

## 2nd Generation

### William Higby (1798 - 1855)

Husband 1st to Susanna Brand and 2nd to Jane Crooks

Great Grandfather of Lilian (Higby) Garner

3. **WILLIAM HIGBY** was born ca. 1798 in Birch, Essex and was baptized on 25 March 1798 in St. Peter church in Birch.

Father: Burdock Higby (No. 1)

Mother: Sarah Cansdale

#### ~ 1798

From the parish register of St. Peter, Birch:

Image 28 right side

Baptisms for the year 1798.

March 25<sup>th</sup>. William Son of Bardock & Sarah Higby

Image of the record:



#### ~ 1820

William Higby was listed as a husbandman in Birch, Essex in the 1820 Poll book.

From the UK, Poll Books and Electoral Registers:

Image 1680

(Page 5)

THE POLL

for Members to serve in Parliament for the Borough of Colchester, Taken On Thursday, the 9th of March, 1820, and 5 following Days, Sunday excepted.

Candidates.

James Beckford Wildmam [ sic Wildman], Esq.

Daniel Whittle Harvey, Esq.

Sir Henry Russell, Bart.

Image 1681

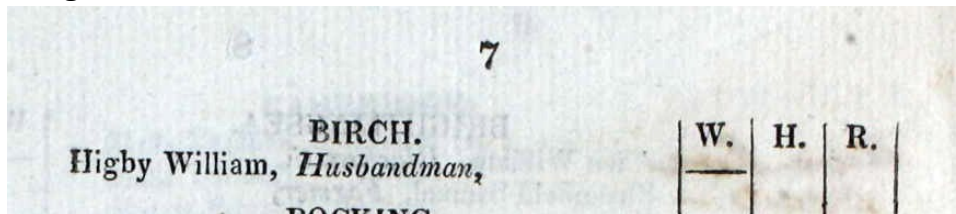
Page 7

BIRCH.

Higby, William, husbandman,     / W. / H. / R. /

He voted for James Beckford Wildman

Image of the record:



### ~ **between 1820 and 1825**

William Higby moved from Birth, Essex to Hadleigh, Essex in the period between 1820 and 1825.

### ~ **20 December 1825**

William Higby married **SUSANNAH BRAND** on 20 December 1825 in St. James the Less church in Hadleigh, Essex.

From the parish register of St. James the Less church in Hadleigh:

Image 9 left side

Marriages 1825 - Page 12. No. 36.

William Higby of this Parish and Sarah Brand of the Parish of S. Bemfleet were married in this Church by Banns the 20<sup>th</sup> Day of Dec<sup>r</sup>. in the Year One thousand eight hundred and 25 By me J F Squire Minister

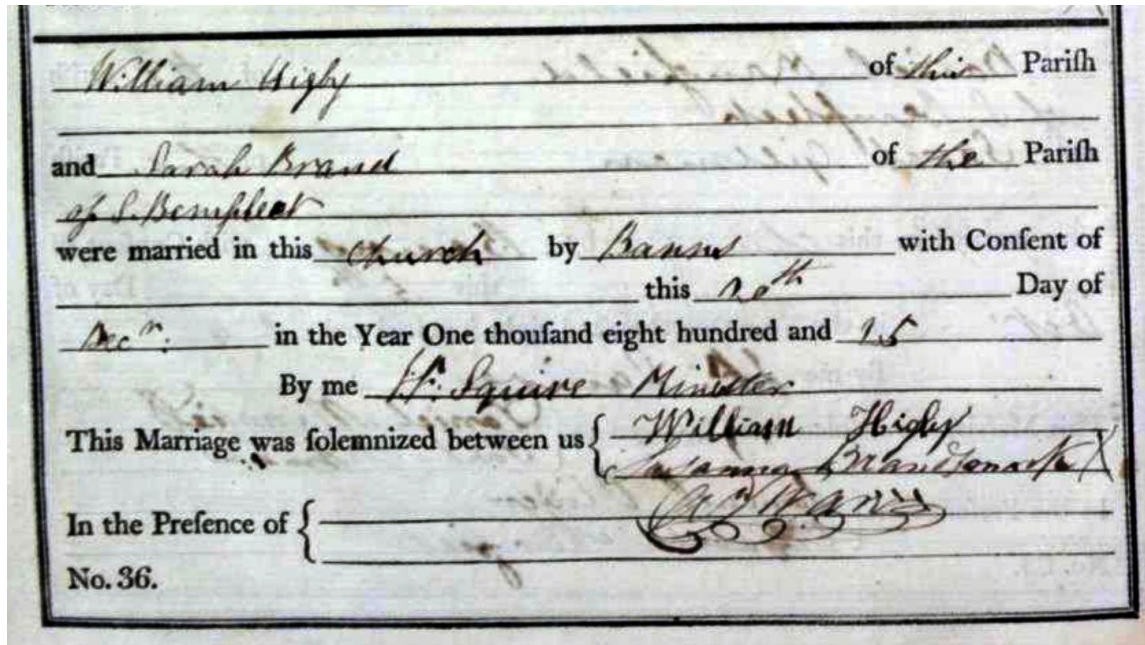
This Marriage was solemnized between Us {

William Higby

Susanna Brand mark X

In the presence of {  
[ ? ? Brand?]

Image of the record:



Note it says that the name was Sarah Brand in the top part but in the signature part it says Susanna Brand. I went with Susannah Brand as you will see her burial record with that name.

~ **1827**

William and Susannah 's son, William Burdock Higby, died at the age of 8 days and was buried in the churchyard of Hadleigh, Essex.

(see below at the listing of the children for details)

~ **27 November 1828**

Susannah Higby died at the age of 24 years and was buried on 27 November 1828 in the churchyard of St. James the Less in Hadleigh, Essex.

From the parish register of St. James the Less in Hadleigh:

Image 10 right side

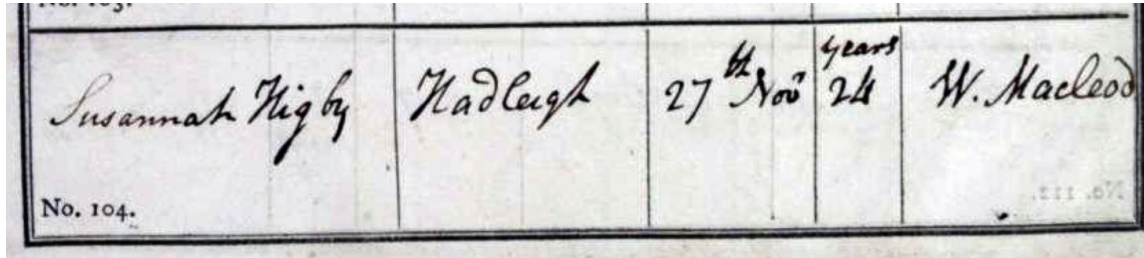
Burials 1828 - Page 13. No. 104.



*Name. / Abode. / When buried. / Age. / By whom the Ceremony was performed.*

Susannah Higby / Hadleigh / 27<sup>th</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup> / Years 24 / W. Macleod

Image of the record:



While at Hadleigh, Essex, William Higby probably seen or met James Murrell the famous Cunning Man of Hadleigh. He was a shoe maker in the village. He could have gone to him for buying shoes or shoe repairs.

... and had some interesting conversations with Murrell ranging from ordinary topics to herbs and folk lore or magic.

### **~ between 1828 and 1831**

William Higby moved from Hadleigh, Essex to Eastwood, Essex in the period between 1828 and 1831.

### **~ 5 July 1831**

William Higby married **JANE CROOKS** on 5 July 1831 at the church in St. Andrew, Holborn, London, Middlesex.

From the marriage record, we have the following information:

Page 512 No. 1534

Marriages solemnized in the Parish of St. Andrew, Holborn, London, and in the County of Middlesex, in the Year 1831

William Higby of this Parish and Jane Crooks of this Parish were married in this Church, by Banns this Fifth Day of July in the Year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Thirty One By me T Riddell Curate

In the presence of, {  
Charles Crooks  
Frances Crooks

Image of the record:

Page 572

MARRIAGES solemnized in the Parish of ST. ANDREW, HOLBORN,  
LONDON, and in the County of MIDDLESEX, in the Year 1834

William Higby of this Parish  
and Fane Crooks of this Parish

were married in this Church, by Banns  
this Fifth Day of  
July in the Year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Thirty One  
By me T Riddell Curate

This Marriage was solemnized between us { William Higby  
Fane Crooks

In the presence of { Charles Crooks  
Frances Crooks

No. 1534

From the newspaper, Suffolk Chronicle, Saturday 16 July 1831:

MARRIED.

Lately, Mr. Wm. Higby, of Eastwood, to Jane, daughter of the late Mr. C. Crooks, of Chelmsford.

Image of the article

Lately, Mr. Wm. Higby, of Eastwood, to Jane, daughter of the late Mr. C. Crooks, of Chelmsford.

Jane Crooks was born ca. 1800 in Chelmsford, Essex.

I have researched the Crooks family line going back several generations. But still a lot to type up, so it will be added in a later update of this work.

### **~ over one hundred years before ...**

The Crooks family traces back to Writtle, Essex. This is the same village where the Murrell family lived in the 17th to 18th centuries. This Murrell family were the ancestors of James Murrell the famous Cunning Man of Hadleigh, Essex.

### **~ 21 June 1833**

Mr. Higby at this time was leasing a farm called Biggles Bush in Eastwood, Essex.

From the newspaper, Chelmsford Chronicle, Friday 21 June 1833:

#### **“HADLEIGH, ESSEX,**

Eligible Freehold Investments, To Be Sold By Auction, By Appleton & Gadsden, At the Auction Mart, London, on Tuesday, the 2d July, 1833, at twelve o'clock, in Two Lots.”

(Lot 1 is not transcribed here)

“Lot 2, A FARM known as BIGGLES BUSH, in the parish of Eastwood, about one mile from the preceding, adjoining the high road from Rayleigh to Rochford , and consisting of sixty-two acres of excellent land highly cultivated, with good farm house and capital outbuildings of every description; the whole brick-built and newly erected, on lease to Mr. Higby, a respectable tenant, for the term of 11 years, and one quarter unexpired, at the low rent of £60 per annum.

The above are situate in the most pleasing part of Essex, abounding with game and presents a favourable opportunity for the secure investment of capital.”

### **~ by 1838**

By 1838, William and Jane Higby were living at Garrett's Farm in Eastwood, Essex where their first son was born.

### ~ between 1838 and 1841

Then between 1838 and 1841, William and Jane Higby moved from Eastwood, Essex to Hockley, Essex.

### ~ From 1815 to 1840's

Charles Pickingill married Hannah Cudmore in Hockley, Essex in 1815 and their children were born from then to the late 1830's in Hockley.

By the time of the 1841 census, Charles Pickingill and his son Peter went to an Inn in Canewdon, Essex. It is not known where George Pickingill was in 1841. Charles' daughter Mary Pickingill married James Wells and they were still living in Hockley in 1841.

### ~ on the night of the 6th and 7th of June 1841

In 1841, Wm. and Jane Higby were living in Hockley, Essex.

Wm. Higby was listed as a Farmer.

From the 1841 census of Hockley:

*Name / Age & Sex / Profession / Born in County ?*

W<sup>m</sup> Higby / 40 M / Farmer / y

Jane D<sup>o</sup> / 40 F / ----- / y

W<sup>m</sup> D<sup>o</sup> / 2 M / ----- / y

Image of part of the record:

A photograph of a handwritten census record from 1841. The record is written on a grid with four columns. The first column contains names, the second column contains ages, the third column contains professions, and the fourth column contains birthplace indicators (y for Yorkshire). The entries are: W<sup>m</sup> Higby, 40, Farmer, y; Jane D<sup>o</sup>, 40, /, y; W<sup>m</sup> D<sup>o</sup>, 2, /, y. The handwriting is in cursive and somewhat faded.

Name	Age	Sex	Profession	Born in County
W <sup>m</sup> Higby	40	M	Farmer	y
Jane D <sup>o</sup>	40	F	/	y
W <sup>m</sup> D <sup>o</sup>	2	M	/	y

### ~ on the night of 30th and 31st of March 1851

In 1851, William and Jane Higby were living in Hockley, Essex.

William Higby was listed as a Farmer of 24 Acres.

From the 1851 census of Hockley:

*Name / Relationship / Marital status / Age & Sex / Profession / Birthplace*

William Higby / Head / M / 52 M / Farmer of 24 Acres / Suffolk, Birch

Jane do / Wife / M / 47 F / ----- / Essex, Chelmsford

William do / Son / U / 12 M / employed on Farm / do Hadleigh

Charles do / Son / --- / 6 M / ----- / do Hockley

Image of part of the record:

<i>William Higby</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>52</i>	<i>Farmer of 24 Acres</i>	<i>Suffolk, Birch</i>
<i>Jane do</i>	<i>Wife</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>47</i>		<i>Essex, Chelmsford</i>
<i>William do</i>	<i>Son</i>	<i>U</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>employed on Farm</i>	<i>do, Hadleigh</i>
<i>Charles do</i>	<i>Son</i>	<i>---</i>	<i>6</i>		<i>do Hockley</i>

## ~ 20 May 1855

William Higby died at the age of 56 years on 20 May 1855 in Hockley, Essex  
and was buried on 27 May 1855 in the churchyard of St. Peter and St. Paul in Hockley.

From the England and Wales, Death Index:

*Name / Death registration date / District / County / Vol. / Page*

William Higby / Apr-May-Jun 1855 / Rochford / Essex / 4a / (104?)

From the parish register of St. Peter and St. Paul, Hockley:

Image 48 left side

Burials 1855 - Page 90. No. 717.

*Name. / Abode. / When buried. / Age. / By whom the Ceremony was performed.*

William Higby / Hockley / May 27 / 56 / John Harding

Image of the record:

<i>William Higby</i>	<i>Hockley</i>	<i>May 27</i>	<i>56</i>	<i>John Harding</i>
----------------------	----------------	---------------	-----------	---------------------

No. 717.



(Page 272 - Begins the section on Hockley, Essex)

(about the gravestones in the churchyard)

Image of the record:

35 years, also of Susanna his daughter. To William Higby, May 20th, 1855, aged 56 years. He held a farm on the common. To Sarah Belcham, many years resident in this parish. May 20th, 1811, aged 68. To

In 1861, Jane Higby and her son Charles were living in Hockley, Essex.

Cottage

Jane Higby / Head / Widow / 60 F / ----- / Essex Chelmsford

Charles C. Do / Son / 15 M / Ag<sup>r</sup> Lab / Do Hockley

	Harnett Bartholemew	Mace	2
1	Jane Higby	Head Widow	60
	Charles C. To	Son	75
	" " "	" "	11
7		To Hawaii	
		To Chelmsford	
	Ag <sup>r</sup> Lab	To Hackley	
	Printed & Published by	To Perkins	

In 1871, Jane Higby was living alone in Hockley, Essex.

London Road

*Name / Relationship / Marital status / Age & Sex / Profession / Birthplace*

Jane Higby / [blank] / Widow / 66 F / Retired Farmers Wife / Essex Chelmsford

Image of part of the record:

Elisa Jane Do	Gran Lane	no 6
Jane Higby	Widow	66
Emilia Smith	Head	55
Retired Farmers Wife	do do	
Landowner	do Chelmsford	

~ 1875

Jane Higby died at the age of 75 years in the 2nd quarter (Apr-May-Jun) of 1875 in the Rochford registration district of Essex.

She was buried on 26 June 1875 in the churchyard of St. Peter and St. Paul in Hockley.

From the England and Wales, Death Index:

Name / Death registration date / Age / District / County / Vol. / Page

Jane Higby / Apr-May-Jun 1875 / 75 / Rochford / Essex / 4a / 151

From the parish register of St. Peter and St. Paul, Hockley:

Image 14 right side

Burials 1875 - Page 23 No. 183

Name. / Abode. / When buried. / Age. / By whom the Ceremony was performed.

Jane Higby / Hockley / June 26 / 75 / William Harding

Image of the record:

Jane Higby	Hockley	June 26	75	William Harding
------------	---------	---------	----	-----------------

## Children of William and Susanna (Brand) Higby

5. **WILLIAM BURDOCK HIGBY** was born in March 1827 and was buried on 23 March 1827 in the churchyard of St. James the Less in Hadleigh, Essex.

From the parish register of St. James the Less, Hadleigh:

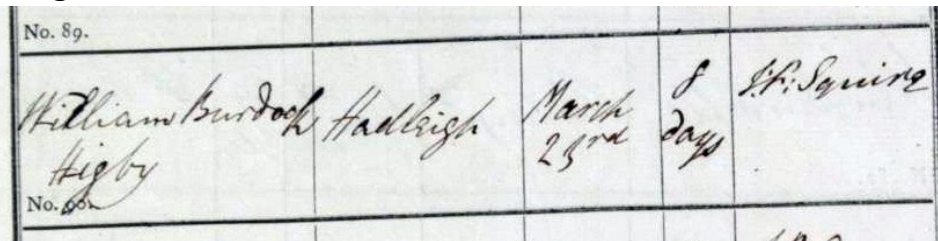
Image 10 left side

Burials 1827 - Page 12. No. 90.

*Name. / Abode. / When buried. / Age. / By whom the Ceremony was performed.*

William Burdock Higby / Hadleigh / March 23<sup>rd</sup> / 8 days / J. F. Squire

Image of the record:



## Children of William and Jane (Crooks) Higby

6. + **WILLIAM CHARLES HIGBY** was born 1838 in Eastwood, Essex.

William married Sarah Ann Summers.

7. **CHARLES CROOKS HIGBY** was born 1844 in Hockley, Essex.

Charles married Sarah Christmas Vince.

### Sources:

1. 1798 baptism of William Higby. Birch, St Peter, D/P 241/1/2, Baptism and burials 1755-1812, 38 images. Essex Record Office online at <https://www.essexarchivesonline.co.uk>. Image 28 right side, Baptisms for the year 1798. Searched on April 20, 2025 Sunday 9:57 PM.
2. 1820 William Higby listed at Birch in Poll book. UK, Poll Books and Electoral Registers, 1538-1893, online at Ancestry.com. Images 1680 and 1681, page 5 and 7. Searched on April 23, 2025 Wednesday 9:54 PM.

