

Fact Sheet: Joseph Humphrey

Pensioner Details
<i>Pensioner Name:</i> Joseph Humphrey
<i>Person ID:</i> SM1003
<i>Your name:</i> Roz Jones
<i>U3A group:</i> Palmers Green and Southgate
Part One: Birth and Family
1: When and where was your pensioner born?
<p>Joseph Humphrey was born in South Petherton Somerset, on 10th June 1845. He was Baptised in an Anglican church in South Pemberton on 10th August the same year (ref 1). Joseph's surname is spelt in various ways on different records, Humphry, Humphrey and Humphries; throughout this work I have used 'Humphrey'.</p>
2: Who were your pensioner's parents? Record any details you can find out about them here (e.g. occupation, religious affiliation, whether they could read or write)
<p>On his Baptism record Joseph's mother is recorded as Eliza Humphrey (ref 1). At the time of the 1851 Census when Joseph Humphrey was recorded as 6 years old and a scholar, he was living as a lodger with a family named Taylor, in Pitway, South Petherton, a village 11 miles to the west of Yeovil. Lodging with him at the Taylor's was his mother, Eiza Humphrey (30) and her sister Rachel (25). Eliza and Rachel were both described as 'Glovers'. There was no record of a father living with Joseph and his mother and both sisters were unmarried (ref 2).</p> <p>In 1841 when Eliza Humphrey was 20 she is recorded as living with her mother Joanna Humphrey (1785), three young women probably her sisters although the relationship is not specified - these were Mary Ann (25), Rachel (15), Betsey (15). An Ann Masters also 15 and a young man James Marsh (20) also lived with them. Joanna is recorded as being a House Keeper, the five young women as Glovers and James an Agricultural Labourer. A younger girl Caroline Humphrey (4) was also part of the household, but who her mother was is not recorded (ref 10).</p> <p>Eliza's Baptism record records her as being baptised on 25th January 1824, in the presence of her parents John and Joanna Humphrey (9).</p>

3: Did your pensioner have any siblings? What were their names, and how old were they in relation to your pensioner? Use this space to record anything else you have found out about them (e.g. occupation, later life)

There is no record of Joseph having siblings. By 1861 he was living as a Boarder with a Henry Vining and his wife Jemima. Also living in the household was the Vining's 16, year old nephew Harry Plucknett. Henry Vining (58) was described as a 'Shoemaker Master 2 men 2 App'. Both Joseph and Harry as 'Shoemaker Apprentice' (ref 3).

Part Two: Marriage and children/ boarders

1: Did your pensioner marry? What was their spouse's name, and when and where did they marry them? Use this space to record any extra details you can find out about their spouse (e.g. when/where they were born, their occupation).

Joseph Humphrey married Emily Clark and the couple were living with her mother Charlotte who was 62 in 1871 in Radstock Mill, Radstock, Somerset in 1871. No occupational details are recorded for the family in 1871 (ref 4).

No record of Joseph and Emily's marriage has been found.

2: Did your pensioner have any children? What were their names, and when they were born? Use this space to record any extra details you can find out about them (e.g. occupation, where they lived later in life)

In 1871 when they were living in Radstock Mill, Radstock Joseph and Emily had 2 daughters Lotta Anne (1) and Allace who was a baby (ref 4).

By 1881 the family were living on Frome Hill, Radstock. Along with their 2 eldest daughters now recorded as Lotter and Alice who were 11 and 9 they had 2 sons and another daughter. The younger children were James 8, Lilly 2 and baby Henry. The three older children were recorded as 'Schoolers' (ref 5).

At the time of the 1891 Census Joseph and Emily's family were still living on Frome Hill. Son James aged 19 was a Coal Miner, daughter Lilly (11) had no listed occupation, while Henry (10) and Frank C (7) were scholars and there is another baby – daughter Rose B C who is one. Lotter and Alice were no longer living in the family home (ref 6).

In 1901 Joseph and Emily were living at 40 Carlingford Terrace, Radstock, both now recorded as 54 years old. Living with them were Lily(21) a 'General Servant Domestic', Harry (formally Henry) with no occupation (20), Frank (17) who was a 'Coal Miner Carter Below Ground' and Beatrice R (11)

with no occupation. On this Census Beatrice is described as a Granddaughter but no further information has been found in relation to who her parents were or whether this was a mistake (ref 7).

