

Harvey Lainchbury 1886 - 1920

The Railway Work Life & Death database (<https://www.railwayaccidents.port.ac.uk/>) shows that Harvey Lainchbury suffered a minor eye injury at work in August 1918.

Research into his life reveals the story of a child of humble origins who grew to be a family man quite engaged in his community.

Local Press reports name him in 1915 giving a bible reading at a service, in 1916 acting as a bearer at the funeral of a deceased work colleague and in 1917 one of his children winning an award at a local baby show. Harvey served in WW1.

Born 25 Aug 1886 at Woodhall (Uphampton) Ombersley Worcestershire. His birth certificate records that his mother Fanny Lainchbury, was a former domestic servant. His father is not named.

<https://maps.nls.uk/geo/explore/#zoom=16.2&lat=52.27810&lon=-2.24057&layers=168&b=GoogleSat&o=100&marker=52.278768,-2.241081>

The 1891 Census finds Harvey, age 4, boarding with the family of a farmer, William Lamb at a cottage in "The Hay", Ombersley.

<https://maps.nls.uk/geo/explore/#zoom=16.3&lat=52.27742&lon=-2.22159&layers=168&b=GoogleSat&o=97&marker=52.277239,-2.220283>

Lascelles & Co.'s Directory and Gazetteer of 1851 records members of the Lamb family as Farmers and Market Gardeners in Ombersley.

The 1901 Census finds 15 year old Harvey working as a farm labourer and living with the family of James Hurley at The Valley, Fockbury, near Bromsgrove.

<https://maps.nls.uk/geo/explore/#zoom=17.0&lat=52.35936&lon=-2.07506&layers=168&b=GoogleSat&o=100&marker=52.359358,-2.075085>

In 1908 Harvey was married in Bromsgrove to Catherine Giles.

She was born 1886 in Martley, the daughter of a Police Constable. Her father was born c1843 the son of Bromsgrove Nailmakers and by 1908 was working as a farmer in Snake Lane, Catshill.

In 1909 Harvey and Catherine had a son Arthur. sadly he died in 1910.

On October 10 1910 Harvey started work at the Bromsgrove Wagon Works as a wagon repairer at a wage of 17 shillings per week.

The 1911 Census finds the couple living at Turnpike Cottage, Burcot. They have a newly born daughter, Alice Margaret. Sadly she passed away in 1912.

<https://maps.nls.uk/geo/explore/#zoom=17.7&lat=52.34294&lon=-2.02743&layers=168&b=GoogleSat&o=100&marker=52.342919,-2.028000>

Harvey and Catherine had 4 more children together - 1912 William Harvey, 1914 Robert, 1916 Elsie M and in 1918 Hilda.

Electoral records show the Couple continuing to reside in Burcot in 1912 and 1914.

The Railway employment records show that 26 February 1917 Harvey was called up for Military service, The notes are unclear, but do show that his pay increased on 13 June 1919 to 36/- per week. It is possible that, being the father of 4 children, he served in a reserve unit, such as the Worcestershire Yeomanry, while continuing to work at Bromsgrove.

Harvey Passed away 16 January 1920 at Bromsgrove Cottage Hospital. His death certificate indicates Cardiac Failure due to Emphysema & Bronchial Pneumonia.

The 1939 register shows Catherine still resident at Turnpike Cottage, Burcot. (A modern house of the same name now stands at that location).

Catherine passed away in Burcot in 1957.

Bromsgrove & Droitwich Messenger - Saturday 07 December 1912

DEATHS - On November 30th, 1912, at Burcot, Alice Margaret Lainchbury, aged 1 year and 8 months. "Safe in the arms of Jesus."

Bromsgrove & Droitwich Messenger - Saturday 20 February 1915

BROMSGROVE SISTERHOOD.—The service on Monday evening was presided over by Mr. John Nokes. A rather unusual departure was made, by soloist and speaker being the same person — Mr. Jowett, of Leeds, whose rendering in a very , powerful voice of two hymn solos was much appreciated. The address, which appealed most forcibly to women, was based on the word, "Watch." Examples as regards its significance were given from stories in Christ's experience. Need for watchfulness and conduct was especially referred to as being the means to an end, either of a good or bad example, to the children committed to her charge. A very familiar saying was quoted by the speaker, showing the importance of woman taking heed of her ways—" The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world," for good or bad. Prayer and Bible reading was taken by Mr. **Lainchbury** (Burcot).

