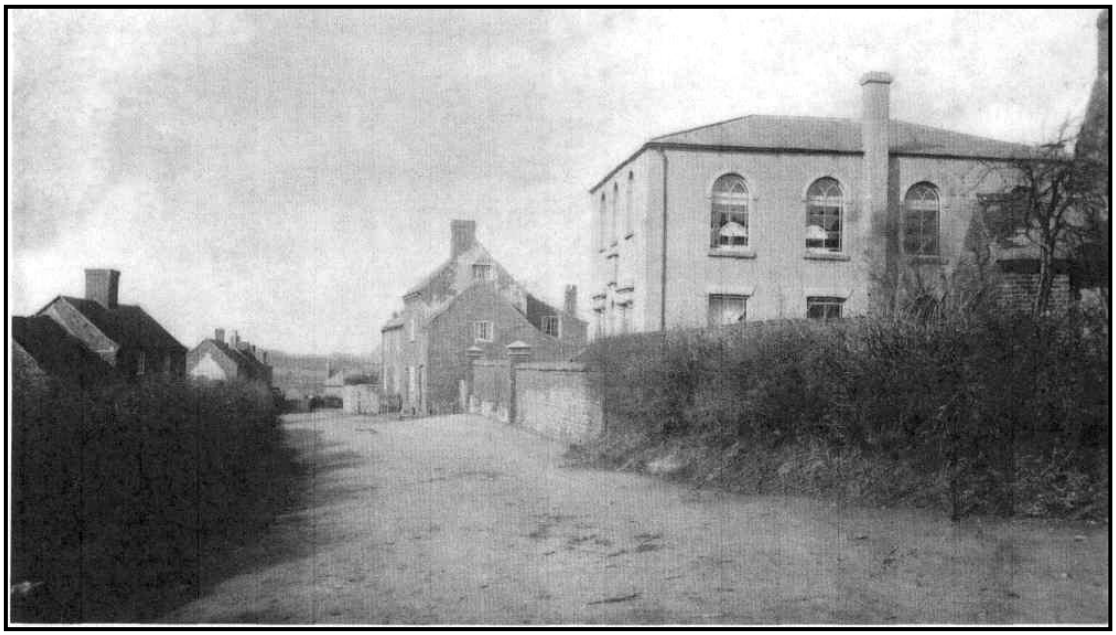
A BIOGRAPHY OF THE LARGE FAMILY OF THOMAS AND EMMA PLATTS OF GRIFFYDAM



Thomas and Emma (Bailey) Platts came to live in Griffydam following their marriage in 1879 and are shown as living there in the 1881 census. They lived in Main Street (which later became Elder Lane) in the first cottage on the RH side after the chapel (No.18). This photograph of them would have been taken c.1900. Apparently, they were the first people to live in the cottage and lived there all their life and it is where they had all their children, although there is a suggestion that Thomas's father William may have lived in the cottage first.



BY SAMUEL T STEWART - FEBRUARY 2025



Emma Platt's parents William Bailey and Maria (Richards) Bailey



This Photograph shows the cottage as it was c.1920.
The Two older girls in the Photograph are the 2nd and 3rd daughters of Thomas and Emma's son Joseph together with three of their Platt cousins



Three of the Platts daughters outside the cottage in Main Street



This photograph of the cottage,No.18., Elder lane (formerly main street) was taken c.1950 when Alf Redburn and his wife Margaret Edith Platts were living there following their marriage in 1949 (see page 16). The door on the left was the front entrance and the one on the right was to the coal cellar. The building to the rear is the Griffydam Wesleyan Methodist Chapel Sunday School.



Death of Griffydam's Oldest Inhabitant

ALL MARRIED LIFE IN ONE HOUSE.

By the passing of 89-year-old Mrs. Platts, the neighbourhood has lost its oldest inhabitant. She was a well-known and respected personality, and she had spent all her married life in the same house, bringing up a family of twelve, ten of whom are still living. There are 38 grand-children and 18 great grand-children. Mr. J. Johnson, of Griffydam, officiated at the funeral on Thursday last. There were a large number of beautiful floral tributes.

This is a self explanatory extract from a newspaper article which would have been dated c.1947



Furter photographs of Thomas And Emma. Emma in their back garden with the Sunday School in Background and Thomas in front of the Chapel railings which were presumably removed during the War effort and the wall built higher later to compensate.

