

Some details of the life of
George Rowntree and family
based on research lead from the appearance of a
Guest Book
auctioned on the Internet.

George Rowntree was the brother of Frederick Rowntree, the Architect. He was born in Scarborough and lived there all his life involved in the family grocery business started by his great grandfather John Rowntree 1757-1827. This John Rowntree was the grandfather of Joseph Rowntree II, the cocoa magnate of York. It will be noted in the Guest book that George was visited by Theodore Hotman Rowntree, of Rowntree's York, his first cousin once removed.

The Guest Book appears to have been started by George Rowntree and his wife at their home in Scarborough after they moved into their house in Weaponess Road. The house was called Riseborough, as was he previous house, and was very near to Olive's Mount. Riseborough was the name of the original property in North Yorkshire from which all these Rowntrees were descended.

See Publication: Rowntrees of Riseborough

This last house of George Rowntree still exists in 2017 , but note the spellings now
Riseborough
Weaponess Drive
SCARBOROUGH
YO11 2TZ

The pages that follow are the ones that were displayed for selling purposes.
Note the beautifully bound cover.

Names of individuals of relevance to the family have been noted at the side.

Included is a summary of information of the relevant Rowntree Family Tree so as to give some perspective to the names in the Guest Book.

A few more details of the life of George are noted later on and can be seen on www.guise.me.uk

Georges wife, Priscilla Gray Wallis, seems to be from a significant Quaker family with roots in Springfield Essex, now a district of Chelmsford. More of this family at the end of this article.

It is worth of note that George's son Malcolm married Violet Hickman, the sister of Winifred Hickman who married Fred Rowntree's son Douglas. Cousins married Sisters.

Summary of the Rowntree Family Tree shown main descendants relevant to George Rowntree

John ROWNTREE	Grocer and Draper Scarborough; founded Rowntree and Sons Scarborough 1778	b: 23 Feb 1757 Elizabeth LOTHERINGTON d: 25 Nov 1835	d: 04 Jun 1827 b: 24 Jan 1764
Offspring John, William, Joseph I, Mary			
John ROWNTREE	Book seller of Eastborough Scarborough	b: 27 Sep 1788 Jane Priestman Thornton le Dale	d: 26 Feb 1845 b: 05 Mar 1807 in of d: 08 Jun 1880
William ROWNTREE	Corn Millar Gateshead	b: 06 Mar 1786 Rachel WATSON m: 05 Jul 1809 d: 06 Feb 1845	d: 14 Oct 1849 b: 18 Sep 1788
John ROWNTREE	Grocer Scarborough	b: 01 Dec 1821 Ann WEBSTER m: 08 Jun 1853	d: 11 Oct 1894 b: 15 Nov 1828 d: 04 Nov 1864
Offspring John Watson, George, Fred, Arthur			
John Watson ROWNTREE	Grocer Scarborough; Mayor Scarborough	b: 03 Apr 1854 Eliza Stansfield GRAVELY m: 23 Apr 1885 in	d: 20 Apr 1935 b: 01 Dec 1857 d: 13 Feb 1940
Harold ROWNTREE	Grocery and Cafe Prop. Scarborough	b: 25 Mar 1886 Lilian Myrtle GUNNER m: 27 Dec 1913	d: 25 Mar 1962 b: 20 Mar 1886 d: 1954
George ROWNTREE	Grocer Scarborough	b: 20 Dec 1855 in Scarborough Priscilla Gray WALLIS m: 24 Jun 1885	d: 01 Mar 1940 b: 07 Jul 1856
Malcolm ROWNTREE	Hotel Prop. of Red Lea Scarborough	b: 17 Apr 1890 Violet HICKMAN 1914 d: 04 Aug 1916	d: 19 Jun 1952 b: 10 Jan 1891 m: Jan

Fred ROWNTREE



Judith Mary ROWNTREE
aka: Molly

Architect in Hammersmith

b: 19 Apr 1860 in Scarborough d: 07 Jan 1927
Mary Anna GRAY aka: Tinny b: 10 Jun 1862
m: 06 Oct 1886 d: 19 Jul 1933

Douglas Woodville
ROWNTREE

Architect - London & Gerrards
Cross

b: 06 May 1888 in Brompton nr Scarborough
d: 26 Oct 1966 Winifred HICKMAN
b: 21 Jul 1893 m: 24 Oct 1912 d: 20
Jun 1980

