

The Button Files

Newsletter of the Warburton Society

Number: 4 July 2011

Editor:

Ray Warburton - ray1warburton@talktalk.net
Skype: ray.warburton

DNA Project Co-administrators:

Cathy Warburton - sassycj@verizon.net
Brian Warburton - brian@beewarb.org

Contents

The Newsletter.....	1
Warburton One-Name Study	1
The DNA Study	1
The DNA Project Moves Home	2
A Genealogical Journey.....	2
Whither the Warburton Society	3
The Diary of Henry Warburton.....	4
Member's Corner	10

The Newsletter

Welcome to the fourth issue of **The Button Files**. In the period since the last issue I have added two new clans to the **Warburton Website**, and made a number of other additions. See the **Warburton One-Name Study** section for more.

I have also had 6 new DNA results. See **The DNA Study** for details.

The last six months have seen a major upheaval due to DNA Heritage ceasing DNA testing. This has a knock on effect on the **Warburton Society**. This is all explained in detail in **The DNA Project Moves Home** and **Whither the Warburton Society**.

This leaves room for 2 featured articles in this issue:

- **A Genealogical Journey** which describes how a new DNA match has disproved previous assumptions and resulted in the combination of two clans.
- **The Diary of Henry Warburton** which is a transcript of the diary Henry kept on a voyage from Australia to England in 1880-1.

Warburton One-Name Study

Since the last newsletter there have been four updates to **The Warburton Website**. There are two new clans,

including the clan of the owners of Warburtons Bakery in Bolton. Three smaller families have been added to **Families**. I have also brought the Tottington clan into **Warburton Family Trees**.

I extended the Bowdon Families resource to include post 1837 entries from the Bowdon Parish registers, and burials at Altrincham cemetery. This led to extensions to the Hale Barns, Pool Bank, and Warburton Village clans. I have also separated the Mobberley clan from the Hale Barns clan to make the later more manageable, and combined the Widnes and Houghton clans. Other updates addressed DNA issues, and changes resulting from the move of the DNA project to Family Tree DNA (see **The DNA Project Moves Home**).

There are now 25 clans and four families in all including 5941 names, 3829 of them Warburtons. The non-Warburtons are predominantly spouses. If you want to know if a clan you are interested in has been updated, the date of the last update is on the Title page of the Descendant Report.

The new Clans are:

1. The Warburtons of Bolton (the Bakers). I was able to trace the family back to 1804 in Walmersley, near Bury, using a publication by the company as a basis. Unfortunately I couldn't get further because I couldn't find the earliest baptism online. The family was strongly Methodist.
2. The Warburtons of Warrington (Stanley) is a tree from input provided by Adrian Stanley..
3. **Families** includes new families from Timperley, Sharples, and Culcheth (the Percy Grey family).

I am still planning to develop resources listing parish register entries and Monumental Inscriptions (MIs) at Haslingden and Radcliffe. I also acquired a CD of MIs in Altrincham and district, and a couple of interesting fiches when I attended The Guild of One-Name Studies Conference at Davenham, Cheshire in April.

I plan to split the Radcliffe branch out of the Haslingden clan, and focus on areas where I have DNA results.

The DNA Study

There have been 6 new DNA results since the last issue making 23 in all. Two of the results were a match to me, one quite distant, the other an exact match with one much closer to me. This proved significant in that it resulted in the amalgamation of the Houghton and Widnes clans (see **A Genealogical Journey** for more details).

The Button Files

*There is now a group of seven matched profiles, with a couple of other matches with non-Warburtons that may be significant. I have extended the Phylogenetic Tree from Issue 2, and this can be found on the **Warburton Website**. At the same time I did a major reorganisation of the DNA material on the site in an effort to reduce duplication.*

Two of the other results matched each other, but nothing seen previously. They both have origins in Lancashire with links to the Turton area. One of the tests was on a descendant of Fred Warburton, the football manager whose story was included in Issue 2.

*The other 2 results are unmatched, though one is an unusual haplotype, G2. The last four results have still to be written up on the **Warburton Website**.*

The DNA Project Moves Home

In April DNA Heritage announced they had sold two websites to Family Tree DNA (FTDNA), and were to cease DNA Testing. Outstanding tests would however, be completed. At the time I had 6 tests in progress, partly because I had become a little concerned about DNA Heritage and decided to spend as much of my Project Fund as possible.

As of now 4 of those tests have completed. The other two suffered from test kits going missing. One never arrived back at the lab, and the other never reached the person to be tested. I understand these kits have been resent and I am now awaiting progress with my fingers crossed.

I needed to find a new home for the Warburton DNA Project and FTDNA seemed the obvious choice, especially as there would be mechanisms to transfer the DNA Heritage results. Also Sue Meats, the DNA Advisor at the Guild of One-Name Studies (GOONS) is familiar with FTDNA and she has been very helpful in setting up a new project. One element of the project is a new project website at FTDNA. Please go and have a look at it at: <http://www.familytreedna.com/public/warburton/default.aspx>.

The transfer has raised a couple of issues. One is that membership of the Warburton Society was based on joining the Warburton DNA Project at DNA Heritage without taking a test. I now need an alternative process and this is discussed in the **Whither the Warburton Society** article below.

More specific to DNA testing are the differences between the DNA Heritage and FTDNA tests. FTDNA offer 37, 67, and 111 marker tests. The 37 marker test is equivalent in price to the 43 marker test that was offered by DNA Heritage. This is \$149 as part of a surname project (\$169 outside of a project). This may be reduced by promotions from time to time.

The FTDNA 37 marker set includes 32 markers that were in the DNA Heritage 43 marker test. Of the 11 other DNA Heritage markers, 8 show no significant variability in the test results I have so far. However 2 of the other 3 have shown some variability, and one has been very variable within the set of seven matched results I have obtained so far.

