

Robert William Scott – Carpenter, Builder and Wood Modeller

SUSAN PEARCE, DEREK W RUFFLES and CHRISTOPHER JOHN HOGGER

Robert William Scott, known familiarly as 'Pop Scott', was born in King's Lynn, Norfolk in late 1891. Despite becoming deaf in early childhood he did well at school and secured employment with the prestigious local firm Savage Brothers Ltd, makers of many kinds of machinery including, especially, fairground equipment. There he acquired specialist skills in the production and maintenance of the wooden horses installed on roundabouts and was able in due course to set up his own business as a carpenter. In 1924 he left King's Lynn and moved to south-east England to work as an estate carpenter for the Calburn family, initially in Kent and soon afterwards in Effingham. Within a few years he was working for Effingham Manor Golf Club and subsequently, with his son, created the building and decorating firm R W Scott & Son, with premises at the junction of Norwood Road with Guildford Road. Alongside his business activities he exercised impressive skill, as a hobby, in creating numerous wooden artefacts of many kinds, including exquisitely detailed miniature models.

Robert William's family background

Robert William's ancestral Scott line can be traced back with reasonable certainty to a John Scott who was born in or near to Norwich, Norfolk in about 1800. John may have been the child born to parents William and Mary and baptised at St Benedict, Norwich on 13 July 1800 [LDS: Film No. 993968]. He would become Robert William's great-grandfather.

John married at St Martin on [or at] Oak, Norwich on 17 October 1819 to Elizabeth (née) Codman, Banns having been read on 5, 12 and 19 September. Both parties were aged under 21, but the field in the marriage register labeled 'with Consent of' is blank.

John Scott, Bachelor of the Parish
and Elizabeth Codman, Spinster of the Parish
were married in this Church by Banns with Consent of
this seventeenth Day of
October in the Year One thousand eight hundred and nineteen
By me Peter Parker Clerk
This Marriage was solemnized between us { John Scott
Elizabeth Codman
In the Presence of { Peter Parker
William Turner
No. 141.

Figure 1 Marriage entry for John Scott and Elizabeth Codman at St Martin at Oak, Norwich; 17 July 1819.

Only three children of this marriage are known: Maria, William and Robert (I). Curiously, Maria was born in London. Her baptism entry at St Margaret's, Westminster records that she was born on 21 September 1821 and baptised a fortnight later on 7 October. Her father John was described as a rope maker residing in Castle Lane.

When the son William was born the family was back in Norwich. He was baptised there at St Martin at Oak, where his parents had married, on 31 April 1825, the register describing John as a cord spinner.

Robert (I) was likewise baptised at St Martin at Oak, on 20 November 1831. The register gives his date of birth as 16 November 1831 and John's occupation as twine spinner.

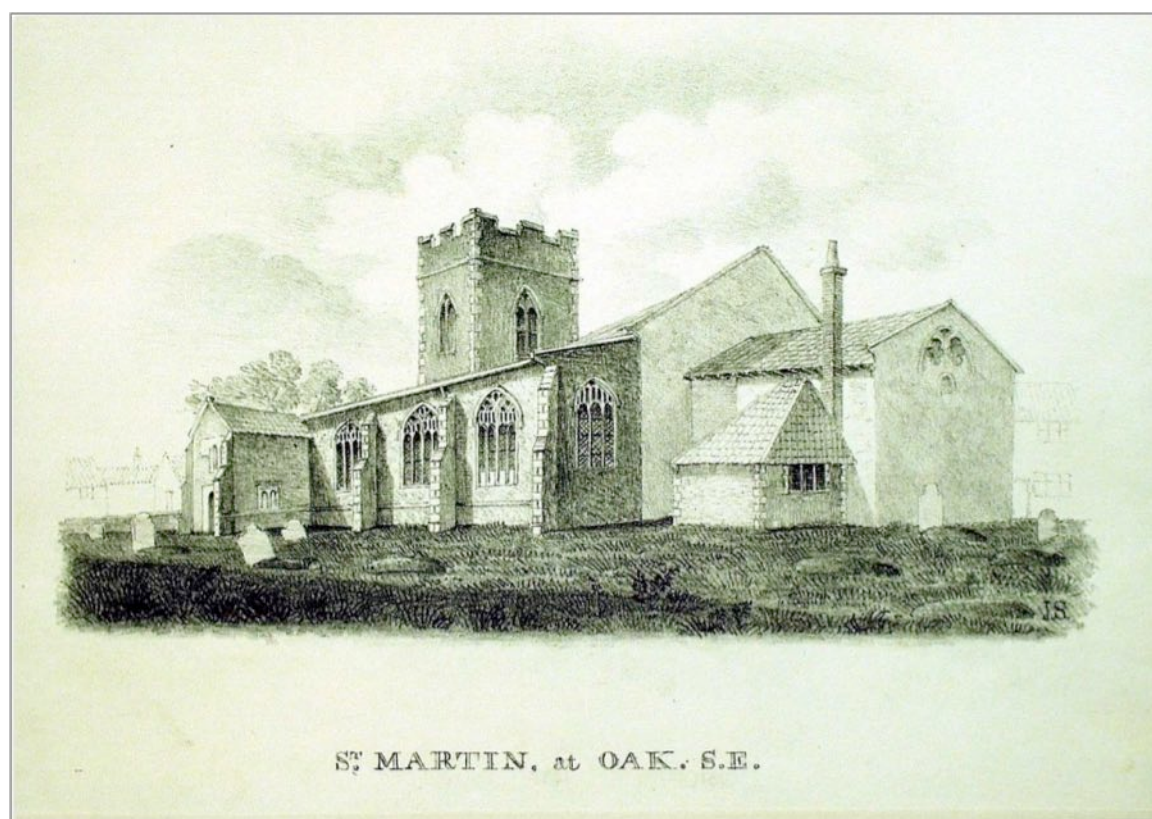


Figure 2 St Martin at Oak, Norwich at it appeared when John's children were baptised there; 1828.

May	1st	William	John	Scott	The Vicar	Godfather	Henry
born	April	Son of	Eliza				
	31st						
	No. 1102.						

Figure 3 Baptism entry for William at St Martin at Oak; 31 April 1825.

The 1841 Census finds John and Elizabeth with all three of these children living at North Walsham, about 15 miles north of Norwich and about 9 miles south of Cromer. Their address was given only as Antingham Lane (known later as the Antingham Road or the Cromer Road). John and William were both occupied as rope makers and Maria as a dress maker. The entry notes that Maria was not born in Norfolk.

On 20 May 1846 William married at North Walsham to Mary Ann (née) Bateney [GRO Ref: Erpingham 13 163, 1846 (Q2)]. The marriage register names his father as a rope maker John Scott and hers as a husbandman Henry Bateney. William was occupied as a 'servant to Rev Mr Barnes'.

On 8 November 1846 Maria married at North Walsham to a blacksmith Robert Loads [GRO Ref: Erpingham 13 293, 1846 (Q4)]. The marriage register names her father as a rope maker John Scott and Robert's father as a carpenter John Loads. The 1851 Census finds Maria and Robert living in Little London, North Walsham, his occupation given as blacksmith journeyman and hers as dress maker. Her birthplace was entered as Westminster, London.

In 1847 William remarried, to Elizabeth (née) Rice at St Andrew's Church in the parish of Thorpe Episcopi, Norwich [GRO Ref: Blofield 13 46, 1847 (Q3)]. His first wife Mary Ann had evidently died, for he was now described in the marriage register as a widower. His father's occupation was given as rope maker and his own as labourer. The 1851 Census finds William and Elizabeth living in Chapel Street, North Walsham and his occupation given as groom. His birthplace was entered as Norwich.

The 1851 Census finds John and Elizabeth living on the Antingham Road. Only Robert (I), as yet unmarried, was with them. John was still working as a rope maker, whilst Robert (I) was a wheelwright. John and Elizabeth are likewise found there in the 1861 and 1871 Censuses, John remaining a rope maker.

John died at age 80 in 1881, just before that year's Census [GRO Ref: Erpingham 4b 42, 1881 (Q1)]. A brief note 'Scott – March 16, at North Walsham, John Scott, after a short illness, aged 80' was published in the *Norfolk News* on 26 March 1881.

Robert (I) married on 31 October 1854 to Hannah (née) Farrow [GRO Ref: Freebridge Lynn 4b 975, 1854 (Q4)]. The wedding took place at St Faith's Church in Gaywood, in the north-eastern part of King's Lynn. The marriage register describes him as a wheelwright and his father John as a rope maker, whilst Hannah's father John Farrow was described as a gardener. Both Robert (I) and Hannah gave their place of residence as Gaywood. The marriage would produce eight children: Fanny, Mary Ann Maria, John Henry, Hannah, Robert (II), Thomas, Arthur and William Charles., all born in Gaywood.



Figure 4 St Faith's Church in Gaywood, where Robert (I) married in 1854; modern view.

1854. Marriage solemnized at the <u>Parish Church</u> in the <u>Parish</u> of <u>Gaywood</u> in the County of <u>Norfolk</u>								
No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the Time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
136	October 31 st	Robert Scott	23	Bachelor	Wheelwright	Gaywood	John Scott	Wheeler
		Hannah Farrow	22	Spinster	—	Gaywood	John Farrow	Gardener
Married in the <u>Parish Church</u> according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the <u>Established Church of England</u> by me, <u>John W. Pease</u>								
This Marriage was solemnized between us,		{ <u>Robert Scott</u> <u>Hannah Farrow</u>		in the Presence of us,	{ <u>William Banks</u> <u>Frances Redham</u> X <u>Her mark</u>			

Figure 5 Marriage at St Faith's Church of Robert (I) to Hannah Farrow; 31 October 1854.

The 1861 Census finds Robert (I) with Hannah and their first three children living at 9, Garden Row in the Highgate district of King's Lynn, where he was occupied as a machine maker. The 1871 Census finds them with five children in Highgate and Robert (I) still as a machinist. The 1881 Census finds them with their last

six children at 10, Garden Row – perhaps they had moved from No. 9 in order to better accommodate their growing family – and Robert (I) again a machinist, as were his sons John Henry and Robert (II).



Figure 6 Garden Row in Highgate where Robert (I) lived for almost thirty years, raising his children there. This view shows the block comprising Nos 1-6 (left to right) in the foreground, whilst the next block (in the background) included Nos 9, 10 and 12 where the Scotts lived at various times.

Robert (I) died aged '58' in 1890 [GRO Ref: King's Lynn 4b 234, 1890 (Q4)]; an *Ancestry* public tree claims the date of his death to have been 18 October. The 1891 Census finds Hannah widowed and living with her sons John Henry (a machinist) and William Charles (a blacksmith) at 12, Garden Row; she was occupied as a charwoman. The 1901 Census finds her at Garden Row with just two boarders. The 1911 Census finds her living alone in two rooms at 2, Pains Court, Church Street in South King's Lynn, living on her 'old age pension'. She died aged '82' in 1916 [GRO Ref: King's Lynn 4b 400, 1916 (Q1)].



Figure 7 OS map of King's Lynn in 1904 with Front Row (orange), Garden Row (pink) and Kirby Street (green) highlighted.

Robert (I)'s son Robert (II) was born in 1863 [GRO Ref: Freebridge Lynn 4b 340, 1863 (Q4)]. He married soon after his father's death, to Ellen Mary (née) Buck. They married in 1890 – on Christmas Day, as was a common custom – at All Saints' Church, South Lynn, both giving their address as South Everard Street. His father Robert (I) is described in the register as a machinist and wheelwright, not mentioning that he was deceased, and her father William Buck as an engine driver. Ellen had been born in London's Poplar [GRO Ref: Poplar 1c 662, 1865 (Q3)]. The wedding was briefly noted in the *Lynn Advertiser* published on 3 January 1891. Their marriage would produce five children: Robert William, Madeline Ellen, Florence Eliza (who died in infancy), Constance Hannah and Edward Eagle.

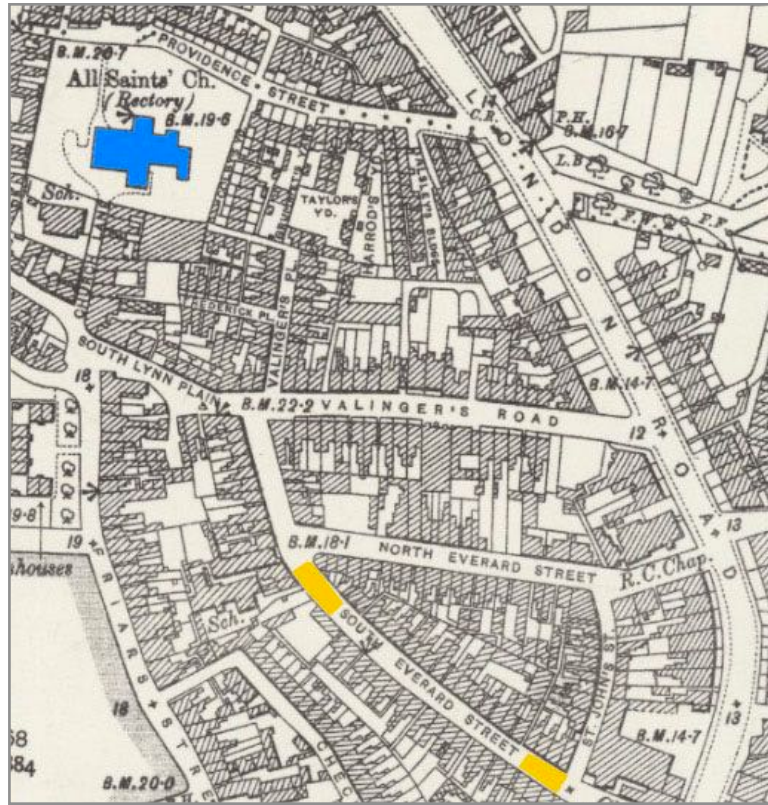


Figure 8 King's Lynn in 1904 with South Everard Street (orange) and All Saints' Church (blue) highlighted.