Colin ROWNTREE

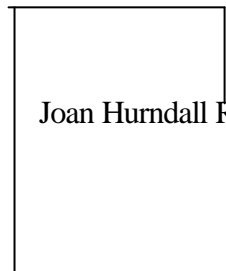
Architect

b: 09 Aug 1891 in Glasgow d: 13 Nov 1965 in York
Ada Mary BEGG b: 14 May 1894
m: 30 Oct 1914 in Brentford d: 11 Nov

Architect - WW1 Red Cross
orderly

b: 21 Jul 1893 d: 28 Nov 1989 in Chiswick
+Ralph Windsor THORP b: 05 Sep 1884
in Leeds m: 04 Dec 1913 in Luton d: 17
Jun 1966 in Hammersmith

Arthur ROWNTREE



Alysoun Hurndall
ROWNTREE

Headmaster Bootham School

b: 19 Oct 1861 d: 13 May 1949
Ellen HURNDALL b: 05 Aug 1859
m: 29 Oct 1891 d: 1950

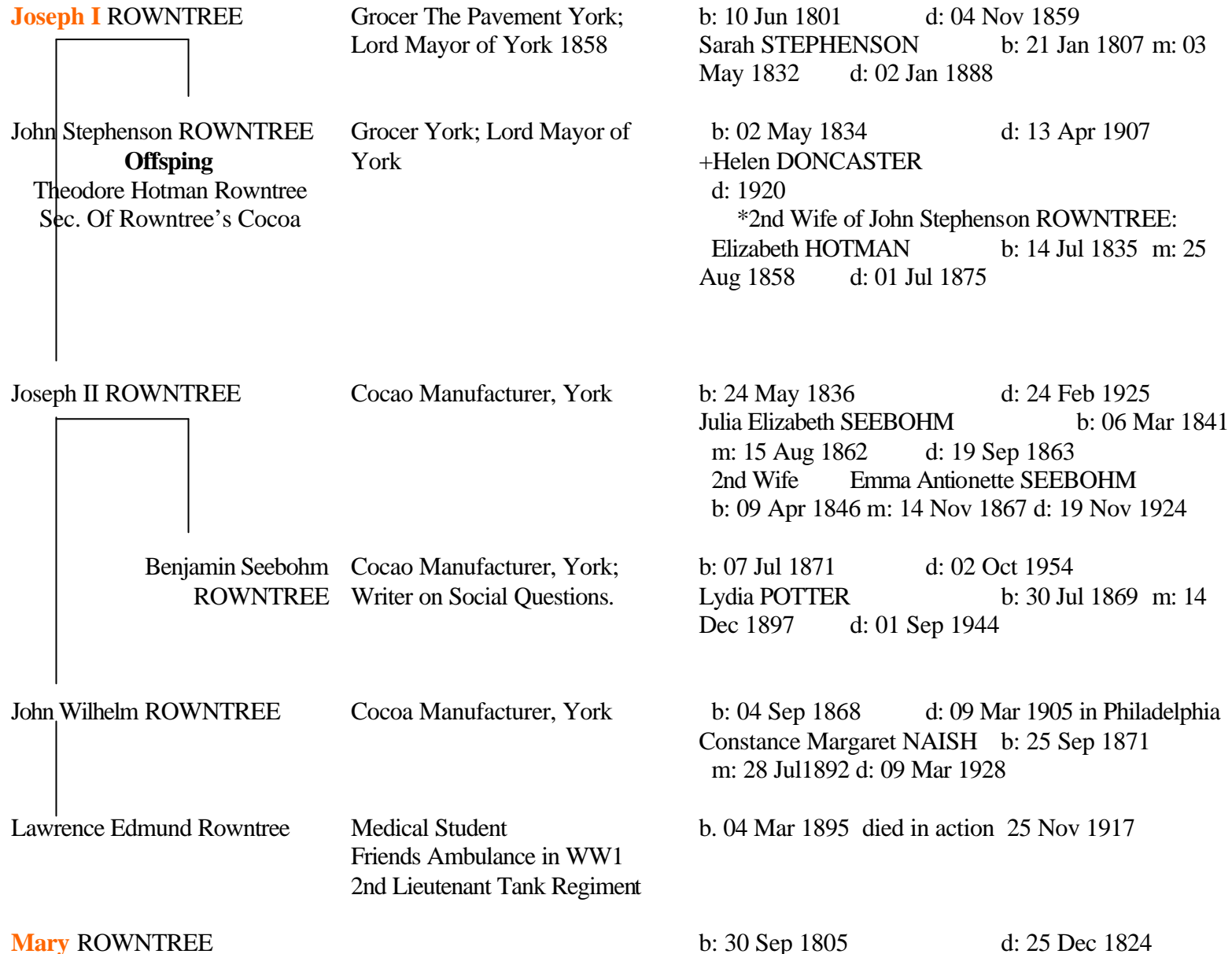
Joan Hurndall ROWNTREE

Secretary to Field MARshall
Smuts

b: 23 Apr 1895
Howard W BOARDMAN b: 16 Jul 1894
Furnituremaker Johannesburg

Doctor

b: 26 Sep 1897
Edward L STOCKTON b: 07 Jan 1876 m: 21
Mar 1926 d: 01 Jul 1952
Occupation: Manufacturers Agent London





**The Guest Book
that was auctioned in 2017**

**This book was created by
George Rowntree after he and
his wife moved to their last
house in Weaponess Road
Scarborough**

“In 1898 we moved into a house that
we built on the side of Oliver's Mount
(Fred Rowntree, architect).”

G.R. Reminiscences

1904

Dec. 23: Arthur Rowntree: York.

Elie Hurdall Rowntree

Joan. H. Rowntree.

Ailie. H. Rowntree

Dec. 29th Mary Brooke Herford: Arthington, Manchester.
Theodore. W. Herford. " "

1905-

Jan. 22. Mabelda Mary Christine Melford Geneva

Feb. 3rd Fred Rowntree. " Haimesauthe Terr. Co:

Feb. 17th Nancy Clayton. York -
Stads fupson.

Mar. 11/05 Emily Rowntree - York.

12th Stads fupson.

March 16th - 29th Cima Rowntree.

MARY ROWNTREE.

1904

Arthur Rowntree Head master of Bootham
Wife Ellen
And 2 daughters Joan and Ailie

Fred Rowntree, Architect