INTRODUCTION

Emma Platts (b. c.1858 in Worthington) was the daughter of William Bailey (b.1832 in Newbold) and Maria (Richards) Bailey (b.1833 in Newbold, d. 19th June 1914 in Worthington).

She had the following known siblings - Harriet Bailey, Eliza Bailey, Charlotte Bailey, Mary Bailey, Walter Bailey, William Bailey, Maria Bailey, Priscilla Bailey and Frank Bailey.

Emma married Thomas Platts at St. Matthews Anglican Church Worthington on 25th December 1879. Thomas was the son of William Platt (1827-1877), a collier, and Jane Platt (nee. Whyman 1828-1894). He was born in Worthington in 1859 and was baptised at St. Matthews church there on 12th December 1859. His parents appeared to be living at "The Outwoods", Gelsmoor at the time of his baptism.

THOMAS AND EMMA'S CHILDREN

By the time of the 1881 Griffydam census, Thomas and Emma were living at their cottage in Main Street (see front cover), and had their first child William recorded, an 11 month old son, who was baptised on 30 May 1880, at St. Matthews Church Worthington. Thomas's mother, Jane and her brother, Amos were staying with them at the time of the 1881 census. Amos is buried in Griffydam Wesleyan Methodist graveyard, he was born in 1866 and died aged 19 on June 1st 1885. Thomas and Emma's son William sadly died in

1881, aged around 1 year. Including their first born William, they had the following 12 children over a period of 20 years who were all born and lived at the cottage on Main Street. :-
William Platts, Martha Platts, Thomas Platts, James Platts, Joseph Platts, Mary Maria Platts, Emma Platts, Charles William Platts, Eliza Platts, Pricilla Platts, Frank Platts and Gertrude Jane Platts.

William Platts - William Platts was born in 1880 in Griffydam, and baptised there on 30 May 1880. William died age 1 year in 1881

Martha Platts - Martha Platts was born in Griffydam, Leicestershire, England on 15 May 1882 and baptised at St. Matthews Church, Wortington on 25 Jun 1882. In 1891, Martha (9) was living in Main Street, Griffydam with her parents, Thomas (31) and Emma (33) and five sibings - Thomas (7), James (5), Joseph (5), Walter (3) and Mary M (1). Her grandmother, Jane Platts (63) was also boarding with the family. In 1901, Martha Platts (18) was a general domestic servant in the household of John H Parkinson (40, a machinist's clerk), 70 Woodgate, Loughborough, Leicestershire. His wife, Emily Parkinson (30) was a music teacher and the couple had four children. Martha married James Reid and they had 10 children - Emma, Louise, James, Ruth, Thomas, Maud, Francis plus Leslie and Lilian who were twins.



Martha (Platts) Reid **Twins Leslie and Lilian Reid**



Martha Platts and Husband James Reid outside Griffydam Wesleyan Methodist Chapel

Thomas Platts - Thomas Platts was born on 7th March 1884 in Griffydam, and baptised there on 15th June 1884. In 1911, Thomas Platts (27) was living with his parents, Thomas and Emma and seven younger siblings, in Main

Street, Griffydam. Thomas Platts married Mary Smith in 1913 in Basford, Nottinghamshire. In 1939, Thomas Platts (b 7 mar 1884) and his wife, Mary (b 20 Sep 1886) were living at No 4 Ivy Leigh Cottages, Long Whatton with their children, Lucy E Platts, later Waterfield (b 16 Sep 1916) and Walter Platts (b 28 Oct 1917) and another child, Hilda Slater (born 25 Mar 1920, cripple, incapacitated by infantile paralysis).

James Platts - James Platts was born in Griffydam on 3rd November 1885 and baptised along with his twin brother, Joseph on 20th December 1885 at the Anglican Church of St Matthew, in Worthington.

In 1891, James Platts (5) was living with his parents, Thomas (31, a general labourer) and Emma (33) and five siblings, Martha (9), Thomas (7), Joseph (5), Walter (3), and Mary M (1) in Main Street, Griffydam.. His grandmother, Jane Platts (63) was recorded as being a boarder.

