

Postscripts to Article on Fonthill Gifford

(1) Re the Burt Family

The following email from Michael Taylor, 3 x great grandson of William Burt (born 1807) gives further information about what happened later to one branch of the Burt family. He writes:

Whilst researching my family history earlier today, I came across your website and was flabbergasted to find an account of the life of my great-great-great grandfather William Burt!

For this I will be forever grateful to you. You have brought to life my ancestry in a way that I would not have thought possible. Not only that, but you have illustrated so clearly and poignantly the harsh realities of their lives...

I only started researching my family history last summer – prompted by the arrival of my grandson – and, until then, I had assumed that my mother's family roots were firmly based in Durham. Through a fellow Ancestry.co.uk member I found that Thomas Stevens (husband of Hannah Burt, William's daughter) moved from Fonthill Gifford to North Yorkshire sometime in the 1870s. Now I know more about the employment conditions of the time, I can understand why! He found work there as a limestone quarryman...

Michael Taylor, February 2010

(2) Re the Tabor Family

This email from Peter Gregg, 2 x great grandson of John Tabor, innkeeper of the 'Beckford Arms' in 1851, gives information about what happened later to John Tabor and his family:

Thank you for... your most interesting paper on Fonthill. I live in Brisbane Australia and am somewhat a beginner with tracing my family history. Occasionally one uncovers a gem in researching such history. Today, finding your work was such an event.

The inn keeper in Fonthill during 1851 was John Tabor who, from census records, appears to have taken over at the 'Beckford Arms' from his father (Aaron) who died in 1848. John was my Great Great Grandfather. He married Emily Osmond from Tisbury and in 1853 they came to Tasmania (Van Dieman's Land at the time) and became pioneers in developing the area south of Hobart known as the Huon Region.

John Tabor became a prominent inn keeper and brewer at the Longley Arms/Inn at Longley and also featured in the provision of infrastructure in the region through his involvement as a member of the Longley Road Trust, Huon Road Trust and Victoria Road Trust. Many of their descendants still reside in the area.

Peter Gregg, August 2010