The 1891 Census finds Robert (II) and Ellen living at 25, Kirby Street in King's Lynn's St Margaret Parish, his occupation given as machinist. Later that year, on 12 December, their first child Robert William – the subject of this article – was born [GRO Ref: King's Lynn 4b 325, 1892 (Q1)]. He was baptised on 7 February 1892 at St John the Evangelist's Church, the register describing Robert (II) as a carpentering machinist and giving their address as 25, Kirby Street. They were still at that address when Madeline was baptised at the same church on 21 January 1894.

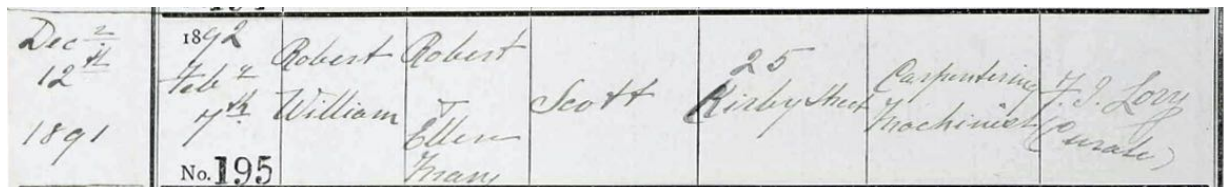


Figure 9 Baptism of Robert William at All Saints' Church on 7 February 1892.

They soon afterwards moved to 3, Front Row, Highgate in King's Lynn and were there when their fourth child Constance was baptised on 26 November 1899 at the District Church of St Margaret in Highgate. They were still living at this address at the time of the 1901 Census, when Robert (II)'s occupation was given as wheelwright.



Figure 10 Kirby Street in 1901; this picture shows No 32, probably very similar to No 25 where Robert (II) and Ellen Mary had lived in the early 1890s.



Figure 11 Front Row in Highgate where Robert (II) and Ellen Mary went to live at No 3 after leaving Kirby Street; this view shows Nos 38-41.



Figure 12 St John the Evangelist where Robert William was baptised on 7 February 1892.

On 13 September 1903 their fifth and last child Edward Eagle was baptised at the Mission Church of St Margaret, Robert (II) recorded as both wheelwright and machinist. By 1911 the family had moved to 'Medway' in Burkitt Street, St Margaret's Parish. The whole family was there, with Robert (II) again a wheelwright and machinist, Robert William an apprentice carriage painter, Madeline a dress maker and the two youngest children at school.



Figure 13 Burkitt Street where Robert William was living with his parents and siblings in 1911.

Robert William first married in 1914 to Louisa Maud (née) Brown [GRO Ref: King's Lynn 4b 915, 1914 (Q4)]. She had been born in 1889 to parents Henry and Emma [GRO Ref: King's Lynn 4b 359, 1889 (Q2)]. At the time of the 1901 Census she had been living with her parents and four siblings at 13, Wellington Street, South Lynn, her father Henry described as a railway goods guard. The 1911 Census finds her at Oxley House, 19 Nelson Street in King's Lynn in the household of a well-known corn and flour merchant Frank Rust Floyd by whom she was employed as a domestic servant. She may not have worked for Floyd very long – he went bankrupt in 1913.

The marriage of Robert William and Louisa would produce just one child, Robert Frank Ernest Scott, born in the Romsey Town area of Cambridge on 13 April 1916 [GRO Ref: Cambridge 3b 798, 1916 (Q2)]. Robert William was working in Cambridge at the University, probably doing maintenance work; while he was there he made a sketch, now in his grandson's possession, of the famous bridge. By mid-1920 they were back in King's Lynn, living in the household of Robert William's parents at 24, Cresswell Street. It was there that Louisa died on 5 June, aged just 31 [GRO Ref: King's Lynn 4b 333, 1920 (Q2)], the cause certified without *post mortem* as 'phthisis', normally signifying pulmonary tuberculosis. The 1921 Census, taken a fortnight later on 19 June, finds Robert William widowed at that address, working at home on his own account as a coach painter. Also there was his five-year-old son Robert Frank Ernest, as well as his sister Constance and his brother Edward Eagle. Edward was working as an apprentice with the engineering company Savage Brothers in the North End area of King's Lynn. Their father Robert (II) was also working for the same firm, as a carpenter.

In 1924 Robert William remarried to Ada Elizabeth Sharman [GRO Ref: King's Lynn 4b 702, 1924 (Q2)]. Her birth reference is [GRO Ref: Yarmouth 4b 35, 1894 (Q4)]. This marriage produced just one child, Delma Elizabeth Scott [GRO Ref: King's Lynn 4b 401, 1928 (Q4)]. Later in 1924 Robert William's mother Ellen Mary died aged 59 [GRO Ref: King's Lynn 4b 307, 1924 (Q4)]. A newspaper notice of her death stated that she had been residing at 24, Cresswell Street and that she had died on 5 December [*Lynn Advertiser*, 12 December 1924]. It is understood that in this same year Robert William departed from King's Lynn to take up work initially in Kent and then in Surrey.

The family's archives include two documents providing interesting biographical details. One of them is a copy of a letter written by Robert William in about 1968 and sent to the King's Lynn Museum. It provided a description of his father Robert (II)'s employment with Savage Brothers and contains detailed insight into the nature of the work there on producing the 'horses' for fairground roundabouts. This letter, very slightly edited to improve phrasing and punctuation, is reproduced in Appendix I. The other very useful document is a summary biography of Robert William written by his late daughter Delma, who died on 13 September 2019. In the following sections we shall quote parts of this using the citation [*Delma*].

School, Training and Work in King's Lynn

Robert William suffered from measles as a child, when aged eight, resulting in almost complete and lifelong deafness. Fortunately he had already learnt to speak and read before contracting measles. He relied mostly on lip reading and written words – he always carried paper and pencil with him as an aid to communication. He could just hear very loud noises. He wore hearing aids in his latter years but they were not effective. His hearing impairment was not noted in the relevant fields of the family's census forms for 1901 or 1911, whilst the 1921 Census did not elicit such information.

The family's archives record that he left school when aged twelve, having reached the highest standard at his school, St John's in Kings Lynn [*Delma*]. If so, the year in which he left school would have been 1903 or 1904. The main town of King's Lynn lies to the east of the river Ouse. At the turn of the 20th century its north-south extent was about a mile and a half whilst its east-west extent was about three quarters of a mile. St John's School stood on the west side of Albion Street at the approximate centre of this area, near to the Cattle Market. It had begun as a National School for King's Lynn in 1853.

The Ordnance Survey's 25" map of King's Lynn in 1904 shows two adjacent buildings there labeled 'School', perhaps in some configuration adopted for separate tuition for mixed infants, older boys and older girls. *Kelly's Directory of Norfolk, 1904* states (on page 232) that the average attendance then was 226 boys, 186 girls and 158 infants. The master was Ernest W Bray and the Mistress was Miss Kate Bray, each having their own residence on the school site. We may reasonably infer that Mr Bray had been Robert William's principal teacher.

The larger (southern-most) of the two school buildings still survives, although now functioning as a café. A character statement about the local conservation area, produced by the King's Lynn & West Norfolk Borough Council in November 2008, describes the school as 'being in the Tudor style with mullioned windows, little gablets and white painted brick trim. It is also an integral part of the street scene on Albion Street, facing a late 1850s terrace of eight, partly rendered and partly of plain brick.'



Figure 14 Showing Kirby Street (green), St John's School (red) and St John the Evangelist (blue).



Figure 15 The former St John's School at the southern end of Albion Street, attended by Robert William.



Figure 16 Looking southwards down Albion Street towards Market Street, the old school on the right.

We know that the family was living in Kirby Street up to at least 1894 and by 1899 had moved a short way eastwards to Front Row. If William had attended St John's from the age of 5 then his walk to school from Kirby Street would have covered not much more than a quarter of a mile, but from Front Row, later on, he would have had a good half mile to cover.



Figure 17a Infants' class at St John's; Robert William is the 2nd boy from the left in the 2nd row from the back, seen here in about 1897 when aged about 6.

It is not known where he went to work straight after leaving school. The archives [Delma] tell us that in 1908, when aged about 17, he had become apprenticed as a coach painter to the coach-making company established by Thomas Nicholas Holman; the indenture is transcribed in Appendix III. In this period Holman lived at 16, Portland Street. This street can be seen in Figure 14 intersecting with Railway Road which runs parallel, and to the east of, Albion Street. Kelly's *Directory of Norfolk, 1896* describes Holman as a coach builder who had spent 25 years with Mr William Bath whose company Bath, William & Son were coach builders to HRH the Prince of Wales; Holman was then working in King's Lynn's Market Street and Albion Street. It seems very likely, then, that Robert William during his school years at Albion Street would have been highly familiar with Holman's nearby premises and line of work.



Figure 17b Robert William
(Figure 17a detail).



Figure 18 Robert William at age 21, in about 1912-13.

At the time the above photograph was taken he may have just reached the end of his apprenticeship as a carriage painter with Holman's, or been approaching the end. As noted earlier, he married Louisa in 1914.



Figure 19 Wedding of Robert William Scott and Louisa Maud Brown in 1914.

In late 1915 Robert William was with Louisa in Cambridge where he applied to enlist in the Army. However, he was rejected in August 1916 (see Appendix IV). A son was born to them there in 1916 but the family was back in King's Lynn by 1920, the year in which Louisa died.

In the 1921 Census he was still working as a carriage (or coach) painter in King's Lynn and was doing so at home on his own account, whereas his father Robert (II) and brother Edward Eagle were employees of Savage Brothers Ltd.

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
1 Robert Scott	Head	57 6	M	married	Highgate King's Lynn
2 Ellen Mary Scott	Wife	55 10	F	married	Peplars London
3 Constance Hannah Scott	Daughter	21 8	F	single	Highgate King's Lynn
4 Edward Eagle Scott	Son	17 10	M	single	Highgate King's Lynn
5 Robert William Scott	Son	29 6	M	widower	Highgate King's Lynn
6 Robert Frank Ernest Scott	Grand son	5 2	M	mother dead	Cambridge Romsaytown
7					

(h)	(i)
Carpenter 47 1/2	Savage & Sons Engineers 189
Home Duty	
Home Duty	
apprentice 20 1/2 Peter & Turner	Savage Ltd Engineers 159
Coach Painter 59 3/4	Own account 179

Figure 20 Segments of Robert (II)'s household's 1921 Census Return.

Although Delma's account states that 'he worked on the gallopers and other fairground rides at Savage's' we have seen no evidence that he was ever an employee of theirs. Nor does he claim to have been so in his own narrative of 1968, in which he only confirms that his father Robert (II) had spent his working life at Savage's and that he had watched him at work there.

However, it seems clear that Robert William undertook work for Savage's as we have several photographs of his output during the period when he was self-employed, including one showing a set of three fairground horses with a signboard stating that these had been painted and decorated by him and that he was a coach painter. It is probable then that he worked periodically for Savage's on some kind of commission basis.

Savage Brothers was an innovative, enterprising and important company and more about it is said in Appendix II, together with some notes on Robert (II)'s work there and a transcript of his indenture.

The family's archives record that Robert William had 'always wanted to be his own master' and that he 'first set up his own business in the yard behind The Maid's Head in the Tuesday Market Place' [Delma]. Tuesday Market was, and still remains, a large open space in the north-west part of the town. Markets have been held there for centuries. The precise origin of Tuesday Market is uncertain, but it was probably one of the two weekly markets permitted by a Charter granted to the town by Henry VIII on 7 July 1521.