By 1911, Joseph and Emily, still at Carlingford Terrace living with married daughter Lily (30) and her husband Alfred Woodland (31). They have two children Reginald four, and Dorothy three. The 1911 Census also informs us that Joseph and Emily have been married for 40 years and that Emily has given birth to 10 live children, 6 of which are still living. Alfred and Lily married for 5 years have had 2 children – both of whom are living (ref8).

Not all of the Birth/ Baptism records have been found for Joseph and Emily's children. Those that have been found are:

Lotta Ann Humphrey was born in the third quarter of 1869 (ref 9). No further records have been found for Lotta.

No individual records have been found for **Alice/Allace Humphrey**.

The birth of **James Humphrey** is recorded as being in quarter 3 of 1872 (ref 12). There is a record of James Humphrey living with wife Annie Humphrey (1875) and their 1 year old son Albert W J at 11 Old Bath Hill, Radstock in the 1901 Census. James is recorded as a 'Coal Miner Below Ground' (ref 13). He was also a Coal Miner at the time of the 1891 Census (ref 6), but no later record of the family could be found.

Lily Humphrey's birth is recorded as being in the third quarter of 1879 (ref 14). There is also the record of a marriage in 1906 between her and Gilbert Mitchard or Alfred Woodland (ref 15). We know from the 1911 Census that Lily married Alfred Woodland as the couple were living with her parents at that time. They also had a 4, year old son Reginald and daughter Dorothy who was 3 years old (ref 8).

Alfred Woodland was recorded as being born in 1880 (ref 16). In the 1881 Census a baby Alfred was living on Old Bath Road, Radstock with parents William (32) and Rebecca (29). His father was Coal Miner and his mother a Lawndress. Older siblings were recorded as Fred (6), Eliza (5) and Norah (3). The two older children were described as scholars (ref17).

By 1891 only Alfred, Lilly and John were still living with their parents and were scholars. Father William is still a Coal Miner, but his wife had no recorded occupation. (ref 18). In 1901 and still living in Old Bath road Alfred has joined his father as a 'Coal Miner Below Ground' and his brother John G is a Railway Truck Builder. (ref 19).

In 1939 Alfred is married to Lily and living at Fosse House, Fosse View, Radstock. Alfred is a 'Colliery Check Weighman' and Lilly has 'Unpaid Domestic Duties'. Living with them were Dorothy Medlyn (Woodland), born in 1907 who was a Shorthand Typist and Clerk at a Building Contractors, Leonard S Woodland – 'Colliery Assistant Electrician (Above), born in 1920 and Frederick I Medlyn born in 1912 a Gents Barber. The three younger members of the household were recorded as

single (ref 20). There is a marriage record for Frederick and Dorothy for the fourth quarter of 1939 (ref 22) and also the record of Frederick's death in 1977 (ref 23).

There is a record of the death of Alfred Woodland, in 1957 (born in 1880) in North Radstock who is likely to have been Lilly's husband (ref 21). No record has been found of Lilly's death.

Henry Humphrey is recorded as being born in 1881 on the census of 1881 (ref 5). A record for the birth of a Harry Humphres in the third quarter of 1880 has been found (ref 24) and also a record of the death of a Harry Humphrey in 1911 (ref 25). No other records have been found for a Harry/Henry for that time apart from the Census records of his childhood (refs 5, 6 & 7).

No record of the birth of **Frank Humphrey** has been found, but there is a record of him marrying Kate Probert or Ellen Long in the second quarter of 1905. From the 1911 Census it is clear he married Ellen Long (1888). The couple had one daughter in that year – Doris who was 4 years old. The 1911 Census states that Frank and Ellen had been married for 6 years and Ellen had had 3 live births, but only one living child. Frank is a 'Coal Miner Carting Boy' as he had been in 1911 (ref 7) and they lived in Peasedown St John, 2 miles to the north of Radstock (ref 27).

According to the 1939 Register Frank and Ellen were living at 55 Welton Road, Radstock and Frank at 56 years old was still a 'Coal Miner Underground Heavy Worker Timberman'. Ellen was recorded as 'Unpaid Domestic Duty, as was Doris, now Doris Dorley and married but with her parents without a husband being recorded in the house. A son Frank A H had been born in 1917 and single he was 'a Plasterer Heavy Work' (ref 28).