George's brother

Emily Rowntree

Cima Rowntree
Mary Rowntree

Christmas Day 1908.

Elija Rowntree	Wickly Pass below
Joshua Rowntree	Scarborough -
Elizabeth Wallis.	Southwold.
John Watson Rowntree	Scarborough -
many G. Hopkins	"
Mary. H. Foster	"
Annie Wallis	Springfield
Edward Wallis	do.
Eliza S. Rowntree	The Rowans.
Annie Mabel Wallis	Springfield.
Harold Rowntree	The Rowans
Kathleen Rowntree	The Rowans.
M. Dorothy Knight	Purley.
Malcolm Rowntree	Risborough.
E. Arnold Wallis	Springfield.
Elsie Wallis	Springfield.
George Rowntree	Springfield.
Priscilla Gray Rowntree	Springfield.

1908

Eliza Rowntree

Joshua Rowntree

Elizabeth Wallis ? Priscilla's sister

John Malvern Rowntree

Annie Wallis

Edward Wallis

Eliza S Rowntree

Annie Mabel Wallis - wife of Edward Wallis

Maybe Priscilla's brother - Springfield is
their house in Scarborough

Harold Rowntree

Malcolm Rowntree - Georges son then
years old

Kathleen Rowntree - Harold's sister

E Arnold Wallis

Elsie Wallis

George Rowntree Himself

Priscilla Gray Rowntree His wife.

31. VII - 7. VIII Alaric Willis Rowntree.

4. VIII - 7. VIII
Dorothy M. Taylor - Malton. Yorks.

31. VII - 7. VIII Joyce R. Taylor Malton. Yorks.

During the visit of the House Party War was declared by England
against Germany at ^{10.30} p.m. Aug 4th 1914.

On Monday morning 3rd the following Telegram was
sent by all at Riseborough to Sir Ed. Gray.

"We earnestly pray, that you may continue to work
"for Peace, and insist on neutrality, so strength
"England's position as mediator"

Aug 6-24

Malcolm Rowntree

Violet Rowntree.

Worcester

Worcester

1914

Oct. 10th - 13th. Isaac Mason. 梅
遜 Leeds, and West China.