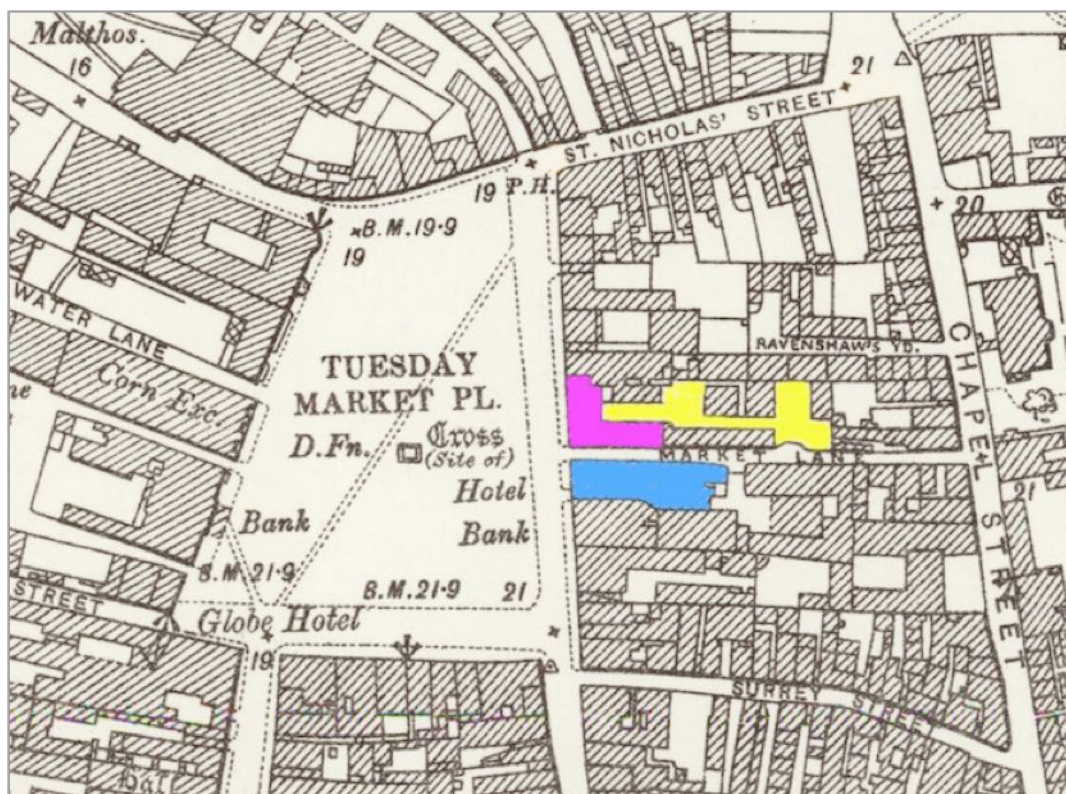


Figure 21 Tuesday Market, 1904; on its eastern side are Maid's Head (pink) and The Duke's Head (blue), separated by the narrow Market Lane offering entrance to the yard (yellow) at the rear.



Figure 22 Maid's Head (left) and The Duke's Head (right); Robert William would have passed through Market Lane hundreds of times.

We know that Robert William was operating at this yard in the early 1920s because of the newspaper advertisements he placed.

R. W. SCOTT,
Practical Coach & Motor Worker
RE-PAINTING A SPECIALITY.
ALL KINDS OF REPAIRS.
WORK DONE FOR THE TRADE.
24, Cresswell Street, King's Lynn.
Workshop: Back of "Maid's Head" Inn.

Figure 23 *The Lynn News & County Press*, 30 April 1921.

R. W. SCOTT,
PRACTICAL COACH AND MOTOR
WORKER,
Works, "Maid's Head" Yard, Lynn.
ALL CLASSES OF COACH-
BUILDING WORK DONE.
RE-PAINTING A SPECIALITY.

Figure 25 *The Lynn News & County Press*, 17 February 1923.

Workshop: "Maid's Head" Inn Yard.
Scott & Mortimer,
PRACTICAL COACH AND MOTOR
BUILDERS.
ALL KINDS OF REPAIRS AND
RE-PAINTING
AND GENERAL CARPENTRY.
Lining-out done for the Trade.
Residences:
24, Cresswell-street, King's Lynn.
17a, Sedgeford-lane, King's Lynn.

Figure 24 *The Lynn News & County Press*, 31 Dec. 1921 and further issues up to 29 April 1922.



Figure 26 The Tuesday Market in the early 1900s, a scene profoundly familiar to Robert William; at far right is The Dukes Head, with Market Lane and the Maid's Head to the left of it.



Figure 27 At left, a view up Market Lane in 1935; Robert William's workshop was entered from its left-hand side.

His advertisements in the period 1921-23 make clear that he was still living in his parent's house at 24, Cresswell Street which lay about a third of a mile north-east of his workplace behind the Maid's Head inn and just a couple of hundred yards from his father's workplace, the St Nicholas Ironworks run by Savage's. They show that for some time during 1921-22 he partnered with a Mr Mortimer but by early 1923 this arrangement had evidently come to an end and he was once again working alone. We are fortunate to have copies of some photographs displaying his work, probably all taken in the yard behind the inn.



Figure 28 A set of fairground 'gallopers'; his sign says 'Painted and Decorated by R. W. Scott Coach painter etc King's Lynn'.



Figure 29 An ice cream cart presumed to have been built and painted by him; probably his workshop at right.



Figure 30 A coach presumed to have been built and painted at least in part by him; the sign reads 'Detachable Top R. W. Scott Coach Builder and Painter King's Lynn'.

On 29 June 1924, as noted earlier, Robert William remarried to Ada Elizabeth (née) Sharman [GRO Ref: King's Lynn 4b 702, 1924 (June)]. She had been born at Gorleston in Great Yarmouth on 17 October 1894 to parents John Thomas Sharman and his wife Mary Ann (née Palmer). John Thomas was a seller of milk on his own account and lived at 29, Sedgford Lane, just a few hundred yards south-west of St John's

School. The wedding was reported in *The Lynn News and County Press* on 1 July 1924 as shown in Figure 31.

THE MAERriage was solemnised at St. Margaret's on Sunday, by the Rev. J. Blackbourne, of Mr. Robert Scott, of Sevenoaks, Essex, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. R. Scott, of Lynn, to Ada Elizabeth Sharman, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Sharman, of Lynn. The bride, given away by Mr. W. H. Sharman (cousin), wore a grey gabardine coat-frock with a cinnamon crepe-de-Chine hat; she wore a pendant of opals, the gift of the bridegroom, and carried a sheaf of sweet peas and spirea. She was attended by Miss N. M. Sharman, her cousin, and Miss C. H. Scott, sister of the bridegroom; they wore brown silk dresses, with hats to match, also brooches of amethysts and pearls, gifts of the bridegroom. The best man was Mr. E. Scott, brother of the bridegroom. There were numerous presents. Mr. and Mrs. Scott left later for London.

Figure 31 Wedding of Robert William and Ada; 1924.



Figure 32 Ada Elizabeth (née) Sharman.



Figure 33 Robert William with Ada and his son; alleged date 1924.

The family archives tell us that Robert William 'left King's Lynn in 1924 to be estate carpenter and handyman at Calburn's estate, first at Edenbridge near Sevenoaks in Kent and then at Effingham Manor until November 1927 ...' [Delma]. Why he chose to take this path we do not know, but it is plausible that as a self-employed coach builder he could not make sufficient income in the extremely hard economic conditions then engulfing the nation, and that engagement by the wealthy Calburns offered greater security.

Working for the Calburns

The connection between the Calburn family and Edenbridge is yet to be fully clarified. The Calburns relevant to this article were Robert (Eugene David) Reitmeyer Calburn [RRC] (born 1870), his wife Theresa Jacobine Maria (née Zimmermann, born 1874) – who married in 1896 – and their children: Frank Maurice Augustus Theodore Reitmeyer (born 1897), Charles Clement Reitmeyer (born 1899), Robert ('Robbie') Charles Reitmeyer (born 1903), and Angiola ('Gillie') Teolinda Reitmeyer (born 1909).

We cannot currently connect the Calburns with Edenbridge as early as 1924, when Robert William allegedly went to work there, but we do know from newspaper reports that in 1925 the above Frank Calburn married 'Delma' (née) O'Sullivan [GRO Ref: Dorking 2a 493, 1925 (Dec)] and settled with her at Cowden Cross House, Hartfield Road in Edenbridge where they lived until at least the early 1950s. His wife had been born on 27 November 1895 [GRO Ref: Sherborne 5a 328, 1895 (Dec)] and her forenames appear in the GRO index as 'Maud Mary A.' – various sources on *Ancestry* indicate that her third forename was Adhelma. She and Frank named one of their children Charlotte Delma Calburn, born in 1927. It seems certain that these namings must have inspired Robert William to choose 'Delma' as the first forename of his daughter born in 1928.

RRC had been in Effingham for some years before Robert William arrived there. He had purchased Effingham Hill House in 1916 and become Lord of the Manor of Effingham East Court. In 1928 he sold Effingham Hill House and built, some way to the north of it, a new manor house for himself which he named 'East Court'. Meanwhile, in 1922 he – or perhaps the company Effingham Estates Ltd of which he was a co-founder and director – had evidently acquired Effingham House, part of the Manor of Effingham (a different manor), and this property had become in 1927 the Effingham Manor Golf Club.

It may be that the Calburn family had already acquired an interest in Cowden Cross House and/or other estate in the Edenbridge area by 1924 and was in need of Robert William's skills as a carpenter. The earliest year in which Robert William appears in the Electoral Register for Effingham is 1926, when he and Ada were listed at 2, Dog Kennel Green. To be listed in 1926 meant that they were probably already in Effingham by 1925, so may have stayed in Edenbridge for only a year or so. They were still listed at Dog Kennel Green in 1929.

The hamlet of Dog Kennel Green contained only about half a dozen houses in this period. Some were quite substantial properties and may have been in multiple occupation. Figure 34 shows their layout in 1938, whilst Figures 35 and 36 show two of the larger houses photographed in the 1920s; wherever the Scotts had been living in Dog Kennel Green they would have been very familiar with these. In the Electoral Register for 1929 there were only 7 or 8 households there besides the Scotts.



Figure 34 Dog Kennel Green in the OS 1938 Map.



Figure 35 House in Dog Kennel Green; 1929.



Figure 36 Dog Kennel Green farmhouse; 1926.

Dog Kennel Green lies in the remote south of the parish, close to Effingham Hill House, so Robert William's work for RRC may for a while have been primarily on nearby lands and dwellings within the East Court manor. However, after RRC and his associates had brought the Golf Club into being and its operations had got well underway, Robert William's carpentering skills may have been needed more there,

potentially explaining why in 1930-31 he and Ada were listed instead at Warren Farm Cottages, within Effingham Manor.



Figure 37 Robert William in 1926, when working for Calburn.

The cottages stand about half a mile south-west of Effingham House, the clubhouse of the Golf Club. They had been constructed in the second half of the 19th century from, or on the footprint of, a group of former outbuildings opposite the Warren Farm farmhouse, as seen in Figure 38 where the cottages occupied distinct and not entirely contiguous parts of the green area. Today the cottages, some of which are seen in Figure 39, are five in number (but only four in the 1930s) and of mixed single/double-storey construction. In the Scotts' time they were probably rather rudimentary.

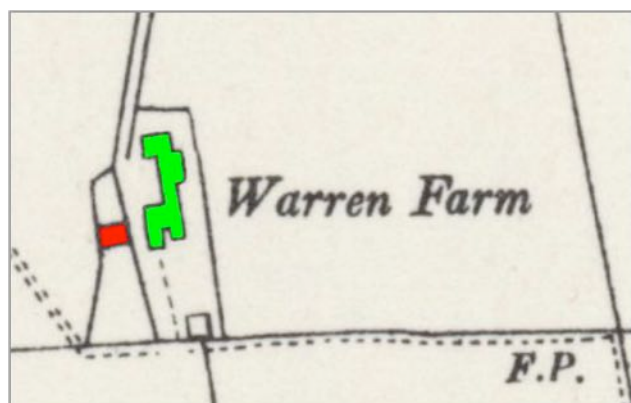


Figure 38 Warren Farm (farmhouse, red) and Cottages (green); 1938



Figure 39 Some of the Warren Farm Cottages.

Although the Electoral Registers make it appear that Robert William and Ada were in Effingham continuously throughout 1926-29, Delma's document states that there was an interlude during 1927-28 when they were back in King's Lynn. The reason given for this is that Ada's father ...

'... had died suddenly. He was John Thomas Sharman who had retired to 23, South Everard Street from the dairy at 29, Sedgford Lane, King's Lynn. His son John (Jack) Thomas Sharman took over the premises and milk round, and his wife Ethel (née Balls) ran the shop. Ada and Robert [William] Scott lived at South Everard Street with my Grandmother Sharman, and the stable in Sedgford Lane became R. W. Scott's workshop when he again set up his own business. When I was only six weeks old the decision was made [for him] to return to Effingham Manor as estate carpenter.'

As Delma's birth had been registered in the last quarter of 1928 the family's return to Effingham must have been in late 1928 or early 1929. The funeral of Ada's father, who had died at 23, South Everard Street on 20 November 1927, was reported in the *Lynn Advertiser* on 25 November, as shown in Figure 40. The article does not include Robert William or Ada in the list of mourners, unless the daughter 'Miss A. Sharman' was a misrendered reference to Ada. Perhaps the combination of distance and timescale had made it impractical for them to attend.

THE LATE MR. SHARMAN.—We regret to record the death, which took place at 23, South Everard-st., on Sunday evening, of Mr. John Thomas Sharman who was in his 63rd year. Mr. Sharman had been in business locally for over 20 years, and was a member of the Traders' Association. He leaves a widow, two sons and two daughters. The funeral took place yesterday (Thursday), the first part of the service being conducted at All Saints' church by the Rev. H. J. Enraght, R.D. The interment was in the old part of the cemetery. The mourners were Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Sharman and Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Sharman, sons and daughters-in-law; Miss F. Sharman and Miss A. Sharman, daughters; Miss Sharman, sister; Mr. W. H. Sharman, nephew; Mrs. W. Voyce (Yarmouth), sister-in-law; Mr. E. Palmer (Harwich), brother-in-law; and Mr. Blackburn.