I believe that the 37 marker test will be sufficient to identify matches, even when comparing with results obtained from DNA Heritage, but when building a phylogenetic tree of groups of matched results some definition may be lost. However FTDNA do allow for additional markers to be tested individually so this could be done if deemed necessary.

In order to get the FTDNA Warburton surname project established to the level it was on DNA Heritage it is necessary for all previous participants to transfer their results. I believe participants will already have received an email from FTDNA on how to do this. You will be given an id and password so you can logon to FTDNA. When logged on you will be able to join projects.

Could all previous participants please transfer your results into FTDNA and then join the Warburton project. If necessary I can do this on your behalf. Please let me know if you would prefer me to do this.

FTDNA also run a website called Ysearch.org. This is a worldwide public repository for DNA results, designed to enable matching and to provide worldwide statistics. I have in the past put some of our results on there, and I think it would be useful to bring this up to date. Again you have the choice of managing your own results, or having me do it on your behalf. I will try to contact each DNA Heritage participant in the near future to discuss these matters.

A Genealogical Journey

One of the changes to the Warburton Clans in the last six months was the amalgamation of the Widnes and Houghton Clans into an expanded Houghton Clan. This has been a story of imperfect research, dashed assumptions, and help from DNA.

The original Widnes Clan came to me from Karen Stretton, nee Warburton. Her earliest known ancestor was William Warburton of Widnes. William appears in the 1841 census aged 60, which means he could have been born anywhere between 60 and 64 years old as ages were rounded down in that census. I searched unsuccessfully for him in the 1851 census, and also failed to find a convincing death registration.

Purely on the basis of geography Karen reckoned he was most likely the son of Bancroft Warburton of Great Sankey, who was baptised in July 4th 1779.

I also received information on another family with origins in Widnes from Rebecca Sone in California. This family was descended from the same William. Rebecca was able to arrange for her cousin Roger to take a DNA test, and we discovered he was a close match to me, and even closer to my genetic cousin Clive.

The first thing this did was disprove the Bancroft Warburton connection, because Bancroft was illegitimate. His father was a Bancroft. You might ask whether it might not be that I was also descended from Bancroft, but I have traced my family back far enough to show there is no link.

The Button Files

In the line of my Warburton ancestors there is only one family prior to the late 18th century that had multiple sons who in turn had families of their own. These sons are my ancestor Josiah and his four brothers. They were born in the middle of the 17th century, and their father was John Warburton of Hale Barns (1608-91). As the oldest known ancestors of both Clive and Roger are contemporary, but unlinked to my 18th century ancestors, our common ancestor can be no later than John of Hale Barns.

The closeness of the matches between myself, Clive, and Roger means there is only a one in four chance that our common ancestor lived earlier than John of Hale Barns. Indeed the fact there are three of us who are closely linked probably means the chances are much lower but my knowledge of statistics is rather challenged at this point.

The next thing was to reopen the search for the parents of William of Widnes. It was here that imperfect research led to assumptions that were later dashed. I looked on FamilySearch and found several possible Williams, including six baptised in 1779. I should have noticed that the column on the 1841 census that asks if William was born in the same county he was living in (i.e. Lancashire) contained a Y. However I was dazzled by the fact that 2 of these Williams were baptised in Bowdon parish, the home of my ancestors. Bowdon is in Cheshire, not Lancashire. Furthermore, I discovered that one William died an infant, but the other was the son of a Josiah. Following my 17th century ancestor, who was prominent in the local nonconformist movement, the name Josiah appears frequently in my family in the 18th and 19th centuries. Even the fact I couldn't find Josiah's baptism, despite having his age at death, seemed further confirmation as many nonconformist baptisms went unrecorded in Bowdon in the 100 years after the English Civil War.

Meanwhile I have exchanged a number of emails with Brian in Victoria, British Colombia, and later his relations Don and Peter. Brian's earliest known relative was George who lived in Lymm, Cheshire. The 1851 census showed that George was born in Houghton, Lancashire, which is in the parish of Winwick. The parish records enable the family to be traced back to John Warburton who was born around 1734.

Eventually Brian took a DNA test and the results arrived early this year. He was an exact match to Roger. It was at this point that I realised that George of Lymm had an uncle William who was born in 1779. I then did a further census search on Ancestry, and William of Widnes suddenly appeared in the 1851 census. He had been transcribed as William Warhurst and given an age of 77, though to my eye it is clearly 72 on the image. In the meantime Ancestry had been checking transcriptions because the possibility the name was Warburton had been added, and so I managed to find it. His place of birth is given as Houghton Green.

And so the Widnes and Houghton Clans became one. It is called the Houghton Clan because that is where the earliest ancestors are found. The next question is, can a link be found to one of Josiah's brothers? Because of the possibility of unrecorded nonconformist baptisms this

could prove difficult to establish. The eldest brother Thomas, who inherited the family farm in Hale Barns, had a number of children baptised at Bowdon, but there is evidence of other sons whose baptism isn't recorded. The second brother, John established himself in Mobberley and has many descendants. Most of these can be traced through the parish records, and many are mentioned in wills. However, there is one son, William, born in 1701, of whom nothing is known.

The youngest brother Enoch also moved to Mobberley, but died young. The parish records record the baptism of one daughter, and the deaths of two infants. His will suggests he had three daughters, but no sons.

The fourth brother, George, is a mystery. He is mentioned in his father's will so he was alive when it was written in 1687, and probably in 1691 when John of Hale Barns died. However he is the only brother not made an executor of either his father's will, or Enoch's will. There is no marriage or burial in the Bowdon parish records.