" " Esther L. Mason. " "

" " M. Irene Mason. " "

" " Ruth E. Mason " "

" " Katherine Mason " "

" 20. 14. F B Meyer. Above the clouds hang dark, but the
sunshine is shining out on the
broad sea. We are facing into the
light of a new era.

Nov. 6th - 10th - Richenda Penney Brighton

Nov. 19 - 20 ~~Stoughton~~ Holborn Edinburgh

" 21 - 23 Theodore & Rowntree York

" 21 - 23 Katharine Rowntree York

Dec 16 - 23. Mary G. Hopkins Scarborough

Came to us the day of the BOMBARDMENT
by the GERMANS. Her cheery presence helped
us during that time of strain & stress.

Dec 26th Wilhelmina F. Binns - Kiebek, Constantinople

" " Lawrence G. Binns " "

" " Ethel M. Binns " "

Theodore Hotham Rowntree - Of
York
Secretary Rowntree's Cocoa
Son of John Stephenson Rowntree
Katharine Rowntree, wife of Theodore

The late Dr. Thornley Dec. 1939
An appreciation

"We have lost him; he is gone

We know him now; all narrow jealousies are silent;

And we see him as he merited. How modest; all accomplished with
With that subtle repression of himself.

And in what limits and how tenderly^{ly}
Of sound judgment, a trusted friend.

Ever ready and so willing to help. His very presence
brought cheer and comfort to those in need.

It may be truly said he lived up to his philosophy, which he
sometimes quoted in the words of the Australian poet
Adam Lindley Gordon

Life is mostly froth and bubble,

Five things stand like stone;

Kindness is another's trouble

Courage in our own.

TELEPHONE 1418.
RICHMOND 1418.

PEMBROKE HOUSE,
THE GREEN,
RICHMOND, SURREY.

12 Nov. 1931

Dear Mrs Rountree,

I am so sorry you had the trouble of sending my socks after me; but I am a very careless packer, I fear.

I want to thank you most cordially for putting me up. I hope I was not a nuisance.

I told them at the office to send you a copy of the little book of which I spoke.

With kind regards to Mr Rountree & yourself, I am sincerely yours

Ramsay Neil

Further Details

George was an older brother of Frederick Rowntree, the Architect.

He, like many other Rowntrees, went to Bootham

Born 20 Dec 1855

Married 24 Jun 1885 to Priscilla Gray Wallis

Died 01 Mar 1940

Children one son Malcolm who married Violet Hickman in 1914. They had two girls and then sadly Violet died in 1916. Malcolm re-married in 1921 to Elizabeth Juliana Tree and had another girl.

A little more of George's life in relation to the Rowntree family can be seen on the website:

www.guise.me.uk/rowntree/george/growntree.htm

At the age of 80, George wrote, during the winter of 1935-36, a book of Reminiscences of various events during his life

**The Reminiscences of George Rowntree 1855 –1940
written during the winter of 1935-36**

www.guise.me.uk/rowntree/george/reminiscences/contents.htm

These Reminiscences give some insight into the life of a man who lived his whole life in Scarborough as well as some interesting information and comment about the Rowntree History as a whole.

The booklet contains reference to his time as a Justice of the Peace, to his visit to China with his brother Fred while the later was having Chengtu University Built and also a first hand report on the Schreiner Riots in Scarborough during the Boer War, riots caused by the Rowntree family inviting a Dutchman to Scarborough to give a talk about the Dutch viewpoint of the war. This can be compared with the article

THE SCHREINER RIOTS in SCARBOROUGH

By Metford Robson

The Rowntree family and the Schreiner riots'.
Journal of the Friends' Historical Society,
59:1 (2000), 67-82. ISBN 00719587

www.guise.me.uk/rowntree/riots/introduction.htm

It will be observed how in the 1800's Quakers were marrying Quakers, as until the late 1800's they were disowned if they did otherwise. Cousins were allowed to marry to overcome the shortage of possible mates. In 1859 John Stephenson Rowntree wrote an article regarding the decline of Quakerism in the UK and cited this "disownment" as one issue. In 1860 Christian Doctrine, Practice and Discipline was revised with a "torrent of innovation".

Even at late as 1912 the feeling of "small world" preserved in the case of George's and Fred's offspring.

Malcolm married Violet Hickman.

Violet Hickman's sister, Winifred, known as Winkie, married Malcolm's cousin Douglas, son of Fred Rowntree and they lived for a while at Hammersmith Terrace, later settling in Gerard's Cross.