Figure 40 Funeral of Ada's father; 24 November 1927.

Delma next states that

'He [Robert William] subsequently worked for Effingham Golf Club in the same capacity when Effingham Manor was sold. By 1934 the Golf Club was having problems. As a result Robert W. Scott was allowed to retain the use of the wooden workshop that he had been using in his employment there and he started his own business once more. Although self-employed he continued to do the maintenance work for the Golf Club but also worked for members of the Golf Club who lived in the large houses in the area.'

The Golf Club's 'problems' had arisen during 1933-34. As far as surviving legal documents within our cognizance can be deciphered, it seems that Calburn or his associated company Effingham Estates Ltd, or some combination of them, held the freehold of Effingham Manor and had leased it to the Golf Club since the late 1920s. The Club's tenancy and options were reformulated by further agreements made in 1933 in documents now at the Surrey History Centre [SHC Ref: 6220/1/1-4]. In 1936 the freehold was sold to the Surrey Land Development Company.

Operating his own business in Effingham

Robert William's family did not stay for long at the Warren Farm Cottages. Around 1931-32 they moved to Bookham, taking up residence in a bungalow named 'Lynncote' (evidently chosen in memory of King's Lynn) in Howard Road, which extends eastward from Dorking Road. The Electoral Register lists them at that address during the period 1932-55.



Figure 41 Ada with her daughter Delma and step-son Bob at Lynncote, with detail below; early 1930s.



A newspaper advertisement published in 1991 indicated that Robert William had established his own business in 1932. His son Robert Frank Ernest, known familiarly as 'Bob' or 'Bobby', was aged nearly 21 by the mid-1930s and would have learned a lot already from his father about the building and decorating trades, working with him as a fully-fledged carpenter and joiner. In 1938 this partnership was formalised as the business 'R W Scott & Son', basing its operations in a spacious workshop at the northern end of Norwood Road in Effingham, at its junction with the Guildford-Leatherhead Road (today's A246).



Figure 42 Lynncote highlighted in Howard Road.



Figure 43 Workshop highlighted in Norwood Road.

In 1935 Robert William's father Robert (II) died at his home in Cresswell Road, King's Lynn, as reported in the local newspaper [*Lynn News & County Press*, 9 April 1935]. The article notes that Robert William with Ada attended the funeral, as did his brother Edward Eagle with his wife. Robert (II)'s former work with Savage's is acknowledged and a representative of that company attended the funeral.

FUNERAL OF MR. R. SCOTT
 THE death occurred on Thursday, at 24 Cresswell-st., Lynn, of Robert Scott, aged 71 years. Mr. Scott had worked for many years at Savage's engineering works. He leaves a widow, two sons, and a daughter. The funeral took place yesterday (Monday) when a service was held at St. Nicholas' chapel, the Rev. A. Perryman officiating. The mourners were: Mrs. R. Scott, widow; Mr. and Mrs. E. Scott, Mr. and Mrs. R. Scott, sons and daughters-in-law; Mrs. C. Groom, daughter; Mr. W. Scott, brother; Miss E. Scott, niece. Mr. J. Savage represented Savage's engineering works.

Figure 44 Funeral of Robert (II) Scott; 1935.

We do not have any detailed account of the work that was undertaken by the business during the 1930s, 1940s or 1950s. During those three decades there must have been hundreds of projects, on many sites within Bookham, Effingham and beyond. Nor do we have any information yet on the mix of their work, for example whether it was predominantly decorating or building – and if the latter then whether it was full-scale housebuilding or just certain components of it. In 1940 the company was offering services in carpentry, decorating and general house repairs, but with no mention of building, as shown in an advertisement published in 1940 [*Effingham Parish Magazine*, Vol VII, No 2, February 1940].

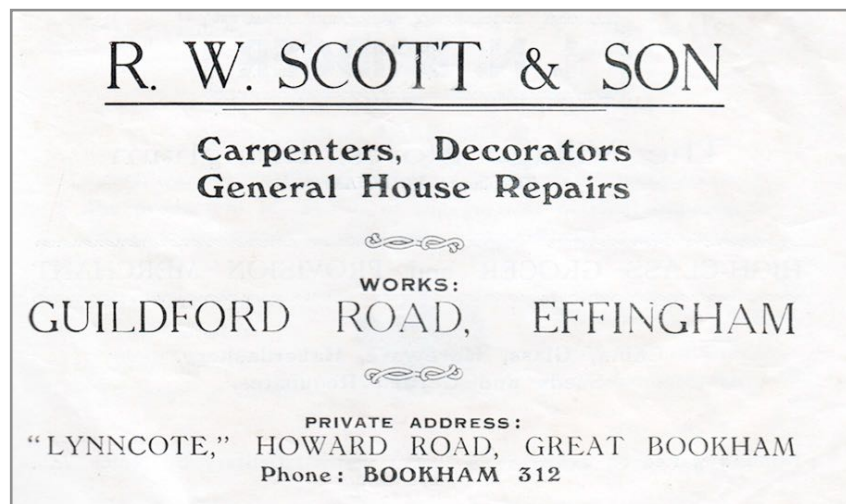


Figure 45 R W Scott & Son in the *Effingham Parish Magazine*, February 1940.

Delma's document says that 'the War years (1939-45) were difficult, but with Bobby in the R. E.'s [Royal Engineers] R W Scott struggled on with the help of his wife Ada and, in the school holidays, his daughter Delma. The firm re-established itself after the War.'

Bob married during the War, on 8 February 1941, to Marian (née) Lee from Goole in Yorkshire. They married at St Nicolas in Bookham.



Figure 46 Wedding of Robert ('Bob') Frank Ernest Scott and Marian Lee in Bookham; 8 February 1941.

In the wedding photograph the persons left-to-right are: Robert William, unknown, L Poulter (best man), Delma (bridesmaid), Marian (bride), Bob (groom), Peggy Thorbes (bridesmaid), Ada Lee (Marian's mother) and Pop's wife Ada.

A newspaper report of the wedding [*The Surrey Advertiser and County Times*, 15 February 1941], noted that Bob and Mr Poulter were both sappers in the Royal Engineers, so they may have been serving together. The report mistakenly describes Delma as sister of the bride, instead of step-sister of the groom.

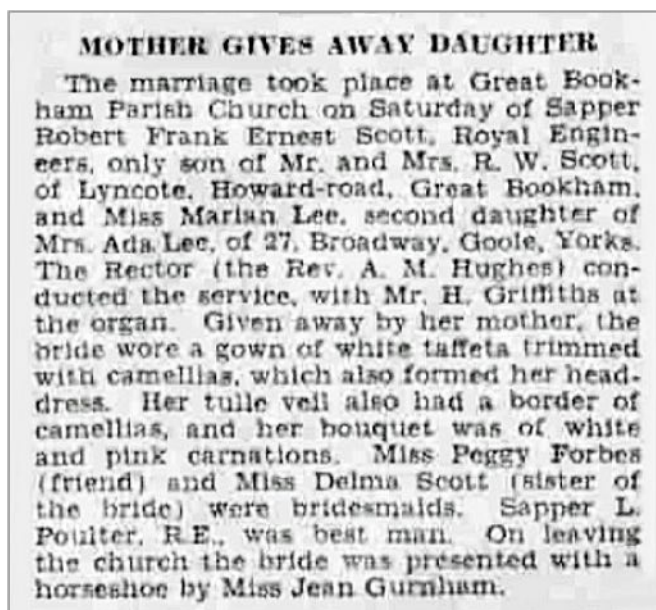


Figure 47 Report of the wedding of Bob and Marian in *The Surrey Advertiser and County Times*, 1941.

Besides his work for the firm, Robert William also gave some time to his wood carving and modelling hobby. He was highly gifted and versatile in this, making many beautiful objects of which ELHG is fortunate to have both photographs and descriptions in press cuttings. Many of the items he made are still in the possession of family and friends today. Delma's document says the following:

'R W Scott made several rocking horses using the pattern of the gallopers. The first had wooden rockers and was given to Robbie Calburn in 1929. The next was made for his first grand-daughter, Susan, in 1945. Another was made in 1955/56 for Anne and Paul, also grandchildren. These had iron rockers, but all were carefully painted in dapple grey like the original gallopers, with the typical tartan painted saddle cloth and the painted straps on the horses' chests.

He made Paul a wooden wheelbarrow using the iron tyre that his father [Robert (II)] had made and used on a wheelbarrow that he had made for R W Scott when he was a child. This wheelbarrow with wheelwright's wheel and iron tyre is still in my possession – and has been played with by following generations of grandchildren and great-grandchildren.'



Figure 48 Rocking horse made by Robert William.



Figure 49 Another made by him.



Figure 50 Wheelbarrow made by Robert William using an iron tyre which his father had once used likewise.

In 1946 the firm added a new string to its bow, namely the business of undertaking as shown in the advertisement in Figure 51 published in *The Surrey Advertiser and County Times* on 26 October. Mr Jeary was Thomas Frederick Jeary who had been born in Downham, Norfolk in 1918 and by 1939 had become a carpenter and joiner there. He had first married in 1941 to Phyllis Irene (née) Benifer but they had apparently separated or divorced by 1946. Thomas then came to live with Robert William at Lynncote, being listed there during 1946-48. The little bungalow must have been rather full, as Bob and Marian were also living there at this time.

In 1949 Thomas remarried in Stratford to Joan Betty (née) Hopkins and thereafter settled in King's Lynn where he died in 2008. He may have been known to the Scott family long before he came to Bookham. Despite his departure in the late 1940s, the firm continued offering undertaker services for many years afterwards.

Another example of the Scott family's handicraft was reported in *The Surrey Advertiser and County Times* on 28 December 1946. On this occasion it appears that the originator was not Robert William but his wife Ada, who had created a new galleon sign for the Effingham Women's Institute. The report does not state the physical nature of the sign or its intended use. It may have been mounted on the exterior of the Institute's Hall or on some wall inside, or may have been a less rigid item simply brought out for display at the meetings. In any event, it was 'much admired'.

Figure 52 New sign for the Effingham Women's Institute.

EFFINGHAM

MESSRS. SCOTT & SON, BUILDERS,
EFFINGHAM, with the assistance of
Mr. Jeary, Undertaker, who has joined
the Firm, are now able to direct
Funerals and Cremations. Moderate
Prices. Phone Bookham 2166-312.—
Advt.

Figure 51 Undertaker services begun in 1946, with the arrival of Mr Jeary.

EFFINGHAM

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE'S SIGN

The monthly meeting of the Effingham Women's Institute was held on Wednesday last week in the newly-decorated hall, and was presided over by Mrs. Taylor. She welcomed guests from Fetcham and other visitors, and asked all members for their active help and support during the coming year. The Effingham W.I. sign, representing an Elizabethan ship commanded by Lord Howard of Effingham, was on view. It has been designed and executed by Mrs. R. W. Scott, of Bookham, and was much admired. After tea the dramatic section entertained the meeting with a performance of "The Bathroom Door."

In the 1940s Robert's first two grandchildren were born to Bob and Marian – Susan Scott in 1944 (born in Yorkshire) and Christopher Robert Scott in 1949 (born in Surrey). Then on 2 April 1950 his daughter Delma Elizabeth married at St Nicolas, Bookham to John Howard V Sherman, as reported in *The Surrey Advertiser and County Times* on 8 April. A month later his firm was advertising in *The Dorking and Leatherhead Advertiser* on 26 May for a clerk, and so business must have been picking up.

MISS D. E. SCOTT MARRIED
A pretty wedding took place at St. Nicholas Church, Great Bookham, on Sunday. The bride was Miss Delma Elizabeth Scott, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Scott, of Lynncote, Howard Road, Great Bookham, and the bridegroom Mr. John Howard V. Sherman, eldest son of the late Mr. Sherman, and Mrs. L. Sherman, of Parkfield Road, Worthing. The bride, who was given away by her father, was attired in an off-white taffeta dress with veil and coronet of orange blossoms, and had a bouquet of mixed roses. The bridesmaids were Miss Susan Scott (niece), also in an off-white taffeta dress, and Miss Molly Strudwick, in blue taffeta. Mr. David Sherman (brother of the bridegroom) was best man. Canon A. M. Hughes (rector) officiated, and a friend of the bridegroom, Mr. Alan Dixon, played the organ. About 50 guests attended a reception at the Church House. The honeymoon is being spent in New-quay.

Figure 53 Delma's wedding in Bookham; 1950.

LADY CLERK to manage routine of small builders office, able to type, alternate Sats. free.—Apply, R. W. Scott and Son, Guildford-rd, Effingham.

Figure 54 Advertising for a part-time clerk; 1950.



Figure 55 Robert William (right-most) with friend Alf Robinson, probably in the 1950s.



On 6 September 1952 Robert William's wife Ada Elizabeth died in Leatherhead's Cottage Hospital, aged almost 58 [GRO Ref: Surrey Mid E 5g 166, 1952 (Q3)]. She was buried at St Nicolas, Bookham on 9 September.

Ada Elizabeth Scott. No. 211	Lynncote Howard Road Great Bookham.	September 9 th 1952	58 years	J. C. Hill F.25.
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Figure 56 Ada's entry in the St Nicolas Burial Register.

Administration of her estate was granted to Robert William, described as a master builder, on 25 October and her effects were valued at just over £1,360.