The most likely explanation is that he moved away. Could he have moved to Houghton? It is noticeable that most of the Houghton families include a George, often the eldest son. However George's grandfather was also George, and the name is also present amongst brothers Thomas and John's descendants. Unfortunately I could find no smoking gun in the Winwick parish records or Monumental Inscriptions. There is still work to do, but if the Houghton Clan are George's descendants it seems likely it was a son or grandson of George who first moved there whilst George made his home somewhere else.

Whither the Warburton Society

I started the Warburton Society in late 2009 when DNA Heritage started allowing people to join a surname DNA project without taking a test. The Warburton Society now has 125 members, with an active email address, including 20 DNA test participants who are automatically a member. This is the 4th newsletter I have produced.

My objective in starting the Society was to encourage support for my Warburton One-Name Study and its associated DNA Project. Such support could take a number of forms:

1. Participation in the DNA study. Participation is not appropriate for everyone. Only males can be tested and I have communicated with a number of ladies who just don't have a suitable male to hand. Also it is pointless being tested if you are closely related to someone who has already been tested, or share an ancestor with the owner of a matched result. However there must be many Warburtons out there whose family tree would be enhanced by the Y-chromosome profile of the male Warburtons within it, and knowing whether it matches other Warburton families.
2. Contributions to the DNA Study General Fund (was the Project Fund). These can then be used to finance tests for people of interest who cannot pay for their own test. It also provides a way that several related people could club together to pay for a test for one of them. To date at least half of the tests carried out

The Button Files

have been paid for from the Project Fund, though most of the funds there have come from me.

3. Assistance in the One-Name study. Many people pass me information, or have it available in a public place, and I am grateful for anything I am sent. However if anyone should want to get involved in preparing material for inclusion on the Warburton Study website I would be delighted, and I would give them the guidance necessary to do that.
4. If you are unable to provide any of the above then letting me know who you are, where you are, and where you fit into the Warburton Clans is just fine.

Of course members will have their own reasons for joining. I hope my newsletters are of benefit. I did wonder, however, if some other initiatives would arise from the membership and develop the Society in different ways.

With the demise of DNA Heritage I have to decide an appropriate way forward. I could just keep the membership details in my own address database. I already keep email addresses for distributing the Newsletters, and occasional other notices. I also note the Warburton clan you are in, if known, and anything else I think relevant from our communications. In fact I do this for all my correspondents so I have a chance of knowing what previous discussions I've had when I get a new communication after some time. I also keep all emails.

Most people who joined via DNA Heritage entered their address. This was not strictly necessary as it was for people taking a DNA test. However it is nice to know what part of the world people are in so I intend to note the town or city on my database where I have it, but not the full address.

However just keeping a glorified address list is not going to encourage the Society to develop. I have therefore looked at the use of Facebook as home for the Society. Facebook offers the facility to set up a private Group where only members can see what is posted. I have also decided to put the Newsletters onto a website with a link from this private Group.

This approach has a number of advantages. Firstly some of the Newsletters, especially when photos are included, are rather large to be distributed by email. In future I need only put a new issue on the website and notify members that a new one is available. Secondly Facebook will provide a repository for such photos so they can be accessed individually. Thirdly it will allow for communication between members and this might encourage the Society to develop. Finally it may give my project exposure to a wider audience of Warburtons, to which end I have also set up a **Warburton One-Name Study** page to announce its existence.

There are disadvantages. My experience of Facebook is limited at the moment so it may take time to exploit it most effectively.

More seriously I suspect only a minority of Society members are already Facebook users, and some of you may have no wish to join. I therefore propose to follow a twin approach. The Group on my Facebook page will be called **Friends of the Warburton One-Name Study** and will be aimed at those who are happy to use Facebook,

share information, comments, or questions with the Group, and generally support the Study.

Members of Facebook can join the **Friends of the Warburton One Name Study** by finding Ray Warburton, and asking to become a friend, and to join the Society. It costs nothing, and isn't difficult, so I hope you will all take that step. If you haven't yet told me the town or city where you live, and the name, dates, and place of birth of your oldest known Warburton ancestor could you please include that in your request.

If you wish to continue quietly receiving Newsletters, and communicating with me directly by email as appropriate you can do so. However after this Issue I will simply put issues of the Newsletter on a website and just distribute an announcement with a link to it.

I will in any case keep matters under review. If it doesn't work out, or if I get a lot of negative feedback from members then I will seek an alternative solution. I will listen to any suggestions so please email me if you don't like the idea. However the Group is already set up so please give it a try first.

The Diary of Henry Warburton

In December 1880 Henry Warburton began a journey from Australia to England on the ship "Liguria". He wrote a diary of his journey which is now kept in the museum at Roma, Queensland. It was transcribed by Robert Egerton Warburton of Timperley, Cheshire. Robert's grandfather was Henry's third cousin, and they belong to the Pool Bank Clan, whose earliest known ancestors farmed Pool Bank Farm in Bowdon before 1600.

At the time of the voyage Henry was 23 years old, the eldest son of Richard Alsop Warburton, a factory owner of 'Belmont', Langham Road, Bowdon, a house which still stands today. It was Richard's death on New Year's Eve 1879 which necessitated Henry's return to settle some family affairs.

THE DIARY

Should anything happen to me, I desire this book to be sent to my wife at the following address, Mrs. Henry Warburton, Fairfield Station, via Roma, Queensland, Australia.

"Liguria" from Sydney to London:

Left Fairfield Dec. 1st 1880
Brisbane Dec. 3rd
Sydney Dec. 10th
Melbourne Dec. 16th
Adelaide Dec. 19th

Dec. 1st 1880

Left Blythsedale for Brisbane by train. Mary came as far as the station. Dear Mary I wonder if she felt the parting as much as I did.

