

Pensioner Details
<i>Pensioner name:</i> Emma Louisa Simes
<i>Person ID:</i> GC1005
<i>Your name:</i> Kath Boothman and Tony Dobbs
<i>U3A group:</i> SW
Part One: Birth and Family
1: When and where was your pensioner born?
Born 12 February 1846 and baptised at Old Church St Pancras 29 April 1846 (ref1) mother's maiden name Hill (GRO Reference: 1846 M Quarter in SAINT PANCRAS Volume 01 Page 357).
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>Father : John Simes, house decorator, born c1810 baptised 14<sup>th</sup> January 1810 in St Dunstan and all saints, Stepney, Father Robert Simes, mother Ellen (London Metropolitan Archives; London, England; Reference Number: P93/DUN/006)</p> <p>Mother : Jane Simes, born c1811 and baptised 11<sup>th</sup> January 1811 in Tipton Green Worcestershire, Father James Hill, mother Sarah Hill (The National Archives of the UK; Kew, Surrey, England; General Register Office: Registers of Births, Marriages and Deaths Surrendered to the Non-Parochial Registers Commissions of 1837 and 1857; Class Number: RG 4; Piece Number: 3512)</p> <p>John Simes and Jane Hill were married on 16<sup>th</sup> January 1832 at ST George Hanover Square, Westminster (London Metropolitan Archives; London, England; Reference Number: DL/T/089/027)</p> <p>In 1841 John (Paper hanger) and Jane are living in St Pancras with Jane daughter 7 and Ellen Simes (John's mother presumably) 75 and two 15 year old boys lodgers perhaps (Class: HO107; Piece: 685; Book: 2; Civil Parish: St Pancras; County: Middlesex; Enumeration District: 2; Folio: 10; Page: 14; Line: 21)</p> <p>In the 1851 census Emma 5 is living with mother Jane 40, sister Jane 17 (dress maker) and Edwin Whittle 19 (apprentice to paper hanger) in Chalton St St Pancras. Father, John's whereabouts not known. (Class: HO107; Piece: 1496; Folio: 106; Page: 26).</p> <p>A Jane Simes died in 1864 age 57 this matches with Emma's mother, but it is impossible to confirm (GRO Reference: 1864 D Quarter in PANCRAS Volume 01B Page 24)</p> <p>Emma's father John (71, Home decorator) is still alive in 1881, living in Streatham, as a widower (Class: RG11; Piece: 667; Folio: 59; Page: 4;) . He dies the following year 1882 (FreeBMD. England &amp; Wales, Civil Registration Death Index, 1837-1915 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2006.)</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)

**Elder sister Jane**, born 8th September 1834 (Ancestry.com. England, Select Births and Christenings, 1538-1975 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2014.) and baptised on 20<sup>th</sup> October (London Metropolitan Archives; London, England; Reference Number: p90/pan1/018). After Jane moves away from living with her parents in 1861 it has not been possible to identify any definitive records for Jane. Her first name being very common and the surname extremely liable to be mis-transcribed. For example Emma appears in one census as Emma Lunes, in another as Emma Tines and another as Emma Funes.

**A John Simes** was born in 1841 (GRO Reference: 1841 D Quarter in SAINT PANCRAS Volume 01 Page 307) but died before his first birthday (GRO Reference: 1842 M Quarter in SAINT PANCRAS Volume 01 Page 287)

**Elder brother John**, born 25<sup>th</sup> March 1843, baptised 23<sup>rd</sup> April (GRO Reference: 1843 J Quarter in SAINT PANCRAS Volume 01 Page 303) recorded as house decorator in 1861 census

In 1881 John (38 decorator) is living in Paddington with Wife Mary (32) and daughters Edith 9 and Alice 5 and son John 1 (Class: RG11; Piece: 18; Folio: 66; Page: 11).

In 1901 John 58, wife Mary 56, are living in Streatham (which is where Emma's address is when she dies) with children John 21, Maud, 19, Harris 19, Violet 15 and Russell 12. (Class: RG13; Piece: 478; Folio: 114; Page: 1)

#### 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). **Note:** *You can also use this space to record any details about people your pensioner boarded with.*

Did not marry.

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)

There is no evidence that she did.

#### 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

1861, aged 15: scholar  
1871 – not found  
1881, aged 34: telegraphist  
1891, aged 42: telegraph superintendent  
1901, aged 53: telegraph superintendent

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

1861, aged 15: see above  
1871 – no census entry found  
1881, aged 34: living as a boarder at 16 Cotswold Tce , Cheltenham, the home of George Bence, builder and his wife and 3 children . Also boarding there were Caroline Clinch (31) a telegraphist born in Greenwich, and Henry Hughes (17) a builder's apprentice  
1891, aged 42: living as a boarder at 6 Hawarden Parade, Cheltenham, the home of Oliver Arkell, gardener, and his wife and 3 small children. Also boarding there was Caroline Clinch (40).  
1901, aged 53: living as a boarder at 6 Jersey Place, Cheltenham, the home of John Higgins, plasterer and his wife and 4 children. The eldest son (23) was a plasterer, the next (18) a pupil teacher. Also boarding there was James Morris (19), a grocer's assistant. (Caroline Clinch had died aged 50 in January 1900. Her address at death was also 6 Jersey Place.)

#### **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?

After she retired she returned to the London area, probably because her friend and colleague and fellow-Londoner Caroline Clinch, with whom she had shared lodgings for many years, had died. The 'C Wootton' who was present at her death lived in Croydon, not far from Emma's last recorded address in High Road, Streatham. According to her probate record her beneficiary was Albert Edward Wootton a decorator (Ancestry.com. England & Wales, National Probate Calendar (Index of Wills and Administrations), 1858-1995 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2010). Albert Edward Wootton married Caroline Simes in 1902 in Wandsworth (FreeBMD. England & Wales, Civil Registration Marriage Index, 1837-1915 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2006.) In 1911 Edward and Caroline are still living in Streatham (The National Archives of the UK (TNA); Kew, Surrey, England; Census Returns of England and Wales, 1911). Caroline Simes was born in Croydon abt 1879 but it has not been possible to establish any family relationship with Emma Louisa

Emma Louisa Simes died of breast and liver cancer and heart failure on 26<sup>th</sup> July 1907, aged 61, in Croydon General Hospital. She was recorded as 'late a Postmistress'

## Part Five: Your Sources

Please use this space to record the sources you have used

### **Ancestry. Maps of Cheltenham.**

1. Emma baptism record father John Simes mother Jane Ancestry.com. England, Select Births and Christenings, 1538-1975 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2014.
2. 1861 census Emma 15, brother John 18, sister Jane 27 father John 51 and mother Jane 50 Class: RG 9; Piece: 69; Folio: 10; Page: 15
3. 1881 census Emma living in Cheltenham 16 Cottiswold Terrace with Bence family Class: RG11; Piece: 2569; Folio: 103; Page: 11