

WASC 1871 ●

WAI 463 ●



Touchpaper June 2007  
Article on Samuel  
'Bob' Berry and  
Family

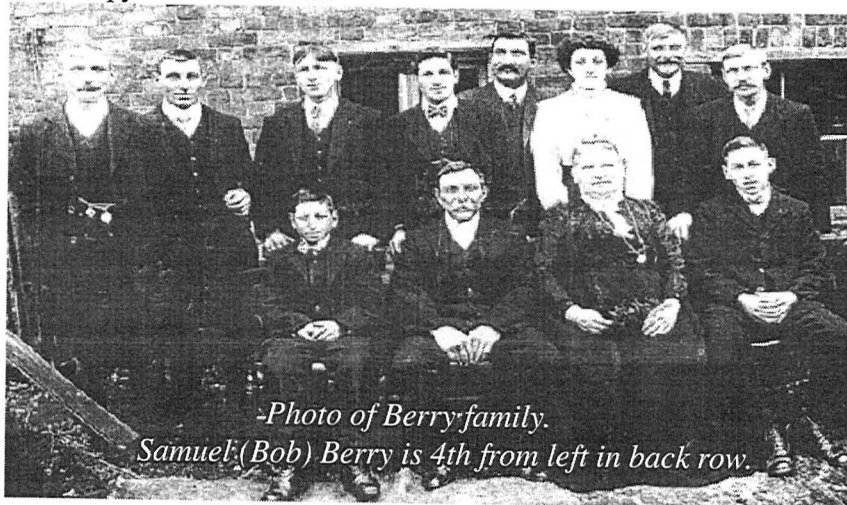


**2. 'Bob' Berry**

In the Victorian and Edwardian eras in a town such as Waltham Abbey dominated by one industry or factory it was not uncommon for sons to follow fathers into the same factory and this gave rise to several 'dynasties'.

Economic pressures meant that there was pressure for sons to start employment after leaving school at 15. There was an onus on employers to make an age check on young persons and this could be done by a formal requisition on the Registrar of Births and Deaths and an official form was provided for this purpose (see picture)

The Berry family were an example of continuing employment at the Royal Gunpowder Factory. James Berry was a labourer there and at the age of 14 in 1901 his son Samuel Robert applied for employment as a boy. The copies show the Factory's Requisition for a birth certificate with Factory stamp bottom left and Samuel's copy birth certificate.



*-Photo of Berry family.*

*Samuel (Bob) Berry is 4th from left in back row.*

The photograph appears in a book written by Samuel's daughter Enid, now Enid Clay, born in 1920 at 15 Woollard Street, entitled 'I can Remember' with recollections of life in the Waltham Abbey area from the late 1920s onwards. It provides a vivid picture of social conditions from that time.

Samuel, later known locally as 'Old Bob', spent his working life at the Factory, achieving the position of foreman. He retired in 1955 aged 68 and awarded the Imperial Service Medal.

**Les Tucker**

*The experience of boys at the Mills could provide a treasure trove of incidents etc. Please send any memories which could be published in Touchpaper to the Editor.*

**Robert Berry - Birth Certificate & Requisition Form**

**SCHEME B.B.1.**  
**THE FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1891.**

REQUISITION FOR A **CERTIFICATE OF AN ENTRY** to be filled in for the purpose of the section 64 of B.W.A. in any factory connected with **ELEMENTARY EDUCATION OR EMPLOYMENT IN LABOUR** of a child of 14 years or under the age of sixteen years.

To the Superintendent Registrar of Births and Deaths in the county of the Registry in which the birth of the under-mentioned Child of 14 years or under is registered:-

I, the undersigned, hereby declare, for the purpose whereunto, of submitting to you, a Certificate of the birth of the child of 14 years or under in the following particulars:-

Name	Date of Birth	Place of Birth	Name of the Mother

Date this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

NOTED by Section 64 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1891, in a requisition to be filled in for the purpose of the section 64 of B.W.A. in any factory connected with elementary education or employment in labour of a child of 14 years or under is registered to be registered at once to the Registrar of Births and Deaths in the county of the Registry in which the birth of the child of 14 years or under is registered. The Registrar of Births and Deaths in the county of the Registry in which the birth of the child of 14 years or under is registered shall send to the Registrar of Births and Deaths in the county of the Registry in which the birth of the child of 14 years or under is registered a copy of the certificate of the birth of the child of 14 years or under in the following particulars:-

WALTER W. WATKINS, Registrar  
U. K. PUBLIC, London

**CERTIFIED COPY of an ENTRY of BIRTH**  
(Dated for the purpose of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901.)