3. 1825 marriage of William Higby and Susanna Brand. Hadleigh, St James the Less, D/P 303/1/6, Marriages 1813-1837, 16 images. Essex Record Office online at <https://www.essexarchivesonline.co.uk>. Image 9 left side, Marriages 1825, page 12, no. 36. Searched on April 21, 2025 Monday 10:09 PM.
4. 1827 burial of William Burdock Higby. Hadleigh, St James the Less, D/P 303/1/7, Burials 1813-1899, 53 images. Essex Record Office online at <https://www.essexarchivesonline.co.uk>. Image 10 left side, Burials 1827, page 12, no. 90. Searched on April 23, 2025 Wednesday 11:09 PM.
5. 1828 burial of Susannah Higby. Hadleigh, St James the Less, D/P 303/1/7, Burials 1813-1899, 53 images. Essex Record Office online at <https://www.essexarchivesonline.co.uk>. Image 10 right side, Burials 1828, page 13, no. 104. Searched on April 21, 2025 Monday 11:02 PM.
6. 1831 marriage of William Higby and Jane Crooks. City of London, St. Andrew, Holborn: Holborn Circus, 1827-1832, image no 257, online at Ancestry.com. Marriages 1831, page no. 512, no. 1534. Searched on September 24, 2009 Thursday 7:51 PM and rechecked on April 20, 2025 Sunday 11:12 PM.
7. 1831 marriage notice of Wm. Higby and Jane Crooks. Suffolk Chronicle, Saturday 16 July 1831, page 3. British Newspaper Archive, online at [www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk](http://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk). Searched on April 26, 2025 Saturday 10:39 PM.
8. 1833 Mr. Higby leasing a farm in Eastwood, Essex. Chelmsford Chronicle, Friday 21 June 1833, page 1. British Newspaper Archive, online at [www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk](http://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk). Searched on April 26, 2025 Saturday 9:55 PM.
9. 1841 census of England, Essex, Hockley, ALL, District 5, image no. 6, online at Ancestry.com. Public Record Office reference: HO 107/337/11, original page no. 10, stamped page no. 29. Household of Wm Higby. Searched on December 18, 2008 Thursday 3:46 PM and rechecked on April 20, 2025 Sunday 9:18 PM.
10. 1851 census of England, Essex, Hockley, ALL, 2c, image no. 4, online at Ancestry.com. Public Record Office reference: H.O. 107/1777, original page no. 3. No. of Householder's Schedule 12, household of William Higby. Searched on December 18, 2008 Thursday 3:52 PM and rechecked on April 20, 2025 Sunday 9:36 PM.
11. 1855 death of William Higby in the index. Civil Registration Index, Death in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter (Apr-May-Jun), Year 1855, District Rochford, County Essex, Volume 4a, Page (104?). Searched December 20, 2008 Saturday.
12. 1855 burial of William Higby. Hockley, StPeter and St Paul, D/P 191/1/8, Burials 1813-1860, 55 images. Essex Record Office online at <https://www.essexarchivesonline.co.uk>. Image 48 left side, Burials 1855, page 90, no. 717. Searched on April 21, 2025 Monday 12:08 AM.
13. 1855 the gravestone of William Higby. The History of Rochford Hundred by Philip Benton. Published 1867 by A. Harrington. Pages 272 (begins the section on Hockley, Essex) and 303 which mentioned William Higby. Google Books, Original from The New York Library, Digitized March 20, 2007. Searched September 25, 2009 Friday 9:31 PM.
14. 1861 census of England, Essex, Hockley, ALL, District 8, Image No. 18, online at Ancestry.com. Public Record Office reference: R.G. 9 1083, original page no. 10. No. of Schedule 49, household of Jane Higby. Searched on December 21, 2008 Sunday 7:34 PM and rechecked on April 24, 2025 Thursday 12:47 AM.
15. 1871 census of England, Essex, Hockley, ALL, 8, Image No. 8, online at Ancestry.com. Public Record Office reference: R.G. 10 16[6]7, original page no. 7, stamped page no. 105. No. of Schedule 40, household of Jane Higby. Searched on December 21, 2008 Sunday 7:41 PM and rechecked on April 24, 2025 Thursday 1:06 AM.
16. Civil Registration Index, Death of Jane Higby, age 75, 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter (Apr-May-Jun), Year 1875, District Rochford, County Essex, Volume 4a, Page 151. Searched December 20, 2008 Saturday.

17. 1875 burial of Jane Higby. Hockley, St Peter and St Paul, D/P 191/1/9, Burials 1861-1933, 54 images. Essex Record Office online at <https://www.essexarchivesonline.co.uk>. Image 14 right side, Burials 1875, page 23. no. 183. Searched on April 24, 2025 Thursday 11:16 AM.



## 2nd Generation

### John Higby (1801 - 1869)

Husband of Sarah Bammon

Great Grand-Uncle of Lilian Higby Garner

4. **JOHN HIGBY** was born ca. 1801 in Birch, Essex and was baptized on 2[0?] September 1801 in St. Peter church in Birch.

Father: Burdock Higby (No. 1)

Mother: Sarah Cansdale

#### ~1801

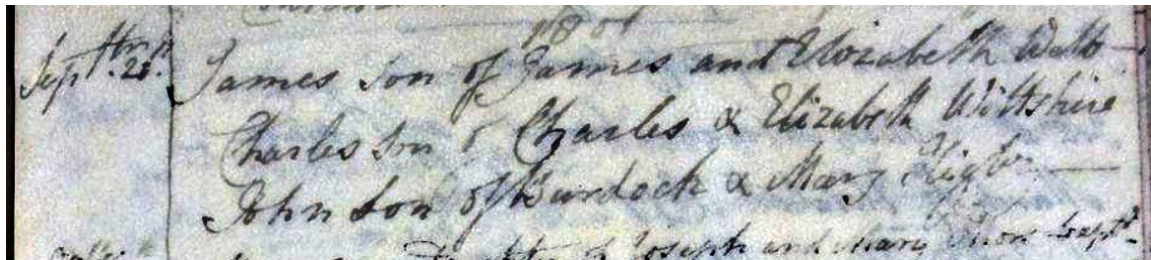
From the parish register of St. Peter, Birch:

Image 30 right side

Baptisms for the year 1801

Sept<sup>br</sup>. 2[0?]<sup>th</sup>. / John Son of Burdock & Mary Higby

Image of the record:



The stated name of the mother being “Mary” is probably an error made by the church, it should have of been Sarah.

You can see below that John was living with Burdock Higby’s widow Sarah in the 1841 census. And the 1798 baptism of his brother, William, has the mother as Sarah.

#### ~ on the night of the 6th and 7th of June 1841

In 1841, John Higby and his widowed mother were living in Eastwood, Essex.

John was listed as a Farmer.

From the 1841 census of Eastwood:

*Name / Age & Sex / Profession / Born in County ?*

John Higby / 38 M / Farmer / y

Sarah Higby / 68 F / widow / y

John Lane / 20 M / Ag Lab / y

Image of part of the record:

1	John Higby	38	Farmer	y
	Sarah Higby	68	widow	y
	John Lane	20	Ag Lab	y

## ~ 12 November 1844

John Higby married **SARAH MARY BAMMON** on 12 November 1844 in St. Laurence and All Saints church in Eastwood, Essex.

From the parish register of Eastwood:

Image 19

Marriages 1844 - Page 16.

1844 Marriage solemnized in the Parish Ch in the Parish of Eastwood in the County of Essex.

No. 31

When Married. Nov<sup>r</sup>. Twelve

*Name. / Age. / Condition. / Profession. / Residence at the time of Marriage. / Father's Name. / Father's Profession.*

John Higby / Full age / Bachelor / Farmer / Eastwood / Burdock Higby / Farmer.

Sarah Bammon / Full age / Spinster / ----- / Eastwood / Joseph Bammon / Farmer.

Married in the Parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church by me, W<sup>m</sup>. C. R. Ray, Curate

This Marriage was solemnized between us, {

John Higby

Sarah Bammon

in the Presence of us,  
 William Hobart  
 Mary Ann Hobart X her mark.

Image of the record:

Page 16.

1844 Marriage solemnized in the Parish of *Eastwood* in the County of *Essex*.

No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the Time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
31	<i>Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup></i>	<i>John Higby</i>	<i>Full age</i>	<i>Bachelor</i>	<i>Farmer</i>	<i>Eastwood</i>	<i>Burdoch Higby</i>	<i>Farmer.</i>
	<i>Twelve</i>	<i>Sarah Bannion</i>	<i>Full age</i>	<i>Spinster</i>		<i>Eastwood</i>	<i>Joseph Bannion</i>	<i>Farmer.</i>

Married in the *Parish Church* according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the *Establish'd Church* by me, *Wm. R. Day, Curate.*

This Marriage was solemnized between us, *John Higby* in the Presence of us, *William Hobart*  
*Sarah Bannion* *Mary Ann Hobart / her mark.*

Sarah was born ca. 1813 in Hardingham, Norfolk.

### ~ on the night of 30th and 31st of March 1851

In 1851, John and Sarah Higby were living in Eastwood, Essex.

John was a farmer of 79 acres employing one man.

From the 1851 census of Eastwood:

*Name / Relationship / Marital status / Age & Sex / Profession / Birthplace*

John Higby / Head / Mar / 48 M / Farmer 79 acr 1 man / Essex Burch

Sarah do / Wife / do / 38 F / ----- / Norforck

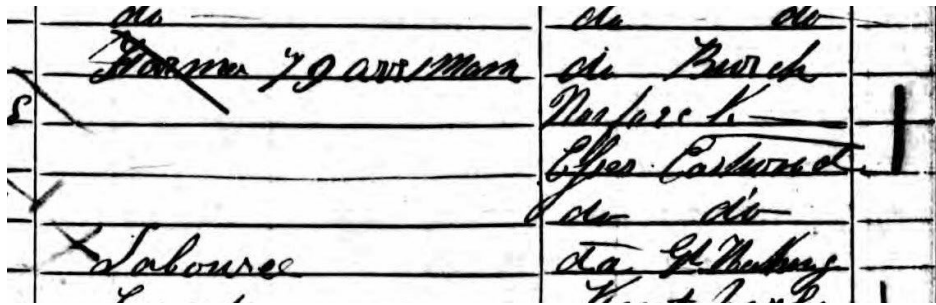
Joseph Son / Son / ---- / 3 M / ----- / Essex Eastwood

Sarah do / Daug / ---- / 1 F / ----- / do do

George Lin / Servt / U / 21 M / Labourer / do G<sup>t</sup> [Waking]

Image of the record:

<i>John Higby</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>48</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>Farmer</i>	<i>79 acr 1 man</i>	<i>Essex Burch</i>
<i>Sarah do</i>	<i>Wife</i>	<i>38</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>Norforck</i>
<i>Joseph Lin</i>	<i>Son</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>Essex Eastwood</i>
<i>Sarah do</i>	<i>Daug</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>do do</i>
<i>George Lin</i>	<i>Servt</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>Labourer</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>G<sup>t</sup> [Waking]</i>



### ~ 13 August 1858

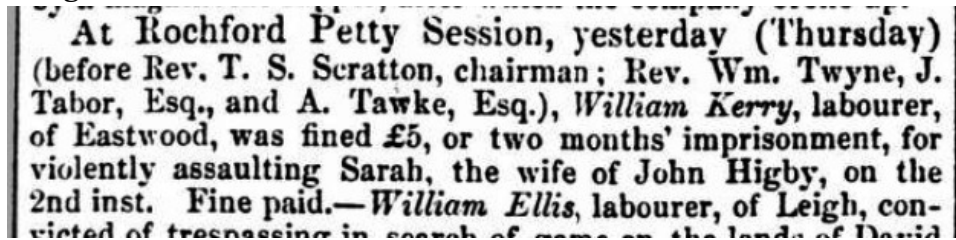
A man was fined for assaulting Sarah the wife of John Higby of Eastwood, Essex.

From the newspaper, Essex Standard, Friday 13 August 1858:

At Rochford Petty Session, yesterday (Thursday) (before Rev. T. S. Scratton, chairman; Rev. Wm. Twyne, J. Tabor, Esq., and A. Tewke, Esq.),

William Kerry, labourer, of Eastwood, was fined £5, or two months' imprisonment, for violently assaulting Sarah, the wife of John Higby, on the 2nd inst. Fine paid.

Image of the article:



### ~ between 1858 to 1861

George and Mary Ann Pickingale moved from Hawkwell, Essex to Eastwood, Essex on the period between 1858 and 1861.

### ~ on the night of the 7th and 8th of April 1861

In 1861, John and Sarah Higby were living in Eastwood, Essex.

John was listed as an Agricultural Laborer.

From the 1861 census of Eastwood:

Near Woodcutter Arm

*Name / Relationship / Marital status / Age & Sex / Profession / Birthplace*

John Higby / Head / Mar / 58 M / Ag Lab / Essex Birch

Sarah do / Wife / Mar / 47 F / Schoolmistress / Norfolk Hardingham

Joseph do / Son / ---- / 13 M / Ag Lab Son / Essex Eastwood

Horace do / Son / ---- / 9 M / do / do do

Images of the record:

The image shows two sections of a handwritten 1861 census record. The top section lists the household members: John Higby (Head, 58, Mar, Ag Lab, Essex Birch), Sarah (Wife, 47, Mar, Schoolmistress, Norfolk Hardingham), Joseph (Son, 13, Ag Lab Son, Essex Eastwood), and Horace (Son, 9, do, do, do). The bottom section lists the occupations and birthplaces: Ag Lab (Essex Birch), Schoolmistress (Norfolk Hardingham), Ag Lab Son (Essex Eastwood), and a final entry for 'Summer' (90 years, do, do, do).

1	John Higby	Head	Mar	58	
	Sarah	Wife	Mar	47	
	Joseph	Son		13	
	Horace	Son		9	
	Ag Lab				
	Schoolmistress				
	Ag Lab Son				
	Summer				

### ~ between 1864 and 1867

George and Mary Ann Pickingale moved from Eastwood, Essex to Canewdon, Essex in the period between 1864 and 1867.

### ~ 1869

John Higby died at the age of 66 years in Eastwood, Essex and was buried on 26 June 1869 in the churchyard of St. Laurence and All Saints in Eastwood.

From the England and Wales, Death Index:

*Name / Age / Death Registration Date / District / County / Vol. / Page*

John Higby / 66 / Apr-May-Jun 1869 / Rochford / Essex / 4a / 126



From the parish register of St. Laurence and All Saints, Eastwood:

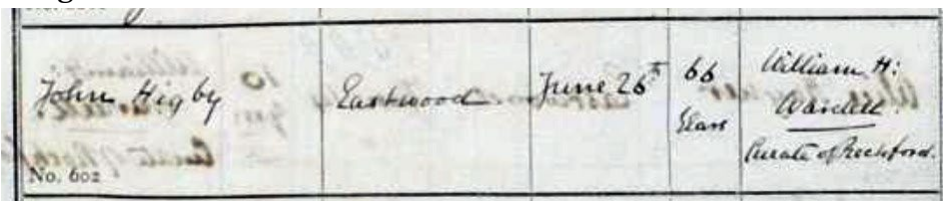
Image 42 left side

Burials 1869 - Page 76. No. 602.

*Name. / Abode. / When buried. / Age. / By whom the Ceremony was performed.*

John Higby / Eastwood / June 26<sup>th</sup> / 66 Years / William H. Wordell Curate of Rochford

Image of the record:



### ~ on the night of the 2nd and 3rd of April 1871

In 1871, Sarah Higby, a widow, and her two sons were living in Eastwood, Essex.

From the 1871 census of Eastwood:

Cottage

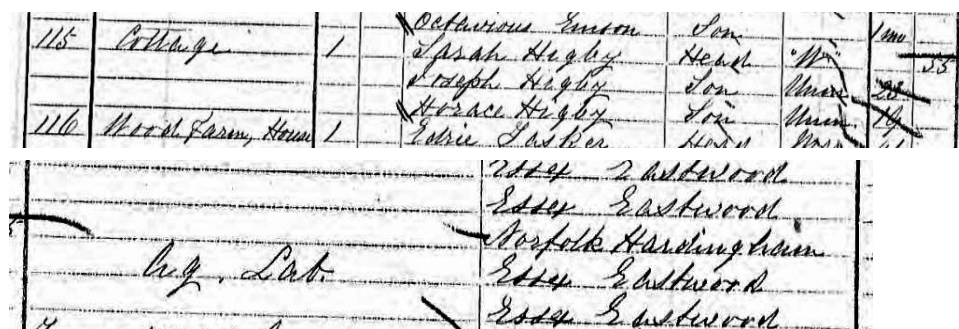
*Name / Relationship / Marital status / Age & Sex / Profession / Birthplace*

Sarah Higby / Head / W / 55 F / ----- / Norfolk Hardingham

Joseph Higby / Son / Unm / 23 M / Ag. Lab. / Essex Eastwood

Horace Higby / Son / Unm / 19 M / ----- / Essex Eastwood

Images of the record:



### ~ on the night of the 3rd and 4th of April 1881

In 1881, Sarah Higby, a widow, and her son, Joseph, were living in Eastwood, Essex.

From the 1881 census of Eastwood:

Endway

Name / Relationship / Marital status / Age & Sex / Profession / Birthplace

Sarah Higby / Head / Widw / 68 F / Labourer Widow / Norfolk Hardingham

Joseph Do. / Son / Unm / 33 M / Farm Labourer / Essex Eastwood

Images of the record:

70	Endway	1	Thomas D. Hardingham Visitor	Widw	40	Essex
			Sarah Higby	Head	68	Norfolk
			Joseph Do.	Son	33	Essex
8	General Shopkeeper		Thomas D. Hardingham	Widw	40	Essex
	Labourer		Norfolk Hardingham			
	Farm Labourer		Essex Eastwood			

## ~ on the night of the 5th and 6th of April 1891

In 1891, Sarah M. Higby, age 78, a widow, was visiting her daughter, Elizabeth Alcock, in Wheatley, Yorkshire.