1952
SCOTT Ada Elizabeth of Lynncote Howard-road Great Bookham Surrey (wife of Robert William Scott) died 6 September 1952 at The Cottage Hospital Leatherhead Surrey Administration London 25 October to the said Robert William Scott master builder. Effects £1360 16s. 10d.

Figure 57 Ada's entry in the Probate Register.

Two years after Ada's death Robert William left his Lynncote home and moved into 6, Norwood Road, Effingham, just a stone's throw from his workshop, with Bob and Marian, where he would stay for just over a decade. The Electoral Register lists him at No 6 from 1956 onwards, so he had taken a year or two to register his new address.

1076	Scott, Marion, 6 Norwood Rd.
1077	Scott, Robert F. E., 6 Norwood Rd.—J
1078	Scott, Robert W., 6 Norwood Rd.

Figure 58 The family listed in the 1956 Electoral Register for Effingham.

In 1965 they all relocated to Woodlands Road, where Robert William lived out the rest of his life.

Hobbying and retirement

We do not know precisely when Robert William officially retired but remarks in newspaper cuttings suggest that he did so in the early 1960s. As already seen, he had not waited for retirement to pursue his wood-crafting hobby, indeed he had evidently maintained this as a sideline since the 1940s. However, once in retirement, his time for this activity clearly expanded.

The earliest artefact of his from the Sixties that we know of was a reredos which he produced for the 'children's corner' in St Nicolas Church, Bookham. A newspaper article published in 1965 stated that he had made this 'four years ago', describing it as follows: 'It depicts farm hay carts, harvesting and animals of all kinds; its theme is "All Things Bright and Beautiful"'. It is usually brought into the centre of the church for Sunday school.'



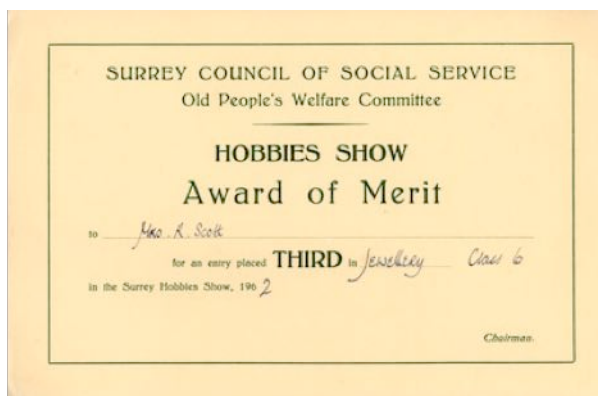
Figure 59 Reredos for St Nicolas Church, by Robert William; c1961.

In the early 1960s Robert William was a regular entrant – and prize-winner – in the Hobbies Shows staged annually in Whiteley Village. These were organised by an Old People's Welfare Committee set up in July 1951 'to co-ordinate voluntary organisations working for old people' [*West Sussex Gazette*, 5 July 1951]. The Committee had been established by the Surrey Council for Social Service, created in January 1951 'to form a link between all the voluntary organisations carrying out social service work in the county, and between them and the statutory bodies responsible for social service' [*West Sussex Gazette*, 18 January 1951].

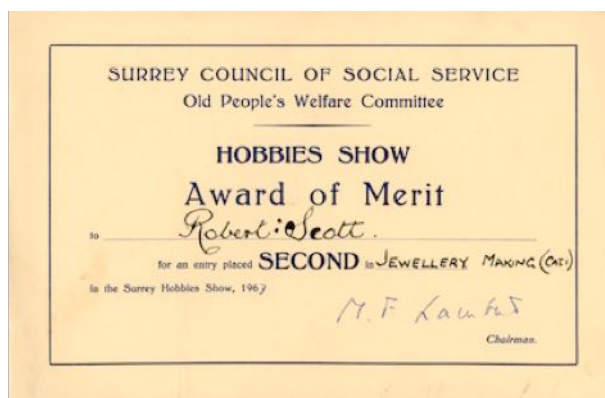
It was not until eight years later that the committee staged its first Hobbies Show ('Exhibition') at Whiteley Village, on 6 November 1958 [*Surrey Mirror*, 14 November 1958]. The second Hobbies Show followed in 1959, a two-day event on 15-16 July. We do not know whether Robert William entered any exhibits in these early years but he certainly did so during at least 1962-64 as evidenced by the collection of prize certificates shown below.



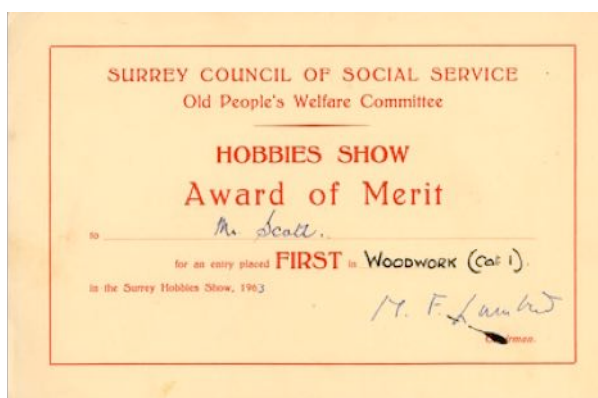
Placed Second for Woodwork in 1962



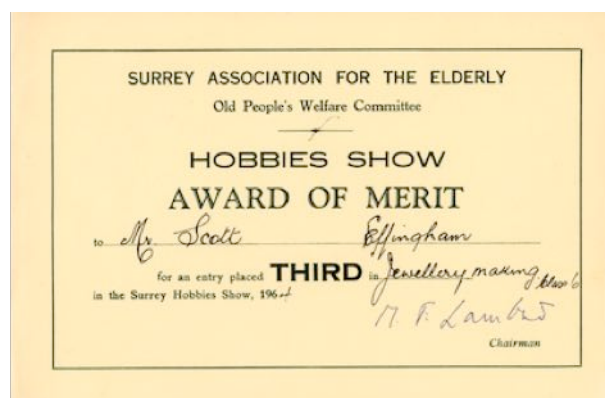
Placed Third for Jewellery in 1962



Placed Second for Jewellery in 1963



Placed First for Woodwork in 1963



Placed Third for Jewellery in 1964

Figure 60 Hobbies Show Prize Awards; 1962-64.

His First Prize for Woodwork in 1963 was almost certainly awarded for an oak linen chest that he had made for Marian. His success in the Show was briefly noted in an article about the St Lawrence Club published in *The Surrey Advertiser and County Times* on 3 August 1963 as follows:

'Certificates of merit awarded by the county hobbies show were distributed by the club's president, Mrs Mooney, to Mesdames Parsons, White and Mr Scott.'

A cutting from another (unidentified) newspaper states that when he won the prize for this chest he was also awarded a prize for a piece of hand-made jewellery, consistent with the 1963 certificates seen above.

A short history of the St Lawrence Club is given near the end of the 80th Birthday Album presented to Barnes Neville Wallis in 1967. It had been founded in 1960 by Rev J W Reynolds, then Vicar of Effingham, as a village club for over-60s. It was affiliated to the Surrey Association for the Elderly and took part in various regular events including the Hobbies Shows. In the album the description of the club is followed by a page filled with the signatures of its members, among them that of Robert William. In 1963, when he had been given his certificates at the club, its president had been Mrs Lilian Olivia (née Lukin) Mooney, a prominent member of the community who resided at Rose Cottage in The Street.



Figure 61 Robert William's oak linen chest; 1963.

Effingham club are proud of Mr Scott

Mr Robert Scott, a member of the St Lawrence Club of Effingham, entered a magnificent oak linen chest, its panels bearing the crest of the towns where members of his family were born, in last week's hobbies exhibition of the Surrey Association for the Elderly. And it beat 700 entries to bring Mr Scott top award for the best entry in the show. He also received a certificate for a piece of hand-made jewellery.

Other St Lawrence Club members to be successful were Mrs Acres who won a second class certificate for rug-making, Mr J. Pollard who won a first class merit award for woodwork, and Mr B. Woolston who got a gold star for his water colour painting.

Ten other club entries were given silver stars, and at their last meeting members praised Mrs E. Weaver who organised the display.

The meeting was entertained by a play presented by the Ashted Townswomen's Guild drama group and produced by Mrs Roundhill, Mrs Rivers re-

cited a monologue and Mrs. Mooney proposed the vote of thanks.

Next week there will be an open afternoon at Effingham Church Hall, where a talk will be given on the Camphill Village Trust. The club's hobbies and handicrafts will be on show.

Figure 62 Report of his success in 1963.

An item made by Robert William for the Effingham Women's Institute still survives today, even though this WI branch closed a little while ago. It is a large painted sign displaying the name of the branch and a colourful picture of a galleon. On one edge are two strong iron rings enabling it to be easily mounted or dismounted from fixtures that were probably on a wall in the WI's old hall at The Crossroads. In the picture's lower right corner is the writing 'R W Scott 1962', almost invisible at a distance due to being painted in black against the dark blue of the ocean. It was possibly intended to supersede the sign that Ada (or he) had produced for the WI back in 1946. In the late 1960s the WI's lease on their Hall expired and the branch relocated for its meetings to the KGV Hall, where the sign is today still displayed on the wall at the eastern end of the main corridor.

Curiously, the matter of the WI's sign was mentioned in an article published in the following year [*The Surrey Advertiser and County Times*, 30 March 1963] it being stated that 'The members were pleased with the new sign made by Mr Scott to replace the one which was stolen.' Is the sign now in the KGV the one that had been stolen, or was it the new sign made in 1962 but presented in 1963? Had the 1946 sign been the one stolen?

As observed earlier, Robert William belonged to the St Lawrence Club. The photograph below dated 1962 shows him with several other members. Left-to-right are Mr and Mrs Weaver, Mr and Mrs James ('Jimmy') William Pollard and himself.

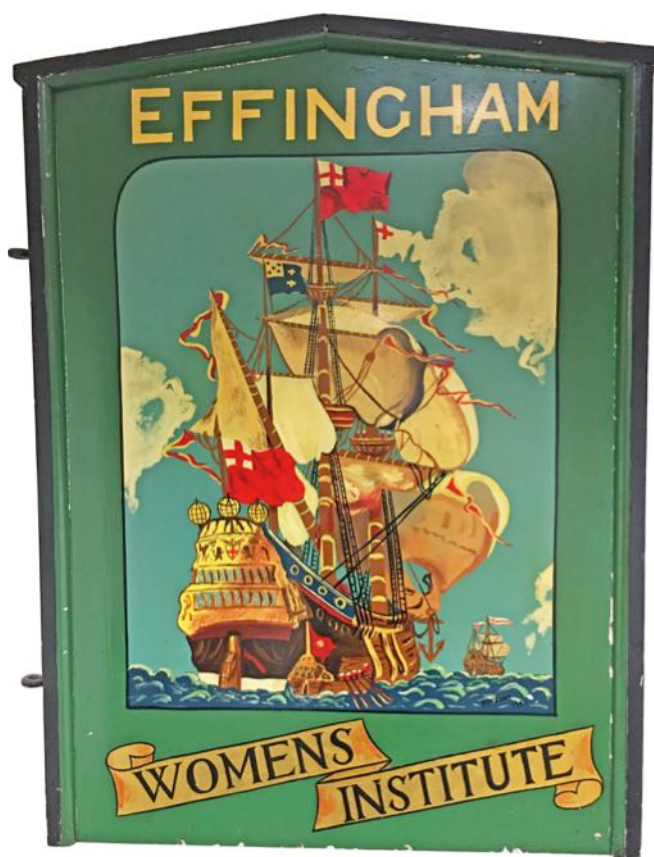


Figure 63 WI sign made by Robert William in 1962.



Figure 64 Robert William with other members of the St Lawrence Club; 1962.



Figure 65 A rare view inside the Effingham workshop; Robert William in 1964.

CARPENTER WHO CARVES ANGELS AND MERMAIDS

HAPPY man of Effingham is Mr. Robert William Scott (74) since he retired from the carpentry and decorating business he founded as a young man in Guildford Road, Effingham.

Carving wood has now become his hobby, an extension of the craft of carpentry he diligently learned from an old-time firm at King's Lynn as a boy. He knows its every aspect as surely as the craftsmen of medieval times.

Before there was always so much to do that there was seldom time to do intricate carving, the kind of work which gives him most artistic satisfaction. He had always had a way of catching a likeness, of sketching in a silhouette, but could seldom indulge it.

Now, in retirement, he is still happily at work—in the workshop he loves at a carpenter's bench, but he just does the jobs that he fancies.

He made an oak chest for his daughter-in-law which is a replica of that given to an Elizabethan bride. It carries the town crests of King's Lynn, Cambridge (for her husband), Leeds (for herself) and Epsom (where her son, Christopher, was born).

For his granddaughter, Susan, who celebrates her 21st birthday in September, he made a delightful jewel box two years ago, elaborately carved with an aquatic design, showing a bejewelled mermaid discovering a sparkling chest of jewels from a sea wreck, sea creatures around her sharing her spoils.

For a family friend's wedding in the near future he has contrived two angel bookends. He also carves dogs, wall plaques and house name boards.

Children still ride ecstatically on the traditional rocking horses Mr. Scott has made, white, with bravely painted saddles and draperies. In his life he has carved six of these but cannot undertake any more.