In 1901, James Platts (15, a coal miner, horse driver below ground) was living with his parents, Thomas (41 colliery under-manager above ground) and Emma (42) and ten siblings - Thomas (17), Joseph (15), Walter (13), Mary M (11), Emma (9), Charles W (7), Eliza (5), Priscilla (4), Frank (2) and Gertrude Jane (5 months) in Griffydam.

In 1911, James Platts (25, a coal miner hewer) was living with his parents, Thomas (51, a coal miner, surface bank foreman), Emma (52, housekeeper at home), and seven siblings, Thomas (27 coal miner hewer), Mary M (21, helping at home), Emma (19, helping at home), Charles W (17 coal miner road man), Priscilla (14, helping at home), Frank (12, at school) and Gertrude J (10, at school) in Main Street, Griffydam.

James Platts was married to Alice Smallwood in Q4 of 1912. In 1939, James Platts (born 3rd November 1885, a Coal Miner Heading Below) and his wife, Alice (born 9th November 1888, unpaid domestic duties) were living in Rotten Row, Coleorton. Their son, Thomas J (29 Apr 1915, a kiln setter in a pipe works) was living with them. James Platts died in 1960 in Leicester, age 75 years.

Joseph Platts - Joseph Platts was born in 1885 in Griffydam and baptised along with his twin brother, James on 20th December 1885 in Worthington, Leicestershire, England, United Kingdom. Joseph Married Alice Mary Broadbent in 1910, quarter 1 (see photograph over page). They had a daughter, Caroline May Platts in 1910. In 1911, Joseph (25), pit bank labourer above ground, his wife, Alice Mary (21, household duties) and daughter, Caroline May (7 months old) were living in Edwards Cottages, Griffydam, Leicestershire. They had been married a year and had had one child. They were still resident in Griffydam in 1931, when daughter, Caroline was married to Frank Wheeldon. **James and Joseph Platts were Twins (see above).**



Joseph Platts & Alice Broad…

Marriage of Joseph to Alice Mary 29 March 1910

L to R Back: Maria Hill, George Hill, Martha Reid & baby, James Reid
Row 3: Charles Platts, Emma Platts, Thomas Platts, Rev. Alexander Holland(Minister), James (Joseph's twin), Eliza Platts, Walter Platts Row 2: Charlotte Upton, Hannah Broadbent (Bride's mother), Alice (Bride), Joseph (Groom), Emma Platts (Groom's mother), Thomas Platts (Groom's father), Mrs Bailey (Emma's mother) Front Row: Frank Platts, Priscilla Platts, Gertrude Platts (6 left)

Photograph taken outside of Griffydam Wesleyan Methodist Chapel



Joseph and wife Alice Broadbent



Joseph with daughters - Alice (Left), May (centre), Dorothy (at front) outside the cottage on Main street

Walter Platts - Walter Platts was born in 1887 in Griffydam, and baptised on 9th October 1887 in Worthington. Note: The curate of Long Whatton conducted the baptism. Occupation in 1901: Colliery labourer above ground. in 1911, Walter Platts (22, a coal miner hewer) was boarding in the household of Charles William Kenny, Nottinghamshire. Charles William Kenny's wife, Priscilla (36) and their children were born in Coleorton. He died at the age of 26 on September 5th 1913. Walter was the only son to leave home. He is thought to have been killed in a pit accident at Dinnington in Yorkshire in 1913 and is buried in Griffydam Wesleyan Methodist graveyard



Mary Maria Platts - Mary Maria Platts was born in Griffydam on 2nd August 1889 and baptised there on 6th October 1889. Mary Maria Platts was married to George Hill in 1913. She died in 1963 at about age 73 in Coalville.



The Wedding Of Maria Platts and George Hill (3rd row). Photograph taken outside of the family cottage on Main Street. Thomas and Emma Platts are sitting either side of the Bride and bridegroom.

Emma Platts - Emma Platts was born on 28th August 1891 in Griffydam. Emma Platts (spinster age 29) was married to Joseph Hill (bachelor age 34, a colliery hewer below ground, no father's name - recorded as illegitimate) on 28th December 1920 in Worthington. In 1939 the couple were living in Griffydam with 6 other family members. Emma (Platts) Hill died in 1969 in Coalville, aged about 77.



Winnie Hill, daughter of Emma and Joseph Hill

Continued over page



Emma (Platts) Hill

Charles (Charlie) William Platts - Charles William Platts was born on 11th June 1893 in Griffydam. He died in 1980, his death was registered in Coalville.