From the 1891 census of Wheatley:

5 [Velinkeli] Ter. Rd

Name / Relationship / Marital status / Age & Sex / Profession / Birthplace

Elizabeth Alcock / Head / Wid / 46 F / Living on her own means / Essex Eastwood

Sarah M. Higby / Visitor / Wid / 78 F / ----- / Norfolk Hardingham

Frederick C. Alcock / son / ---- / 9 M / ----- / Lancs. Chorlton-cum-Hardy

Images of the record:

75	6	Do	Do	1	Elizabeth Alcock	Head	Wid	46	Essex
					Sarah M. Higby	visitor	Wid	78	Norfolk
					Frederick C. Alcock	son		9	Lancs.
76	6	Do	Do	1	James D. Ellis	Head	M	69	Essex
8					Living on her own means				Essex Eastwood
									Norfolk Hardingham
									Lancs. Chorlton-cum-Hardy

## ~ 1898

Sarah Mary Higby died at the age of 85 years on 11 March 1898 in Wheatley, Doncaster, Yorkshire.

From the England and Wales, Death Index:

*Name / Age / Death Registration Date / District / County / Vol. / Page*

Sarah Mary Higby / 85 / Jan-Feb-Mar 1898 / Doncaster / Yorkshire-West Riding / 9c / 472

From the England & Wales, National Probate Calendar:

Image 130.

Page 124 1898.

HIGBY Sarah Mary of St. Mary's-road Wheatley Doncaster widow died 11 March 1898 Probate Wakefield 16 May to Elizabeth Alcock widow Effects £383 17s. 3d.

Image of the record:

**HIGBY** Sarah Mary of St. Mary's-road Wheatley Doncaster widow died 11 March 1898 Probate **Wakefield** 16 May to Elizabeth Alcock widow Effects £383 17s. 3d.

John Higby had some descendants that lived in Eastwood during the time of the 1901 census.

## ~ 1911 to the 1920's

William and Martha Ann Punt moved to Eastwood, Essex before the time of the 1911 census. They lived in Eastwood till at least 1926, when William Punt died in Eastwood. Martha Punt died in Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex in 1933. She was buried in Canewdon, Essex.

... Almost forgot to say... that Martha Ann was a daughter of George Pickingill.

## Children of John and Sarah (Bammon) Higby

8. **ELIZABETH HIGBY** was born in 1845 in Eastwood, Essex.  
Elizabeth married Robert Challenger Alcock.
9. **JOSEPH BURDOCK HIGBY** was born in 1848 in Eastwood, Essex.  
Joseph married Laura Brown Spivey.
10. **SARAH MARY HIGBY** was born in 1850 in Eastwood, Essex and died in 1854.
11. **HORACE HIGBY** was born in 1852 in Eastwood, Essex.  
Horace married Emily Adams.

### Sources:

1. 1801 baptism of John Higby. Birch, St Peter, D/P 241/1/2, Baptism and burials 1755-1812, 38 images. Essex Record Office online at <https://www.essexarchivesonline.co.uk>. Image 30 right side, Baptisms for the year 1801. Searched on May 6, 2025 Tuesday 10:35 PM.
2. 1841 census of England, Essex, Eastwood, Rayleigh, District 6, Image No.8, online at Ancestry.com. Public Record Office reference: HO 107/337/4, original page no. 16, stamped page no. 11. Household of John Higby. Searched on June 7, 2009 Sunday 3:38 PM and rechecked on April 19, 2025 Saturday 10:14 PM.
3. 1844 marriage of John Higby and Sarah Bammon in the index. Civil Registration Index, Date: 4th Quarter (Oct-Nov-Dec) 1844; District: Rochford; County: Essex; Vol.: 12; Page: 395. Searched on July 19, 2009 Sunday 8:06 PM.
4. 1844 marriage of John Higby and Sarah Bammon. Eastwood, St Laurence and All Saints, D/P 102/1/8, Marriages 1837-1929, 254 images. Essex Record Office online at <https://www.essexarchivesonline.co.uk>. Image 19, Marriages 1844, page 16. Searched on May 2, 2025 Friday 10:28 PM.
5. 1851 census of England, Essex, Eastwood, ALL, 5a, image no. 21, online at Ancestry.com. Public Record Office reference: H.O. 107/1777, original page no. 20, stamped page no. 75. No. of Householder's Schedule 71, household of John Higby. Searched on June 7, 2009 Sunday 3:44 PM and rechecked on May 2, 2025 Friday 11:08 PM.
6. A man was fined for assaulting Sarah the wife of John Higby of Eastwood, Essex. Essex Standard, Friday 13 August 1858, page 2. British Newspaper Archive, online at [www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk](http://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk). Searched on May 3, 2025 Saturday 1:08 AM.
7. 1861 census of England, Essex, Eastwood, ALL, District 10, image no. 27, online at Ancestry.com. Public Record Office reference: R.G. 9 1083, original page no. 21, stamped page no. 146. No. of Schedule 120, household of John Higby. Searched on September 27, 2009 Sunday 7:29 PM and rechecked on May 3, 2025 Saturday 12:20 AM.

8. 1869 Death of John Higby in the index. Civil Registration Index. Date: 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter (Apr-May-Jun) 1869; District: Rochford; County: Essex; Vol.: 4a; Page: 126. Searched on July 19, 2009 Sunday 8:16 PM.
9. 1869 burial of John Higby. Eastwood, St Laurence and All Saints, D/P 102/1/5, Burials 1812-1890, 56 images. Essex Record Office online at <https://www.essexarchivesonline.co.uk>. Image 42 left side, Burials 1869, page 76, no. 602. Searched on May 4, 2025 Sunday 9:51 PM.
10. 1871 Census of England, Essex, Eastwood, ALL, 10, image no. 22, online at Ancestry.com. Public Record Office reference: R.G. 10 1667, original page no. 21, stamped page no. 137. No. of Schedule 115, household of Sarah Higby. Searched on September 27, 2009 Sunday 7:40 PM and rechecked on May 6, 2025 Tuesday 1:03 AM.
11. 1881 census of England, Essex, Eastwood, Rayleigh, District 10, Image No. 7, online at Ancestry.com. Public Record Office reference: RG 11/1768, original page no. 6. No. of Schedule 35, household of Sarah Higby. Searched on October 3, 2009 Saturday 3:55 PM and rechecked on May 6, 2025 Tuesday 10:58 PM.
12. 1891 census of England, Yorkshire, Wheatley, ALL, District 12, image no. 14, online at Ancestry.com. Public Record Office reference: RG 12 / 3867, original page no. 13. No. of Schedule 75, Sarah M. Higby in the household of Elizabeth Alcock. Searched on October 4, 2009 Sunday 2:36 PM and rechecked on May 7, 2025 Wednesday 12:00 AM.
13. 1898 Death of Sarah Mary Higby. Civil Registration Index. Date: 1st Quarter (Jan-Feb-Mar) 1898; Age: 85; District: Doncaster; County: Lincolnshire, Nottingham, Yorkshire-West Riding; Vol.: 9c; Page: 472. Searched on October 4, 2009 Sunday 2:45 PM.
14. 1898 death and probate of Sarah Mary Higby. England & Wales, National Probate Calendar (Index of Wills and Administrations), 1858-1995, online at Ancestry.com. Image 130, page 124 1898. Searched on May 7, 2025 Wednesday 12:21 PM.



3rd Generation

## William Charles Higby (1838 - 1926)

Husband of Sarah Ann Summers  
Grandfather of Lilian (Higby) Garner

6. **WILLIAM CHARLES HIGBY** was born 1838 at Garrett's Farm in Eastwood, Essex and was baptized on 1 October 1838 in St. James the Less church in Hadleigh, Essex.

Father: William Higby (No. 3)  
Mother: Jane Crooks

### ~ 1838

From the England and Wales, Birth Index:

*Name / Birth Registration Date / District / County / Vol. / Page*

William Charles Higby / Oct-Nov-Dec 1838 / Rochford / Essex / 12 / 163

From the parish register of St. James the Less, Hadleigh:

Image 25 right side

Baptisms 1838 - Page 45. No. 353.

*When Baptized. / Child's Names. / Parents Names. / Surname. / Abode. / Profession. /  
By whom the Ceremony was performed.*

1838. 1 Oct. / William Charles / William and Jane / Higby / Garretts farm / Farmer /  
W<sup>m</sup> C. Ray Curate of Eastwood

Image of the record:

Page 45.

BAPTISMS solemnized in the Parish of Hadleigh  
in the County of Essex in the Year 1838

When Baptized.	Child's Christian Name.	Parents Name.		Abode.	Quality, Trade, or Profession.	By whom the Ceremony was performed.
		Christian.	Surname.			
1838. 1st. No. 353.	William Charles	William and Jane	Higby	Hamlets Farm	Farmer	W <sup>m</sup> C. Ray Minister of Eastwood

### ~ From 1815 to 1840's

Charles Pickingill married Hannah Cudmore in Hockley, Essex in 1815 and their children were born from then to the late 1830's in Hockley.

By the time of the 1841 census, Charles Pickingill and his son Peter went to an Inn in Canewdon, Essex. It is not known where George Pickingill was in 1841. Charles' daughter Mary Pickingill married James Wells and they were still in Hockley in 1841.

### ~ on the night of the 6th and 7th of June 1841

In 1841, William Higby, age 2, was living with his parents in Hockley, Essex.

From the 1841 census of Hockley:

Name / Age & Sex / Profession / Born in County ?

W<sup>m</sup> Higby / 40 M / Farmer / y

Jane D<sup>o</sup> / 40 F / ----- / y

W<sup>m</sup> D<sup>o</sup> / 2 M / ----- / y

Image of part of the record:

1	Wm Higby	40	Farmer	24
	Jane do	40		24
	Wm do	2		24

### ~ on the night of 30th and 31st of March 1851

In 1851, William Higby, age 12, was living with his parents in Hockley, Essex.

He was employed on his father's farm.

From the 1851 census of Hockley:

*Name / Relationship / Marital status / Age & Sex / Profession / Birthplace*

William Higby / Head / M / 52 M / Farmer of 24 Acres / Suffolk, Birch

Jane do / Wife / M / 47 F / ----- / Essex, Chelmsford

William do / Son / U / 12 M / employed on Farm / do Hadleigh

Charles do / Son / --- / 6 M / ----- / do Hockley

Image of part of the record:

William Higby	Head	M	52	Farmer of 24 Acres	Suffolk, Birch
Jane do	Wife	M	47		Essex, Chelmsford
William do	Son	U	12	employed on Farm	do, Hadleigh
Charles do	Son		6		do Hockley

### ~ between 1851 and 1861

William C. Higby moved from Hockley, Essex to Hawkwell, Essex in the period between 1851 and 1861.

### ~ between 1856 and 1858

George and Mary Ann Pickingill moved from Gravesend, Kent to Hawkwell, Essex in the period between 1856 and 1858.

### ~ between 1858 to 1861

George and Mary Ann Pickingale moved from Hawkwell, Essex to Eastwood, Essex on the period between 1858 and 1861.

### ~ on the night of the 7th and 8th of April 1861

In 1861, William Higby was living in the household of Samuel Baker at Hawkwell Hall in Hawkwell, Essex.

William Higby was listed as a Groom.

From the 1861 census of Hawkwell:

Hawkwell Hall

*Name / Relationship / Marital status / Age & Sex / Profession / Birthplace*

Samuel Baker / Head / Mar / 78 M / Farmer of 317 acres Employing 20 Labourers / Devon, Tiverton

Jane D<sup>o</sup>. / Wife / Mar / 80 F / Farmer's Wife / Essex Rayleigh

Sarah Summers / Servant / Un / 19 F / House Servant / D<sup>o</sup>. Canewdon

Maria Shed / Servant / Un / 36 F / House Servant / D<sup>o</sup>. Orsett

William Higby / Servant / Un / 23 M / Groom / Essex Eastwood

Images of the record (bottom of one page and top of next page):

66	Hawkwell Hall	Samuel Baker	Head	Mar	78	M
		Jane D <sup>o</sup> .	Wife	Mar	80	F
		Sarah Summers	Servant	Un	19	F
		Maria Shed	Servant	Un	36	F
Total of Houses...		6	Total of Males and Females...			
			16			

Sam. of 317 acres, Employing 20 Labourers	Devon, Tiverton
Farmer's Wife	Essex Rayleigh
House Servant	D <sup>o</sup> . Canewdon
House Servant	D <sup>o</sup> . Orsett
9	

Eng.—Sheet D.

The undermentioned Houses are situate within t							
Parish [or Township] of		City or Municipal Borough of		Municipal Ward of		Parliamentary Borough of	
Hawkwell							
No. of Schedule	Road, Street, &c., and No. or Name of House	HOUSES		Name and Surname of each Person	Relation to Head of Family	Condition	Age of
		Inhabited	Uninhabited (T.C. or Building (S.C.))				Males
65	Church Road	1		William Higby	Servant	22	
				Thomas Barker	Head	37	

thin the Boundaries of the				[Page 13]
gh of	Town of	Hamlet or Tything, &c., of	Ecclesiastical District of	
			Rochester	
Rank, Profession, or Occupation	Where Born		Whether Blind, or Deaf, and Dumb	
Groom	Essex Eastward			
At Lab	St. Paul's			

In the above you will notice that Sarah Summers was a House Servant and William Higby was a Groom, both employed by Samuel Baker. This is one of the few times you see in a census where you see how two people met and then got married.

### ~ 3 September 1861

William Higby married **SARAH ANN SUMMERS** on 3 September 1861 in St. Mary the Virgin church in Hawkwell, Essex.

From the parish register of Hawkwell:

Image 35

Page 33.

1861. Marriages solemnized in the Parish Church in the Parish of Hawkwell in the County of Essex

No. - 66

When Married - Sepr 3<sup>rd</sup>

Name. / Age. / Condition. / Profession. / Residence at the Time of Marriage. / Father's Name. / Father's Profession.

William Higby / 22 / Bachelor / Servant / Hawkwell / William Higby / Farmer

Sarah Summers / 19 / Spinster / Servant / Canewdon / William Summers / Labourer

Married in the Parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Church of England by Superintendent Reg<sup>r</sup> Certificate by me John G. Hale

This Marriage was solemnized between us, {



William Higby  
 Sarah Summers  
 in the Presence of us, {  
 Isaac Woolmore his mark X  
 Eliza Humphreys

Image of part of the record:

1866, Marriage solemnized in the Parish Church in the Parish of Hawkwell in

No.	When Married,	Name and Surname,	Age.	Condition,	Rank or Profession,	Residence at the Time of Marriage,
66	Sept 3 <sup>rd</sup>	William Higby	22	Bachelor	Servant	Hawkwell.
		Sarah Summers	19	Spinster	Servant	Canewdon.

Married in the Parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Church of England

This Marriage was solemnized between us, { William Higby  
Sarah Summers } in the Presence of us, { Isaac Woolmore his  
Eliza Humphreys

### ~ between 1861 and 1863

William and Sarah Higby moved from Hawkwell, Essex to Canewdon, Essex on the period between 1861 and 1863.

### ~ between 1864 and 1867

George and Mary Ann Pickingale moved from Eastwood, Essex to Canewdon, Essex in the period between 1864 and 1867.

### ~ on the night of the 2nd and 3rd of April 1871

In 1871, William and Sarah Ann Higby were living in Canewdon, Essex.

William was a gardener and servant.

From the 1871 census of Canewdon:

The Street

*Name / Relationship / Marital status / Age & Sex / Profession / Birthplace*

William Higby / Head / Mar / 32 M / Gardener & Serv / Essex Eastwood

Sarah Ann do / Wife / Mar / 28 F / ----- / Essex Canewdon

William [ T ] do / Son / ---- / 8 M / Scholar / Essex Canewdon

Walter do / Son / ---- / 5 M / Scholar / Essex Canewdon

George E. do / Son / ---- / 3 M / Scholar / Essex Canewdon

Alfred C do / Son / ---- / 2 M / ----- / Essex Canewdon

Image of the record:

113	William Higby	1	William Higby	Head	Mar	32
	Sarah Ann do		Sarah Ann do	Wife	Mar	28
	William [ T ] do		William [ T ] do	Son		8
	Walter do		Walter do	Son		5
	George E. do		George E. do	Son		3
	Alfred C do		Alfred C do	Son		2
114	James Conkate	1	James Conkate	Head	Mar	33

General Serv	Essex; Little Wymondley
Gardener & Serv	Essex; Eastwood
Scholar	Essex; Canewdon
Scholar	Essex; Canewdon
Scholar	Essex; Canewdon
Scholar	Essex; Canewdon
Ad Lab	Essex; Canewdon

William and Sarah Higby were the grandparents of Mrs. Lilian (Higby) Garner “Granny Garner” who later lived with them. Lilian’s grandmother was the one who later told Lilian about George Pickingale having a coven and was the witch master of it.

It was probably around the 1860’s, when the Higby family and the Pickingale family came to Canewdon, when Sarah Higby was aware that George Pickingale may had a coven and was the witch master of it. But then again it could have been known earlier as the histories of the earlier Higby shows them in the same places with the earlier Pickingill were.

Also the children of the Higby and the Pickingale were going to school at the same time as shown in the 1871 census.

**~ on the night of the 3rd and 4th of April 1881**

In 1881, William C. and Sarah A. Higby were living in Canewdon, Essex.

William was listed as a Servant.

From the 1881 census of Canewdon:

Cottage

*Name / Relationship / Marital status / Age & Sex / Profession / Birthplace*

William C Higby / Head / Mar / 41 M / Servant / Eastwood Essex

Sarah A Higby / Wife / Mar / 38 F / ----- / Canewdon Do

Walter Higby / Son / 15 M / Laborer / ----- / Do Do

George E Higby / Son / 14 M / Laborer / Do Do

Alfred C Higby / Son / 12 M / Scholar / Do Do

Images of part of the record:

4	Cottage	1	(15)	William C Higby	Head	Mar	41	
				Sarah A Higby	Wife	Mar	38	
				Walter Higby	Son	+	15	
				George E Higby	Son	+	14	
				Alfred C Higby	Son	+	12	

19	Servant	Eastwood Essex
		Canewdon Do
	Laborer	Do Do
	Laborer	Do Do
	Scholar	Do Do

On the same page of the 1881 census was listed George Pickingale and his family.