There is a record of the death of Frank E Humphrey in 1949 when he was 64 years old (ref 29).

Beatrice Rose C was born in the first quarter of 1890 (ref 30) and married in 1911. It is not clear whether she married a William Goddard, or Ernest Lewis as no further records have been found. The third possible groom was Jessie Kerton – but she was a woman (ref 31).

Part Three: Work

1: What occupation was your pensioner recorded as doing in census years? Please make sure to state clearly which year you are referring to

In the 1851 Census Joseph was 6 and a Scholar (ref 2). By 1861 he was a Shoemaker Apprentice (ref 3) and a Shoe Maker in 1881 (ref 5). The 1871 Census does not record an occupation (ref 4).

It was not until the Census of 1891 that Joseph is recorded as working for the Post Office. Here his occupation is 'Civil Service Rural Postman' (ref 6). Again in 1901 Joseph is recorded as a Rural Postman, but he retired later that year. Post Office records state that Joseph joined the service in 1882 and served for 19 years before retiring at the age of 56 due to ill health in 1901

In 1911, now 65 years old Joseph is recorded as a Boot Repairer, and so he continued working after retiring from the Post Office.

2: What occupations were people living with your pensioner (e.g. spouse, children, boarders) doing in the census years? Please make sure to state clearly which year you are referring to

In 1851 the six women living in the house of Charles Taylor, including Joseph's mother Eliza were 'Glovers'. Charles was an Agricultural Labourer (ref 2).

By 1861 when Joseph was a Shoe Maker Apprentice he was most likely living with the man that he was serving his apprenticeship with - Henry Vining, along with another apprentice Harry Plucknett, nephew of Henry Vining (ref 3). In 1881 Joseph was a Shoe Maker (ref 5) and after retirement from the Post Office he was a Boot Repairer (ref 8).

Other family members worked in Mining. These were Joseph's sons James (refs 6 & 13) and Frank (ref 7 & 28), son in law Alfred Woodland (refs 8 & 20) and his father William Woodland (ref 17, 18 & 19). Coal was mined here from the 15th Century until 1973. Alfred's brother John G was a Railway Truck Builder, trucks probably built to carry the coal that was mined in the area. (ref 19)

Glove and Shoe making were large employers in this area in the nineteenth century, and much of this was a cottage industry until the introduction of machinery (ref 32).

Coal mining and associated industries were the other large employer of men in the area. Mining had begun in Roman times and by the beginning of the nineteenth century there were 4,000 people employed on the coalfield. The Avon Navigation system was extended to the area and in 1854 a railway line to the area was completed, which were accessed from the pits by a series of [tramways](#) (ref 33).

Part Four: Anything Else/Later Life

Please use this space to record anything else you have found out about your pensioner. For example: what do we know about their life after retirement?

All that is known of Joseph Humphrey's life after retirement from the Post Office in 1901 is that worked as a Boot Repairer (ref 8). He died on 23rd May 1918 of Apoplexy at Welton Road, Radstock. On his death certificate Joseph's profession is given as Postman (retired). His daughter Lily Woodland of 21 Coombend, Radstock was the informant when the death was registered the following day

Part Five: Your Sources

Please use this space to record the sources you have used

1. Somerset Baptism Index; Joseph Humphrey 1845 – Find My Past
<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=GBC%2F1911%2FRG14%2F14661%2F0603%2F1>
2. 1851 England, Wales & Scotland Census; Joseph Humphrey and Family – Find My Past
<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=GBC%2F1851%2F0009839437>
3. 1861 England, Wales & Scotland Census; Joseph Humphries – lodger – Find My Past.
<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=GBC%2F1861%2F0009130200>
4. 1871 England, Wales & Scotland Census; Joseph Humphry and Family – Find My Past
<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=GBC%2F1871%2F0010808493>
5. 1881 England, Wales & Scotland Census; Joseph Humphry and Family – Find My Past.
<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=GBC/1881/0010932102>
6. 1891 England, Wales & Scotland Census; Joseph Humphry and Family – Find My Past.
<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=GBC/1891/0013331843>
7. 1901 England, Wales & Scotland Census; Joseph Humphrey and Family – Find My Past
<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=GBC/1901/0000343289>
8. 1911 Census For England & Wales; Joseph Humphrey and Family – Find My Past
<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=GBC%2F1911%2FRG14%2F14661%2F0603%2F1>
9. Somerset Baptism Index; Eliza Humphrey 1824 – Find My Past.
<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=GBPRS%2FSOMERSET%2FBAP%2F000982578>
10. 1841 England, Wales & Scotland Census; Joseph Humphrey and Family – Find My Past
<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=GBC/1841/0003442936>