Dec. 2nd

Got to Brisbane at 12 p.m. and was jolly tired,. We went to Sullivans but they had no room so we went to Tattersalls in Adelaide St. After dinner I went to Moorheads and got my ticket per Liguria. It cost me

The Button Files

£37-8-0 altogether. Tom is not going to Sydney with me. I feel so lonely and miserable. Oh Mary, Mary my love, you cannot imagine how much I love you. Wrote to Mary, Willie and home.

Dec. 3rd

Got ticket at A S N Office for S.S.Alexandra for Sydney and started at 6 pm, at about 10 o'clock stuck on a sand bank and could not get off.

Dec. 4th

Still on sand bank. We got off at about 11 am. At night a lot of people got seasick. A head wind came on.

Dec. 5th

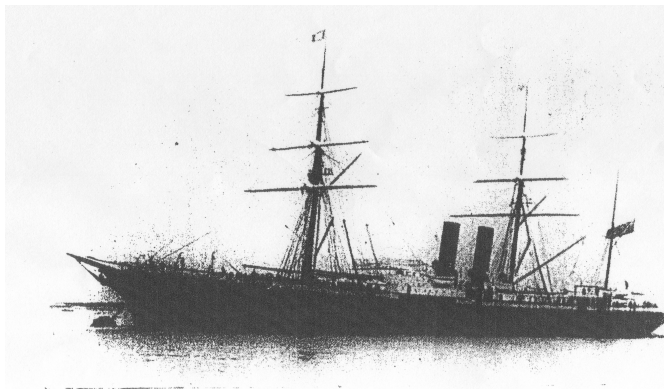
I have never been so long parted from Mary before. I hope she is all right god bless her. I never knew myself how much I loved her until I had to leave her.

Dec. 6th

We got to Sydney about 8 o'clock this morning. It looks just the same as ever. I went to Gilchrist and Watt and got my ticket for the Liguria and then at night I went to the Opera. It was "Crown Diamonds" they were playing, there is some very pretty music in it. I wish Mary had been there, I know she would have enjoyed it.

Dec, 7th`

I went on board the Liguria today, she is a grand ship, the second largest that was ever in Sydney Harbour and the accommodation is splendid. Went to the Theatre at night.



Liguria

Dec. 8th

I wrote to Mary and sent her a Christmas card. Dear, dear Mary you cannot imagine how much I miss you. You are the only one I have to live for. I hope you think sometimes of me. I went to the Opera again tonight to see "La fille de Madame Angot" but I can scarcely enjoy anything. I wish I could see my darling once more. I would give all I have for a kiss.

Dec. 9th

Posted Mary's letter and felt generally miserable.

Dec. 10th

We sailed from Sydney about 12 o'clock noon. The Liguria is a very fast boat. There is splendid feeding, four

or live courses at dinner. I have a cabin all to myself and am glad of it, but I expect there will be someone else come in at Melbourne, but I hope not.

Dec. 11th

We are having nice weather but it is a lot colder down here than in Roma. I wish I was back there again. I have not been at all seasick but I was not afraid I should be.

Dec. 12th

We got to Melbourne at noon today but I did not go ashore as it is Tuesday and there would not be anything to do. I shall go ashore tomorrow. I am writing to Mary this evening.

Dec. 13th

I went ashore this morning and after walking about Melbourne I went to the exhibition but did not care for it much as I went alone. I went nearly all over it and came on board again at 5 o'clock.

Dec. 14th

The Duke of Manchester and the Earl and Countess of Ellesmere and the Marquis of Normanby came to Luncheon here today and stayed on board about two hours. We ought to have sailed today but the cargo could not be got on so shall not sail till Thursday. I began a letter to Mary.

Dec. 15th

I did not sleep a whit last night because of the machinery going all night winching up cargo etc. It has rained all day nearly. I finished my letter to Mary god bless her. I wonder how she is getting on.

Dec. 16th

I posted my letters and we sailed from Melbourne about 11 o'clock this morning. There are three or four more passengers in the 2nd cabin but none has come into mine.

Dec. 17th

It has been very cold all day today and rather rough. A good many passengers were seasick. There was a woman confined in steerage this morning poor thing, she is awfully seasick too.

Dec. 18th

We got to Adelaide. We have to take in some more cargo here. I did not go ashore as I had nothing to do. About eight more passengers came aboard into our Saloon, but still I am glad to say I have my cabin all to myself and shall have all the way home.

Dec. 19th

We left Adelaide about 4 o'clock this morning. We shall not stop anywhere until we get to Aden now. We are going along at about fifteen miles an hour and we are having splendid weather. There is nothing particular doing today. I expected we should have had service today but we did not.

The Button Files

Dec. 20th

We are going along fine this morning, both steaming and sailing as we have a fair wind. I hope it will continue. We left sight of Australia yesterday afternoon and I do not suppose we shall see land again until we get to Aden. We might perhaps see Cape Leeuwin on the West Coast but I do not think we shall. There is a Frenchman in the 3rd Class who is a splendid player on the piano, and so we have him in here at nights to play for us. He is a professional and was sent out by a French piano Company to show off their Pianos at the Sydney Exhibition.

Dec. 21st

We are going along fine but I wish we could go at 60 miles an hour. Every day is taking me further away from Mary. We are having very fine weather but still there are four or five people sick. We had the Frenchman down again tonight, he is a splendid player.

Dec. 22nd (Wednesday)

We are in sight of Cape Leeuwin today. I did not think we should see it but it is the last we shall see of Australia for some months. I wish I was as near coming back again dear Mary. I should so like to see her now. It would give five hundred pounds if I had not to go and leave her. I hope she is all right. It is rather rough today, at any rate rougher than we have had it yet. I succeeded in oversleeping myself this morning and so I had my breakfast in bed. One of the Stewards brought me some in.