Charles William Platts with his mother Emma outside the family cottage

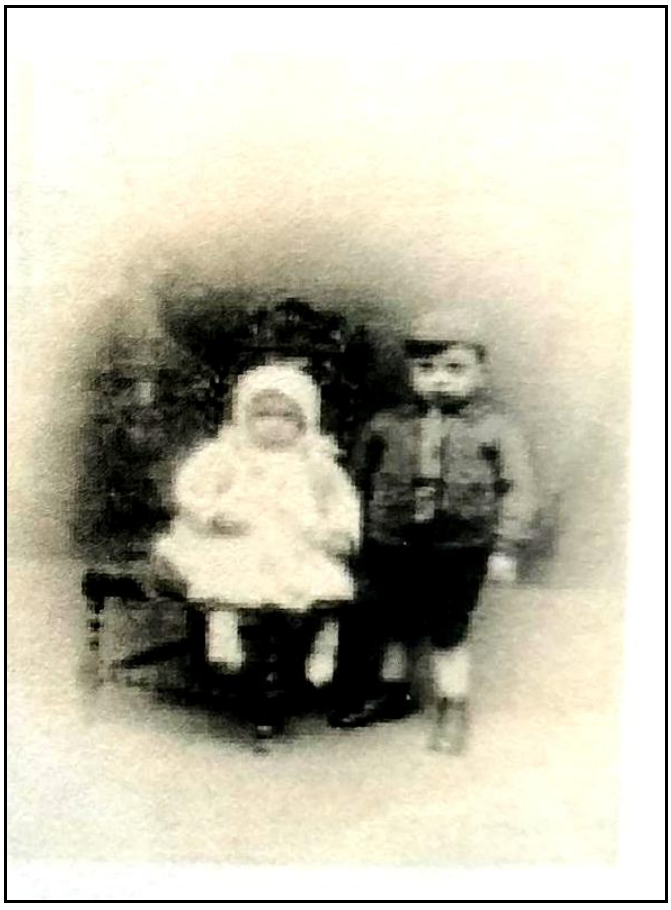
Coalville Times - Friday November 29th 1918

Private Charles William Platts, 17th Royal Scots is wounded severely in both legs, and is in hospital at Chichester, and is progressing fairly well. His home is at Worthington, and he has been in the army since September 1914, having seen much service, and being wounded twice previously.

Charlie William Platts was the platoon officer of the Worthington Home Guard during the second world war.

Charlie was married after banns to Daisy Annie Bent of Uppingham, Rutland on 06 Apr 1920 at the parish church in Uppingham. Walter Bent and Gertrude Platts (his sister) were witnesses. A M Samson, Curate In Charge conducted the marriage. In 1924, the couple were living in Griffydam, Leicestershire. Daisy Annie Bent was one of 12 children, 6 boys and 6 girls.

In 1939, Charles William Platts (born 11 Jun 1893), colliery coal hewer below ground, heavy worker) and his wife, Daisy A Platts (born 23 Jul 1891), unpaid domestic duties) were living at Griffydam Middle Row, with their two children, Charles F Platts (born 17 Aug 1920, horse carter, limestone, heavy worker) and **Margaret Edith Platts** (born 03 Jul 1923, factory machinist at dock?), she was apparently known as Edith.



Charles William and Margaret Edith Platts

Edith Platts met Alf Redburn on VE day and they were married 4 years later at St. Matthew's Church, Worthington. Alf was apparently the 9th of 14 children. Whilst he was attending Swannington C of E school he worked on a farm in the evenings and weekends. After leaving school, he worked on the farm full time. About 7 years after Edith and Alf were married, he went to work at Breedon Limestone Quarry where he later became a foreman and worked there for the rest of his working life. Following their marriage, they moved into the cottage shown on the front cover (No.18. Main Street) together with Edith's mother and father, Charles and Daisy Platts. By this time Emma Platts was a widow, her husband Thomas having passed away. Emma continued living with them in the cottage till she passed away.



Wedding of Alf Redburn and Margaret Edith Platts

Transcribed from the Coalville Times - Fri 17th June 1949

The wedding took place last week at St Matthew's Church, Worthington between Miss Margaret Edith Platts and Mr. Alf J. Redburn, son of Mr. and Mrs Redburn of 'The Rowlands', Coleorton

Given away by her father, the bride was attired in a dress of slipper satin, with train, veil and orange-blossom head dress, and she carried a bouquet of red roses.