Image of the page:

The undermentioned Houses are situate within the Boundaries of the										
Page 2]	Civil Parish [or Township] of	City or Municipal Borough of	Municipal Ward of	Parliamentary Borough of	Town or Village or Hamlet of	Urban Sanitary District of	Rural Sanitary District of	Ecclesiastical Parish or District of		
	Canewdon				Canewdon Village		Rochford			
No. of Schedule	ROAD, STREET, &c., and No. or NAME of HOUSE	HOUSES (Inhabited (H), or Building (B))	NAME and Surname of each Person	RELATION to Head of Family	CON-DITION as to Marriage	AGE last Birthday of	Rank, Profession, or OCCUPATION	WHERE BORN		(1) Deaf-and-Dumb (2) Blind (3) Imbecile or Idiot (4) Lunatic
A	Cottage	1	William Higby	Head	Mar	44	Servant	Canewdon Essex		
			Isabella Higby	Wife	Mar	36		Canewdon Do		
			William Higby	Son	+	16	Laborer	Do Do		
			George Higby	Son	+	14	Laborer	Do Do		
			Alfred C. Higby	Son	+	12	Scholar	Do Do		
B	Cottage	1	Mr. Brian Whitwell	Head	Mar	44	Sea Captain	Rochford Essex		
			Frances Whitwell	Wife	Mar	38		Canewdon Do		
			Edgar Whitwell	Son	+	8	Scholar	Do Do		
			George Whitwell	Son	+	3	Scholar	Do Do		
C	Mill House	1	Harriet Afford	Head	W+	73		Ingateshore Essex		
			John W. Afford	Nephew	+	15		Canewdon Do		
			William C. Whitwell		+	7	Servant	Do Do		
D	Cottage	1	George Pickings	Head	Mar	62	Laborer	Rochley Essex		
			Maria Pickings	Wife	Mar	50		Tilbury Do		
			Mark Pickings	Son	+	17	Scholar	Canewdon Do		
			George Pickings	Son	+	13				
E	Cottage	1	Susan Lawrence	Head	W+	64	Wine Distiller	Canewdon Do		
Total of Houses...		5	Total of Males and Females...			9	8			

NOTE.—Draw the pen through such of the words of the headings as are inappropriate.

## ~ 1 August 1889

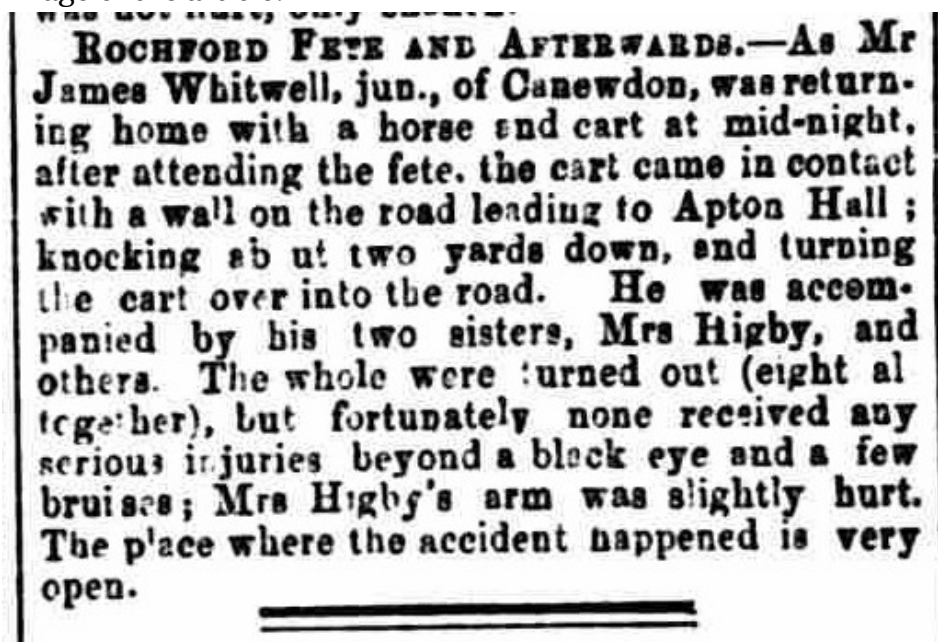
Mrs. Higby and others were thrown off of James Whitwell's cart at midnight when returning from Rochford to Canewdon one evening.

From the newspaper, Southend Standard and Essex Weekly Advertiser, Thursday 1 August 1889:

### CANEWDON.

ROCHFORD FETE AND AFTERWARDS. --- As Mr James Whitwell, jun., of Canewdon, was returning home with a horse and cart at mid-night, after attending the fete, the cart came in contact with a wall on the road leading to Apton Hall; knocking about two yards down, and turning the cart over into the road. He was accompanied by his two sisters, Mrs Higby, and others. The whole were turned out (eight altogether), but fortunately none received any serious injuries beyond a black eye and a few bruises; Mrs Higby's arm was slightly hurt. The place where the accident happened is very open.

Image of the article:



## ~ on the night of the 5th and 6th of April 1891

In 1891, William Charles and Sarah Ann Higby were living in the Old School House in Canewdon, Essex.

William was listed as a Coach man.

From the 1891 census of Canewdon:

Old School House

4 - Number of rooms occupied if less than five

*Name / Relationship / Marital status / Age & Sex / Profession / Birthplace*

William Charls Higby / Head / M / 52 M / Coach Man Domestic Servant - Employed / Essex Eastwood

Sarah Ann Higby / Wife / M / 48 F / ----- / Essex Canewdon

George Ernest Higby / Son / Single / 24 M / Agricultural labourer - Employed / Essex Canewdon

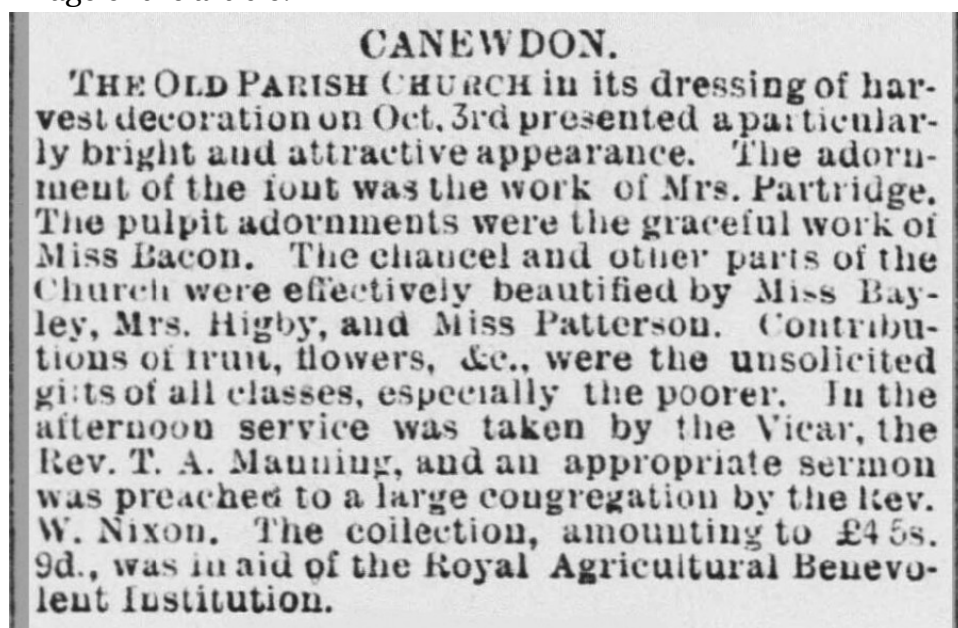
Images of the record:

3	Old School House	William Charles Higby	Head	M	52	M	Essex
		Sarah Ann Higby	Wife	M	48	F	Essex
		George Ernest Higby	Son	Single	24	M	Essex





Image of the article:



## ~ on the night of the 31st of March and the 1st of April 1901

In 1901, William C. and Sarah A. Higby were living at 1 High Street in Canewdon, Essex. William was a gardener.

From the 1901 census of Canewdon:

1 High St

4 - Number of Rooms occupied if less than five

Name / Relationship / Marital status / Age & Sex / Profession / Birthplace

William C. Higby / Head / M / 62 M / Gardener (not domestic) - Worker / Essex Eastwood

Sarah A do / Wife / M / 58 F / ----- / do Canewdon

Images of the record:

16 High St	1	4	Elizabeth Rose	Victor	11	66
2 do	1	4	William C. Higby	Head	62	67
3 do	1	4	Sarah A do	Wife	58	58
4 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
5 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
6 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
7 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
8 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
9 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
10 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
11 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
12 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
13 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
14 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
15 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
16 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
17 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
18 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
19 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
20 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
21 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
22 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
23 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
24 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
25 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
26 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
27 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
28 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
29 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
30 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
31 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
32 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
33 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
34 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
35 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
36 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
37 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
38 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
39 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
40 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
41 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
42 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
43 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
44 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
45 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
46 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
47 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
48 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
49 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
50 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
51 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
52 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
53 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
54 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
55 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
56 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
57 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
58 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
59 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
60 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
61 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
62 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
63 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
64 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
65 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
66 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
67 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
68 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
69 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
70 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
71 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
72 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
73 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
74 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
75 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
76 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
77 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
78 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
79 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
80 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
81 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
82 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
83 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
84 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
85 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
86 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
87 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
88 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
89 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
90 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
91 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
92 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
93 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
94 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
95 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
96 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
97 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
98 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
99 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66
100 do	1	4	John Rose	son	11	66

## **~ 24 October 1903**

Mrs. Higby was involved in the decorating the church for the Harvest Festival's Thanksgiving service in Canewdon, Essex.

From the newspaper, Grays & Tilbury Gazette, Saturday 24 October 1903:

### **CANEWDON.**

#### **Harvest Festival at the Parish Church**

--- The Thanksgiving Services were held here on Sunday and were heartily rendered, especially in the evening, when the spacious old Church was well filled. The musical part of the service showed great and continued improvement in the Village Choir of men and boys under the tuition of Mrs. Hardy and they were fortunate in having Mr. Brook, the organist of Ashingdon Church, at the organ. As usual, the decoration were noted for chasteness and good taste rather than profusion, for which much credit is due to Mrs. Hardy, Mrs. F. Hallett, Mrs. Higby and the Misses Hallett Guiver and Pickworth. In the evening, the Vicar gave from Ruth ii., 4, an eloquent impassioned address. He spoke of Boaz as a successful man and the type of a good farmer who lived some 1,300 years before Christ. He contrasted his salutation to his men on entering the harvest field "The Lord be with you" and the reply of his men to him "The Lord bless thee" with much of the language used in our villages to-day. He showed how the promise of God that "Seedtime and harvest should never cease" was literally fulfilled year by year, for the sound of the reaper (or reaping machine) was in some part of the world being heard every day all the year round and if in one part of the world the crops might not be plentiful, yet there was always an abundance to be obtained. Pointing out how everything in the world. everything they used and could see in their daily life came out of the land directly or indirectly he showed how much they all had to be thankful for in addition to the harvest of corn. Referring to the lax way in which God's Day was kept, he said they could not expect His blessing on the labour if they neglected to honour His Sabbath, for as God said "Those who honour me I will honour". The offertories (36s.) were devoted equally to the Roval Agricultural Society and the Victoria Hospital.

## **~ 1908**

The first automobile rolls into Canewdon, Essex.

More about this event in the history on the granddaughter Lilian May Higby.

## **~ 22 October 1908**

Mrs. Higby and Miss Lillian Higby were some of the ladies involved in decorating the church for the Harvest Festival Thanksgiving service.

From the newspaper, Southend Standard and Essex Weekly Advertiser, Thursday 22 October 1908:

## CANEWDON.

THE CHURCH RESTORATION. --- The annual harvest thanksgiving services were held in the Parish Church on Sunday. For some weeks past another stage of the restoration of this beautiful and historic building has been in progress. The inner ceiling to the roof of the nave has been removed revealing a mass of beautiful timber, bearing indisputable signs of being as old as the tower itself. i.e., dating from 1464. The removal of this ceiling brought to light several defects in the roof. All the tiles were removed, and the roof has been put into a thoroughly safe and water tight condition. All this has been efficiently done by Messrs. Kemp and Allen, of Rochford, under the watchful eye of the Vicar (Rev. C. R. W. Hardy). For the festival, the sacred edifice had been beautifully decorated by Mrs. Hardy, who undertook the altar and communion rails; Mrs. Reeve, the choir stalls; the Misses Guiver, the pulpit; Mrs. Higby and Miss Lillian Higby, the font, lectern, pillars and window recesses. There were large congregations. The Vicar prefaced his sermon in the morning by alluding to the lateness of the festival, owing to the work of restoration. But it gave them the opportunity of meeting on what they might say was the birthday of the parish of Canewdon. On that day 892 years ago, between the spot where they were worshipping, and a radius of two or three miles, was fought what was known as the battle of Ashingdon, in which the able, but heathen Canute defeated Edmund Ironsides and became King of England. From this monarch the parish took its name.

## ~ 1911

In 1911, William Charles and Sarah Ann Higby, were living in Canewdon, Essex.

William was listed as an Old-Age Pensioner.

Their granddaughter, Lilian Higby, was living with them.

From the 1911 census of Canewdon:

No. of Schedule - 85

Postal Address - Near Church Canewdon Rochford Essex

Number of Rooms in this Dwelling - 4.

Signature - M<sup>r</sup> Higby

*Name / Relationship / Age & Sex / Marital status / Years Married / Children born alive / Children living / Children died / Profession / Birthplace / Nationality*

William Charles Higby / Head / 72 M / Married / - / - / - / - / Old Age Pensioner / Essex Eastwood

Sarah-Ann Higby / Wife / 68 F / Married / 49 / 5 / 4 / 1 / ----- / Essex Canewdon

Lilian Higby / granddaughter / 20 F / Single / - / - / - / - / ----- / India - Barrapour  
- Resident Brit Sub by parentage

Image of parts of the record:

	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
1	William Charles Higby	Wife	72		Married					Old Age Pension 36/
2	Sarah Ann Higby	Wife		68	Married	49	5	4	1	
3	Lilian Higby	Daughter		20	Single					
4										

14.	15.	1
Wes - Eastwood		
Wes - Canewdon		
Lina - Canewdon	70/6	Girl Sub
Reverend	by parentage	

### ~ 10 February 1914

William Higby was one of those present at the marriage of her granddaughter, Lilian Higby with Joseph Henry Garner, on February 10, 1914 at the Register Office in Rochford Essex.

William left his mark "X" when he signed the marriage certificate.

### ~ before or on 1916

There is an interesting story that mentioned Mrs. Higby.

To narrow down the date of when the event occurred, we know that Rev. Hardy was the vicar of Canewdon from 1900 to 1924. Then we know that John William Taylor (Jack Taylor) got married in 1916.

So the event happened in or before 1916 as the story mentioned that Jack was courting one of the maids.

From the book, Canewdon, The Bewitching History and Tales:

page 38 to 39

"A story of Reverend Hardy's time is that of Jack Taylor who was courting one of the maids at the Vicarage. Every evening the Vicar went out with his dog, always at the same time, and Jack would wait and go in for a bite of supper with the girls.

One night the Vicar came back early and the maids sent Jack upstairs so that he would not be caught.

Jack decided to jump out of a bedroom window, but while deciding where best to jump, he spotted someone hiding and listening in the bushes. First he threw a ewerful of cold water down and the listener ran off soaking wet, then he jumped down and got away.

It was thought that the listener was Mrs. Higby of Vicarage Cottage who had found out about the suppers and was hoping to hear some fun when Jack was caught  
Jack Taylor later became Churchwarden for many years and is still well thought of."

## ~ 1921

In 1921, William Charles and Sarah Ann Higby were living in Church Cottage in Canewdon, Essex.

Their great-granddaughter Josephine Garner was living with them.

From the 1921 census of Canewdon:

No. of Schedule: 161.

No. of Rooms: 4

Signature: W<sup>m</sup> Charles Higby his X mark

Postal Address: William Charles Higby Church Cottage

Name / Relationship / Age, Years - Months / Sex / Marital status / Birthplace /  
Attending school ? /

William Charles Higby / Head / 82 - 8 / M / Married / Eastwood Essex / ----- /

Sarah Ann Higby / Wife / 79 - 2 / F / Married / Canewdon Essex / ----- /

Josephine May [Xnez?] Garner / Grand-daughter / 7 - 1 / F / ~~Single~~ both (parents) alive  
/ Canewdon Essex / wholetime /

Image of the record:

	(a)	(b)	(c) years, months	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)
1	William Charles Higby	Head	82 8	M	Married	Eastwood Essex		
2	Sarah Ann Higby	Wife	79 2	F	Married	Canewdon Essex		
3	Josephine May Xnez Garner	Grand-daughter	7 1	F	Single with child	Canewdon Essex		Wholetime
4								

## ~ 17 July 1926

William C. Higby died at the age of 87 years on 17 July 1926 in Canewdon, Essex and was buried 21 July 1926 in the churchyard of St. Nicholas in Canewdon.

From the England and Wales, Death Index:

*Name / Death Registration Date / District / County / Vol. / Page*

William C Higby / Jul-Aug-Sep 1926 / 87 / Rochford /Essex / 4a / 513

From the diary of James Benson Outten:

“Mr.. W Higby died on July 17 1926 buried on a wednesday th 21 aged 89 ye”.

From the parish register of St. Nicholas, Canewdon:

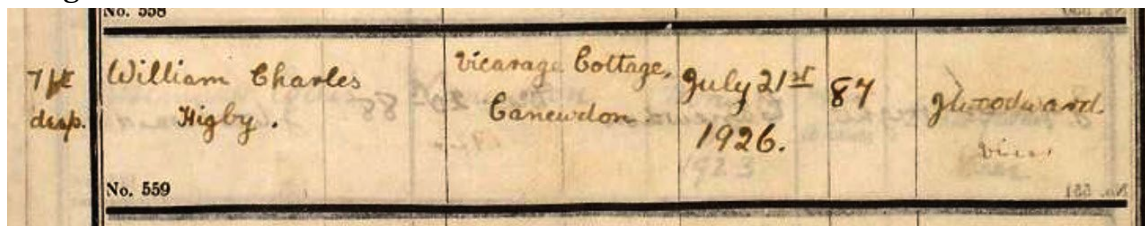
Image 39 left side

Burials 1926 - Page 70 No. 559

*Name. / Abode. / When buried. / Age. / By whom the Ceremony was performed.*

William Charles Higby. / Vicarage Cottage, Canewdon / July 21<sup>st</sup> 1926. / 87 / J Woodward vicar

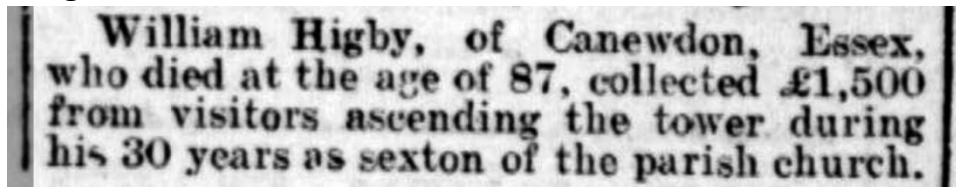
Image of the record:



From the newspaper, Evening News, Saturday 24 July 1926:

William Higby, of Canewdon, Essex, who died at the age of 87, collected £1,500 from visitors ascending the tower during his 30 years as sexton of the parish church.