Superintendent Registrar's District of **EDMUNTON**  
Registrar's Sub-District of **Waltham Abbey** in the County of **Herts.**

No.	Date of Birth	Name of Child	Sex	Place of Birth	Name of Mother	Name of Father	Age of Mother	Age of Father	Signature
13	25th March 1907	Samuel Robert Berry	M	Waltham Abbey, Herts.	Elizabeth Berry	James Berry	26	35	W. Tucker

I hereby certify that the above is a true Copy of an Entry of Birth in a Register Book in my custody.  
Witness my hand this 5th day of September 1927

*W. Tucker*  
Superintendent Registrar.  
(Print the name of the Registrar in the space provided above the signature.)

W. & A. GIBSON, Printers, London

## IMPERIAL SERVICE MEDALS AWARDED TO WALTHAM MEN

AT a ceremony in Hoppit Hall at the E.R.D.E. on Tuesday, two Waltham Abbey residents, Mr. Samuel Robert Berry, of 76, Honey Lane, and Mr. Edward Henry Jackson, of 40, Rounton Road, each received the Imperial Service Medal to mark their long and meritorious government service.

Both entered government service at Waltham Abbey as boys in 1901. Mr. Berry, who is 65, is still employed at the factory and is a laboratory worker. Mr. Jackson, at the time of his retirement in July of this year, was employed as a painter. He is 65.

Many colleagues of Mr. Berry and Mr. Jackson attended the presentation, which was made by Dr. C. H. Johnson, Chief Supt. of the E.R.D.E.

### UNBLEMISHED RECORDS

Dr. Johnson said: "Two of our colleagues have been awarded the Imperial Service Medal for long service and unblemished records. It is, therefore, my privilege to make the presentations on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen. It is a very great honour for the establishment and I am very pleased to be associated with it. Certainly, we feel that the award of three medals within the last few months is something about which we can all feel justly proud.

### A DISTINGUISHED HISTORY

"As you know, this place has a long and distinguished history, and if you look back into the records of the past 100-150 years, you will find that the name

Berry occurs very frequently, and I am sure that the Mr. Berry present is related to this distinguished family. As regards Jacksons, there have been some notorious and distinguished Jacksons associated with this establishment, but for the purpose of this presentation, we will assume that the Mr. Jackson present is of the distinguished line of Jacksons who have served this establishment from time to time."

Dr. Johnson then made the awards to the two stalwarts amid cheering and clapping from their colleagues.

Mr. Berry and Mr. Jackson suitably responded and thanked Dr. Johnson, Mr. Berry adding that when he eventually retired he would always remember the happy time he had at the factory.



HENRI. ARTHUR. LEONARD BOB (EDWARD) TED Rose GEORGE BILL (WILLIAM?)



ALBERT GRANDPA GRANDMA FRANK

BERRY FAMILY



~~WAT 1157~~ wai-463

BERRY FAMILY

- SEE 'I CAN REMEMBER'

