



The Pilkington Family of Rivington Unitarian Chapel



The Pilkington family are relations of the Shaws family of Stones House and High Bullough, Anglezarke and in turn related to the family of Lord Willoughby of Parham. The family provided support to Richard III in 1485 as Knights for whom they fought at Bosworth. It was the defeat of Richard III after the Earl of Derby and Earl of Cumberland refused to bring forward the rear guard that King Richard III was defeated and the step son of the Earl of Derby was made King Henry VII. The vast Pilkington estates were confiscated, although the junior branch retained the Rovington estate. The remains of the Castle are at Bury. The Family Arms to the right are those of Thomas Pilkington High Sherriff of Lancashire until 1485, left is the crest of the Pilkington family of Rovington. This chart starts with Thomas Pilkington who was resident 1775-1809, Fogg's Farm, Anglezarke he died 28 Feb 1824. In his will in 1823 he states he is of great age. The family was Unitarian. The family of the Pilkingtons can find their roots at Fernely, Rovington from 1336. This family is reputed linked to James Pilkington, first protestant Bishop of England. Manors held included Rovington and Walton Le Dale. Rovington is legally the name of the Manor recognised by Queen Elizabeth I in the founding Charter of the Grammar School in 1566.

Samuel PILKINGTON; b. circa 1775, On Census he states born at Sharples, (Served as Church warden for Rivington in 1813. Address 1809 to 1845 Fogg's Farm, Anglezarke, occupation Farmer and Weaver, address 1845-1850, Abbott's Farm, Anglezarke. In 1851, age 76, Widower, living at Jepsons, Anglezarke, Agricultural Labourer, Grandson living in called James Ainsworth, then age 19; d. 1855, Chorley Samuel has married Betty **AINSWORTH** 26 Jun 1798 she died before 1851

Thomas PILKINGTON. Farmer, 37 Acres. Born c. 1779, On Census he states born at Anglezarke. Married 23 Dec. 1805, Wigan. Died 18 Feb. 1837, Anglezarke, Sp. Mary **VAUSE** Born 1782, Horwich, Address from 1805 to 1815 & 1837 to 1851 Stones House, Anglezarke, present in 1851 son Joseph age 29, Mary Ann age 23 and a lodger age 61. George Smithells Mary died 1861 at Greenhalgh Farm, Anderton.

William PILKINGTON. Born c. 1781, Married 14 Dec. 1808, Bolton, Census 1841, Sharples. Sp. Margaret **HALLIWELL**. Died 3 Jul. 1827, Heath Charnock.

Jane PILKINGTON. Chr. 5 Jan 1785 Sharples, Married 11 Jul. 1808, Bolton, married to Roger **SIMM**, son of Roger **SIMM** and Rebecca **TAYLOR**. Born 5 Aug. 1786, Rivington. Chr. 5 Sept. 1786, Rivington.

Ann PILKINGTON. Born c. 1789, Lancs. Thomas by his will in 1824 recognised Ann for her care in his last days.

Jenney PILKINGTON. Born 1792, Lancs. Christened 1792, Lee Independent, Horwich. Died 26 Jul. 1793, Rivington Anglican.

Daniel PILKINGTON. Born 11 May 1794, Lancs. Christened 24 Aug. 1794, Lee Independent Chapel, Horwich. Married 8 Jan. 1824, Anglican Church Rivington, Census 1841, Anderton, Millstone Publican and Farmer, Anderton, Millstone. Died 1847, Rivington, Lancs. Chirch Warden for Rivington 1817 Sp. Elizabeth **WINNARD**. Born 1797 Died 13 Apr. 1833, Anderton. No children

Adam 1824 will b. 20
Evan 1824 will b. 20
Margaret 1824 will b. 20
1788 ? Sharples Longworth
1787 7 May 1787

Thomas in 1823 names the above sons and daughters including Jane Simm. In his will Thomas provided funds to his son Daniel who had set up business. Ann was left £20 and all his effects. The message in his will reads 'Share and share alike'. The family remains represented at the Chapel in 2006. The Pilkington Chapel monuments since 1824 are maintained by the male heir.