Image of the article:



## ~ 1 June 1930

Sarah A. Higby died at the age of 88 years on 1 June 1930 in Canewdon, Essex and was buried on 5 June 1930 in the churchyard of St. Nicholas in Canewdon.



From the England and Wales, Death Index:

*Name / Death Registration Date / Age / District / County / Vol. / Page*

Sarah A. Higby / Apr-May-Jun 1930 / 88 / Rochford / Essex / 4a / 640

From the diary of James Benson Outten:

"1 of June very Early old Mr<sup>s</sup> Higby died was 88 years old & was buried at Canewdon on the 5".

From the parish register of St. Nicholas, Canewdon:

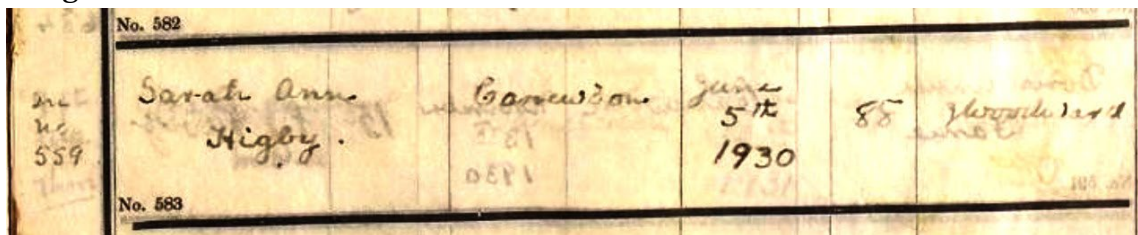
Image 40 right side

Burials 1930 - Page 73 No. 583

*Name. / Abode. / When buried. / Age. / By whom the Ceremony was performed.*

Sarah Ann Higby. / Canewdon / June 5<sup>th</sup> 1930 / 88 / J Woodward

Image of the record:

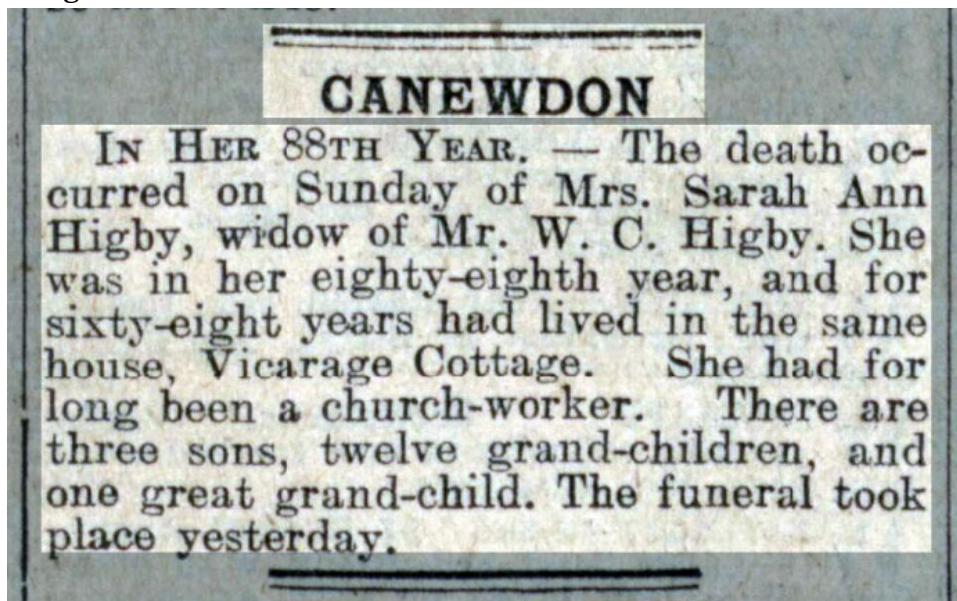


From the newspaper, Chelmsford Chronicle, Friday 06 June 1930:

### **CANEWDON**

In Her 88th Year. --- The death occurred on Sunday of Mrs. Sarah Ann Higby, widow of Mr. W. C. Higby. She was in her eighty-eighth year, and for sixty-eight years had lived in the same house, Vicarage Cottage. She had for long been a church-worker. There are three sons, twelve grand-children, and one great grand-child. The funeral took place yesterday.

Image of the article:



As mentioned above, William and Sarah Higby are buried in the churchyard of St. Nicholas in Canewdon, Essex.





The above picture shows the Higby and Garner burial plots near the side of St. Nicholas church in Canewdon.

From the information on the stone in the Higby burial plot in the churchyard:

**In Ever Loving Memory  
of  
WILLIAM CHARLES HIGBY,  
WHO PASSED AWAY JULY 17<sup>TH</sup> 1926  
AGED 88 YEARS.  
“JUST AS I AM O LAMB GOD I COME.”  
ALSO OF HIS BE(LOV)ED (WIFE),  
SARAH ANN  
WHO PASSED AWA(Y) (JU)NE (1)<sup>ST</sup> 193(0) (AG)ED 8(8) YEARS**



## Children of William Charles and Sarah Ann (Summers) Higby

12. **WILLIAM SUMMERS HIGBY** was born in 1863 in Canewdon, Essex.

William married Eliza Graves.

13. + **WALTER HIGBY** was born in 1865 in Canewdon, Essex.

Walter married 1st. Lucy Scerri and 2nd. Susan A. Upham.

14. **GEORGE ERNEST HIGBY** was born in 1867 in Canewdon, Essex.

George married Sarah Jane Stubbs.

15. **ALFRED CHARLES HIGBY** was born in 1869 in Canewdon, Essex.

Alfred married ---?--- ---?--- .

### Sources:

1. 1838 Birth of William Charles Higby in the index. Civil Registration Index, 4th Quarter (Oct-Nov-Dec), Year 1838, District Rochford, County Essex, Volume 12, Page 163. Searched July 19, 2009 Sunday 8:12 PM.
2. 1838 baptism of William Charles Higby. Hadleigh, St. James the Less, D/P 303/1/4, Baptisms 1813-1870, 54 images. Essex Record Office online at <https://www.essexarchivesonline.co.uk>. Image 25 right side, Baptisms 1838, page 45, no. 353. Searched on April 24, 2025 Thursday 9:31 PM.
3. 1841 census of England, Essex, Hockley, ALL, District 5, image no. 6, online at Ancestry.com. Public Record Office reference: HO 107/337/11, original page no. 10, stamped page no. 29. Household of Wm Higby. Searched on December 18, 2008 Thursday 3:46 PM and rechecked on April 20, 2025 Sunday 9:18 PM.
4. 1851 census of England, Essex, Hockley, ALL, 2c, image no. 4, online at Ancestry.com. Public Record Office reference: H.O. 107/1777, original page no. 3. No. of Householder's Schedule 12, household of William Higby. Searched on December 18, 2008 Thursday 3:52 PM and rechecked on April 20, 2025 Sunday 9:36 PM.
5. 1861 census of England, Essex, Hawkwell, ALL, District 4, Image Nos. 18 and 19, online at Ancestry.com. Public Record Office reference: R.G. 9 1085, original page nos. 12 & 13, stamped page no. 66. No. of Schedule 64, William Higby and Sarah Summers in the household of Samuel Baker. Searched on December 18, 2008 Thursday 3:59 PM and rechecked on April 28, 2025 Monday 1:07 AM.
6. 1861 marriage of William Higby and Sarah Summers in the index. Civil Registration Index, online at Ancestry.com. Date: 3rd Quarter (Jul-Aug-Sep) 1861; District: Rochford; County: Essex; Vol.: 4a; Page: 209. Searched on December 16, 2008 Tuesday 7:30 PM.

7. 1861 marriage of William Higby and Sarah Summers. Hawkwell, St. Mary the Virgin, D/P 217/1/11, Marriages 1837-1958, 250 images. Essex Record Office online at <https://www.essexarchivesonline.co.uk>. Image 35, Marriages 1861, Page 33. No. 66. Searched on April 29, 2025 Tuesday 11:41 PM.
8. 1871 census of England, Essex, Canewdon, ALL, 6, image no. 24, online at Ancestry.com. Public Record Office reference: R.G. 10 16[6]9, original page no. 23, stamped page no. 87. No. of Schedule 113, household of William Higby. Searched on December 17, 2008 Wednesday 2:34 PM and rechecked on April 30, 2025 Wednesday 12:22 AM.
9. 1881 census of England, Essex, Canewdon, ALL, District 6, image no. 3, online at Ancestry.com. Public Record Office reference RG 11/1771, original page no. 2. No. of Schedule 4, household of William C Higby. First found on February 21, 2008 Thursday 11:53 AM. Rechecked on May 10, 2015 Sunday 8:17 PM and image added on April 4, 2025 Friday 12:19 AM.
10. 1889 Mrs. Higby thrown off a cart. Southend Standard and Essex Weekly Advertiser, Thursday 01 August 1889, page 2. British Newspaper Archive, online at [www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk](http://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk). Searched on May 3, 2025 Saturday 8:14 PM.
11. 1891 census of England, Essex, Canewdon, ALL, District 6, Image No. 2, online at Ancestry.com. Public Record Office reference: RG 12/1393, original page no. 1, stamped page no. 65. No. of Schedule 3, household of William Charls Higby. Searched on December 16, 2008 Tuesday 7:20 PM and rechecked on May 1, 2025 Thursday 8:40 PM.
12. 1897 Mrs. Higby involved in decorating the church for the Harvest celebration. Chelmsford Chronicle, Friday 15 October 1897, page 7. British Newspaper Archive, online at [www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk](http://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk). Searched on May 3, 2025 Saturday 10:32 PM.
13. 1901 census of England, Essex, Canewdon, ALL, District 5, image no. 4, online at Ancestry.com. Public Record Office reference: RG 13 / 1684, original page no. 3, stamped page no. 62. No. of Schedule 16, household of William C. Higby. Searched on December 17, 2008 Wednesday 3:17 PM and rechecked on May 1, 2025 Thursday 9:37 PM.
14. 1903 Mrs. Higby was involved in the decorating the church for the Harvest Festival's Thanksgiving service. Grays & Tilbury Gazette, Saturday 24 October 1903, page 4. British Newspaper Archive, online at [www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk](http://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk). Searched on May 3, 2025 Saturday 9:33 PM.
15. 1908 Mrs. Higby and Miss Lillian Higby mentioned in a church event. Southend Standard and Essex Weekly Advertiser. Thursday 22 October 1908, page 4. British Newspaper Archive, online at [www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk](http://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk). Searched on March 27, 2025 Thursday 8:29 PM.
16. 1911 census of England, Essex, Canewdon, No. of Schedule 85, Household of William Charles Higby. <http://www.1911census.co.uk>. January 17, 2009 Saturday 2:55 PM.
17. 1911 census of England and Wales, online at Ancestry.com. Essex, Canewdon, ALL, 11, images no. 170 and 171. No. of Registration District - 195; No. of Registration Sub-District - 1; No. of Enumeration District - 11. Household of William Charles Higby. Rechecked on March 30, 2025 Sunday 1:27 AM.
18. 1914 Marriage Certificate of Lilian May Higby and Joseph Henry Garner. From the General Register Office, Southport, Merseyside, England. Received on December 1, 2009 Tuesday 10:00 AM.
19. before 1916 Mrs. Higby mentioned in a situation that happened. From the book, Canewdon, The Bewitching History and Tales by Sibyl M. Webster, 2005. Page 38 to 39. From my own copy of the book, April 18, 2015 Friday 10:30 PM.
20. 1921 census of England, Essex, Rochford, 01, 17, image nos. 161 and 162, online at Ancestry.com. Registration District: Rochford; Registration Sub-District: Rochford; Enumeration District: 17. No. of Schedule: 161, household of William Charles Higby. Searched on May 1, 2025 Thursday 10:38 PM.

21. 1926 Death of William C. Higby in the index. Civil Registration Index, online at [www.findmypast.com](http://www.findmypast.com). Age: 87; Date: 3rd Quarter (Jul-Aug-Sep); Year: 1926; District: Rochford; County: Essex; Vol.: 4a; Page: 513. Searched on June 6, 2009 Saturday 6:53 PM.
22. 1926 Death of William Higby. Diary of James Benson Outten of Canewdon, Essex, 1860's to early 1930's. From the Essex Record Office, Wharf Road, Chelmsford, Essex, UK. Received on June 5, 2009 Friday morning.
23. 1926 burial of William Charles Higby. Canewdon, St. Nicholas, D/P 219/1/11, Burials 1859-1961, 66 images. Essex Record Office online at <https://www.essexarchivesonline.co.uk>. Image 39 left side, Burials 1926, page 70, no. 559. Searched on May 2, 2025 Friday 9:28 AM.
24. 1926 death notice of William Higby in the newspaper. Evening News (London), Saturday 24 July 1926, page 10. British Newspaper Archive, online at [www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk](http://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk). Searched on April 18, 2025 Friday 9:41 PM.
25. 1930 Death of Sarah A. Higby in the Index. Civil Registration Index online at [www.freebmd.org.uk](http://www.freebmd.org.uk). Age: 88; Date: 2nd Quarter (Apr-May-Jun); Year: 1930; District: Rochford; County: Essex; Vol.: 4a; Page: 640. Searched on June 6, 2009 Saturday 7:09 PM.
26. 1929 or 1930 Death of Sarah Ann Higby. Diary of James Benson Outten of Canewdon, Essex, 1860's to early 1930's. From the Essex Record Office, Wharf Road, Chelmsford, Essex, UK. Received on June 5, 2009 Friday morning.
27. 1930 burial of Sarah Ann Higby. Canewdon, St. Nicholas, D/P 219/1/11, Burials 1859-1961, 66 images. Essex Record Office online at <https://www.essexarchivesonline.co.uk>. Image 40 right side, Burials 1930, page 73, no. 583. Searched on May 2, 2025 Friday 9:28 AM.
28. 1930 death notice of Sarah Ann Higby in the newspaper. Chelmsford Chronicle, Friday 06 June 1930, page 9. British Newspaper Archive, online at [www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk](http://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk). Searched on April 18, 2025 9:18 Friday PM.
29. Photographs of the Higby Family Plot in the churchyard of Canewdon, Essex. From Paul Cooper's collection of family photographs. William Charles and Sarah Ann Higby. Digital Photographs attached to email dated Sunday, December 6, 2009, 1:18 PM.



#### 4th Generation

## Walter Higby ( 1865 - 1948 )

Husband of 1st to Lucy Scerri and 2nd to Susan Upham

13. **WALTER HIGBY** was born on 22 April 1865 in Canewdon, Essex and was baptized on 21 May 1865 in St. Nicholas church in Canewdon.

Father: William Charles Higby (No. 6)

Mother: Sarah Ann Summers

### ~ 1865

From the England and Wales, Birth Index:

*Name / Birth Registration Date / District / County / Vol. / Page*

Walter Higby / Apr-May-Jun 1865 / Rochford / Essex / 4a / 198

The birthdate came from the 1939 Register.

From the parish register of St. Nicholas, Canewdon:

Image 21 right side

Baptisms 1865 - Page 37 No. 292

*When Baptized. / Child's name. / Parents' Names. / Surname. / Abode. / Profession. /  
By whom the Ceremony was performed.*

Mat 21<sup>st</sup> / Walter Son of / William and Sarah / Higby / Canewdon / Servant / Geo.  
Heath Vicar

Image of the record:



## ~ on the night of the 2nd and 3rd of April 1871

In 1871, Walter Higby, age 5, a scholar, was living with his parents in Canewdon, Essex.

From the 1871 census of Canewdon:

The Street

Name / Relationship / Marital status / Age & Sex / Profession / Birthplace

William Higby / Head / Mar / 32 M / Gardener & Serv / Essex Eastwood

Sarah Ann do / Wife / Mar / 28 F / ----- / Essex Canewdon

William [ T ] do / Son / ---- / 8 M / Scholar / Essex Canewdon

Walter do / Son / ---- / 5 M / Scholar / Essex Canewdon

George E. do / Son / ---- / 3 M / Scholar / Essex Canewdon

Alfred C do / Son / ---- / 2 M / ----- / Essex Canewdon

Image of the record:

113	Wm Higby	1	William Higby	Head	Mar	32	M	Gardener & Serv	Essex Eastwood
			Sarah Ann do	Wife	Mar	28	F		Essex Canewdon
			William [ T ] do	Son	----	8	M	Scholar	Essex Canewdon
			Walter do	Son	----	5	M	Scholar	Essex Canewdon
			George E. do	Son	----	3	M	Scholar	Essex Canewdon
			Alfred C do	Son	----	2	M		Essex Canewdon
114	do	1	James Wright	Head	Mar	33	M		

General Serv	Essex; Little Wymondley
Gardener & Serv	Essex; Eastwood
Scholar	Essex; Canewdon
Scholar	Essex; Canewdon
Scholar	Essex; Canewdon
Scholar	Essex; Canewdon
Scholar	Essex; Canewdon
Ad Lab	Essex; Canewdon

The family of George and Mary Ann Pickingale moved from Eastwood, Essex to Canewdon, Essex in the period between 1864 and 1867.

From that time the Higby family would have gotten to know them. George Pickingale probably known Walter Higby's grand uncle John Higby while he was in Eastwood, Essex. In the 1871 census we can see that Walter Higby and his brothers where in school and when looking at the same for the Pickingale family, the children were going to school too.

So the children would of have known each other too. When they grew up they were labourers probably working at same places sometime.