- ENID CLAY

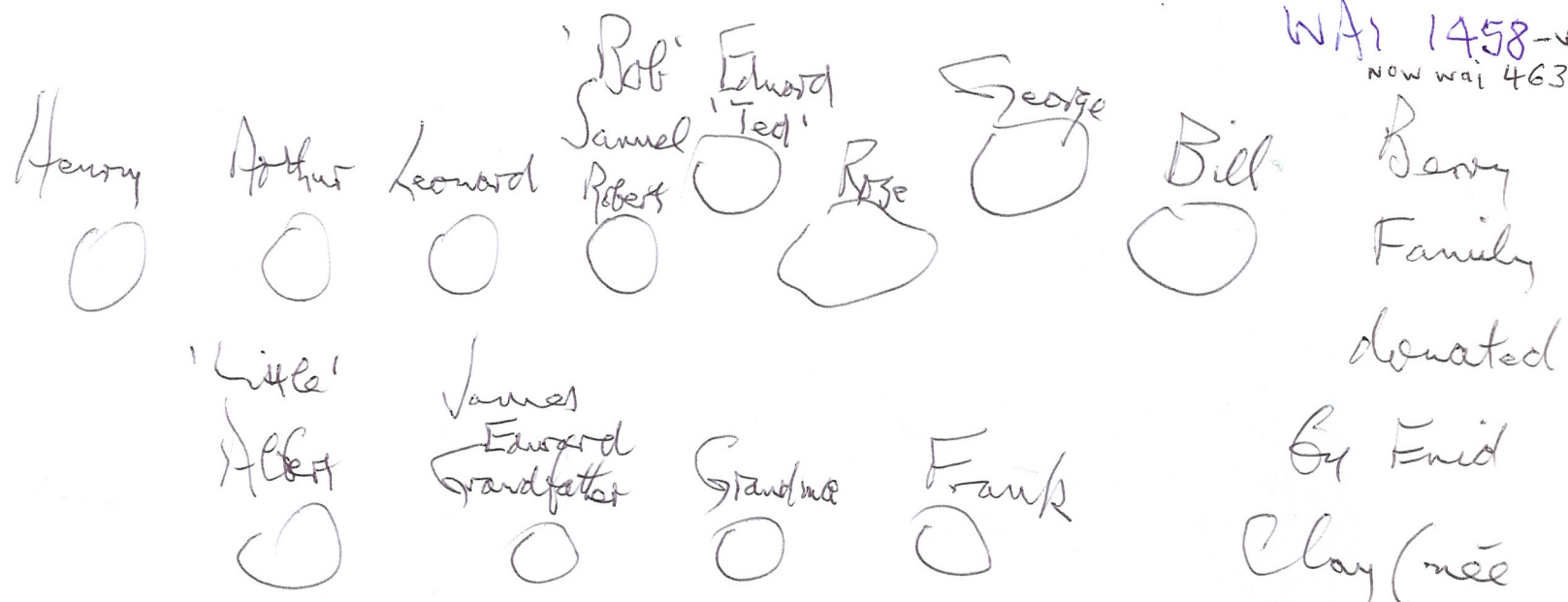


BERRY FAMILY - Identification on  
reverse





WAI 1458-VerD  
now wai 463



Betty Family donated  
by Enid  
Clay (nee  
Betty)  
Daughter  
of Samuel  
- see Touchpapers  
June 2007



CERTIFIED COPY of an ENTRY of BIRTH.

(Issued for the purposes of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1891.)

Superintendent Registrar's District of <b>EDMONTÓN</b>									
Registrar's Sub-District of <i>Waltham Abbey</i> in the County of <i>Essex</i>									
No.	When and where Born.	Name (if any).	Sex.	Name and Surname of Father.	Name and Maiden Surname of Mother.	Rank or Profession of Father.	Signature, Description, and Residence of Informant.	When registered.	Signature of Registrar.
	<i>Fifteenth July 1887</i>			<i>James</i>	<i>Sarah</i>	<i>laborer in the Royal</i>	<i>Sarah Berry</i>	<i>Twenty</i>	<i>Alfred Geo. Cook</i>
<i>13</i>	<i>The Romeland Waltham Abbey U.S.D.</i>	<i>Samuel Robert</i>	<i>Boy</i>	<i>Edward Berry</i>	<i>Berry formerly Rowley</i>	<i>Gunpowder Factory at Waltham Abbey</i>	<i>The Romeland Waltham Abbey</i>	<i>August 1887</i>	<i>Registrar</i>

I hereby certify that the above is a true Copy of an Entry of Birth in a Register Book in my custody.

Witness my hand this *3<sup>rd</sup>* day of *September* 19*01*.

*H. Kelton*

Superintendent R.

[NOTE.—The word "Superintendent" to be struck out if the Certificate is given by the Registrar.]



# THE FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1891.

REQUISITION FOR A CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY OF BIRTH for the purposes of the above-mentioned Act, or for any purpose connected with the ELEMENTARY EDUCATION OR EMPLOYMENT IN LABOUR of a Child or Young Person under the age of Sixteen years.

To the Superintendent Registrar or Registrar of Births and Deaths having the custody of the Register in which the Birth of the under-mentioned Child or Young Person is registered:—

I, the undersigned, hereby demand, for the purposes above-mentioned, or some or one of them, a Certificate of the Birth of the Child or Young Person named in the subjoined Schedule.

Christian Name and Surname of the Child or Young Person <small>of whose Age a Certificate is required.</small>	Names of the Parents of such Child or Young Person.	Where such Child or Young Person was Born.	In what year such Child or Young Person was Born.

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_

*Signature* \_\_\_\_\_

*Address* \_\_\_\_\_

*Occupation* \_\_\_\_\_

WHEREAS by Section 20 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1891, it is enacted as follows:—"Where the age of any child or young person under the age of sixteen years is required to be ascertained or proved for the purposes of this Act, or for any purpose connected with the elementary education or employment in labour of such child or young person, any person shall, on presenting a written requisition, in such form as may be from time to time prescribed by the Local Government Board, and on payment of a fee of sixpence, be entitled to obtain a certified copy under the hand of a registrar or superintendent registrar, of the entry in the register, under the Birth and Deaths Registration Acts, 1836 to 1874, of the birth of that child or young person; and such form of requisition shall on request be supplied without charge by every registrar or superintendent registrar of births, deaths, and marriages." NOW KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, that We, the Local Government Board, in pursuance of the powers given to Us by the Statutes in that behalf; hereby Order as follows:—

ARTICLE I.—The requisition to be made to entitle any person to obtain a certified copy of an entry of a registry of birth under the section above-cited shall be in the Form set forth in the Schedule to this Order.

ARTICLE II.—This Order shall come into operation on the First day of January, One thousand eight hundred and ninety-two.

GIVEN under the Seal of Office of the Local Government Board, this Twentieth day of October, in the year One thousand eight hundred and ninety-one.

(Signed) CHAS. T. RITCHIE,  
(Signed) S. B. PROVIS,

RITCHIE, President.  
PROVIS, Assistant Secretary.