Bromsgrove & Droitwich Messenger - Saturday 15 April 1916

The funeral of Private William Robert Brown, whose death from pneumonia was recorded last week, took place at Bromsgrove Cemetery on Saturday afternoon last, and was of a military character. The firing party consisted of men of the Worcestershire Yeomanry who had seen active service. The funeral procession, which started from the residence of deceased's parents in Carlyle Road, Aston Fields, was headed by a squad of the Worcestershire Yeomanry, with rifles at the reverse, and several of the deceased's comrades attended, including Sergeant E. Pinfield. The first part of the burial service was held in the Bromsgrove Wesleyan Methodist Church, and was conducted by the Rev. E. B. Keeling and the Rev. R. E. Overton (Blackwell). The Bromsgrove Town Band and the Boy Scouts, with their band, met the procession at the church, and the band played the " Dead March" from the church to the cemetery. The coffin was covered with the Union Jack, and all along the route the streets were lined with people. The bearers were six of the deceased late shop mates, Messrs. **Harvey Lainchbury**, John Jones, Alfred Morris, William ' Lewis, Harold Healey, and George A. Wilson. The mourners were Mr. and Mrs. Brown (parents), Annie, Gertie, and Gladys (sisters), Reginald (brother), Mr. and Mrs. William Holliday and Mr. and Mrs. J. Holiday (Derby). At the graveside three volleys were fired by the Yeomanry, and the "Last Post" was sounded by a trumpeter. Wreaths and crosses were sent by the following : Mother, Father, Brothers, and Sisters; Uncle, Aunt, Will and Polly and Cousin Willie (Derby) ; Uncle and Aunt, Jack and Hannah, and" little Lizzie (Derby) ; Uncle and Aunt, Tom and Edith, and Cousins (Northfield) ; from each of the neighbours in Carlyle Road; Mrs. Jones and Family; Mrs. Hall, Bert, and Ada (Burcot), Mrs. Crawford, Polly and Rose (Burcot), Mr. and Mrs. Taylor, Marjorie and Ted (Maldon) ; Mr. and Mrs. Smith (Blackwell) ; " In affectionate memories from his old chums, All, Harvey, and Bill.

Bromsgrove & Droitwich Messenger - Saturday 07 December 1912

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BROMSGROVE, DROITWICH & REDDITCH WEEKLY MESSENGER, SATURDAY,
JULY 7, 1917.

BABY WEEK.
SUCCESSFUL SHOW OF INFANTS AT BROMSGROVE.
"CLEAN, TIDY, AND WELL-CARED FOR " COMPETITORS.
LIST OF PRIZE-WINNERS.

National Baby Week has attracted a great deal of attention throughout the country, but perhaps at few places of the size of Bromsgrove has a keener interest been taken in the nation's recognition of motherhood than has been evinced in the town and district this week. The Bromsgrove and District Child Welfare Society has been labouring unceasingly for the past eighteen months in the task of advising and assisting mothers in the care of their offspring. The work has been carried on from three centres - Bromsgrove, Catshill, and Rubery,; the committee consists of the follow-ing: Mrs. Paterson (chairwoman), Lady Isabel Margesson, Lady Chavasse, Mrs. Shufflebotham, Nurse Richmond (who has been appointed to visit homes and advise and assist mothers), Mrs. R. T.Hall, Miss Kidd (Catshill), Dr. Cameron Kidd, Mrs. Martineau, Mrs. Woodall, Mrs. Rushton, Mrs. and Miss Brougham, Mrs. Douglas Charles, Miss E. Chavasse, and Miss G. Chavasse (hon. secretary). The work has been favourably received throughout the district, and although it was in some instances at first looked upon as an infringement of the rights of the subject for one citizen to advise another as to the best means of caring for the future generation. the committee have succeeded in wearing down a good deal of the local prejudice. They have also been encouraged in the work by the fact that the local District Councils of Bromsgrove and North Bromsgrove have acknowledged its importance and granted substantial financial assistance. A happy culmination of these preliminary efforts of the organisation was a regular "field day" on Wednesday, National Baby Week affording an excellent opportunity for the Society to organise a highly successful exhibition of babies in the Bromsgrove district.

