

# **THE LAWRENCE FAMILY OF BARTON STACEY, HAMPSHIRE c.1880-1950s**

**by Linda Moffatt © 2018**  
for the Barton Stacey History Group

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**WILLIAM JOHN LAWRENCE** was born in Amesbury, Wiltshire in 1853 and baptised John William Lawrence on 1 July 1853, son of George Lawrence, a farm labourer, and his wife Elizabeth (Chandler, married 1853). He was a farm labourer in Amesbury but had moved before the time of the 1881 census to a farm in Newton Stacey in the parish of Barton Stacey.

In 1883 he married Caroline Witt, born 1857, daughter of Henry and Sarah Witt of Woodford near Salisbury, and widow of Walter Greedy. Their first child was born in Chilbolton but by 1885 they were living in Newton Stacey. They spend some time between 1894 and at least 1901 in Chilbolton, where Mr Lawrence was a yardman on a farm at Gales Down. By 1911 they had returned to Barton Stacey parish and were living in a cottage at Moody's Down. Caroline Lawrence was a midwife.

She died aged 62 and was buried in grave number 199 in Barton Stacey churchyard in 1919. Her husband died on 17 January 1934 in one of the Chapel Cottages in Barton Stacey, aged 79 and was buried beside her.

### **Children of William John and Caroline (Witt) Lawrence,**

- i. **ALFRED GEORGE**, (Alf) born 1884 in Chilbolton. He married Norah Bennett in 1907. She was born in Barton Stacey in 1888, daughter of Henry and Fanny (Castleman) Bennett. They lived in the early years of their marriage in a cottage near the southern end of Barton Stacey village (perhaps one of Chapel Cottages). The Methodist baptism register reveals that by 1917 he was a storeman living at Cocum Cottages. They later moved to No. 1 New Cottages, Bransbury, where they lived for about 20 years. Alf Lawrence worked for Captain Wills (of the Middleton Estate) as a farm labourer. On his retirement they moved to one of six newly-built prefabs in Kings Elms in Barton Stacey village.



*Outing to an unknown place circa 1951.  
Mrs Beacham, Mrs Ida A. (Pearce) Dewey, Mrs Norah (Bennett) Lawrence,  
Terry Dewey, born 1943.*

#### **Children of Alfred George and Norah (Bennett) Lawrence,**

- i. Alfred Leslie (Les), born 6 March 1914 and baptised on 12 April at Barton Stacey Methodist Chapel.  
He moved from Bransbury into Barton Stacey village with his parents.
- ii. **CECIL GEORGE**, born 21 October 1917 and baptised 2 December at Barton Stacey Methodist Chapel. He married in 1937 and had two daughters.
- iii. **DOUGLAS R.**, born 1923.
- ii. Elizabeth Annie, born 1885 in Newton Stacey.
- iii. Caroline Mary, born 1886. She died an infant.
- iv. William Charles, born 1889. He was a waggoner on a farm in Moody's Down at the time of the 1911 census and appears as a resident there on the Barton Stacey electoral roll of 1920. In World War I he served with the Northumberland Fusiliers.
- v. Sidney John, born 1891. He was working in 1911 at the stables of Penton Lodge, Penton Mewsey, near Andover. He served with the 5th Bn Dorset Regiment during World War I.
- vi. Sarah Louise, born 11 August 1894 in Chilbolton. A housemaid in 1911, presumably at a local house since she was not living in at the time. She married Albert G. Evans in 1917 and lived in Woolwich, London.

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