Lat. 25.20 deg., Long. E. 117.37 deg. - 292 miles

Dec. 23rd

It was very rough last night and today. The ship rolled so much that she rolled me right out of my bed. We did not go so far in the 24 hours as we did the day before. We only went 266 miles but the rough weather accounts for that. It has been very rough all day in fact I can scarcely write she is rocking so much. We had a concert last night. We have music every night and that helps to pass the time away a good deal, all the rest of the day I smoke and read.

Lat. 33 deg., Long. E. 112 deg. - 266 miles

Dec. 24th

It was very rough again last night but it is calmer again now. I could not sleep last night for the rolling of the ship and thinking how Mary and all at Fairfield are going on. Tomorrow is Christmas Day and we are going to have a great feast. All the gentlemen have subscribed 7/6 each for wine etc. At night we are going to have a musical concert. There is a head wind against us. I wish it would change and come behind us instead. We had a jolly concert tonight and three or four bottles of wine over which we drank everybody's health especially "absent friends" which fell to my lot to propose.

Lat. 30. 20. 14 deg., Long. 107. 58. 15 deg. - 313 miles

Dec. 25th

Christmas Day. We had service in the saloon this morning and a jolly good dinner after - goose, turkey,

lamb, beef, and two or three entrees, besides puddings etc. I hope Mary and all at Fairfield will have a merry Christmas. We had another grand concert this evening and more wine etc. At noon today we were at Lat. 26. 59. 32 deg. Long. 103. 32. 15 deg. and had travelled 306.2 miles in the twenty four hours. After the music etc. was over I went up on deck and sat smoking until half past one in the morning.

Dec. 26th

Sunday. I am sorry to say it is raining this morning but I hope it will clear off again. There is service this morning in the 1st. Saloon and in the 2nd. Saloon tonight. We got into the Tropics today and it is getting uncomfortably warm. I was pretty considerably astonished to see a photo of Fred and Ted Chamberlain in the album today. One of the lady passengers (Miss Thomley) was showing her album to someone and I saw the photo. I immediately said "I knew them" and of course it led to a long talk. I told her that Fred was married to my cousin Miss Hartley and Miss Thomley said she had heard Edith was the "Belle of Bowdon".

Lat. 23. 53. 24 deg., Long. E. 99. 00. 00 deg., Course N. W. 4 309 Miles

Dec. 27th

Monday. We went along fine during the night, we were going over 13 miles an hour. It was inclined to rain this morning but it cleared up again and it is awfully hot now. We went 316 miles in the twenty four hours. Lat. 20. 47. 38 deg., Long. 94. 24. 40 deg. Mary will be at the races today. I hope she will enjoy herself.

Dec. 28th

Today is hotter than any day I can remember I think. It makes one perspire to be still and read. There is one consolation and that is the bath. I sometimes feel inclined to lie down in it all day, but the other passengers might object to that as they would not be able to have a bath. We are starting a paper on board (in the 2nd. saloon) to be called the "Liguria Times". We went 316 miles since noon yesterday up to noon today.

Lat. 17. 33. 54 deg., Long. E. 90. 1. 20 deg.

Dec. 29th

Thank goodness It is not so hot today as there is a nice breeze blowing. I wish I had got some paper collars in Sydney as all mine are dirty now. We went 308 miles since yesterday and are at Lat. 14. 22. 59 deg., Long 85. 50. 00 deg. I washed my collars and some handkerchiefs this morning and now I am at a loss how to iron them, but I will try to get one tomorrow.

Dec. 30th

It is awfully warm again today I am sorry to say. There are a lot of Flying Fish about today. I wish the voyage was over. I am getting heartily sick of the sight of the sea now. It was a month yesterday since I left Fairfield. It seems to me more like a year than a month. I hope Mary is all right. I wonder if she ever thinks about me. The time will pass so awfully slowly until I get back again, every day seems like a month and I cannot take any interest in books etc. We went 314 miles since yesterday and are in

The Button Files

South Lat. 10. 54. 57 deg., East Long. 81. 50. 30 deg. course north west. There was a row and a fight last night between two of the passengers Abbot and Weldon, but the fight did not last long. The Captain came and ordered them to their cabins.

Dec. 31st

It is rather cooler today I am glad to say for yesterday was frightfully hot. It is a year today since I was married. I wish I could be with Mary now. I hope she is all right, miss her. We made the longest run we have made yet. From noon yesterday till noon today, viz. 328 miles, over 13 1/2 Miles an hour.

Jany. 1st 1881

I sat up last night to see the Old Year out and the New Year in. It was a beautiful night and deliciously cool. I was thinking of Mary and all at Fairfield all the time nearly. I wonder if they sat up. I expect they did. We only went 278 mltes today because we got into a strong current which is running dead against us. We are in Lat. 4. 41 04 deg. South and Long. 73. 54. 55 deg. We had a christening in the 2nd. Saloon this afternoon. The Rev. Guinness baptised the daughter of one of the third class passengers. It was christened Elizabeth Liguria Jackson. The crew had fire practice this evening and all hands, stewards and everybody were employed in extinguishing an imaginary fire. After that they had boat practice so that there would be no confusion in case we had to take to the boats. Very cool all day.

Jany. 2nd

Sunday. We had service in the 1st Saloon this morning and in the 2nd this evening There is a nice breeze blowing which makes it very cool and pleasant. It rained a little today. We crossed the Equator about 9 o'clock this evening. We were in Lat. South 1. 24. 00 deg. Long. 70. 00. 30 deg. and travelled 299 1/2 miles at noon today.