The Horwich Pilkingtons later founded Pilkington Glass.

The Sim and Pilkington families are one of the longest established land owning families in Rivington. Farms were named after them.

Jane PILKINGTON chr. 1806, Horwich.; b. 17 Aug. 1806, Lancs. 1841, Anglezarke, occupation 6 Jun. 1841, Weaver, Anglezarke, census 1881, Adlington, Lancs. Sp. Charles **HOLT**, son of John **HOLT** and Ann **WARING**; b. 20 Apr. 1806, Rivington, Lancs.; census 1841, Anglezarke.; occupation 1841, Farmer/ Quarryman, Anglezarke, m. 19 Sept. 1825, Bolton-le-Moors.

Samuel PILKINGTON; b. 2 Mar 1809, Anglezarke, chr. 13 Jun. 1809, Rivington, census 1841, Anglezarke, address 1845-1881, Simms Farm, Anglezarke, Farmer of 37 Acres Census 1871, Adlington, occupation Farmer, Adlington, census 1881, Anglezarke, occupation 1881, Farmer of 50 Acres, Anglezarke, d. 1887 Sp. Ann **HOLT**, dau. of Charles **HOLT** and Jane **PILKINGTON**; b. 13 Jan. 1827, Anglezarke, census 1841, Weaver, 1871, Farmer's wife.

Ann PILKINGTON b. 3 Jan 1814, Anglezarke, Chr. Unitarian Chorley d. 13 Jan. 1828. Ann is buried with her family at Rivington Unitarian.
Rivington Unitarian
The families shown can all find their roots in the Unitarian Chapel's. Most of this family were non conformist who adopted the Unitarian doctrine.

Thomas PILKINGTON; b. 5 Nov. 1816, Anglezarke., chr. 9 Mar 1820; Served as Churchwarden for Rivington for the Lea, Anglezarke in 1848. Then in 1849 for Bennett Anderton of Bradleys, Rivington, 1852 served for Turners, Rivington, 1854 served for John Winstanley Gir Nest, Anglezarke. Census 1841, Anglezarke, address 1844-1853, Lee House., Anglezarke, 1861 at Greenhalgh Farm, Anderton Farmer of 37 Acres, d. 9 Apr. 1866 age 49 Married. Betty daughter of Thomas **Pilkington** and Ann **Hope**, senior descendants of Thomas d. 1824, Betty died of TB age 34 on 17 Feb. 1857 at Anderton. Thomas and Betty are interred together at Rivington Unitarian. His second wife was Betty **Bain** b. 1821 daughter of James Bain who served as Churchwarden for Rivington in 1844 for Old Knowl, I. Bain served in 1849 for William Smith for Old Knowl, 1860. I. Bain served for New Hall. 1838/9. Betty later married Robert Lee, she died as Betty Lee issue Alice Lee *Roger Gerrard served as Churchwarden for Rivington for 'Ye Widow Pilkington' - Mary Vause.* 1871 Greenhalgh Farm was occupied by Betty Pilkington and family with her father, James age 76.

Ralph PILKINGTON c. 1820 Anglezarke, Lancs. Census 30 Mar 1851, Heath Charnock, Lancs. 36 Back Lane. Census 1861, Rivington, Lancs. Twig, Rivington. Census 1881, Adlington, Lancs. 178 63 Cemetary Road. Sp. Sarah **CRITCHLEY** born c. 1820

Joseph PILKINGTON; b. 24 Mar 1822, Anglezarke, chr. 17 Apr. 1822, Rivington, census 1841, Anglezarke, 1851, Anglezarke, occupation Agricultural Labourer, Anglezarke, address 1852-1861, Stone's House, Anglezarke, then 1861 Old Brooks, census 1871 to 1881, Adlington, Lancs.; occupation 1871, Farmer and Beer seller, Adlington, census occupation 1881, Innkeeper, Adlington, Lancs.; d. 15 Nov. 1913, Chorley, Lancs. Sp. Mary **KERSHAW**, dau. of John **KERSHAW** and Betty b. 1825, Anderton, Lancs.; chr. 12 May 1825, Blackrod, census 1871, Adlington. Interred in Calderbank grave at Rivington.

