

Thank you for putting me in touch with Denise Newman, we have been able to establish a family link back to our Great grandfather William Newman and have been exchanging documents and photographs relating to our family history.

Since I originally contacted you regarding my Great grandfather William Newman back in 2017 with further research and the information from Denise more details regarding his life and association with Shrivenham and the residences of The Cottage in Station Road have come to light. I have included some photographs which can be identified by the file name, the photos show:

Caroline Newman (1893) teaching at Deene School.

Caroline Newman (1893) with a chicken, The Cottage, Station Road, Shrivenham c1927.

Newman Family Photo at The Cottage, Station Road Shrivenham c1959

Sarah Jane Newman (1853) Newspaper article

William (1852) (seated right) with an army group c1889 while convalescing from the Ague (malaria) in Woolwich.

William (1852) and Sarah Jane (1853) with granddaughter Hilary (1821) in the garden, The Cottage, Station Road, Shrivenham c1927.

William Newman (1852 – 1930) was born at the New Inn, Widcombe Hill, Bath on 27th July 1852, one of ten children born to Thomas Newman (1816 – 1858) and Caroline Newman nee Lewis (1816 – 1892). William married Sarah Jane Haymes (1859 – 1956) in Woolwich in 1883 and they had seven children. He served as a driver in the Royal Artillery during the 2nd Afghanistan war (1878-80), India (1880) and the Egyptian campaign (1882) and was one of the last survivors of the great March from Kabul to Kandahar under Lord Roberts covering 280 miles in 20 days across difficult terrain. During one attack he had the top of his head taken off by a sabre and from that time had to wear a silver plate. He was so badly wounded that his comrades had practically given him up as hopeless and were about to cast him into the dead pit when it was discovered that he was still alive. On returning to England he transferred to the Ordnance Store Corps and was sent to Cyprus in 1884 where he lived with his wife Sarah for five years and finally discharged from the Army on 22 July 1893. He then lived in Swindon where he worked as a Leather Trimmer and Harness Maker in the Great Western Railway until his retirement at the age of 70 in 1922. In 1924 he moved with his wife Sarah Jane to The Cottage in Station Road, Shrivenham where he died on 13 October 1930 and was buried in St Andrews Churchyard. His wife Sarah Jane died in Deane at the age of 97, her ashes were returned to Shrivenham and scattered over Williams grave.

In 1923 William and Sarah's youngest daughter Caroline Emma Newman (1893 – 1982) contracted to have "The Cottage" built in Station Road, Shrivenham at a cost of £400, later she contracted to have a bungalow known as "Greenfields" at a cost of £375. In 1924 it is believed that Caroline was living in the property with her sister Dorothea Newman (1897 – 1986), brother John Franklin Newman (1900 – 1971) and parents William and Sarah Jane Newman.

In 1932 Caroline sold the cottage to her brother John Franklin Newman who lived there with his wife Dorothy and family until 1963. In 1934 Caroline, Dorothea and their mother Sarah Jane moved to Finedon in Northamptonshire to live with their sister Miriam (1895 – 1982). In 1947 Caroline, Dorothea and their mother Sarah Jane moved to Deene where Caroline became Headmistress of the Village School.

John Franklin Newman served in the RAF from 1918 to 1920, later in 1920 he married Dorothy Mabel Cudmore (1900 - 1983) and also began teaching cabinet making at Swindon College which he continued to do on a part time basis until 1962. In 1928 he joined the Great Western Railway where he worked as a carpenter until 1942 when he joined Short Brothers as a draughtsman. During the war (WW2) he had some unknown occupation organising the rail crews for GWR (gangers) and incorporating the POWs until their release. In 1963 with wife Dorothy he moved up to Widnes in Cheshire where he died in 1971, Dorothy passed away in 1983.

I have discussed the above information with Denise and we happy for you to add to the website if you feel the content is appropriate. Please feel free to edit as required, I would be willing to visit you if you have any questions or wish to discuss further.

Best regards

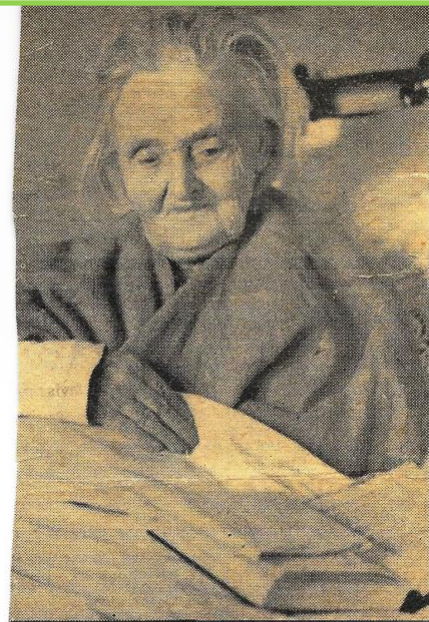
Paul Newman







Dorothea (Dolly) Newman, Dorothy Newman nee Cudmore, Caroline (Carrie) Newman
 Mary Roberta Newman, Wendy Newman, Peter Franklin Newman, Denise Newman, Hilary Newman.
 Picture taken c1959, The Cottage, Shrivenham, Berkshire



MRS. Sarah Newman celebrated her 95th birthday at School House, Deene, on Saturday. Although bedridden for the last three years, Mrs. Newman can remember happenings over 90 years ago. Her early married life was full of adventure, when she lived in Cyprus, where her husband was stationed as a Regular Army N.C.O. Mrs. Newman, who lives with two daughters, Miss Caroline Newman, headmistress of the village school, and Miss Dorothea Newman, has five other surviving children, 18 grandchildren, and ten great-grandchildren. With the Misses Newman she moved to Finedon from Swindon 20 years ago, and came to Deene five years ago.