The gathering took place in the grounds of Perry Hall (the use of which had been kindly granted by Mrs. Beilby) than which it would have been difficult to find a more suitable or more central position. Handsome prizes had been offered for the finest babies in numerous classes, including breast-fed, bottle-fed, and dummy-less infants, the contributors to the prize-list including Lady Plymouth, Lady Phyllis Windsor Clive, Lady Isabel Margesson, Lady Chavasse, Mrs. Boulton Brooks, Mrs. Douglas Charles, Mrs. Eveson, Mrs. R.T. Hall, Mrs. Howard Lloyd, Mrs Martineau, Mrs. J. T. Middlemore, Mrs. Perry, Mrs. Rushton, Mrs. Trapp, Mrs. Whitfield, the Misses Chavasse, and the Bromsgrove Women's Institute. The prizes comprised useful babies' garments and serviceable silver and china ware. The promoters expected quite a large entry, but the number of babies competing in the various classes exceeded anticipations, there being no fewer than eighty-five. The grounds were literally alive with babies and their mothers, and there was also a very satisfactory attendance of the public. The task of judging was entrusted to Dr. Wilkinson, of Droitwich, and Miss Adelaide Lloyd, who for a period of ten years was matron of the Children's Hospital at Birmingham, and they were assisted by Dr. Cameron Kidd and Nurse Richmond, the other members of the committee rendering help in the general arrangements wherever their services were required.

The weighing and measuring and medical examinations were conducted in the Badminton Hall, which for a period of three hours presented quite an animated appearance, and at times a somewhat noisy time was experienced. On the whole, however, the little ones were an uncommonly well behaved and good-tempered collection, and most of them submitted quite freely to be handled by strangers. In the judging the mark system was adopted in accordance with the schedule approved by Dr. Eric Pritchard, the popular chairman of the National Baby Week Council and the promoter of the percentage system for the standardised feeding of infants, by which means the saving of infant life has been enormous.

Maximum marks were obtainable in equal proportions of twenty out of a hundred for the following points: Condition of the skin and general appearance; muscular development and tone: osseous system and dentition; mental response and nervous system; and weight, height, and physique. The result of this examination is that it is not necessarily the heaviest baby who wins a prize, in fact the champion of Wednesday's exhibition- a five months' old child. weighing 12.3/4 Pounds, was easily

beaten in weight by several competitors who lost points on account of defects under the other headings. This affords a striking illustration of the importance of proper feeding, and demonstrates the fact that weight producing foods do not of themselves lead to proper development. Still, weight does count in the ordinary way, and it was certainly present on Wednesday. A seven-month-old prize winner weighed 21.1/2lbs., an eight months' one 21lbs., another seven months' one 18lbs., & six months' child 17.1/2lbs., a six weeks' old 11lbs., and a five weeks' one 10.1/2lbs.

In expressing an opinion as to the quality of the babies shown, one cannot do better than adopt the words of Dr. Wilkinson, one of the judges, who in the course of a short conversation with our representative said the competitors were an extremely good sample of the nation. and some of them were exceptionally fine babies, particularly the twins shown by Mrs. Abel, which were of equal size, and which individually would be quite a satisfactory representative of a single birth.

One had seldom seen a lot of mothers who had taken greater care of their children than those who had shown their babies, which were " extremely clean, tidy, and very well cared for." There were very few who had been brought up with the accompaniment of the objectionable dummy, and the majority were mother-fed. In the case of those who had teeth, these were sound, and that was a very good feature of the show.

When the judging was over the mothers, for whom tea was provided, strolled round the grounds, and joined in games which were arranged for their entertainment, and in the course of the evening a short address was given by Lady Isabel Margesson, who with Lady Chavasse and the other members of the committee, was most indefatigable in ministering to the pleasure of those who attended. In the course of her remarks, Lady Isabel said she was delighted to be entrusted with the task of congratulating all the mothers upon their splendid show of babies, and she had never enjoyed herself at any party in her life more than she had that afternoon. They were glorious babies, and the nation now recognised for the first time the mothers of those glorious babies. Mothers knew what it meant to be a good mother. They knew the self-sacrifice and the unceasing care that had to be gone through. She was the mother of five babies, now all grown up, but her motherhood had taught her many things which she would not be without, and she believed most mothers would not on any account be without the lessons which the babies taught them. This was the first time that the mothers of Great Britain had been as it were patted on the back, and therefore they wanted to make the very most of that day. It was delightful to have a little praise bestowed at last. Generations had passed, and many pages of history had been written, during which mothers had been doing their noble work, and now in 1917 was the first time that the nation had made a national recognition of the person who had borne her. That was a thing to be remembered, and someday in the future the mothers would be able to tell their children that it was in 1917 that they attended the first great baby show at Bromsgrove.

They would also be able to tell their children that the Queen of England, the first lady in the land, went to a baby show in London, and nursed a number of the babies in her own royal arms.