One of them was made 40 years ago for the daughter of the then Lord of the Manor, Mr. Calban. Another, still in existence, is 20 years old. Mr. Scott's horses always had cow's hair and tails. Carved out of eight solid pieces of wood he made them outside the workshop and they were the centre of interest for all the children of the village.

Four years ago he presented a reredos for the children's corner of St. Nicholas Parish Church, Great Bookham, in memory of his wife who died 13 years ago. It depicts farm hay carts, harvesting and animals of all kinds; its theme is "All Things Bright and Beautiful." It is usually brought into the centre of the church for Sunday school.

Figure 66 An article about Robert William published in *The Surrey Advertiser and County Times* on 21 August 1965.

**R. W. SCOTT
& SON**

**Builders
Decorators
Undertakers**

Works:
Guildford Road, Effingham.
Tel.: Bookham 2166

Private Address:
6 Norwood Road,
Effingham, Surrey.

Figure 67 Advertisement in *The Bookhams Bulletin* in 1963, still offering undertaker services.

An unusual creation by Robert William was his carving 'The Last Supper'. Along its lower edge it has the incised words

'AFTER LEONARDO DA VINCI 1452 - 1519

CARVED FROM PRINT BY R. W. SCOTT 1965'

We do not know for what purpose or for whom this item was made.



Figure 68 Robert William with 'The Last Supper'; 1965.

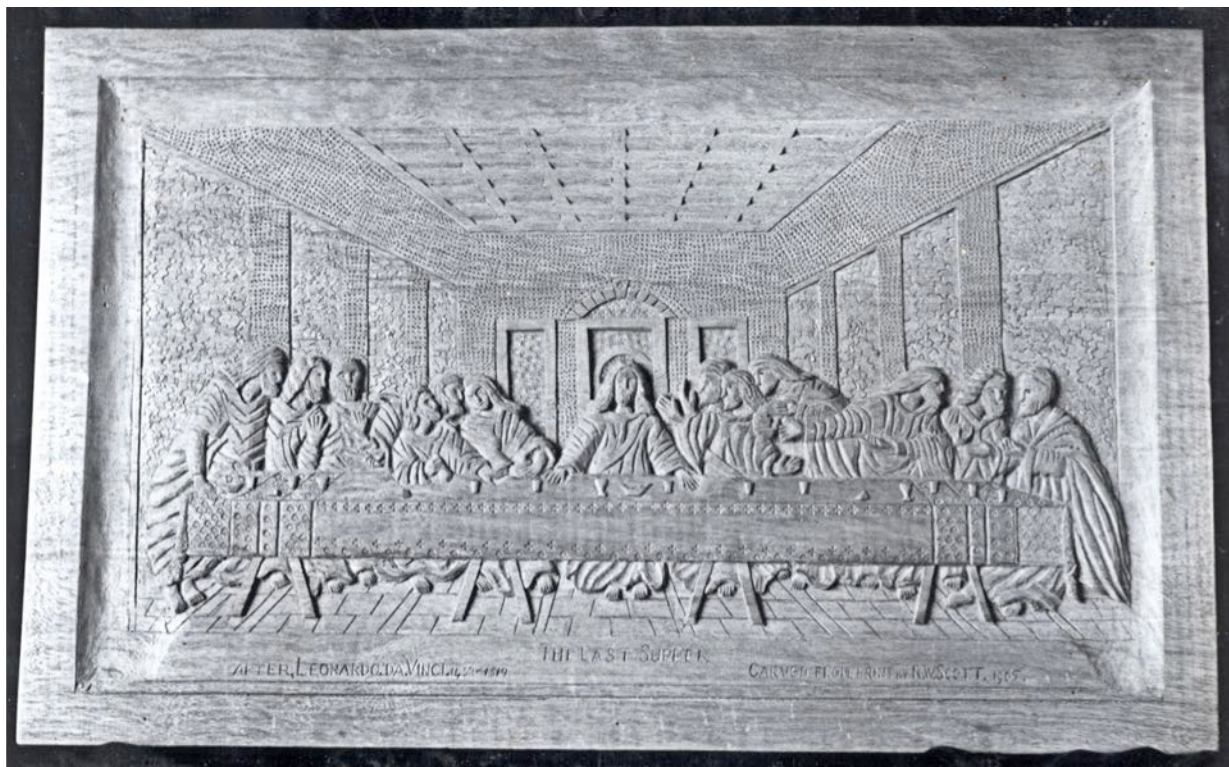


Figure 69 'The Last Supper' in close-up; 1965.

Whenever we research the history of 'our' Effingham by seeking relevant material online we are inevitably confronted with the need to dispel from our attention the large volume of results pertaining to an entirely different Effingham, that is the City of Effingham in Effingham County, Illinois. From our parochial viewpoint, the existence of this American city is highly distracting. That said, in 1968 – long before all this online confusion would arise – an event took place here involving representatives of both communities. The Vicar of St Laurence Episcopal Church in Effingham, Illinois, Dr Peter Arvedson, visited 'our' St Lawrence Effingham and its Vicar Rev E W L May in order to conduct a twinning ceremony. It was described in an article published in *The Surrey Advertiser and County Times* on 29 June 1968.



Figure 70 Robert William holding the engraving he had made for the Illinois church; 1968.



Figure 71 The engraving in close-up.

U.S. VICAR IN TWINNING CEREMONY

DR. Peter Arvedson (31), Vicar of St. Laurence Episcopal Church, Effingham, Illinois, and his wife came by air and car on Tuesday to St. Lawrence Parish Church, Effingham, for a twinning ceremony.

At a vicarage reception of parishioners, the vicar (the Rev. E. W. L. May) presented Dr. Arvedson with a model of his ancient church carved in a 2ft. long section of a cedar tree grown in the churchyard.

Dr. Arvedson gave Mr. May, for the parish, an illustrated book about the words and world of Abraham Lincoln "from the land of Illinois."

The Arvedsons had been to Scandinavia, and on their way home stopped at Coventry, where Dr. Arvedson had studied at the cathedral before going to Effingham where they spent the night at the vicarage and returned by air to Effingham, Illinois, on Thursday.

YOUNG COMMUNITY

They work among a young church community, which has only 43 members from 12 families, whose services are held in a local Roman Catholic hospital.

Effingham, Illinois, said Dr. Arvedson, was named after a peer of Effingham who refused at the time of the American War of Independence to fight against the Americans and left army service in protest.

At the presentation ceremony was Mr. R. W. Scott, senior (77), who was responsible for the carving from a drawing by Mrs. May, the vicar's wife, and Mrs. C. Luck, widow of Mr. Bernard M. Luck, who died last week.

The Lucks were to have taken the carving to Effingham, Illinois. Mrs. Luck will be making the trip in the months ahead, and is to take with her a collection of photographs of Effingham, Surrey.

Dr. Arvedson, who is a B.Sc. (Illinois), of Wisconsin University, and his wife, a speech pathologist, made plans with Mr. May for two 15th-century bench ends from

Mr. May's Effingham church to be sent to them.

On receiving the church model, Dr. Arvedson pointed out that the twinning of the two Effingham church communities arose from his members writing to Mr. May for the name of his church so that they might adopt it.

Mr. May had then set the ball rolling for strong links to be forged between an ancient church and new one.

PRIDE

The Arvedsons described their church community's pride in being linked with a parish which was connected with Sir Barnes Wallis, and the seat of Lord Howard of Effingham, admiral of the fleet that vanquished the Spanish Armada.

Mrs. Arvedson, a mother-to-be, talked of her delight at seeing beautiful Surrey gardens, particularly at the vicarage, compared with the mile-square cornfields around Effingham, Illinois. She took her B.Sc. degree in education, and later Master of Science.

Before the presentation, Dr. Arvedson was conducted by Mr. May on inspections of Effingham and Little Bookham parish churches, where he was shown the ancient registers of the benefice, and Guildford Cathedral, and was taken on a tour of the Surrey countryside.

Before the departure of the Arvedson Mr. May suggested that if their child, to be born in October, was a boy, he should be named Howard because of the association with Effingham, Surrey.

Figure 72 Report of the ceremony for the twinning of the two Effinghams; 1968.



Figure 73 At Sue's wedding in 1968; Robert William enjoying the company of two of her friends.

Delma's document, in its closing remarks, records that:

'In his retirement he made many models of horse-drawn carriages, including a milk-float with "J. T. Sharman, Dairyman, Sedgford Lane, King's Lynn" inscribed on its sides; this includes milk churns and measures. His later years were fully occupied with making all manner of things.'

Photographs of some of these items, assumed to date from the 1960s or later, are shown on the following pages.



Figure 74 Model by Robert William.



Figure 75 Model by Robert William.



Figure 76 Model by Robert William.



Figure 77 Model by Robert William.



Figure 78 Model by Robert William.

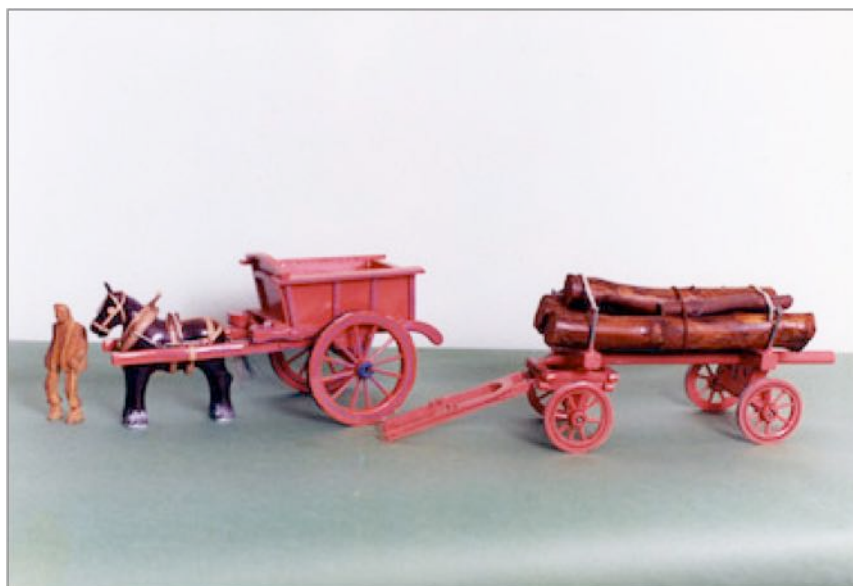


Figure 79 Model by Robert William.



Figure 80 Model by Robert William.



Figure 81 Model by Robert William.



Figure 82 Spoons and other implements by Robert William.



Figure 83 Robert William's workshop, Norwood Road at the right; 1960s or 1970s.



Figure 84 Robert William in his workshop; probably 1960s.

In 1965 Robert William, Bob and Marian all moved together from 6, Norwood Road to 106, Woodlands Road where he continued his hobbying in a shed in the back garden. It may be that this is where the photograph in Figure 84 was taken.



Figure 85 Robert William pictured in a local newspaper; 27 November 1974.
As the original cutting is of poor legibility its text has been retyped.

Pop's models recall a more leisurely age
by Yeritza Sharp

Although he gave up his craft as coach-builder when he was young, Mr Robert William Scott, of Little Bookham, now 83 years old, has not forgotten it.

In a workshop at his son's home in Woodlands Road he lovingly builds models of horse-drawn vehicles of all kinds from memory.

Mr Scott picked up a hansom cab from a shelf full of carts and carriages and gently put it on the work bench. 'This is the first one I made,' he said and pointed out the details. Like all his models, it was perfect and authentic, right down to the whip and upholstery.

Among his other works are a milk float, with churns, a landau conveying two silk-clad ladies, a gipsy caravan, timber carts and a doctor's buggy. The latter is a replica of a model buggy Mr Scott presented to the village doctor, not forgetting the black bag on the seat.

The shelves would be even more crowded, but Mr Scott has given a number of his carriages away to friends. For his work he uses odd bits of wood he picks up from the workshop of his son Mr R F E Scott, a joiner – strips of leather, chains of costume jewellery and anything else which comes in handy for cart or harness.

Mr Scott is already planning his next model. 'I have the idea to make a water cart, like those they used on the roads in the olds days.'

Pop, as everybody calls Mr Scott, was born at King's Lynn, Norfolk, and served his apprenticeship as coach-builder there. He came to realise that the days of horse-drawn transport were numbered and, after working for a short while on cars, decided to take up carpentry. In 1926 he moved to Effingham and became estate carpenter at Effingham Manor. Later he worked for the golf club and then for 40 years carried out maintenance and decorating work for the village.

Long before he retired and took up his model-making hobby, Pop Scott used his spare time to make rocking horses. One of these, now 50 years old, is still being used by youngsters, he says. In his time he has supplied three generations of Scotts with rocking horses.

His love of creating has inspired Pop to make many other things, from spoons and walking sticks to table lamps and Welsh chairs. His daughter-in-law, Mrs Marian Scott, has given pride of place to an oak linen chest, made by him, with beautifully carved country [county?] crests on the panels.

In the late 1960s the visiting Vicar of Effingham, Illinois, was presented with a carving of St Lawrence Church, Effingham, Surrey, which Mr Scott made from the branch of a cedar tree in the local churchyard.

He is always ready when repairs are needed, said Mr Scott's daughter-in-law. 'Anything we want repairing, grand-pop will do it. We tend to take him for granted a little bit until people from outside make us realise what a clever old boy he is.'