### ~ on the night of the 3rd and 4th of April 1881

In 1881, Walter Higby, age 15, a laborer, was living with his parents in Canewdon, Essex.

From the 1881 census of Canewdon:

Cottage

*Name / Relationship / Marital status / Age & Sex / Profession / Birthplace*

William C Higby / Head / Mar / 41 M / Servant / Eastwood Essex

Sarah A Higby / Wife / Mar / 38 F / ----- / Canewdon Do

Walter Higby / Son / 15 M / Laborer / ----- / Do Do

George E Higby / Son / 14 M / Laborer / Do Do

Alfred C Higby / Son / 12 M / Scholar / Do Do

Images of part of the record:

			(18)					
4	Cottage	1	William C Higby	Head	Mar	41		
			Sarah A Higby	Wife	Mar	38		
			Walter Higby	Son	+	15		
			George E Higby	Son	+	14		
			Alfred C Higby	Son	+	12		

1911	Levant	Eastwood Essex	
		Barrowdon Do	
	Laborer	Do	Do
	Laborer	Do	Do
	Scholar	Do	Do

## On the island of Malta

~ by 1888

Walter Higby was stationed on the island of Malta. Walter was a Corporal in the Royal Artillery in the British Army.



Picture of Lucy (Scerri) Higby

### ~ **January 1888**

Walter Higby married **LUCY SCERRI** on January 16 and 21, 1888 on the island of Malta.

From the Marriages Recorded by Military Chaplains in Malta:

HIGBY, Walter, 22 years, bachelor, Corporal, Royal Artillery, from Canewdon, Essex, married 21st January 1888 to

TYLER, Lucy, 22 years, widow.

From the Methodist Marriages by the Army:

HIGBY, Walter, bachelor, aged 22 years, of Canewdon, Essex, Corporal, Royal Artillery, married 21st January 1888, to TYLER, Lucy, widow, aged 22 years, of 134 Prince of Wales Road, Sliema.

From the Mixed Marriages of Malta:

Walter HIGBY, 21+, to Lucy TYLER, 21+, widow, nee SCERRI, 16th January 1888, celebrated by Methodist clergy

### **~ also in 1888**

From the Malta Directory for 1888:

Mrs Lucy and Corporal Walter HIGBY, Royal Artillery

Mrs Lucy TYLER, 134 Prince of Wales Road, Sliema

### **~ more about Lucy Scerri**

Lucy Tyler / Taylor was a widow when she married Walter Higby in 1888.

Checking the earlier records of Malta came up with the first marriage.

Lucardia Xerri married Arthur Taylor on 28 August 1883 on the island of Malta.

From the Mixed Marriages of Malta:

Arthur TAYLOR, 29 years, bachelor, son of Joseph Taylor, to Lucardia XERRI, 17 years, spinster, daughter of Vincenti Xerri, 28th August 1883, celebrated by Anglican and Roman Catholic clergy.

The last name Scerri is also spelled Xerri in the earlier records.

She was born ca. 1866 and was a daughter of Vincenti Xerri.

### **~ 1889**

Walter and Lucy had a son, Walter William S. Higby, who was born and died in 1889 on island of Malta.

### **~ between 1889 and 1890**

Walter and Lucy Higby moved from the island of Malta to Barrackpore, Bengal, British India in the period of 1889 to 1890. His unit probably transferred there.



## **In British India**

### **~ 1890**

Walter and Lucy had a daughter, Daisy Ethel A. Higby, born in 1890 in Barrackpore, Bengal, British India.

### **~ 1890**

Walter and Lucy had a daughter, Lilian May Higby, born 18 December 1890 in Barrackpore, Bengal, British India.

### **~ 1891**

Walter and Lucy's daughter, Daisy Ethel A. Higby, died in 1891 in British India.

### **~ 16 May 1891**

Lucy Higby died at the age of 25 on 16 May 1891 in Calcutta, India.

She was buried in the churchyard of St. Patricks Chapel in Fort William, Bengal, India.

From the GRO Army Death Indices, we find:

On page 16 Army Returns. - Deaths. - 1891 to 1895

*Surname. / Name and Age. / Station. / Year. / Page.*

Higby / Lucy. 25 / Calcutta / 1891 / 279

From the India, Deaths and Burials:

*Name / Sex / Age / Death Date / Marital Status / Occupation / Race / Spouse's Name / Event Type / Event Date / Event Place / Event Place (Original) / Cemetery*

Lucy Higby / Female / 25 / 16 May 1891 / Married / Wife / White / Higby Sergt. R.a. / Burial / 17 May 1891 / Fort William, West Bengal, India / Fort William, Bengal, India / Cemetery Attached To St. Patricks Chapel

### **~ 1894 to 1895**

Walter Higby was a member of the Masonic Lodge of Unity (no. 1698) in Allahabad, India (modern day Prayagraj India).

He was initiated in this lodge on 1 July 1894.

Walter Higby was listed as a Sergeant and resided in Allahabad.

It also stated that Walter Higby was from Lodge no. 486 before he joined this one.

From the United Grand Lodge of England:

Image 466

Page 129

Lodge of Unity - Allahabad

Nº. 1698 Continued

Date of Initiation. / Passing. / Raising. / Surname. / Christian Name. / Age. /  
Residence. / Profession. / Certificates. /

1894 July 1 / from / 486 / Higby / Walter / 29 / Allahabad / Sergeant / ----- /  
(payment history)

1895 / M. --- / J. 2-6 / S. --- / D. --- /

Image of part of the record:

"	do	Feb. 17	do	Roshan	Lal
1894	May	from	1165	Reynolds	Cecil Edward
"	July 1	from	486	Higby	Walter
"	do	from	497	Davidson	William
36	do			Barrister	do
27	do			Captain	—
29	do			Sergeant	—
31	do			—	—

## In England

### ~ 1895

Walter Higby and his daughter Lilian came back to England in 1895.

### ~ in the 3rd quarter 1895

Walter Higby married **SUSAN ANN UPHAM** in the 3rd quarter (Jul-Aug-Sep) of 1895 in the Rochford registration district of Essex.

From the England and Wales, Marriage Index:

Name / Spouse's Name / Marriage Registration Date / District / County / Vol. / Page

Walter Higby / Susan Ann Upham / Jul-Aug-Sep 1895 / Rochford / Essex / 4a / 731

~ 1897

Walter and Susan Higby were in Portsmouth, Hampshire in 1897 where their son Walter was born.

~ on the night of the 31st of March and the 1st of April 1901

In 1901, Walter and Susan Higby were living in Guston, Kent.

Walter Higby is now a Sergeant Major.

From the 1901 census of Guston, Kent:

Broadlees Gro No. 3 B

4 - Number of Rooms occupied if less than five

Name / Relationship / Marital status / Age & Sex / Profession / Birthplace

Walter Higby / Head / M / 35 M / Coy Sergt Major S R. G. A. / S.X. Canewdon

Susan A do / Wife / M / 33 F / ----- / Sussex Blatchendon

Lilian M do / daur. / S / 10 F / school / India Barrackpore

Walter H. V. S. do / son / S / 3 M / do / ----- / Hants. Portsmouth

Note: "Coy" could be Company abbreviated.

Images of the record:

12	Broadlees Gro No 3 B	1				4	Walter Higby	Head	M	35			
							Susan A do	wife	H		33		
							Lilian M do	daur.	S		10		
							Walter H. V. S do	son	S	3			
13	do No 3 C	1				4	Edith Turner	Wife	M		25		

ales		Own account	Home
3	Coy Sergt Major S R. G. A		S. X. Canewdon
			Sussex Blatchendon
	school		India Barrackpore
			Hants Portsmouth

~ 1901 to 1904

Walter Higby joined the Masonic Military Jubilee Lodge (no. 2195) in Dover, Kent.

He was initiated there on 25 April 1901v and resigned from this lodge on 29 February 1904. At the end of the row is the numbers 1341 which could be the lodge he transferred to.

From the United Grand Lodge of England Freemason Membership Registers:

Image 317

Page 300

Military Jubilee Lodge - Dover

Nº. 2195 Cont<sup>d</sup>.

Date of Initiation. / Passing. / Raising. / Surname. / Christian Name. / Age. /  
Residence. / Profession. / Certificates. /

1901 Apl 25 / from / 486 / Higby / Walter / --- / Dover / Co S M / ---- /  
(payment history)

1901 / M. --- / J. 2-6 / S. --- / D. --- /

1902 / M. 2 / J. --- / S. --- / D. --- /

1903 / M. a / J. --- / S. --- / D. --- /

1904 / M. 4 / J. --- / S. --- / D. --- /

Res'd. 29 Feby. 1904 / 1341

Image of part of the record:

DATE OF INITIATION.	PASSING.	RAISING.	SURNAME.	CHRISTIAN NAME.	AGE.	RESIDENCE.	PROFESSION.	CERTIFI- CATES.
1901 May 23 from 1901 25 Apr 21		1500 Wille 1486 Higby 153		George Walter Higby	- -	Sherwood Dover	R.M. C.S.M. U.R.L.	---

## ~ 1 December 1903

The Royal Garrison Artillery (R. G. A.) held a Sergeants' Mess Games Club at Victoria Barracks. Q. M. Sergt. Higby was in a billiard tournament there.

From the newspaper, Overland China Mail, Tuesday 1 December 1903:

### Entertainment at Victoria Barracks.

"The R. G. A. Sergeants' Mess Games Club held a social evening on Nov. 21, at Victoria Barracks, at which the members of the Sherwood Foresters Sergeants' Mess were entertained. There were about 100 present, which included friends and representatives from the naval men.

A billiard tournament between the R. G. A. and the Sherwood Foresters resulted in a win for the R. G. A. by 56 points (R. G. A., 494; S. F., 438).

The most exciting game was that between Q. M. Sergt. Higby (R. G. A.) and Sergt. Peacock (S. F.). The game was very even, and when the score stood Higby 98, Peacock

95, the interest shown was intense. Peacock, however, cannoned, and then pocketed the red, thus winning by two points.”

“After supper had been disposed of, the company adjourned to the large room, where the rest of the evening was spent in singing, refreshments being served round continuously.”

## In Hong Kong

### ~ 25 June 1902

On a passenger list dated 25 June 1902, Sgt. W. Higby and his wife and two children sailed from London to Hong Kong on the ship Britannia.

From the UK and Ireland, Outward Passenger Lists:

Schedule B.

Form of Passenger List.

*Ship's Name / Master's Name / Tons per Register / Where bound*

Britannia / F H Seymour / 3413 / Sydney

Date 25 June 1902.

Names and Descriptions of Passengers.

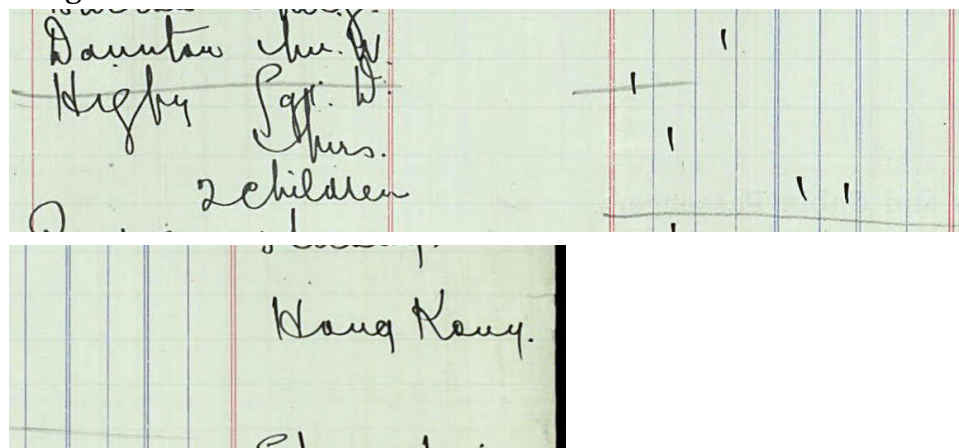
*Port of Embarkation / Names of Passengers / ( details ) / Port at which Passengers have contracted to Land*

London / Higby Sgt. W. / Male - Married / Hong Kong

(London) / ----- Mrs. / Female - Married / (Hong Kong)

(London) / ----- 2 children / 1 Male & 1 Female - Children age between 1 and 12 years / (Hong Kong)

Images of the record:



~ 23 November 1903

Sergeant W. Higby is now part of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps as a Sergeant-Major.

From the newspaper, London and China Telegraph, Monday 23 November 1903:

“Regimental Quartermaster-Sergeant W. Higby, R. G. A., has been appointed Sergeant-Major of the Hong-Kong Volunteer Corps, on probation, vice Seargeant-Major Power.”

~ 1904

Walter Higby was a member of the Masonic Lodge of Perseverance (no. 1165) in Hong Kong in 1904.

From the United Grand Lodge of England Freemason Membership Registers:

Image 246

Page 238

Lodge of Perseverance - Hong Kong.

No. 1165 continue

Date of Initiation. / Passing. / Raising. / Surname. / Christian Name. / Age. /  
Residence. / Profession. / Certificates. /

----- / ----- / ----- / Higby / Walter / --- / Hong Kong /

(payment history)

1904 / M. --- / J. 2-6 / S. --- / D. --- /

Image of part of the record:

			Bottom	W R	do		
			Greenaway	Arthur Williams	do		
			Higley	Keller	do		
1903	Dec 14	Mar 16	Douglas	Robert Stinde	do		

**~ 1904 and 1908**

Walter Higby was a member of the Masonic United Service Lodge (no. 1341) in Hong Kong. He was initiated there on 8 April 1908. There was a payment record for 2nd quarter of 1908.

From the United Grand Lodge of England Freemason Membership Registers:

Image 580

Page 246

United Service Lodge - Hong Kong

N<sup>o</sup>. 1341 Continued



Date of Initiation. / Passing. / Raising. / Surname. / Christian Name. / Age. /  
Residence. / Profession. / Certificates. /

1904 Apr. 8 / from / 2195 / Higby / Walter / full / ----- / Serg<sup>t</sup> Major H. K. W. / ---- /  
(payment records)

1908 / M. --- / J. 2-6 / S. --- / D. --- /

Ret<sup>n</sup>. 1904 c/o 30-11-04

Image of part of the record:

1903 Feb. 7	from	598	Minton	Walter	Higby	Sergt. Major H. K. W.	—
1904 Apr. 8	"	2195	Higby	Walter	Higby	Sergt. Major H. K. W.	—
1908 Feb. 8	from	2195	Higby	Higby	Higby	Sergt. Major H. K. W.	—

## ~ 23 July 1907

Corps Sergeant-Major W. Higby was praised for the excellent turn out of the men and their drill.

From the newspaper, Overland China Mail, Tuesday 23 July 1907:

### **THE VOLUNTEERS.**

Report For 1906-7.

(long article of many items, not transcribed here)

“The Annual Inspection of the Corps was carried out on Mach [sic] 23, 1907, by His Excellency Major-General R. G. Broadwood, C. B., Commanding the Troops, South China, who expressed satisfaction with the turn out of the men and their drill.

Corps Sergeant-Major W. Higby and Staff Armourer G. W. Avenell have done their work excellently.”

## ~ 6 July 1909

Sergt.-Major Higby left the Colony on 13th January, 1909, on leave of absence.

From the newspaper, Overland China Mail, Tuesday 6 July 1909:

### **HONGKONG VOLUNTEER CORPS.**

(long article on many items, not transcribed here)

“Since Sergt.-Major Higby left the Colony on 13th January, 1909, on leave of absence, the duties of Corps Sergt.-Major have been very ably performed by Staff-Armourer G. W. Avenell in addition to his ordinary work.”

## **~ 15 February 1910**

Sergt. Major W. Higby was in charge at the firing points in a shooting event.

From the newspaper, Overland China Mail, Tuesday 15 February 1910:

### **SPORTING.**

#### **Shooting.**

##### **TAIKOO VOLUNTEER CHALLENGE CUP.**

The third annual competition for the above mentioned Cup took place on Friday at the King's Park Range. Kowloon. The Cup is a very handsome one, made of English silver and mounted on a blackwood stand, which is surrounded with small shields on which the winner's name is inscribed each year.

(long article, not transcribed here)

"Lieut. Colonel A. Chapman, V. D., kindly acted as Umpire; Sergt. Major W. Higby was in charge at the firing points, and was assisted by Sergt. Wallis, Gunner Evans and Private Campbell."

## **~ 8 November 1910**

Walter Higby in a play at the Hongkong Volunteers Drill Hall.

From the newspaper, Overland China Mail, Tuesday 8 November 1910:

### **MINISTERING CHILDREN'S LEAGUE.**

"The annual bazaar and fancy fete held on October 29 on the parade ground of the Hongkong Volunteers in aid of the Ministering Children's League was very successful. ..."

(many names mentioned, not transcribed here)

"During the afternoon a children's play entitled "Blue Beard," arranged by Mrs. Tuxford, was given in the Drill Hall.

Those taking part were :---

Bluebeard ... .. Master Walter Higby..."

## **~ 14 November 1910**

Sergt.-Major Higby presided over a largely attended smoking concert.

From the newspaper, London and China Telegraph, Monday 14 November 1910:

### **HONG KONG.**

"Sergt.-Major Higby presided over a largely attended smoking concert at Volunteer headquarters, when Sir Henry May presented long service medals to three volunteers, including Capt. W. Nicholson."

## **~ 11 March 1913**

The Hongkong Volunteer Corps had the annual dinner at the headquarters. Regimental Sergeant-Major Walter Higby was in charge of having it arranged.

From the newspaper, Overland China Mail, 22 March 1913:

Page 10

### **VOLUNTEERS AT DINNER.**

A Pleasant Function.

“The annual dinner given by the Sergeants’ Mess of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps took place at the Volunteer Headquarters on Saturday night when a very large company gathered round the festive board under the genial Chairmanship of Regimental Sergt.-Major Walter Higby.

The appearance of the hall had been entirely transformed by the use of decorative material, there being a copious arrangement of flags and bunting around the walls. A special stage was constructed for the entertainers, and this was prettily banked with palms and flowers.”

(long article of officers present etc. Not transcribed here)

“Regimental Sergt.-Major Higby, in responding, said the Volunteer Sergeants’ Mess was always ready to accord a welcome to visitors. He thanked the company for the enthusiasm with which they had honoured the toast, and also thanked those who had assisted in the musical programme, either as singers or as accompanists. They could not have obtained better talent in the Colony than that which they had listened to. (Applause).”