Mary Anne PILKINGTON; b. 13 Nov. 1827, Anglezarke.

Mary PILKINGTON; b. 1830, Anglezarke.

Death at Sister Millstone Quarry, Anglezarke Chorley Standard April 14th. 1866. On Monday afternoon at 4 O'clock Thomas Pilkington stone dealer of Anderton was killed at the Sister Millstone Quarry, in Anglezarke, he was crushed against a rock by a heavy stone. The deceased body was removed to Turners Farm, Rivington. The obituary the following week stated that " he was much respected and a large employer, buried at Rivington Unitarian Chapel. *The tree 'Old Tom' once stood to mark the spot of his demise.*

Based on the Unitarian Chapel Register, with details cross checked to farm occupancy at PRO, History of Rivington by Hampson 1893. A Short History of Rivington by Wm. Fergusson Irvine 1904 with additional information from the Census Data from 1841 through to 1901 and Civil registrations. Further detail was added from deeds and documents in the authors possession

John PILKINGTON; b. 1842, Rivington, Lancs.; 1851, Lee House, Anglezarke, Lancs.; noted as stepson to Thomas and Betty. In 1851 Margaret **PILKINGTON**, sister in law is living in age 13, servant is William Whittle. d. 1906 (Unitarian Chapel Grave receipt)

Abel PILKINGTON; son of Thomas Pilkington farmer and Betty Pilkington (formerly Pilkington) born 13th May 1843, Anglezarke, chr. 1844, Rivington, census occupation 1851, Scholar, Anglezarke, 1862-1868, Stoops Farm, Anglezarke, 1881, Shorrocks, Heapey, Lancs.; occupation Farmer 19 Acres Quarry Man, Heapey, Lancs.; d. 7 Jan. 1888 Sp. Mary Ellen **FOWLER**, dau. of David **FOWLER** and Alice **MARSDEN**; d. 1877, Lancs.; m. 2 Nov. 1862, Adlington, Lancs. Sp. 28 May 1887 Reg office Chorley, Abel Pilkington 43yrs Widower Quarryman Shorrocks Farm, Heapey, Father Thomas Pilkington deceased Quarry Master, Sarah Ann **BERRY** 40 yrs. Widow House Keeper Shorrocks Farm father Henry Pickles deceased Baptist Minister, Witness Richard E Aspden, Michael Cavanagh. Able was the direct line from Thomas 1824. His surviving son was Joseph who's daughter was F.E Pilkington, mother of Elsie Sumner, grandmother of May Lacey, great grandmother to Paul Lacey, Pauline Charlton and Jacqueline Holden.

Thomas PILKINGTON; Born 1846 (app), Anglezarke, Lancs. Christened 1848, Rivington, Lancs. Census 30 Mar 1851, Anglezarke, Lancs. 158 Lee House. Died June 7th 1865 age 19. (Scarlet fever) Interred at Rivington Unitarian Chapel with his parents Betty and Thomas.

Thomas d. 1824 had passed inheritance on in life as was traditional, Daniel Pilkington b. 1794 had set up business and was successful. Thomas Pilkington had become Quarry master and Stone Dealer. Other members of the family were employed by him. Many continued as farmers.

Joseph PILKINGTON chr. 1849, Rivington, Lancs.; b. 1849, Anglezarke, Lancs.; census 1851, Anglezarke.

Mary Ann PILKINGTON b. 1852?, Lancs.; chr. 1852, Rivington, Lancs. Sp. John **SARGEANT**; b. Lancs.; m. 20 Feb. 1873, Adlington.

Alice PILKINGTON b. 1852, Lancs.; chr. 1852, Rivington, Lancs. Sp. William **GILES**; m. 19 Sept. 1885, Adlington.

By 1902 Liverpool Corporation has taken much of the land holdings of the families.