Pop Scott's death and aftermath

Robert William died from a heart attack at his Woodlands Road home on 21 August 1975 [GRO Ref: Surrey Mid E 17 0100, 1975 (Q3)]. The brief notice (newspaper unknown) shown below mentions St Luke's Hospital in Guildford where just a few weeks previously he had been receiving cancer treatment.

SCOTT — R. W. (Pop). The Scott family would like to thank all friends and neighbours for their kind messages of condolence in their sad loss. May we also extend our grateful thanks to doctors and the staff of St Luke's Hospital, Guildford.

Figure 86 Robert William notice; August 1975.

Probate was granted on 8 October and his effects valued at £3,074. We have not yet found any newspaper article giving details of his funeral, but the following article (newspaper unknown) provides an obituary:

EFFINGHAM

Mr. Robert Scott

LOCAL woodcarver and model-maker Mr. Robert Scott has died at his Little Bookham home, aged 84.

Called Pop by relatives and friends, he was well-known in the Effingham and Bookham areas.

Born at King's Lynn in Norfolk, he served a five-year apprenticeship as a coach-builder. He came to realise the days of horse-drawn transport were numbered and took up carpentry.

He moved to the Effingham area in 1926, to become the estate carpenter at Effingham Manor. Later he worked for the local golf club and then for 40 years carried out maintenance and decorating work for the village.

Long before he retired he took up model-making. Pop used his spare time to make rocking horses. Among his works, built entirely from memory, are a model milk float, a landau, a gipsy caravan, timber carts and a doctor's buggy, which still stands on a local surgery mantelpiece.

His many hours of patient work earned him numerous awards at the over-sixties hobbies competition held in Whiteley village.

His handicraft extended to other things, from Welsh love spoons to table lamps, souvenirs of his work are spread throughout the world.

Soon after he became a widower in 1952, he made his home with his son and daughter-in-law, in Woodlands Road, Little Bookham.

Figure 87 Robert William obituary; August 1975.

He was cremated at the Randalls Park Crematorium, Leatherhead and his ashes possibly scattered at St Nicolas in Bookham.

Not long afterwards the Scott firm was transformed into a new entity, Finestra Home Improvements Co Ltd, which was incorporated on 11 November 1976 with Company No 1285992. Bob Scott's son, Christopher Robert, became a director of the company, remaining so until 2004. The new firm specialised mainly in the production and installation of doors and windows and developed a strong working relationship with the large national firm Coastal, makers of aluminium/UPVC products. In 1986 Finestra became an Authorised Dealer for Coastal.

Finestra traded for exactly thirty years until being dissolved on 11 Nov 2016. For much of this period it operated at the Guildford Road premises, but eventually the site was taken over by a new woodworking

company and specialist in windows and doors established by two former pupils of the Howard of Effingham School, Ben Stanbrook and Simon Nicholson. After completing their apprenticeships by 2005 they formed the company Stanbrook & Nicholson Ltd, incorporated on 17 January 2006 and in due course they took over the Guildford Road workshop, reconstructing its front section to create a more modern facade and display room. By 2013 they had built a workforce of 18 but did not remain at this site for much longer. After another three years had elapsed the site was sold for housing development and in the autumn of 2016 the workshop, then at least 80 years old, was demolished; the final end of an era. Where its front end had stood there is now a modern house numbered 257, Guildford Road.

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Please write for comprehensive brochure

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Quite probably you've already heard of Finestra Home Improvements. After all, they've been established as a family run builders since 1933, and as Finestra Home Improvements for the past decade. They are well known in the area. In fact, it was this trade background and local reputation for high quality workmanship that went a long way towards winning them the coveted Authorised status from Coastal.

**FINESTRA HOME
IMPROVEMENTS LTD**

Established 1976
Incorporating R. W. Scott & Son
Established 1932

Aluminium and uPVC
replacement doors and windows,
patio doors, conservatories,
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Surrey KT24 5NP**
Tel: (0372) 457814
Fax: (0372) 459450
(Trade enquiries welcome)

64225

Figure 88 Finestra in the *Leatherhead Advertiser*; 27 November 1986, 29 January 1987 and 21 August 1991.



Figure 89 Finestra in 2007, Sibley's News on the left.

Photo © Colin Smith (cc-by-sa/2.0)



Figure 90 Stanbrook & Nicholson Ltd (a) above and its founders (b) below.



Figure 91 Demolition of the workshop; October 2016.



Figure 92 The new development on the site of the former workshop.

photo © NovaLoca 2024

Personal memories of Pop and the family, by his grand-daughter Sue Pearce

My Grandad 'Pop' was always in my life from an early age as he lived opposite us in Howard Road, Great Bookham where we lived in a flat from 1946 to 1952, after my Dad was demobbed. Dad had been apprenticed to Andrew West in Bookham for at least five years and would have been aged about 20 when he qualified as a carpenter/joiner, in about 1936-37. He then worked for a couple of years with Pop before volunteering for service in the War at the end of 1939. During that brief period he and Pop worked on projects in the School of Stitchery and Lace (which had taken up residence in Rectory Lane, Bookham in 1938 and is today a charity called The Grange), at the Effingham Golf Club and at local houses and local churches.

When Pop first went to work at the Golf Club his honesty was tested. A half crown had been left on the floor of the room in which he was working, apparently deliberately. He had been given a glowing reference from his previous employer which he had given to the Club's Manager. So, he was very upset by this action and he nailed the coin to the floor, with a large nail through its middle. No one said a word to him! Half a crown was a lot of money in the 1930s. I wonder if the hole in the floor is still there?

During 1940-46 Pop was on his own and the business did not do too well. My brother Chris recalls being told that Pop worked on repairing three bomb-damaged houses, one in Beech Avenue (this must have been The Dormy House or its neighbour Orchard Walls), one on Effingham Common Road (Little Thatch) and some other one. He maintained a living with many small jobs locally, general repairs and being the local undertaker.

In 1946 my Dad returned to R W Scott & Son and business gradually improved again and they were able to take on larger projects and employ three men – Frank Taylor, Stan King (a great decorator) and Johnny Simmons. The works taken on were various building projects and Pop would have helped on the carpentry work, working mostly in the workshop rather than on site. Works on site were undertaken at, for instance, houses on Beech Avenue and Effingham Common Road, St Teresa's Convent, the Convent in The Red House and all three local churches. He had a series of bookkeepers who would presently get married or move house. Eventually my Mum, Marian, took over this job and things improved slightly.

Pop was a keen member of The Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes (a large fraternal movement begun in 1822 and widely known as 'the Buffs') having joined them, I think, in the Fifties. The Leatherhead group would meet at the New Bull Hotel on a regular basis. We have some of his framed certificates from the Buffs. It was through the Buffs that he met his friend Alf Robinson, a watch and clock repairer from Portsmouth.

Pop's wife Ada died in 1952 and in 1954 he moved in with us to Norwood Road, Effingham. It was a bit of a squeeze because we also had my other grandmother, Mum's mother Ada Lee, who had lived with us since Dad was demobbed. Due to his permanent deafness Pop misunderstood sometimes what had

been said to him and could be quite argumentative; it was also very funny on occasion. My Mum had so much patience with him that she deserved a medal. My brother was told by Pop that when he returned to school after measles it was quite a while before the teacher realised he was deaf and not just being awkward in answering questions incorrectly or not at all. He was hit by the teacher on several occasions.

Being the local builder in a small village (as it was in the Fifties) it was the custom for the builder to also be the undertaker. There was a small shed to the rear of the workshop which was used as a chapel and there were often bodies 'lying at rest' there. I remember when I walked to school that other children would cross to the other side, not wanting to pass 'the chapel' because 'Scotty's got a body in there'. He would also be part of the funeral procession and walk in front of the hearse in his top hat and tails. He stopped doing this after he 'retired' and my Dad took over the business.



Figure 93 Employees of R W Scott & Son outside the workshop in about 1968-70;
(left-to-right) Johnny Simmons, Stan King and Frank Taylor.

In 1965 we moved to Woodlands Road and Pop lived there until he died in 1975. He still 'pottered' in the workshop on most days until he had to give up driving. He then worked in his shed at Woodlands Road, wood carving and turning. However, he missed the company of others and would wait at the gate for any unsuspecting passers-by with whom he would start a conversation. Many of these folk would be invited to his shed (in the back garden) to see his work. I am not sure how my Mum felt when she returned from work and found strangers in the garden or kitchen drinking tea, nor I am sure how this would be viewed in today's world.

I remember him fondly with his bushy eyebrows and hairy ears. He was always kind to my brother and me, and loved us dearly. He was also very knowledgeable. Being deaf, he had read many books (rarely fiction) and would read a newspaper cover to cover, no matter what was in it. There were very few subjects he knew nothing about.

Although I was married with a family when he died, it still felt strange that he was no longer in his shed when we visited. My Dad took over the shed eventually and found a complete set of old specialised paint brushes used only for carriage painting. These were in excellent condition and Dad knew that he would never use them. He somehow found a contact at the Royal Mews and wrote a letter asking if the brushes could be of any use on the royal coaches (I think Grandad had once worked on the coaches at Sandringham during his apprenticeship). He received a lovely reply, not only saying 'yes please' but asking whether he would like to come and hand them in personally. So, Mum, Dad and my brother had a wonderful day at the Royal Mews being shown the carriages, horses, etc and having tea there too. The staff were delighted to have the set of brushes which were quite rare and would definitely be used. Grandad must have had them since his youth. I think he would have been very pleased and delighted to have known where they went.

ILLUSTRATIONS

Figures 1, 3, 5, 9, 32, 33, 56, 58: *Ancestry.co.uk*

Figure 2: <https://norwichmedievalchurches.org/churches/st-martin-at-oak-1828/>

Figure 4: *Wikimedia Commons*

Figures 6, 10, 11, 94, 96, 98, 99: <https://www.kingslynn-forums.co.uk/>

Figures 7, 8, 14, 21, 34, 38, 42, 43: National Library of Scotland, <https://maps.nls.uk/>

Figure 12: https://www.visitnorfolk.co.uk/attraction_activity/st-john-the-evangelist-kings-lynn

Figure 13: William H Brown, estate agents

Figure 15: King's Lynn Conservation Area leaflet

Figures 16, 22: Google Street View

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Figure 100: University of Sheffield Library Digital Collections

All others: supplied by Susan (née Scott) Pearce

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APPENDIX I

Transcript of letter written by R W Scott (b1891) to Miss Harding of King's Lynn Museum c1968

History of Savages of King's Lynn and its wood fair horses as learnt from R Scott Senior

My father [Robert (II)] was apprenticed to Mr Frederick Savage, the founder of Savage's Ltd, and worked for the firm all his life (about 55 to 60 years) as machinist and wheelwright.

Originally Savage's were makers of steam ploughs and threshing machines etc. They turned to fair work when Fred Savage started to make steam-driven roundabouts, he being the originator.

Before this time the wood horses on fairs were driven by one or two live horses harnessed between two upright posts fixed to the swifts – the radial bars from which the horses were hung. The live horses were driven inside the circle formed by the roundabout carrying the patrons. With the advent of steam, the whole machine was greatly enlarged, also the horses to carry two persons. Elaborate carving was also cut on the woodwork of the horse itself. These horses or gallopers as they were called were masterpieces of repetition work: firstly the sawmill cutting the wood into rough shape, then the carpenters fitting and fixing the pieces together, then followed [by] the carvers cutting scrolls, saddle clothes and harnesses on the wooden body. Upholsterers made up the saddle cushion in plush materials; finally painters and gilders [sic – gilders] using 18 and 22 carat leaf and also sterling silver leaf.

On special and national occasions horses were made with human head and chest, 'centaur fashion', instead of horse head. One instance that I remember well – a set of 3-abreast, about 36 to 42 horses, made during the South African Boer War, with sculptured busts of various notable leaders of our army on the bodies of horses instead of the head and neck, ie Lord Kitchener, Roberts, White, Baden-Powell and others of the British Army. (This was when I was a schoolboy, also a long time ago!)

I have also seen my father making other animals to take the place of the horses such as ostriches, pigs, cockerels etc using the same fillings on the machine.

The making [of] these wood horses and animals are [is] today almost a past art, plastic having taken place of wood for cheapness.

I doubt if one could have a full-size double-seater horse made for under a £100 each, but in those days wages were about fourpence to fivepence per hour; starting at 6am till 5.30 pm, with ½-hour break for breakfast and one hour for lunch.

I, myself, have made only five horses, the first over forty years ago for an old friend's grandchild, and it is still in use as [a] rocking horse to the fourth generation; two for my own grandchildren; one I showed a friend to make one, and [a] final one I put in the Surrey Old People's Hobbies Exhibition, it secured first place in all [of] Surrey.

You will see from the enclosed diagram [whereabouts not known], there are at least about 20 separate pieces of wood to make each horse, and of course they are hollow bodies. The great strength of the horse was in the selection of the timber and grain to prevent breakages – the legs were usually made from poplar, [the] body of pine. The head pieces had a long piece of hard wood, such as ash, inserted to go through the neck piece and into [the] body; this gives the wonderful strength of head and neck; ears [were] of ash or oak, eyes of glass. Note [that] the tail was off a real horse or oxen with the skin tanned to preserve.