Jany. 3rd

It is very cool and pleasant again today but the wind is right ahead and so we do not go as far as we should do if we had a fair wind. We saw a big steamer this evening. She was going to either India or China, we were about eight or nine miles off. We were in Lat. North 2. 17. 33 deg., Long. East 66. 00. 45 deg, and had travelled 325 1/2 miles at 12 o'clock today. We are about half way home today. I have felt awfully miserable and restless today somehow I could not read or anything, I cannot imagine what is wrong with me. I hope they are all right at Fairfield. I wish I could see Mary now.

Jany, 4th

It is very calm on the sea again today. We have had wonderfully calm weather since we left Adelaide. I expect most of the passengers will be sick if we have any rough weather. We shall be home in about three weeks from now, I expect. At 12 o'clock at noon we were in Lat. North 5. 54. 21 deg., Long. 60. 54. 15 deg., and had travelled 329.8 miles - if we keep up that distance every day we shall not be long in going home. The first number of the "Liguria Times" will appear tomorrow. I am getting awfully sick of being on board ship so long, I wish I was back again. There seems to be nothing to do but read and eat and sleep and go in the bath. I have travelled six

thousand five hundred and thirty five miles by sea since I left Brisbane.

Jany, 5th

It came in rather rougher in the night and the sea has been rough ail day. There are some of the passengers seasick. There is going to be a grand concert tomorrow night, a sort of entertainment. We went 328 miles in the 24 hours and are in Lat. North 9. 37. 07 deg., Long. 57. 57. 08 deg. It is only five weeks since I left Mary. It seems to me like five months instead. I wish I was back again.

Jany. 6th

We came in sight of Socotra Island this morning about half past nine and kept close to it all day. I expect we shall be at Aden tomorrow night. We are going to stop there for coal, I am sorry to say. I saw a large whale today about half a mile off the ship. We are 284 miles nearer home than we were yesterday, we travelled further than that but we had to go round the corner of the island. Lat. North 12. 44. 00 deg., Long. 54. 17. 00 deg. 284 miles. We have travelled 5559 miles from Adelaide up to today. We left Socotra behind us about four o'clock. We had an entertainment tonight, songs, recitations and farces which passed off very well.

Jany. 7th

I heard today that we are not going to call at Aden after all. I am very glad we are not as we should loose a day besides going some hundreds of miles out of our course. The wind has dropped again so it is rather hot again today. I ironed my collars yesterday but they look uncommonly weak and limp from want of starch. I wish I had brought some paper ones with me, but one cannot remember everything. We have been going nearly due west with a little south. Lat. North 12. 37. 04 deg., Long. 48. 57. 30 deg. We went 318 miles.

Jany. 8th

We passed Aden about 3 o'clock this morning without seeing it. I am glad we did not call there. We saw plenty of steamers this morning. The first was a large steamer bound to India belonging to a Mr. Hall. We then saw H.M.S. Serapis a troopship also bound to India. She is a very large ship painted white. We saw a large steamer laying a sub-marine cable and two Italian steamers, one a man-of-war and the other, a large ship bringing stores to the man-of-war. We entered the Red Sea about 11 o'clock and we shall get to Suez about Wednesday morning. We had a good view of Perim Island which lies at the entrance of the Red Sea, and one of the lighthouse and fort on the island. There is a garrison of English soldiers stationed there. I feel awfully miserable having nothing to do.

Jany. 10th

I slept on deck last night until about 1/2 past three this morning as it was so awfully close down in the cabin, but it looked like rain so I came below. It is very hot again today not a breath of air. It rained a little before dinner. There were three steamers in sight this morning. We went 335 miles from 12 o'clock yesterday till 12 today and are in North Latitude 22.32.00 deg., and Longitude East 37.20.30 deg. We are nearly out of the Tropics again, only 28 miles. I suppose we shall do that in 2 hours. I

The Button Files

expect it will be cooler after today. I do not care how cold it is for one can keep himself warm, but he cannot keep himself cool this weather. I expect we shall get Suez early on Wednesday morning. It will take us two days to go through the canal, it is so narrow that ships are not allowed to go quickly or to travel after dark for fear of washing the bank away.

Jany. 11th

I slept up on deck again last night and came down about 3 o'clock and then turned into my cabin. We saw a Cunard Steamer bound for Calcutta this morning and about half a dozen since then. We have got to quite a narrow part of the Red Sea now, there is land on both sides of us. The country is very mountainous, the sea coast being a succession of high mountains and rocks. We shall get to Suez, the entrance of the Canal about four o'clock in the morning I expect. We have had a strong head wind against us all day and it has begun to feel quite cold again. We shall be a fortnight yet before we reach London. On account of the strong head wind we only ran 308 miles today. We are in North Latitude 26. 57. 00 deg., and Longitude East 34. 20. 12 deg.

Jany. 12th

At last we have got to Suez. We got there about four o'clock this morning and had to wait here until about half past one in the afternoon. As soon as it was daylight there were a lot of boats alongside with Turks, Arabs, Egyptians, Frenchmen, and all nations in them. They had all sorts of things for sale. I must say I never saw such a villainous looking lot in my life as were crowded round us this morning. The Arabs are arrant thieves and will cheat you with the coolest cheat imaginable, they are excessively ugly, to say the least of them. I shall in future to consider all writers who rave about Arabs as only fit for some lunatic asylum. The Captain would not have them on board. We saw a large shark swimming about the ship and tried to catch it, but failed in our attempts. The "Vhedive", a P&O mail boat which left Sydney eight days before we did came up about 12 o'clock noon so we came in a week less time than she took. There is the Clifton here which sailed from Sydney a fortnight before us. She is in front of us going through the Canal. An accident occurred this morning. A man was in a boat belonging to the Liguria which was being hoisted up out of the water when it got caught against the side of the ship and capsized, throwing the man into the water and filling the boat with water. He was got out after a few minutes. It is lucky for him the shark did not see him or he might have lost a leg or an arm. We had to wait a long time because there were four ships coming through the Canal, one of them was the "Brindici" the last new ship of the P&O company. She looks very nice, she went into to the P&O company's dock here. We managed to start at last however, and about three o'clock entered the Canal. It is somewhere about 180 feet wide I should think. I was much amused by the Arab children. They ran along the banks keeping up with us, calling out all the time for "bucksheesh" (money). We threw them pennies and biscuits and things, and they virtually ran along for miles. Boys and girls their dress is to say the least rather scanty and they evidently do not count modesty amongst their