1891 Census George was living at 14 Valley Bridge Parade

Name	Age	
George Rowntree	35	
Birdella Rowntree - <i>Priscella</i>	35	
Malcolm Rowntree	11/12 - <i>months</i>	son
Eleanor G Wallis	13	Cousin
Eliza A Hardwick	32	
Annie Baines	19	

In 1901 he was living at Riseborough Filey Road which is on South Cliff
This fits in with the Schoder Riots story

Name	Age	
George Rowntree - <i>Rowntree</i>	45	
Priscilla G Rowntree - <i>Rowntree</i>	45	
Doratheia Wallis	17	
Annie W Wallis	15	
Ann E Heald	33	cook
Martha Hennels	18	housemaid

1911 Census living at Riseborough Weaponess Road

Name	Age	
George Rowntree	55	
Priscilla Gray Rowntree	55	
Malcolm Rowntree	20	
Edith Mary Knivett	27	cook
Ada Ann Riley	32	housemaid

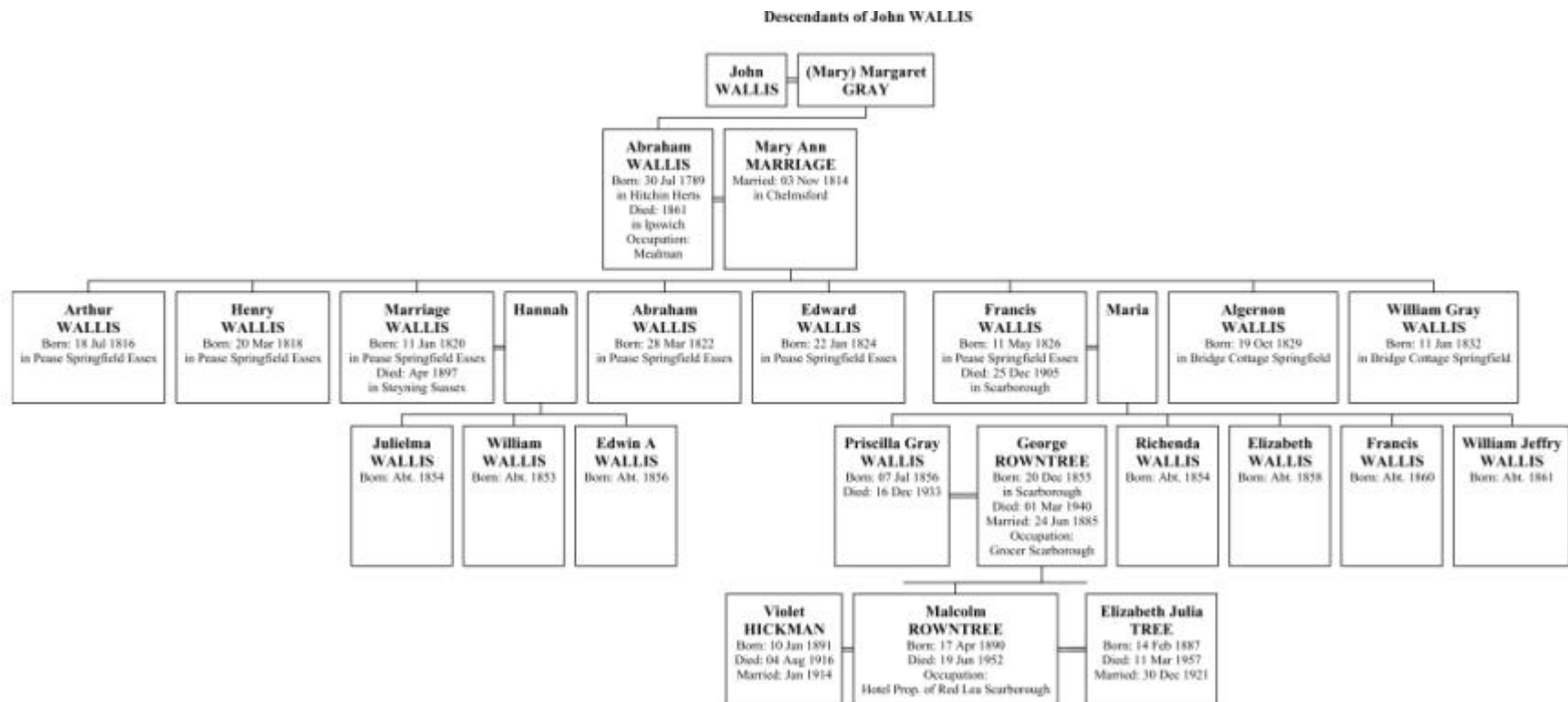
A Few Details regarding the Wallis Family

Wallis being the maiden name of George Rowntree's wife.