In my young days I have seen droves of five horses driven to Phillipo's slaughterhouse in Highgate; the last I heard of this firm it had been take over by J. Hemmeter, makers of surgical gut. Anyway, you now know where Savage's got the tails for their horses.

It may interest you to know a set of 3-abreast horses, a hundred years old, made by Savage's is still in use at Billy Manning's fair on Clarence Pier, Southsea. I had a good look round it and saw the name plate 'Savage of King's Lynn Norfolk'.

Now answering your questions in your last letter. Yes! My father was a Lynn born man and myself a King's Linnet. Dad's father was a wheelwright at Dodman's on Gaywood Road, so you see woodwork has been in the family for five generations as my son and grandson are skilled joiners and carpenters here in Effingham and Bookham. Now, Miss Harding, you ask for working conditions etc. that I know of at Savage's. I am advising you to hold tight as some of it would not fit in your modern age and thank God for that.

Hours of Working 1880-1900s

Savage's started work at 6am prompt. If late, you had to lose a quarter of an hour's pay. If late two mornings in a week you lost two hours' pay. Come unpunctual too often [then] 'get lost' (no good striking). Breakfast was from 8am to 8.30am, this was eaten in the workshops (no mess room or canteen, you [were]

taking your own food and tea in an enamel can or glass bottle – no Thermos flasks then). All tea had to be warmed up on the forge fire, or glass bottles [were] stood in a pail of hot water to warm up the tea (no time for niceties).

It is now 9am, buzzer blows, jump up and get to benches and work until 1pm. Then if near enough run home for dinner and back in one hour; if starting buzzer stops before you are inside the gate [then] you are out for the rest of [the] day. More loss of pay!

You got in? Well, work until 5.30pm. All this for fourpence or fivepence an hour. Saturdays finished at 1pm; making 49½ working hours per week.

Overtime was paid at usual rate, no increase; time and a half not dreamt of, thoughts of it would have killed the Boss, to say nothing of double-time for Sundays.

Overtime for Dad was just what we schoolboys liked as we were able to take our fathers some sandwiches and hot tea. We were allowed into the various workshops and this is where we boys got a good insight as to how the horses and animals were constructed. We also hoped to be lucky and get a free test ride on new machines in the yard at Savage's.

As winter time is the showmen's time and overhaul for Lynn Mart and start of their travels, Savage's was usually very busy and extra men were taken on temporar[il]y. This gave carpenters and painters a respite from being out of work and all its hardships without money coming in the home until springtime when outside work could be got at their old boss's workshop, so through the summer. Oh, holidays! They were pay packet losses. If Christmas Day came on a Sunday, well, there was only one day's pay lost – Boxing Day.

Delma's further typed notes about working conditions at Savage's, elicited from R W Scott

Wages

Wages were about 3 pence to 4 pence per hour in the 1890s and 6 pence an hour in 1912 for skilled journeymen.

Holidays

Only national holidays; Christmas Day, Boxing Day, Good Friday and Easter Monday, Whitsun Monday and August Bank Holiday – and no pay. No workers were ever given any time off to see the opening of the Lynn Mart [an annual trade fair since Tudor times, with a showman's fairground in later times].

Toilets

Toilets were one step from primitive. It consisted of one long trough with water, and no partitions (sitting in a row), and on certain days at tide time a sluice was opened and contents discharged into Clark's Dyke. It was in use to my knowledge as late as 1920.

The foreman

Bob Frost the foreman was a good man with a trying job as his workmen were scattered, working all over the firm, painting and decorating in practically every workshop except the foundry. A very watchful eye was kept by both foreman and workers for each other. I have seen many a cat and mouse tactic played around. The foreman, even as he chased his men, he himself was being watched by the Boss and managers.

All the foremen worked with the [each] other to ensure the workers were kept at and supplied with work. Painting and decorating was almost the last process of all the firm's labours. It took skilful planning, such as: Bob would go round the Carpenter's Shop and Wheelwright's [Shop] to see how much wood would be primed with red lead paint without holding up the wood workers. Then on to the Boiler Shed to again see if [there was] anything [to] do with the brush. Thus the Paint Shop would be having a constant flow of work coming in from the brush-hands to the decorators or guilders [sic – gilders].

Bob Frost was of a religious turn, non-conformist, attending Wesleyan Chapel and it was rumoured throughout the painters' grapevine: if you wanted a job, go to chapel, make Bob Frost see you inside or coming out, go to the yard on Monday and tell him you want a job. But for God's sake don't ask on a Sunday!

APPENDIX II

Savage Brothers of King's Lynn and Robert (II)'s employment there

Savage Brothers Limited had its beginnings in 1850 when a young man Frederick Savage set up in King's Lynn a business for making and repairing farm equipment. He soon took advantage of steam to power the self-moving machines he made, such as traction engines. In 1860 he established a steam engine manufacturing factory in St Nicholas Street, near the Tuesday Market, and then in 1872 moved the business to a much larger site at Cross Bank Road in the 'North End' (north-western) part of King's Lynn, establishing the St Nicholas Ironworks with about 400 employees. Savage's continued there for a hundred years, finally closing in 1973.

The company had become established by 1900 as the leading producer of fairground machines. In its 1902 *Catalogue for Roundabouts* it claimed that 'we have patented and placed upon the market all the principal novelties that have delighted many thousands of pleasure seekers at home and abroad'. Expansion of the railways, making goods cheaper to make and easier to distribute, had reduced the dependence of trading upon the old town marts, which now became more oriented to public amusements and showmen's fairgrounds. Robert William was mistaken in stating that Fred Savage had been the 'originator' of steam-powered roundabouts. A different Norfolk man, Sidney George Soame, had created and demonstrated such devices in the 1860s. But Savage progressed this activity with much greater energy and on a far larger scale.

Robert (II)'s indenture for apprenticeship to Frederick Savage is dated 15 November 1879. The original document, still in the possession of his descendants, is too large to be pictured here and rather too 'wordy' to merit full transcription. It describes him as aged sixteen and binds him to a term of service of five years, by the consent of his father Robert (I), a machinist. As an apprentice he is to be instructed in the art, trade and business of a machinist. Besides the standard injunctions that he serve his master well, betray no secrets, do no harm and so forth, he is also forbidden to frequent taverns, inns or ale houses. His wages for 'regular hours' would be three shillings in the first year, five during the second, six during the third, seven during the fourth and nine shillings during the fifth year. Employment beyond the regular hours would be paid at double rate. These terms, including the wages, are not much different from those to which Robert William would sign up in his indenture nearly forty years later. In the event that Robert (II) was discharged by Savage for any lawful reason, he would (by this indenture) be debarred from making any claim for damages for dismissal.

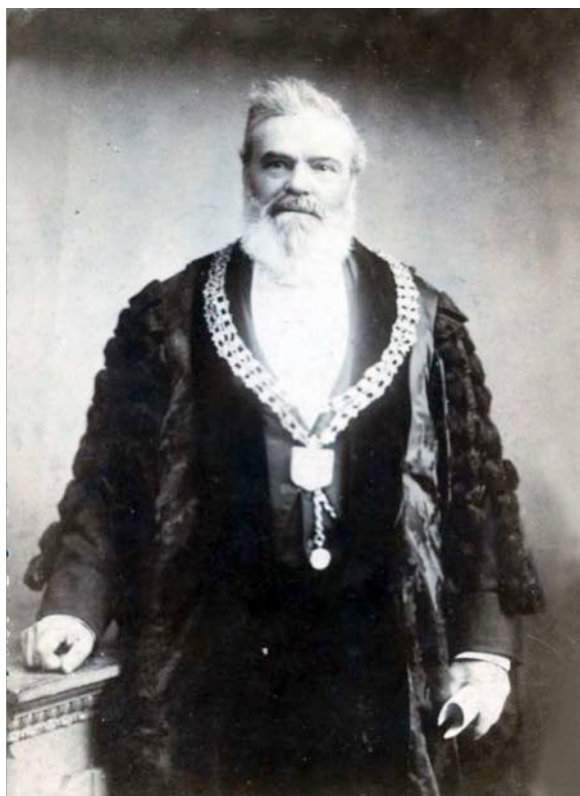


Figure 94 Frederick Savage whilst serving as Mayor of King's Lynn for 1889-90.



Figure 95 Poster for Savage's early steam-powered farm equipment; Norfolk Museums Service (Lynn Museum, King's Lynn).



Figure 96 Poster displaying Savage's later fairground equipment.

*Signed, Sealed and
Delivered by the above
named parties in the
presence of*

Robert Scott

Robert Scott

Frederick Savage

Figure 97 The signatures of Robert (I), Robert (II) and Frederick Savage on the 1879 indenture.

Attached to the indenture is a short statement signed by Frederick Savage on 22 November 1884 following the end of Robert (II)'s apprenticeship. It reads 'The said Robert Scott has completed the full term of apprenticeship as mentioned herein and during such term has behaved himself as an honest and faithful apprentice.'



Figure 98 Interior of a workshop at Savage's showing gallopers in preparation.



Figure 99 Savage's St Nicholas Ironworks where Robert (II) spent his working life. Frederick Savage lived in the property seen here at the front, on the left.



Figure 100 Savage's 'Galloper G36' roundabout at Manning's Fair on Clarence Pier, Southsea in 1954, which Robert William mentioned having seen in his letter to the King's Lynn Museum (see Appendix I).

APPENDIX III

Robert William's apprenticeship to Thomas Nicholas Holman of King's Lynn

Robert William was apprenticed in 1908 to Thomas Nicholas Holman who had established in King's Lynn a company engaged in making and painting coaches. He had been working in that line since his early twenties but in 1874 he also became the licensee of the Gun Inn – the 1881 census finds him living there and described as both coach painter and publican.

Robert William's indenture of apprenticeship to Holman is dated 14 April 1908.



Figure 101 Upper section of the 1908 indenture.

The indenture reads as follows:

This Indenture Witnesseth

That Robert William Scott doth put his self Apprentice to Thomas Nicholas Holman of King's Lynn to learn his Art trade or business and with him after the Manner of an Apprentice to serve from the 14th Day of April 1908 until the full End and Term of Four Years and 8 Months thence next following to be fully complete and ended

During which Term the said Apprentice his Master faithfully shall serve his secrets keep his lawful commands everywhere gladly do he shall do no damage to his said Master nor see to be done of others but to the best of his power shall prevent or forthwith give warning to his said Master of the same he shall not waste the Goods of his said Master nor lend them unlawfully to any he shall not do any act whereby his said Master may have any loss with his own goods or others during the said Term without Licence of his said Master shall neither buy nor sell nor absent his self from his said Master's service day or night unlawfully

But in all things as a faithful Apprentice he shall behave his self towards his said Master and all his during the said term

And the said Robert Scott shall receive the sum of 3 shillings per week in the first year & eight months Four shillings per week the third year Six shillings per week the fourth year Eight shillings per week the fifth year

The said Thomas Nicholas Holman shall teach his said Apprentice in the Art trade or business of Coach Painting which he uses by the best means that he can shall teach and Instruct or cause to be taught and instructed

And for the true performance of all and every the said Covenants and Agreements either of the said Parties bindeth his self unto the other by these Presents

In Witness whereof the parties above named have hereunto set their Hands and Seals the – day of – in the year of Our Lord One Thousand Nine Hundred and –

Signed sealed and delivered by the above named in the presence of [signed] Fred Holman

Robert Scott
Robert William Scott
Thomas Nicholas Holman

Figure 102 Signatures of Robert (II), Robert William and Thomas Nicholas Holman.

APPENDIX IV

Robert William's application for enlistment in the Army

Robert William applied to join the Army for a Short Service in 1915 and was requested to appear for attestation at a recruiting office on 20 November, as seen on the form below.

Not accepted
Medically unfit
g2

W.D. No. 11366-4289 375M 10/15 H&S (P.400/2) Forms/B. 2512/1. Army Form B. 2512A.

SHORT SERVICE.

(For the Duration of the War with the Colours and in the Army Reserve.)

NOTICE to be given to a MAN at the time of his offering to join the Army.

Date 20/11 1915

You (name) R.W. Scott

are required to attend * forthwith, or

at _____ o'clock _____ on the 20th day of November 1915

at _____ [here name some place]

for the purpose of appearing before a Justice to be attested for His Majesty's Army, in which you have expressed your willingness to serve.

The General Conditions of the Contract of Enlistment that you are about to enter

Figure 103 Upper section of Form B.2512.A for Robert William's attestation.

However, he was subsequently rejected after a medical examination on 29 August 1916. The form confirming this (his 'classification certificate') did not give a reason but it is known in the family that it was due to his deafness. It gave his address as 71, Argyle Street in Cambridge and no other details about him.

Army Form W. 3291.

CLASSIFICATION CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that Mr. R. W. Scott
was medically examined on 29/8/16
and classified as :-

A. Fit for ~~General Service~~ (Recruits who should be fit for General Service as seen as trained.)

B. Fit for Service (i) In garrison or provisional units. (ii) In labour units or on garrison abroad but not fit for General Ser. (iii) On sedentary work as Clerks or Storemen only.

C. Fit for service only (i) In Garrison or provisional units. (ii) In labour units or on command Garrison of outdoor employments. (iii) On sedentary work only as Clerks, Storemen, batmen, cooks, orderlies, sanitary duties, etc.,

R. Rejected and therefore exempted from military service.

Figure 104 Upper section of Form W.3291 rejecting Robert William for military service.