## **~ 16 October 1916**

Sergt.-Major Higby has been promoted to lieutenant.

From the London and China Telegraph, Monday 16 October 1916:

### **HONGKONG.**

After having been Corps Sergt.-Major of the Hongkong Volunteers since Oct. 16, 1903, Sergt.-Major Higby has now been promoted to the rank of lieutenant. The promotion of the sergeant major will be a very popular one, for he is very well liked by both officers and men of the corps.”

Image of the article:

After having been Corps Sergt.-Major of the Hongkong Volunteers since Oct. 16, 1903, Sergt.-Major Higby has now been promoted to the rank of lieutenant. The promotion of the sergeant major will be a very popular one, for he is very well liked by both officers and men of the corps. Dr. F. H. Kew and Dr. I. W. Kew have been appointed temporary surgeons.

~ 1917

In the 1917 directory of Hongkong, W. Higby is listed in 2 sections.

W. "Higley" was the Right Worshipful Master (R. W. M.), the head of the Masonic Lodge Eastern Scotia No. 923 in Kowloon, Hongkong.

Honorary Lieutenant W. Higby listed as the Quartermaster at the headquarters of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps.

From the 1917 Asia, Directories and Chronicles:

1917

Page 1075

HONGKONG

LODGE EASTERN SCOTIA, 923 S.C., K'loon.

R. W. M. --- W. Higley [sic]

I. P. M. --- L. Brewer

D. P. M. --- D. Harvey

Secretary --- D. K. Blair

Treasurer --- W. C. Robinson

Image of the record:

LODGE EASTERN SCOTIA, 923 S.C., K'loon.  
R. W. M.—W. Higley  
I. P. M.—L. Brewer  
D. P. M.—D. Harvey  
Secretary—D. K. Blair  
Treasurer—W. C. Robinson

From the 1917 Asia, Directories and Chronicles:

1917

Page 1078

HONGKONG

VOLUNTEER CORPS --- Head Quarters, Garden Road  
(among other officers and men listed, not transcribed here)

“Quarter Master --- Hon. Lt. W. Higby”

### **~ 10 May 1917**

Sergeant Major Walter Higby mentioned in the newspaper.

From the newspaper, London and China Telegraph, 10 September 1917:

Page 646

**HONGKONG.**

HONGKONG VOLUNTEER CORPS.

(among other news)

“Corps Sergeant Major Walter Higby (Permanent Staff). --- A great increase of work has fallen on him since the war owing to the expansion of the Corps.”

### **~ 1918**

In the 1918 directory of Hongkong, W. Higby is listed in 2 sections.

W. Higby was the Right Worshipful Master (R. W. M.), the head of the Masonic Lodge Eastern Scotia No. 923 in Kowloon, Hongkong.

Honorary Lieutenant W. Higby listed at the headquarters of the Hongkong Defence Corps.

From the 1918 Asia, Directories and Chronicles:

1918

Page 993

HONGKONG

LODGE EASTERN SCOTIA, 923 S.C., K'loon.

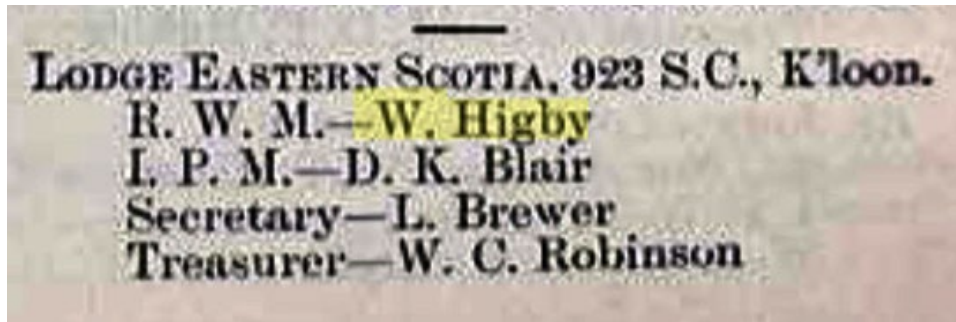
R. W. M. --- W. Higby

I. P. M. --- D. K. Blair

Secretary --- L. Brewer

Treasurer --- W. C. Robinson

Image of the record:



From the 1918 Asia, Directories and Chronicles:

1918

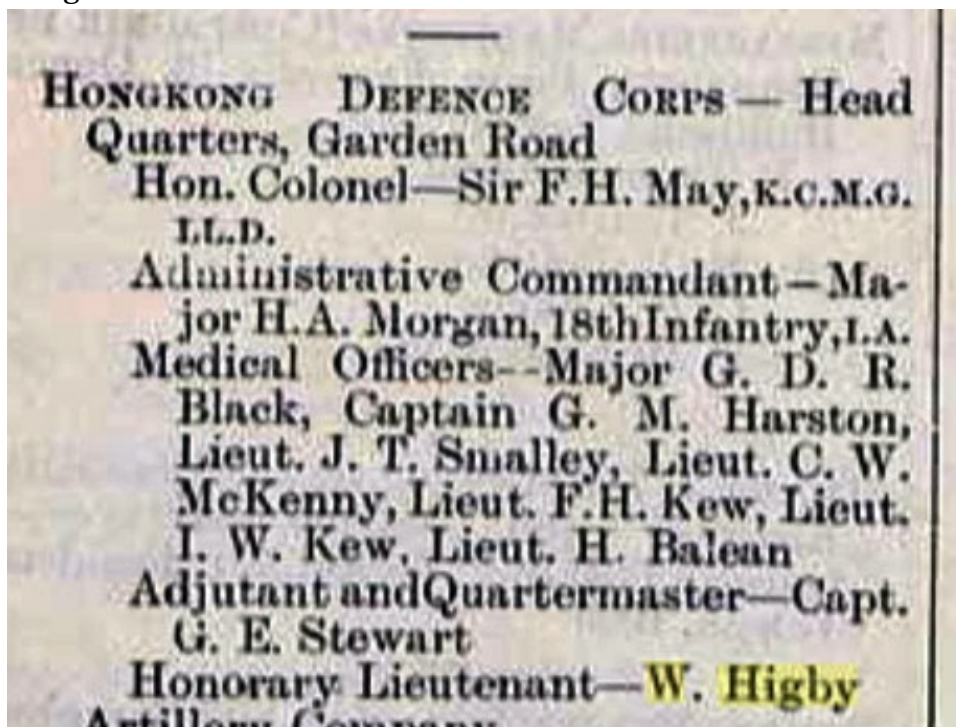
Page 996

HONGKONG

HONGKONG DEFENCE CORPS --- Head Quarters, Garden Road  
(among other officers and men listed, not transcribed here)

“Honorary Lieutenant --- W. Higby”

Image of the record:





## ~ 1920

In the 1920 directory of Hongkong, W. Higby is listed in 2 sections and Mrs. W. Higby in a third section.

W. Higby was the Right Worshipful Master (R. W. M.), the head of the Masonic Lodge Eastern Scotia No. 923 in Kowloon, Hongkong.

Lt. W. Higby listed at the headquarters of the Hongkong Defence Corps.

Mrs. W. Higby listed at the Defence Corps Headquarters

From the 1920 Asia, Directories and Chronicles:

1920

Page 1000

HONGKONG

LODGE EASTERN SCOTIA, 923 S.C., K'loon.

R. W. M. --- W. Higby

W. I. P. M. --- W. A. Morgan

W. S. W. --- J. Stewart

W. J. W. --- P. W. Ramsay

Sec. --- L. Brewer

Treas. --- W. C. Robinson

S. D. --- A. Stalker

J. D. --- J. B. Speirs

Chap. --- R. V. Cameron

D. of C. --- D. K. Blair

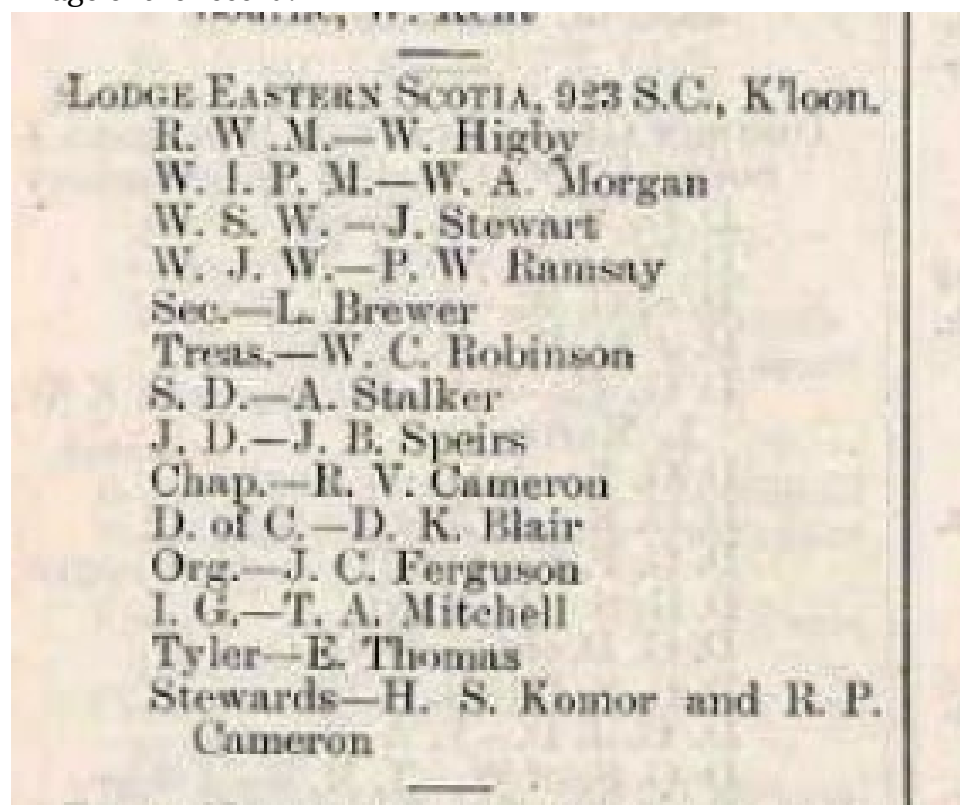
Org. --- J. C. Ferguson

I. G. --- T. A. Mitchell

Tyler --- E. Thomas

Stewards --- H. S. Komor and R. P. Cameron

Image of the record:



From the 1920 Asia, Directories and Chronicles:

1920

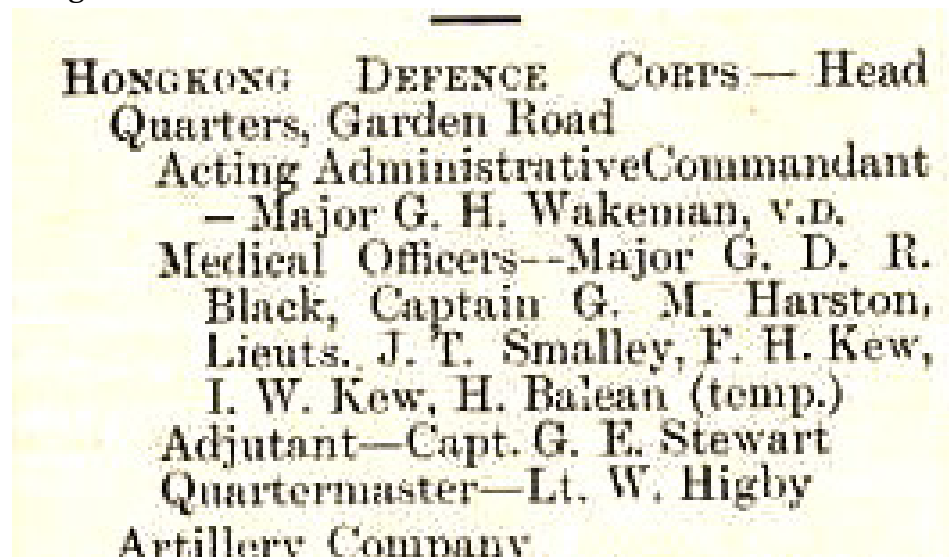
Page 1003

HONGKONG

HONGKONG DEFENCE CORPS --- Head Quarters, Garden Road  
(among others listed, not transcribed here)

“Quartermaster --- Lt. W. Higby”

Image of the record:



From the 1920 Asia, Directories and Chronicles:

1920

Page 1036

HONGKONG LADIES' DIRECTORY

Higby, Mrs. W., Defence Corps Headquarters

### ~ 1921

In the 1921 directory of Hongkong, W. Higby is listed in 2 sections and Mrs. W. Higby in a third section.

W. Higby was the Worshipful Immediate Past Master (W. I. P. M.) of the Masonic Lodge Eastern Scotia No. 923 in Kowloon, Hongkong.

Lt. W. Higby listed at the headquarters of the Hongkong Defence Corps.

Mrs. W. Higby listed at the Defence Corps Headquarters.

From the 1921 Asia, Directories and Chronicles:

1921

Page 1026

HONGKONG

LODGE EASTERN SCOTIA, 923 S.C., K'loon.

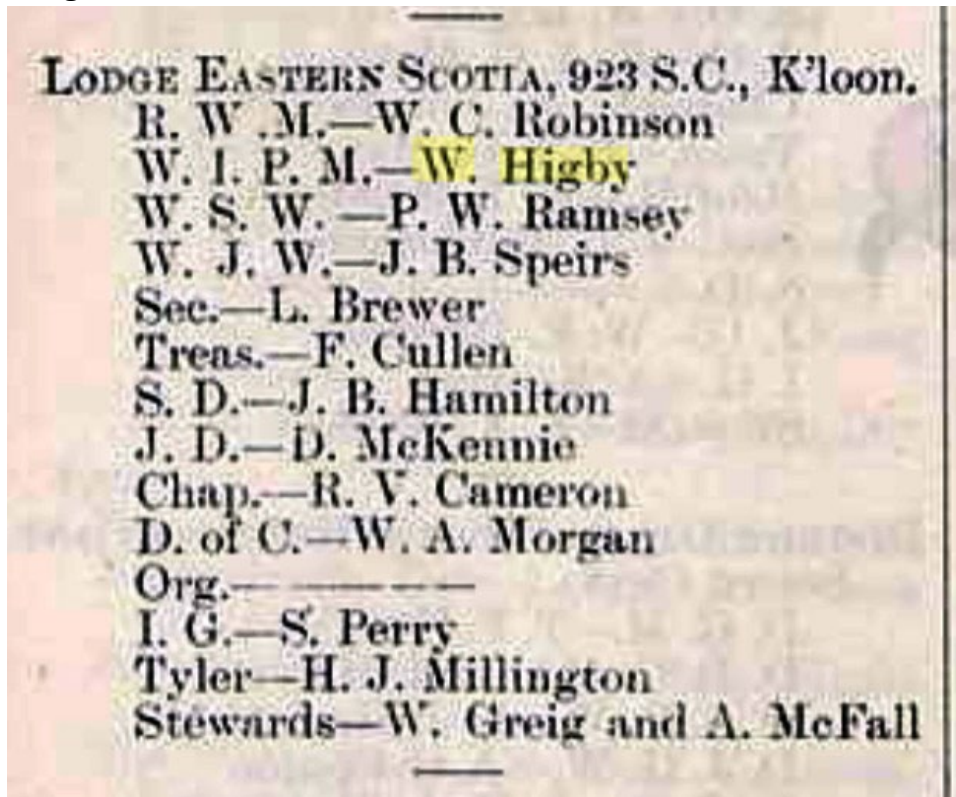
R. W. M. --- W. C. Robinson

W. I. P. M. --- W. Higby

W. S. W. --- P. W. Ramsay

W. J. W. --- J. B. Speirs  
Sec. --- L. Brewer  
Treas. --- F. Cullen  
S. D. --- J. B. Hamilton  
J. D. --- D. McKennie  
Chap. --- R. V. Cameron  
D. of C. --- W. A. Morgan  
Org. --- -----  
I. G. --- S. Perry  
Tyler --- H. J. Millington  
Stewards --- W. Greig and A. McFall

Image of the record:



From the 1921 Asia, Directories and Chronicles:

1921

Page 1029

HONGKONG

HONGKONG DEFENCE CORPS --- Headquarters; Garden Road  
(among others listed, not transcribed here)

“Quartermaster --- Lt. W. Higby”

From the 1921 Asia, Directories and Chronicles:

1921

Page 1062

HONGKONG LADIES' DIRECTORY

Higby, Mrs. W., Defence Corps Headquarters, Garden Rd.

### ~ **1922**

In the 1922 directory of Hongkong, W. Higby is listed in 2 sections and Mrs. W. Higby in a third section.

W. Higby was the Substitute Master (Subst M.) of the Masonic Lodge Eastern Scotia No. 923 in Kowloon, Hongkong.

Lt. W. Higby listed at the headquarters of the Hongkong Volunteer Defence Corps.

Mrs. W. Higby listed at the Defence Corps Headquarters.

From the 1922 Asia, Directories and Chronicles:

1922

Page 1052

HONGKONG

LODGE EASTERN SCOTIA, No. 923, S.C.

R. W. M. --- J. Stewart

I. P. M. --- P. W. Ramsay

Deputy M. --- D. K. Blair

Subst M. --- W. Higby

W. S. W. --- J. B. Speirs

W. J. W. --- J. C. Ferguson

Secy. --- L. Brewer

Treas. --- F. Cullen

S. D. --- J. B. Hamilton

J. D. --- S. S. Perry

Org. --- H. M. McTavish

Steward --- W. Greig  
I. G. --- W. J. Hope  
Tyler --- H. J. Millington

Image of the record:



From the 1922 Asia, Directories and Chronicles:

1922

Page 1055

HONGKONG

HONGKONG VOLUNTEER DEFENCE CORPS --- Headquarters; Garden Road  
(among others listed, not transcribed here)

“Quartermaster --- Lt. W. Higby”

From the 1922 Asia, Directories and Chronicles:

1922

Page 1089

HONGKONG LADIES' DIRECTORY



Higby, Mrs. W., Defence Corps Headquarters

### ~ 18 May 1922

Members of the Hongkong Volunteer Defence Corps bade farewell to Lt. W. Higby at a smoking concert.