11. England and Wales Births 1837-2006; Lotta Ann Humphres 1869- Find My Past.
<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=BMD%2FB%2F1869%2F3%2FAZ%2F000320%2F120>
12. England and Wales Births 1837-2006; James Humphres 1872- Find My Past.
<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=BMD%2FB%2F1869%2F3%2FAZ%2F000320%2F120>
13. 1901 England, Wales & Scotland Census; James Humphrey and Family – Find My Past
<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=BMD%2FB%2F1869%2F3%2FAZ%2F000320%2F120>
14. England & Wales Births 1837-2006; Lilly Humphrey 1879 – Find My Past.
<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=BMD%2FB%2F1879%2F3%2FAZ%2F000273%2F290>
15. England & Wales Marriages 1837-2005; Lilly Humphrey – Find My Past.
<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=BMD%2FM%2F1906%2F2%2FAZ%2F000201%2F239>
16. England & Wales Births 1837-2006; Alfred Woodland – Find My past.
<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=BMD%2FB%2F1880%2F2%2FAZ%2F000663%2F243>
17. 1881 England, Wales & Scotland Census; Alfred Woodland and Family – Find My Past.
<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=GBC%2F1881%2F0010932911>
18. 1891 England, Wales & Scotland Census; Alfred Woodland and Family – Find My Past.
<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=GBC%2F1891%2F0013330490>
19. 1901 England, Wales & Scotland Census; Alfred Woodland and Family – Find My Past.
<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=GBC/1901/0000341425>
20. 1939 Record; Alfred Woodland and Family – Find My Past.
<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=TNA/R39/7034/7034E/017/14>
21. England & Wales Deaths 1837-2007; Alfred Woodland 1957
<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=BMD%2FD%2F1957%2F3%2FAZ%2F001054%2F071>
22. England and Wales Marriages 1837-2005; Frederick I Medlyn to Dorothy A Woodland 1939 – Find My Past.
<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=BMD%2FM%2F1939%2F4%2FAO%2F001247%2F008>
23. England & Wales Deaths 1837-2007; Frederick I Medlyn 1977 – Find My Past.
<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=BMD%2FD%2F1977%2F2%2FAZ%2F000744%2F060>
24. England & Wales Births 1837-2006; Henry Humphres 1880 – Find My Past
<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=BMD%2FB%2F1880%2F3%2FAZ%2F000286%2F117>
25. England and Wales Deaths 1837-2007; Harry Humphrey 1911 – Find My Past.
<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=BMD%2FD%2F1911%2F2%2FAZ%2F000380%2F062>

26. England & Wales Marriages 1837-2005; Frank Humphrey to Ellen Long 1905 – Find My Past.
<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=BMD%2FM%2F1905%2F2%2FAZ%2F000192%2F168>
27. 1911 Census For England & Wales; Frank Humphrey and Family – Find My Past.
<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=GBC%2F1911%2FRG14%2F14659%2F0423%2F1>
28. 1939 Record; Frank Humphrey and Family – Find My Past.
<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=TNA%2FR39%2F7034%2F7034G%2F023%2F40>
29. England & Wales Deaths 1837-2007; Frank E Humphrey 1948 – Find My Past.
<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=BMD%2FD%2F1948%2F2%2FAZ%2F000428%2F090>
30. England & Wales Births 1837-2006; Beatrice Rose C Humphrey 1890 – Find My Past.
<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=BMD%2FB%2F1890%2F1%2FAZ%2F000294%2F123>
31. England & Wales Marriages 1837-2005; Marriage of Beatrice Rose 1911 – Find My Past.
<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=BMD%2FM%2F1911%2F4%2FAZ%2F000492%2F038>
32. The Independent Shoemakers - <http://shoemakers.org.uk/history-of-shoemaking/>
33. *"A Brief History of the Bristol and Somerset Coalfield". The Mines of the Bristol and Somerset Coalfield. [Archived](#) from the original on 17 January 2009. Retrieved 8 October 2010.*