vices or virtues, for they pick up their garments and tie them up round their waist so as not to impede their movements. Most of them have only a sort of shirt on, and the boys and girls are dressed exactly alike. We passed some of their camps, one cannot call them townships and saw there any amount of camels. The grown up or married women wear veils over their heads and all the face below the eyes is enveloped in a sort of bag so that you can see only their eyes. I suppose they are obliged to hide their features because their religion forbids it, and it is a good thing too, for if any intending bridegroom happened to see the face of his bride elect, I feel certain he would run away from her. The black Gypsies in Queensland are real beauties compared to these nomadic tribes.

After we had entered the Canal and travelled about eight miles, we had to moor alongside and let some vessels pass, there were four of them. The first one was the "Myra" from Liverpool bound for Calcutta, she is a very nice boat. The second which passed us was the "Cliss", An Austrian steamer which had a whole regiment of soldiers ("Bashi Bagouts") on board and a "Harem". The individuals composing the "Harem" were mostly Arcassian slaves and their fairness of skin was wonderful, but there were other girls of different countries amongst them. Their complexions were very nice and fair etc. but I saw only one girl whom I would judge to be about 13 years old whom I should call good looking. Perhaps it is their way of dressing, the way they have of conveying the idea that their waist is just underneath their armpits that alters their figures so much. To me they seem like a bag of flour with a string tied round it very near the top, from the shoulder downwards they are all one shape. I think that some Turkish nobleman or Pasha has chartered the vessel to make a pilgrimage to Mecca (the birthplace of Mohammed) and that the soldiers are a Guard of Honour. I wonder if he likes so many wives. I do not suppose he cares for one anymore than another, and if I were in his place I should be very much afraid that they did not care for me. I fancy that forced love is a mistake and that in a few years the Turks and all Muslims will find that out. The natural love of one pure woman is far greater blessing to a man than the compulsory enjoyment he derives from a "Harem". The third and fourth which passed us were the "Corinth" and the "Savemake", both from England.

Jany. 13th

We moved alongside the Canal about half past five this evening. We passed the "Serapis" a troopship for India with troops and some other steamers.

Jany. 14th

Friday. I thought we should have managed to get out of the Canal today but we cannot. It is a great nuisance this stopping when I am in such a hurry to get going again., but we shall be out early tomorrow morning.

Jany. 15th

Saturday. We got to Port Said about half past nine this morning and most of the passengers went ashore. I went in a party consisting of Mrs. Greenwood, Mrs. Thomley and Miss Smith and Potter, Mitchell, Ryan etc. It is a curious sort of town, awfully dirty, especially Arab Town. The language spoken is French but a good many of the

The Button Files

people can speak English. This is the closest view I have had of the Arabs, and they are a disgusting lot. I should say it would be hard to find a more vicious and depraved looking lot than you can see in Port Said. I enjoyed one thing there though, the beer, that is the first decent beer I have drunk for years. It is English of course. We came on board again soon after three in the afternoon and sailed about four o'clock.

Jany. 16th

Sunday. We are fairly in the Mediterranean Sea now and shall be at Plymouth on Wednesday. We went 210 miles since yesterday at five o'clock. I felt very seedy all day today and lay down most of the day.

Jany. 17th

Monday. We were in sight of Crete or Cordia this morning when I got up on deck. It seems a good sized island about 150 miles long. We shall be in sight of Italy tomorrow night I expect. We met the "Aconcagua" belonging to this company this afternoon, she is going out through the Canal. I think a good many of them will go this way now. It is a thousand miles less than round the Cape of Good Hope.

Jany. 18th

I could not sleep last night I had such a bad cold and was coughing all night. I hope it will get better before I get to England. I expect we shall get through the Straits of Messina tonight and arrive at Naples tomorrow morning. I wrote to Arthur this morning and gave the Purser the letters to post. There are a regular lot of letters going from the ship. A fair wind sprung up this morning. I hope it will last. We had a head wind since we left Said until this morning. A good many of our passengers are leaving us at Naples, some of them are going to wait for the next boat, the "Potosi" which will be here in a fortnight. We are in Lat. North 37. 23. 32 deg. and Long. East 16. 55. 45 deg., and have travelled 325 miles since 12 o'clock yesterday. We came in sight of the Italian coast about one o'clock just before dinner. We shall get there (Naples) about in the morning and only stay there two hours, just long enough to get the mails on shore and then we shall not call anywhere until we get to Plymouth, where I think I shall land instead of going to London. We got to the entrance of the Straits of Messina about dusk and the Captain got frightened at something and would not go on any further. I suppose he was afraid of running ashore. There was a good deal of grumbling among the passengers as if we stay here till daylight it will be night when we get to Naples.