Her two bridesmaids were the Misses. P. and G. Redburn, wearing pink dresses, with accessories to match and carrying bouquets of pink sweet peas.

Miss Hazel Newton and Miss Barbara Baker wore white net dresses, and Miss Brenda Gamble wore a dress of figured blue satin. All carried posies of sweet peas. Mr. C. F. Platts, of Osgathorpe carried out the duties of best man.

Over 100 guests attended the reception held in the Griffydam Wesleyan Methodist Day School, after which Mr and Mrs. Redburn left for their honeymoon in London.

Eliza Platts - Eliza Platts was born in 1895 in Griffydam. In 1911, she was working as a servant to the Freckeltons in Shepshed. Eliza was married in 1924 to Harold Hicken. In 1939, the couple were living at Stone Cottage Talbot Lane,Whitwick, Coalville with two other family members. Eliza Hicken died age 69. Her death was registered in Q1 of 1965 in Coalville.

Priscilla Platts - Priscilla Platts was born in 1897 in Griffydam. Priscilla Platts and Montague L Hide (1867 - 1929) were married in 1918 March Quarter in Eastbourne, Sussex. Her husband, Montague L Hide died in 1929 in Eastbourne, Sussex. Priscilla, a widow, was still living in Eastbourne in 1939. Priscilla Hide died in Leicester Central in 1990, aged about 92. Priscilla never married again. **Priscilla, the only girl to leave home, went to work for a family called Taylors in Allestree, Derby. She moved to Eastbourne with them in 1916 where she met her husband Montague Hide** .



Priscilla and Montague

FROM A RELATIVE ABOUT PRISCILLA PLATTS

Auntie Alice told me that her grandma Platts took in 'out work' pairing socks and seaming toes and that everyone had to help and do some before going to school. It was delivered and collected on a weekly basis. In the early 20th century hosiery factories were just coming to Coalville.

Frank Platts - Frank Platts was born in 1898 December Quarter in Griffydam. Frank Platts (Pte, Regimental No. 76363) was recorded as being a miner of Griffydam on his military record. He was sent to Graylingwell Hospital, Chichester on 08/11/18 and was convalescing at Eastbourne in Dec 1818. He Married a lady by the name of Lilian Abbot. His death was registered in Q1 of 1977 in Leicester Central, aged about 78.



Frank and his wife Lilian Abbot

Coalville Times - Friday November 29th 1918
The following local soldiers of the 2nd Manchester Regiment are reported wounded in action: Private Thomas Smith (Griffydam), left thigh; Private Frank Platts (Griffydam), right hip; Private Alfred Mee (Worthington), in the knee. All are getting on well

Gertrude Jane Platts - Gertrude Jane Platts was born on 2nd November 1900 in Griffydam. In 1901, Gertrude (5 months) was living in Main Street, Griffydam with her parents and ten siblings. In 1911, Gertrude Jane Platts (10, at school) was living with her parents and seven older siblings in Main Street, Griffydam. Gertrude Jane Platts (spinster age 22) of Griffydam, was married to Arthur Horace Whitmore (b. 20 Jan 1902, a bachelor age 21, a miner) of Whitwick, he was the son of Arthur Whitmore (a quarryman), on 30th June 1922 in Worthington, Leicestershire. CW Bees, Thomas Platts and E Platts were witnesses. The birth of a daughter, Constance E Whitmore was registered in 1923. The birth of a daughter, Mary P Whitmore, was registered in 1925. The birth of a daughter, Joyce H Whitmore, was registered in 1928. The birth of a daughter, Anne Whitmore, was registered in 1931. Anne was married to Henry U Mcginney in 1953 in Coalville. The birth of a daughter, Margaret E Whitmore, was registered in 1935. In 1939 she and her husband plus children were living at 29 George Street, Whitwick. Something obviously went wrong in their marriage as she married Albert H Hammersley in 1955 in Coalville. Gertrude died in 1974 in Coalville aged 73, and her first husband Arthur Horace Whitmore died in 1982.



Margaret Edith and Alf Redburn are buried in Griffydam graveyard with Margaret Edith's parents Charles and Daisy.

Margaret Edith and Alf didn't have any children