From the newspaper, London and China Express, Thursday 18 May 1922:

Many former and present members of the Hongkong Volunteer Defence Corps bade an affectionate farewell to Lieut. and Quartermaster W. Higby at a smoking concert, which took place at Volunteer Headquarters.

Image of the article:



### ~ 8 June 1922

Capt. and Mrs. Higby on a ship leaving Hongkong.

From the newspaper, London and China Express, Thursday 8 June 1922:

#### **HONGKONG.**

“The Empress of Russia took..,”

“... Capt. And Mrs. Higby ...”

### **In England**

[research note: currently waiting for information to find out if Walter Higby joined a masonic lodge after he came back to England in the period of 1922 to 1948 perhaps in or near Leigh-on-Sea, Essex. (the freemason records on Ancestry.com has a cutoff date at 1921, so need to check elsewhere).]

## ~ 26 June 1931

In a sporting event at a school where his son was the schoolmaster in Billericay, Essex, Capt. W. Higby was one of the judges in the games.

From the newspaper, Chelmsford Chronicle, Friday 26 June 1931:

ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL SPORTS. --- There was a large gathering of parents and friends at the annual sports of St. John's School on Saturday. The long programme of events was expeditiously carried out. The officials were: Starter, Mr. W. V. Higby; judges, Capt. W. Higby, ...

(long article, not transcribed here)

“--- At the conclusion of the sports the prizes were presented by the Vicar, the Rev. W. Sydney Smith, who was introduced by the Headmaster, Mr. W. V. Higby.”

## ~ 1939

Walter and Susan Higby were living at 1 Kenholme Estate in Southend-on-Sea, Essex.

Walter was listed as a Retired Soldier.

From the 1939 Register of Southend-on-Sea:

Schedule No. 266

1 Kenholme Estate

*Sub. No. / Names. / Sex / Birth, Day. - Year. / Marital status. / Occupation.*

1 / Higby Walter / M / 22 Apr - '65 / M / Retired Soldier

2 / Higby Susan / F / 2 July - '66 / M / Unpaid domestic duties

Images of the record:

	No.	Sub. No.	OTHER NAMES.	P. or I.	F.
1	2	3	JONES 4	5	6
"Mingora" Eastwood Rd	265	3	Britteney, Sylvia D.	-	F
1 Kenholme Estate	266	1	Higby, Walter	-	M
		2	Higby, Susan	-	F
2 ditto	267	1	Collinson Albert S.	-	M

PERSONAL OCCUPATION.			
Day.	Year.	W. or D.	
7	8	9	10
16 Sep '19		S	Buschers Shop (asst)
22 Apr '65		M	Retired Soldier
7 July '66		M	Unpaid domestic duties
10 Oct '67		M	Consulting Mechanical Eng

### ~ 26 May 1939

At a school sporting event where his son was the headmaster there, the officials included: Referee, the Headmaster ... starter, Capt. W. Higby.

From the newspaper, Chelmsford Chronicle, Friday 26 May 1939:

#### SCHOOL SPORTS AT BILLERICAY

##### Five Records

St. John's School, Billericay, held its twelfth annual sports on Saturday. The weather proved favourable, and a large gathering of parents and friends witnessed an attractive programme.

(long article, not transcribed here)

"At the close the Headmaster (Mr. Higby) introduced Mrs. Norman Squier, of Chelmsford, who presented the prizes, He said there was a great keenness for sport at St. John's. He was keen on all branches of the school activity, and always urged on pupils the importance of doing all things well."

"The officials included: Referee, the Headmaster ... starter, Capt. W. Higby ..."

### ~ 12 January 1940

Captain W. Higby was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal.

From the newspaper, Chelmsford Chronicle. Friday 12 January 1940:

#### News in Brief

The King has bestowed the Meritorious Service Medal on Captain W. Higby, of Eastwood Road, Leigh. His Army record extended over 37 years.

Image of the article:



### ~ 31 May 1948

Walter Higby died at the age of 83 years on 31 May 1948, probably at Leigh-on-Sea, Essex.

He was buried on 3 June 1948 in the churchyard of St. Nicholas in Canewdon, Essex.

Walter Higby's will was probated on 19 August 1948.

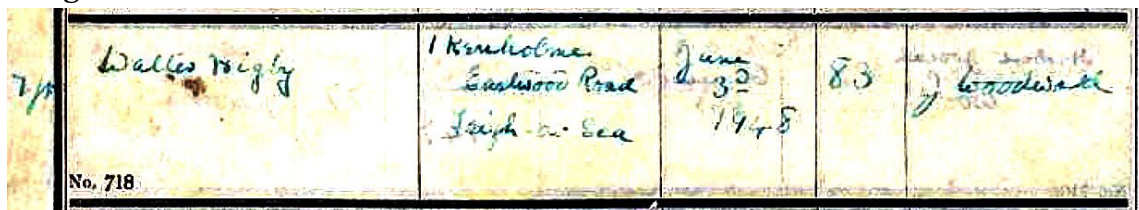
From the parish register of St, Nicholas, Canewdon:

Burials 1948 - Page 90 No. 718

*Name. / Abode. / When buried. / Age. / By whom the Ceremony was performed.*

Walter Higby / 1 Kenholme Eastwood Road Leigh-on-Sea / June 3<sup>d</sup> 1948 / 83 / J Woodward

Image of the record:



From the England & Wales, National Probate Calendar:

Page 326

1948

HIGBY Walter of Tai-Yat 1 Kenholme Eastwood-road Leigh-on-Sea Essex died 31 May 1948 Probate London 19 August to Walter Harold Victor Summers Higby schoolmaster and Lillian May Garner (wife of Joseph Henry Garner).

Effects £748 1s. 6d.

Image of the record:

**HIGBY** Walter of Tai-Yat 1 Kenholme Eastwood-road Leigh-on-Sea **Essex** died 31 May 1948 Probate **London** 19 August to Walter Harold Victor Summers Higby schoolmaster and Lillian May Garner (wife of Joseph Henry Garner). Effects £748 1s. 6d.

### ~ 26 July 1951

Susan Higby died at the age of 85 years on 26 July 1951 probably at Leigh-on-Sea, Essex.

She was buried on 31 July 1951 in the churchyard of St. Nicholas, Canewdon, Essex.

From the parish register of St, Nicholas, Canewdon:

Burials 1951 - Page 94 No. 748

*Name. / Abode. / When buried. / Age. / By whom the Ceremony was performed.*

Susan Higby / Leigh-on-Sea / 31<sup>st</sup> July 1951 / 85 / A. L. Harris Vicar

Image of the record:

Susan Higby	Leigh-on-Sea	31 <sup>st</sup> July 1951	85	A. L. Harris Vicar
No. 748				

The gravestones of Walter and Susan Higby in the churchyard of St. Nicholas, Canewdon. Near the wall of the church.





Walter Higby's name and date are along this long side of the rectangle





Susan Higby's name and date are along this long side of the rectangle

From the information on the stones above:

**IN LOVING MEMORY OF CAPT. W HIGBY DIED 31ST MAY 1948**

**ALSO SUSAN HIGBY DIED 26TH JULY 1951 AGED 85**

### Children of Walter And Lucy (Scerri) Higby

16. **WALTER WILLIAM S. HIGBY** was born in 1889 on the island of Malta.  
He died in the same year on Malta.

17. **DAISY ETHEL A. HIGBY** was born in 1890 in Barrackpore, Bengal, British India.

She died on 4 April 1891 at the age of 1 year and was buried the same day in the churchyard of Patricks Chapel in Fort William, Bengal, India.

18. + **LILIAN MAY HIGBY** was born 18 December 1890 in Barrackpore, Bengal, British India.

Lilian married Joseph Henry Garner.

## Children of Walter and Susan Ann (Upham) Higby:

19. + **WALTER HAROLD V. S. HIGBY** was born in the 3rd quarter (Oct-Nov-Dec) of 1897 in Portsmouth, Hampshire.

Walter married Phyllis Ethel Walker.

### Sources:

1. 1865 Birth of Walter Higby. Civil Registration Index. Date: 2nd Quarter (Apr-May-Jun) 1865; District: Rochford; County: Essex; Vol.: 4a; Page: 198. Searched October 3, 2009 Saturday 8:05 PM.
2. 1865 baptism of Walter Higby. Canewdon, St. Nicholas, D/P 219/1/7, Baptisms 1850-1896, 56 images. Essex Record Office online at <https://www.essexarchivesonline.co.uk>. Searched on May 7, 2025 Wednesday 11:02 PM.
3. 1871 census of England, Essex, Canewdon, ALL, 6, image no. 24, online at Ancestry.com. Public Record Office reference: R.G. 10 16[6]9, original page no. 23, stamped page no. 87. No. of Schedule 113, household of William Higby. Searched on December 17, 2008 Wednesday 2:34 PM and rechecked on April 30, 2025 Wednesday 12:22 AM.
4. 1881 census of England, Essex, Canewdon, ALL, District 6, image no. 3, online at Ancestry.com. Public Record Office reference RG 11/1771, original page no. 2. No. of Schedule 4, household of William C Higby. First found on February 21, 2008 Thursday 11:53 AM. Rechecked on May 10, 2015 Sunday 8:17 PM and image added on April 4, 2025 Friday 12:19 AM.
5. Photograph of Lucy Scerri. From Paul Cooper's collection of family photographs. Digital Photograph attached to email dated Friday, December 4, 2009 9:50 AM.
6. 1888 marriage of Walter Higby and Lucy Tyler. Marriages Recorded by Military Chaplains in Malta, 1824-1900. <https://web.archive.org/web/20180123162330/http://website.lineone.net/~stephaniebidmead/chaplain.s.htm>. The link found on Malta Online Genealogy Records, online at familysearch.org. Searched on December 16, 2008 Tuesday 8:52 PM and rechecked on May 17, 2025 Saturday 12:47 AM

7. 1888 marriage of Walter Higby and Lucy Tyler. Methodist Marriages by the Army.  
<https://web.archive.org/web/20180723012720/http://website.lineone.net/~stephaniebidmead/barracca.htm>. The link found on Malta Online Genealogy Records, online at familysearch.org. Searched on December 16, 2008 Tuesday 8:52 PM and rechecked on May 17, 2025 Saturday 12:47 AM.
8. 1888 marriage of Walter Higby and Lucy Tyler. Mixed Marriages of Malta, 1801-1891.  
<https://web.archive.org/web/20180126150925/http://website.lineone.net/~remosliema/mixedmarr.htm>. The link found on Malta Online Genealogy Records, online at familysearch.org. Searched on December 16, 2008 Tuesday 8:52 PM and rechecked on May 17, 2025 Saturday 12:47 AM.
9. 1883 marriage of Lucardia Xerri and Arthur Taylor. Mixed Marriages of Malta, 1801-1891.  
<https://web.archive.org/web/20180126150925/http://website.lineone.net/~remosliema/mixedmarr.htm>. The link found on Malta Online Genealogy Records, online at familysearch.org. Searched on December 16, 2008 Tuesday 8:52 PM and rechecked on May 17, 2025 Saturday 12:47 AM.
10. 1888 Walter and Lucy Higby and Lucy as Mrs. Lucy Tyler listed at Malta. The Malta Directory - 1888.  
[https://web.archive.org/web/20180722215112/http://website.lineone.net/~remosliema/malta\\_1888.htm](https://web.archive.org/web/20180722215112/http://website.lineone.net/~remosliema/malta_1888.htm). Link found at Malta Online Genealogy Records, online at familysearch.org. Searched on June 4, 2009 Thursday 8:00 PM and rechecked on May 17, 2025 Saturday 12:47 AM.
11. 1889 baptism of Walter W. Higby. Malta Family History Website online at  
<http://website.lineone.net/~stephaniebidmead/other%20sites.htm>. Army Chaplains Register of Births/Baptisms 1800-1900: 1889 Walter W. Higby. Searched and extracted December 16, 2008 Tuesday 8:52 PM
12. 1889 death of Walter William S. Higby. Malta Family History Website  
<http://website.lineone.net/~stephaniebidmead/other%20sites.htm>. Army Chaplains Deaths recorded by Army Chaplains in Malta 1800-1900: 1889 Walter William S. Higby. Searched and extracted December 16, 2008 Tuesday 8:52 PM.  
 Malta Online Genealogy Records, online at familysearch.org.  
[https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Malta\\_Online\\_Genealogy\\_Records](https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Malta_Online_Genealogy_Records)  
 Searched on May 17, 2025 Saturday 12:47 AM
13. 1890 birth of Dasie Ethel A. Higby in the index. Births, GRO Army Birth Indices (1881 to 1965) 1886-1890, online at <http://www.findmypast.com>. Page 15 1890 Dasie Ethel A. Higby, Barrackpore, page 190. Searched on December 25, 2008 Thursday 7:12 PM and rechecked on May 17, 2025 Saturday 9:15 PM.
14. 1891 death of Daisy Ethel A. Higby. Deaths, GRO Army Death Indices (1881 to 1955) 1891-1895, <http://www.findmypast.com>. Page 16 1891 Daisy Ethel A. Higby, Calcutta, page 279. Searched on December 25, 2008 Thursday 6:45 PM.
15. 1891 death and burial of Daisy Higby in the index. India, Deaths and Burials, 1719-1948, online at Familysearch.org. Searched on May 17, 2025 Saturday 9:23 PM.
16. 1891 death of Lucy Higby. Deaths, GRO Army Death Indices (1881 to 1955) 1891-1895, <http://www.findmypast.com>. Page 16 1891, Lucy Higby. Searched on December 25, 2008 Thursday 6:45 PM.
17. 1891 death and burial of Lucy Higby. India, Deaths and Burials, 1719-1948, online at Familysearch.org. Lucy Higby age 25 at Fort Williams, Bengal, India. Searched on May 17, 2025 Saturday 9:23 PM.
18. 1894 to 1895 Walter Higby was a member of the Masonic Lodge of Unity in Allahabad, India. England, United Grand Lodge of England Freemason Membership Registers, 1751-1921, online at Ancestry.com. United Grand Lodge of England, 1887-1909, Membership Registers: Colonial and Foreign

G 1417-1603 to Colonial and Foreign H 1617-1786. Image no. 466. Image 466, Page 129. Lodge of Unity, Allahabad, No. 1698. Searched on May 8, 2025 Thursday 11:34 PM.

19. 1895 Marriage of Walter Higby and Susan Ann Upham Civil Registration Index. Date: 3rd Quarter (Jul-Aug-Sep) 1895; District: Rochford; County: Essex; Vol.: 4a; Page: 731. Searched on June 3, 2009 Wednesday 8:33 PM.

20. 1897 birth of Walter Harold V. S. Higby in the index. Civil Registration Index, Birth. Date: 4th Quarter (Oct-Nov-Dec) 1897; District: Portsea Island; County: Hampshire; Vol.: 2b; Page: 478. Searched November 16, 2009 Monday 8:19 PM.

21. 1901 census of England, Kent, Guston, ALL, District 17, image no. 4, online at Ancestry.com. Public Record Office reference: RG 13/840, original page no. 3, stamped page no. 74. No. of Schedule 12, household of Walter Higby. Searched on December 16, 2008 Tuesday 2:56 PM and rechecked on May 8, 2025 Thursday 10:10 PM.

22. 1901 to 1904 Walter Higby joined Masonic Military Jubilee Lodge in Dover, Kent. England, United Grand Lodge of England Freemason Membership Registers, 1751-1921, online at Ancestry.com. United Grand Lodge of England, 1887-1909, Membership Registers: Country W 2074-2257 to Country X 2258-2380. Image 317. Page 300, Military Jubilee Lodge Dover, no. 2195. Searched on May 8, 2025 Thursday 10:39 PM.

23. 1903 Q. M. Sergt. Higby was in a billiard tournament. Overland China Mail, Tuesday 01 December 1903, page 3. British Newspaper Archive, online at [www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk](http://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk). Searched on May 15, 2025 Thursday 9:48 PM.

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53. 1922 Members of the Corps bade farewell to W. Higby. London and China Express, Thursday 18 May 1922, page 24. British Newspaper Archive, online at [www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk](http://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk). Searched on May 11, 2025 Sunday 11:40 PM.

54. 1922 Capt. and Mrs. Higby on a ship leaving Hongkong. London and China Express, Thursday 08 June 1922, page 22. British Newspaper Archive, online at [www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk](http://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk). Searched on May 15, 2025 Thursday 11:43 PM.

55. 1931 Capt. W. Higby was one of the judges in the sport games at a school. Chelmsford Chronicle, Friday 26 June 1931, page 9. British Newspaper Archive, online at [www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk](http://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk). Searched on May 16, 2025 Friday 12:00 AM.

56. 1939 England and Wales Register, online at Ancestry.com. Essex, Southend-On-Sea Cb, Daeb, image no.19. E.D. Letter Code - DAEB; Borough, U.D. or R.D. - Southend on Sea County Borough; Registration District and Su-district - 195-3 / E.D. No. 1B 2. Schedule No. 266, household of Walter Higby. Searched on May 8, 2025 Thursday 12:06 PM.

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59. 1948 burial of Walter Higby. Canewdon, St. Nicholas, D/P 219/1/11, Burials 1859-1961, 66 images. Essex Record Office online at <https://www.essexarchivesonline.co.uk>. Image 49 left side, Burials 1948, page 90, no. 718. Searched on May 20, 2025 Tuesday 12:54 AM.

60. 1948 death and probate of Walter Higby. England & Wales, National Probate Calendar (Index of Wills and Administrations), 1858-1995, online at Ancestry.com. 1948. Haag-Juven, image no. 170. 1948 Page 326. Searched on May 12, 2025 Monday 9:28 PM.



61. 1951 burial of Susan Higby. Canewdon, St. Nicholas, D/P 219/1/11, Burials 1859-1961, 66 images. Essex Record Office online at <https://www.essexarchivesonline.co.uk>. Image 51 left side. Burials 1951, page 94, no. 748. Searched on May 20, 2025 Tuesday 1:00 AM.

62. Photographs of the Higby Family Plot in the churchyard of Canewdon, Essex. From Paul Cooper's collection of family photographs. Death dates of Walter Higby 1948 and Susan Higby 1951 came from these stones. Digital Photographs attached to emails, both dated Sunday, December 6, 2009, 1:18 PM and 4:02 PM.