Jany. 19th

We did not stay outside the Straits after all last night, for about ten o'clock the Captain thought he would chance it and so we started but we lost nearly five hours and in that time could have travelled 70 miles. It is raining this morning and although the Italian coast is close to us we can scarcely see it. It was night when we came through the Straits of Messina so I could not see anything. We got to Naples about half past twelve. The Bay is magnificent but as it was rather cloudy and hazy we could not see Mount Vesuvius at all scarcely. We could see just about a quarter of the way up. As soon as we anchored we were surrounded with boats and the same scene occurred as

took place at Suez. Men and women selling cameo, lava and coral ornaments, views of Naples and all sorts of fancy articles asking first an exorbitant price and then taking almost what you would give them. I saw one man asking 4/6 for a set of lava studs and finally taking sixpence. None of the passengers who were going further than Naples were allowed on shore, at least they were told that we were only going to stay one hour and it would take a boat nearly half an hour to get ashore and half an hour to get back, so there would not be much time ashore.

Five of the 2nd Saloon passengers left us here, some to go overland and some to wait for the next boat and about seven left from the first Saloon. We got three new passengers, two Germans and one Englishman. The two Germans came overland from Germany to catch the "Aconcagua" which left Naples last Saturday for Australia but they were just a few minutes too late, they had actually got alongside but the Captain thought they were hawkers or something and would neither let them aboard or listen to their explanation. They are going to London with us to catch the "Orient" which leaves London by Feby. 5th.

I was sorry not to get a sight of Mount Vesuvius but the Bay was splendid. We could see all round from Pompeii and Herculaneum to Castellamare, which is a beautiful place. We also had a good view of the King's Palace, which is situated on the top of a hill. They say there are a thousand servants in it. We left Naples about half past four in the evening and were soon out of sight. It must be the most beautiful City from what I could judge of it. We travelled about 290 miles since yesterday but we were stopped for four hours at the Straits of Messina. It began to blow pretty hard soon after we had left.

Jany. 20th

Thursday. It blew a pretty stiff breeze last night and the sea got up a bit. When I got up this morning the sea was rougher than we have had it all the way and it is blowing pretty hard. We passed a Russian man-of-war going East. She was sailing under reefed topsails. The worst of it is it is a head wind for us. Four or five of the passengers are sick again. We got in sight of the island of Sardinia about dinner time but were a good way from it at first, we passed about twenty miles from the nearest point. We went only 218 miles since leaving Naples and the Latitude and Longitude were not put up. A strong head wind WSW has been blowing or we should have gone further. I hope to be in London a week today.

Jany. 21st

We had a strong head wind all night but it veered round a little this afternoon. We sighted the coast of Africa (Algiers) this morning but a long way off. We only travelled 301 miles owing to the head winds. The wind got ahead again this evening and blew very strongly.

Jany. 22nd

We saw plenty of ships of all sorts and sizes this morning, and came in sight of the coast of Spain about 11 am. The wind was so strong this morning that they could not get the main tri-sail in and the sail was shivered to bits in trying, so they had to bend on a new sail. It is pretty rough today. I expect we shall pass Gibraltar about

The Button Files

11 pm. I should like to have passed it in daylight, but I suppose we shall see the lights. The Straits are only about eighteen miles across at the widest part.

Jany. 23rd Sunday.

I stayed up on deck till half past twelve this morning to see the Rock of Gibraltar but could only see a large black looking mountain very indistinctly and the lights at Gibraltar and Tangiers and I managed to get very cold and tired so I turned in disappointed. We were out of sight of land this morning but saw it again about dinner time. We were in North Lat. 36. 39. 00 deg., and East Long. 8. 04. 00 deg., and have travelled 294 miles but we had a head wind against us. We passed Cape St. Vincent about half past two and were close to it, but there is nothing to be seen except a signal station and lighthouse. It was very warm all morning but directly we got around the cape it got very cold. I expect we shall be at Plymouth on Wednesday morning, I hope so at all events, anyhow this is our last Sunday on board. I think I shall be able to catch the "Liguria" coming back again as she does not sail until the 2nd. March which will give me about five weeks ashore. I wonder how my darling is. I hope she is all right and well in health. Dear Mary, I do miss her. It rained nearly all night and was very cold up on deck. We passed Lisbon about ten o'clock at night but could not see the lights.

Jany. 24th Monday.

We were out of sight of land this morning and it was very cold and wet all morning. The engines were stopped for about twenty minutes this morning for the engineers to oil them or something of the sort. It got a little warmer about the middle of the day but still feels very cold to me. We had travelled 330 miles today. We shall pass Cape Finisterre sometime this evening and be in the Bay of Biscay. It is so cold up on deck that one scarcely dare venture up.

Jany. 25th

We are going along fine now. We shall be out of the Bay of Biscay tonight I expect, and get to Plymouth tomorrow morning. There was no Latitude or Longitude put up today. We saw the "Walmsby Castle", one of Donald Currie's Cape Steamers this morning, she passed close to us. It is awfully cold on deck.

Jany. 26th Wednesday.

We should have been in Plymouth by eight o'clock this morning but we stopped for three hours in the night because it was so awfully dark and foggy. I suppose we shall get there about eleven. I shall go ashore there if I get a letter from Arthur. There are plenty of ships about here. I have got everything ready to go ashore in case I get a letter.

Signed H. Warburton

It seems that Henry made his connection with the Liguria for his return trip. However he caught pneumonia, died, and was buried at sea in March 1881. His widow Mary never remarried and lived until the 1950s.

Member's Corner

The Member's Corner is an area where members may place short notices or comments on aspects of Warburton genealogy or the Society. These could include suggestions, statements of their interests, announcements, interesting discoveries, or items for discussion.

I have nothing for this issue. If the Society is successfully established as a Group on Facebook I would expect Member's Corner to become redundant.

Next Issue

I plan to publish issue number 5 around November this year. My current ideas for feature articles are:

- The Warburtons and Robinsons of Summerseat
- The Warburton Haplotypes
- Adrian Warburton WWII RAF pilot.

As usual my plans are fluid, especially if I receive better submissions or suggestions from members.