The family has been traced back to John Wallis married to (Mary) Margaret nee Gray. They had a son Abraham born 1789. It will be noted that Priscilla Abraham's grand daughter picked up the Gray name.

Another significant Quaker name that married into the Wallis family was Marriage. Details of the descendants of **Francis Marriage** can be seen on the website

<http://www.pennyghael.org.uk/Marriage.pdf>



[1891 England Census](#) 1890S

NAME: **William Wallis**
BIRTH: abt 1875 - Wanstead, Essex, England
RESIDENCE: Springfield, Essex

[1881 England Census](#) 1880S [View Image](#)

NAME: **Elizabeth Wallis**
BIRTH: abt 1862 - Felstead, Essex, England
RESIDENCE: 1881 - Springfield, Essex, England

[1881 England Census](#) 1880S

NAME: **Alice Wallis**
BIRTH: abt 1863 - Gt Waltham, Essex, England
RESIDENCE: 1881 - Springfield, Essex, England

[1901 England Census](#) 1900S (DECADE)

NAME: **Bernard Wallis**
SPOUSE: Jane Wallis
BIRTH: abt 1866 - Meldreth, Cambridgeshire, England
RESIDENCE: 1901 - Springfield, Springfield, Essex, England

[1901 England Census](#) 1900S (DECADE)

NAME: **Jane Wallis**
SPOUSE: Bernard Wallis
BIRTH: abt 1867 - Pleshey, Essex, England
RESIDENCE: 1901 - Springfield, Springfield, Essex, England

[1841 England Census](#) 1840S [View Image](#)

NAME: **John Wallis**
BIRTH: abt 1791
RESIDENCE: Springfield Essex, Springfield, Essex, England

[1841 England Census](#) 1840S [View Image](#)

NAME: **Mary Wallis**
BIRTH: abt 1796 - Essex, England
RESIDENCE: Springfield Essex, Springfield, Essex, England

[1841 England Census](#) 1840S

NAME: **Mary Wallis**
BIRTH: abt 1826 - Essex, England
RESIDENCE: Springfield, Springfield, Essex, England

1861 Census - Scarborough

Name	Age
Francis Wallis	33
Richenda Wallis	7
Prescolla Wallis	5 (Priscilla)
Elizabeth Wallis	3
Frances Jno Wallis	1
William Jeffry Wallis	2 months
Ellen Parady	16
Jane Hardy	27
Jane Porter	20

1871 Census

Name	Age
Francis Wallis	44
Maria Wallis	53
Priscilla G Wallis	15
Christiana White	20

What happened to Richenda, Elizabeth,
William Jeffry,
Francis Junior went to Ackworth

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There is much delight to be gained from further pursuing details of the Wallis and Marriage families and probably there is more to be gleaned from a detailed study of Quaker records for the Chelmsford area. The issue of Quakers being obliged to “marry in” is significant and it is noticeable how the same family names crop up time and again. It is interesting, at this stage in the research, to speculate as to how George and Priscilla met up bearing in mind that they married in 1885. The Wallis family were well established in Pease Chelmsford but Abraham, as a mealman, a dealer in grain, may have had contacts in the north. George attended Bootham in about 1870 as did a number of the Wallis family although no direct link has been found. Judging from the Bootham School Register, the Wallis family was of a similar size to the Rowntree one and had established itself all

over the country. Likewise the Marriage family is large and had a large number at Bootham. It is noticeable that as well as members of the Wallis family visiting George and Priscilla at Weaponness Drive, Francis Wallis Priscilla’s Father had moved from Pease to Scarborough and had set up in the bakery/ grocery business there. There is an unsupported reference to Priscilla having an older brother Edward Wallis born about 1853 who in fact was a grocer in Scarborough in 1891. He named his house Springfield after the family home in Chelmsford.

It seems that there is every chance that George and Priscilla met at Scarborough Quaker Meeting.

RG June 2017