

Family Archive.

Spoke to Father, and to Mother this morning – Lenzerheide was visited before the War, in about 1937/8, then the 1946/7 trip in the photo; and then RJW and SRW went there together without the girls in 1947/8, just after he'd left the Navy. Walker & Rice was producing profits of about £80,000 pa at the time and was about to float an issue of preference shares (hence the SR & MJ Walker Trust?), so the hotel bill shouldn't have been a problem

Apart from Wengen (where RJW so impressed with his recklessness that he was asked if he wanted to train for the Olympics – Grumpy soon put a stop to that nonsense), the other place they went to was Adelboden (another swiss resort that the British hardly go to now), where RLW, MMW + her parents and brother John; and Rosemary, who broke her ankle. It was probably 1952/53, when Diana was rather taken up with a 1 year old daughter, so lent Mother her ill-fated button-up ski suit. The next time Father went skiing was with me, Jean, David and Uncle Roy to Obergurgl in 1966/7(?), when I think we bumped into you Jane, aged 15, out on what I'm sure was a tightly chaparoned school party at the Edelweiss und Gurgl Hotel.

Somewhere – at Courtmead? - I have seen Granny and Grumpy's programme for the infamous Berlin Olympics which they attended in 1936; and Father said he went with them to the London Olympics in 1948 at White City stadium.

from Jane

I also rescued the most amazing autograph album from my mother (she'd probably have chucked this too!!!!) - I think it belonged to Granny's mother. I will scan the pages - which will be a labour of love but it is seriously gorgeous and should be included in the our family archive. A few examples attached! Sorry that some of them are upside down and sideways! - I know you can sort it!! What a very eloquent and artistic lot they were - there are so many great ones to come. I won't send all of them to all of family - you can wait till Peter posts into his archive gallery. You may need another category for things like this?!?! Up to you.

I know all of you will love these - they are awesome! Soooooooooooooo many more and some of them are simply amazing!

Half a century ago there was a bread shop in nearly every parade of shops in Brighton and Hove. But bread baked on the premises started to decline in the 1950s and has never really recovered. It is hard for local firms to compete with supermarket chains which receive part-baked bread in the mornings and finish it to make the goods appear fresh.

For much of the last century there were national chains in the resort, such as Fullers which specialised in cakes, and ABC– the Aerated Bread Company. There were also local bread chains such as the upmarket Zetlands.

The biggest by far was Clarks, which began life in 1887 at Fonthill Road in Hove. Founder John Jackson Clark did so because he could not find any bread to his liking.

Clarks grew rapidly and won many prizes for its bread. Its factory in Hove, the first in southern England to install a fully automatic plant, grew rapidly.

The firm also started a series of shops, the first at North Street Brighton, in 1890. It took over rivals such as Nappers and Giggins.

John Jackson Clark was a dynamic man who played a big part in civic life. He ran a large and successful farm in Hove before starting the bakery.

He spent more than 40 years as a Hove councillor but refused repeated offers to become Mayor. Clark was also a magistrate, special constable and freemason.

Clark helped found the Goldstone football ground, home of Brighton and Hove Albion. He also chaired a bus company and the [West Pier](#). He had many other business interests and was a developer of two large housing estates.

He built many tennis courts and started West Hove golf course. Clark was also a director of Maynard's, the Hove-based confectionery company.

Clark died in 1927 but his son carried on the business with some success until the Second World War. It supplied cakes and pastries to the armed forces but after the conflict found its machinery outdated and its workforce old and weary.

The standard of bread declined and many people refused to buy it any more. The firm began to lose money. In May, 1976, it sold off the bread interests to Rank Hovis McDougall and closed many of the shops but kept trading. Only five months later it went bust and almost 400 people lost their jobs.

The great survivor from all the bread battles is Forfars which is still thriving in Sussex.

It is run by the Cutress family who have been millers in Sussex since the 16th century.

Early last century they started baking in Ditching and also opened a successful tea shop there.

In 1936 they were able to buy the business started by George Forfar which had been in Sussex since 1900. The sale included seven shops, two tea rooms and two bakeries.

After the Second World War, brothers Tony and John Cutress greatly expanded the business, opening new shops regularly and expanding into outside catering.

For many years Forfars also ran restaurants and hotels, including Courtlands in The Drive, Hove. But eventually these businesses were sold so the firm could concentrate on baking.

In 1990, Forfars established a large new bakery at Home Farm off the Lewes Road in Brighton and are still there.

The firm makes much less bread than it once did but does a flourishing trade in instant food such as filled rolls.

Tim Cutress, one of the current bosses, says: "When I was at school there were more than 300 bakers' shops in Greater Brighton. Forfars had nine. Now there are 28, of which we have 12."

Question. Can you ask Rosemary which of AJ Clark's sisters married a Herbert and which Herbert? I've got stuck with this one. I think Kate and Maud didn't marry. So that leaves Florence, Constance and Eleanor - if she can shed any light on these it would be great - otherwise I'll ask Mum! Also was V Patterson a cousin? If so who was she married to and how does she fit in - is she the daughter of another of AJ Clark's sisters?