This was indeed a national baby and a national mother day, and their happiness was so much the greater because they had waited for so long for mothers and babies to be put in the forefront of the national work of this country. She herself had learned a lesson in her poultry keeping. She had some nice Rhode Island pullets, and gave them every attention and luxurious feeding, but when she called in a poultry expert to see them she received quite a shock when he said, " You have fed them perfectly and looked after them perfectly, but you have crowded them at night. They have not had enough fresh air, and they are stunted. They will be of no use, and you had better begin to eat them at once." (Laughter.) She would not trouble to point the moral; it was a good one, and was no doubt apparent to all. (Applause.) She heard that the fathers and the brothers at the front were now particularly anxious that the babies should be well looked after, because they knew it was to the babies that they had to look to carry on the nation of the future, and the other day one man meeting another in the street, remarked " A fine day for baby week." (Laughter.) Why one would have thought they were talking about the Derby. (Renewed laughter and applause.)

Subsequently Lady Isabel distributed the prizes to the successful competitors. In consequence of the difficulties of judging between babies of varying ages between a month and a year, it was found impracticable to adhere strictly to the schedule of prizes advertised in the "Messenger," and the awards were made in accordance with the following list, the names of the mothers being given in each case :—

Championship Baby-Mrs. Sealey, Bridge Cottage.

Breast-fed Babies-Under three months: Mrs.Maskell, High Street, and Mrs. Husband, Norton.

Three to six months: Mrs. Sealey, Bridge Cottage ; Mrs. Robbins, Worcester Street; and Mrs. Brown, Upton Warren.

Six to twelve months: Mrs. Carpenter, Norton; and Mrs. Sivell, Shrubbery.

Babies over twelve months: Mrs. Bratt, Long Eye; and Mrs. Abel, Highfield Road (twins).

Best-cared-for Delicate Baby.-Mrs. Howlett, All Saints' Road.

Bottle-Fed Babies.-Under one year: Mrs. White, Hanover Street.

Over one year: Mrs. Clarke, Little Heath. Rubery Centre (special prize) : Mrs. Wilkes.

Babies of mothers attending the three centres. Bromsgrove: Mrs. Byng, Mrs. Loat, and Mrs. Harris; Catshill: Mrs. Webley and Mrs. Bing : Rubery: Mrs. Delves.

Most Contented Babies who have never had a dummy.-Mrs. Mitchell, Bournheath; Mrs. Badger, Lickey End; and Mrs. Banner, Bromsgrove.

Best Bromsgrove Boy Baby, between one and two year's old.- Mrs. Palmer, All Saints' Road. Badger, Lickey End; and Mrs. Banner, Bromsgrove.

Best Bromsgrove Boy Baby, between one and two year's old.- Mrs. Palmer, All Saints' Road.

Largest healthy family and best-kept home. Mrs. Simpson, Mrs. Best, and Mrs. Pugh.

Child's garment made out of an old garment.-Mrs. Drew, Catshill (baby's slippers out of felt hat) ; Mrs. Loat, Bromsgrove (child's slip and baby's bonnet out of old skirt); Mrs. Andrews, Bromsgrove (boy's suit out of white skirt).

Babies highly commended for securing 95 per cent of marks or more: Mrs. Pardoe, Norton ; Mrs Palmer, All Saints' Road; Mrs. Young, Union Terrace, Birmingham Road; Mrs. Jordan, Bell Heath; Mrs. Britton, Rednal; and Mrs. Taylor, Red Cross.

Additional certificates for babies reaching 85 per cent of maximum marks:-Mesdames Deakin, Bridgman, Payne, Newbury, Eades, Bennett, Geronne, Stanton, Mugg, *Lainchbury* Randle, Phillips, Porter, James, Pasfield, Saunders, Evans, Whitmore, Tolley, Webb, Caswell, Swift, Wilkes, Taylor, Hall, Lewin, Wilson, Palmer, and sutton.

At the conclusion of the distribution, which was delayed owing to the confusion caused by the alteration of the schedule of prizes, votes of thanks were passed to Mrs. Beilby for the use of the grounds, to Lady Chavasse, the Misses Chavasse, and Nurse Richmond for their work, to Lady Isabel Margesson for distributing the prizes and her interest in the show, and the proceedings closed with the singing of a verse of the National Anthem.

Dr. G. H. Fosbroke (County Medical Officer) sent a telegram to Lady Chavasse in the following terms: " Much regret am prevented attending your baby show. Wish continued success to your child welfare scheme and contemplated crèche." The members of the Bromsgrove Secondary School cookery class exhibited a nice collection of foods for babies in their second year, consisting of rusks in milk, custard, porridge, bread and milk, corn flour moulds. etc.

