

THE HOWELLS FAMILY

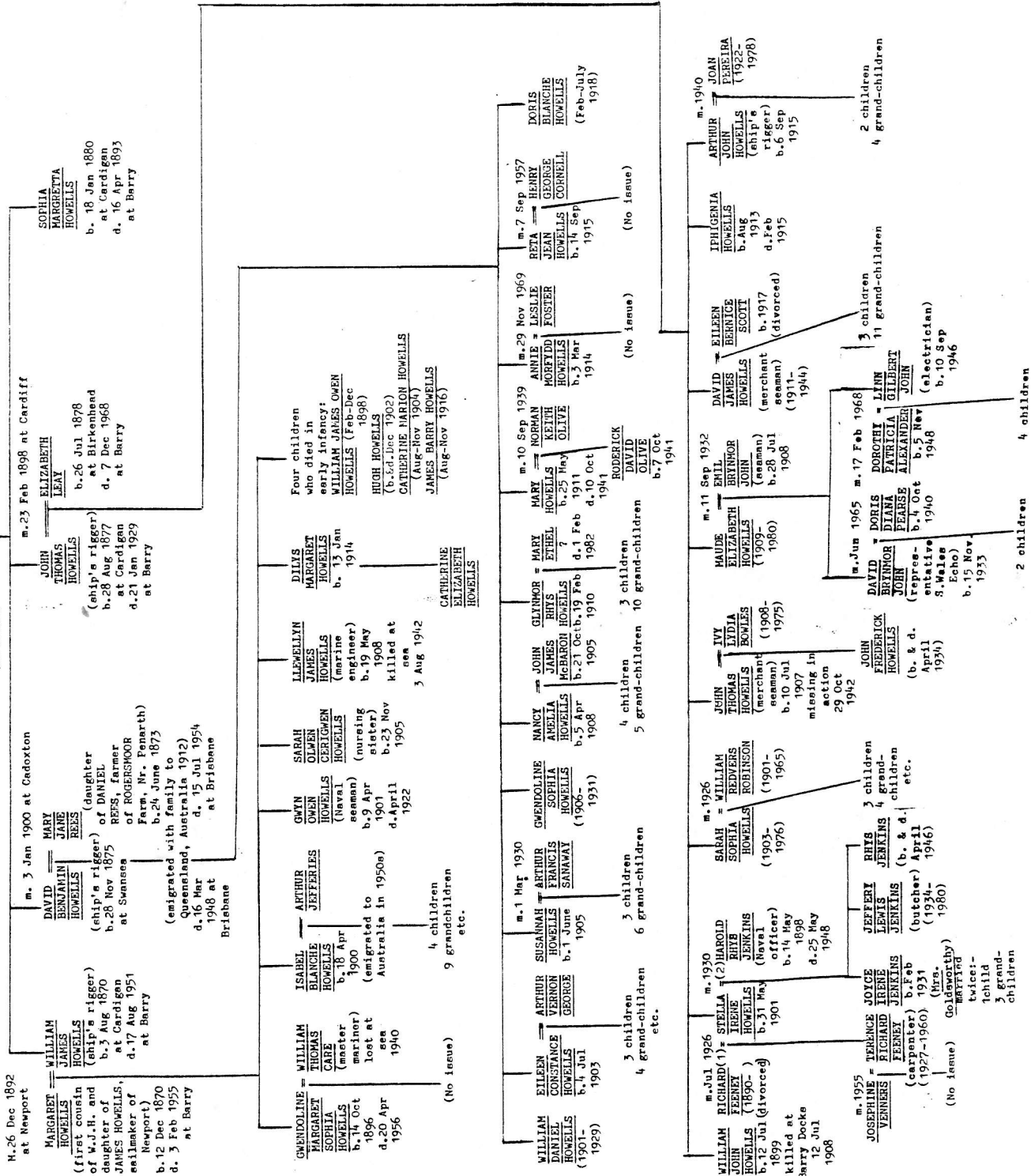
In October 1860 Sarah James of Tregiby married John Edwards, son of Lumley Edwards of Towyn Farm, Ferwig. There were no children of the marriage and something of a mystery surrounds the fate of John Edwards. I had thought from my own searchings that he was probably one of two men named "John Edwards" registered as having died in the Cardigan area in 1863/64, but then I found that one of those was a youth of 18 who died of consumption and the other was an old farmer who died at St. Dogmaels at the age of 91. It turned out later that Sarah's present-day descendants were also in some doubt about when and where John Edwards died. Anyhow, Sarah took up with a handsome seaman from Cardigan, William Howells, and married him in September 1868 at a Welsh Baptist chapel in Newport, Mon. The odd thing is that Sarah, at her second marriage, gave her name as "James" and described herself as "spinster".

The Howells were a Cardigan family, several of whose sons went to sea. One of the sons, James Howells (sailmaker and carpenter), was at one time employed on the coastal run between Cardigan and Newport, Mon., where he met and married Catherine Evans in February 1868. In the same year James' older brother, William Howells, went up from Cardigan with Sarah Edwards, stayed at the house of James and Catherine, and married from there. William and Sarah then returned to Cardigan, where three of their four children were born at Greenfield Square. When Sarah registered those three births at Cardigan, she correctly gave her name as "Sarah Howells, late Edwards, formerly James" - she could hardly do otherwise in fact, since the Cardigan registrar, John Thomas, was a cousin of hers who well knew of her first marriage. But the second of Sarah's children, David Benjamin, was born at Swansea; and when she registered his birth with the registrar there, a stranger, she gave her name as "Sarah Howells, formerly James". It is all slightly odd, though there may be a simple explanation, which we shall probably never know. Anyhow, it all happened a long time ago.

For most of the above story and for virtually all of the information that has gone into the making of the table representing the Howells branch of the family tree, I am deeply indebted to my second cousin, once removed, and a great-grandson of Sarah, Mr. Lyn John of Barry, who has also helped me greatly by sharing with me many details he had himself unearthed about the James family of Cardigan.

The HOWELLS Family

m. 16 Oct 1860
 JOHN EDWARDS (1) — SARAH JAMES (2)
 born 1837 at Treglby, Cardigan
 (son of Lumley Edwards
 farmer, Toveyn Farm,
 Verwig)
 killed in accident at Barry Docks,
 2 March 1898
 (aged 63)
 (No issue)



FATAL FALL AT BARRY DOCK.

On Wednesday last William Howells, a boarding master, of 11, Travis-street, Barry Dock, whilst engaged as a rigger on the barque Donna Julia, lying in the Barry Graving Dock, accidentally fell overboard. His head came in contact with the quay, and he fell to the bottom of the dock, a distance of 20 feet. When picked up he was dead. Deceased, who was about 55 years ago, leaves a widow and several children.

THE INQUEST.

On Thursday (yesterday) the inquest was held at the Police-station, Barry Dock. Evidence was adduced by a large number of witnesses, to the effect that deceased was engaged in removing a boat from its position, and was standing at the rivet heads, when the rope broke, and he fell with his head on the rail, afterwards striking the edge of the quay, and falling into the water, where, when recovered, he was discovered to be dead.—A verdict was returned of "Accidental death," the jury adding that the rope was rotten, and should not have been used for the purpose.

"BARRY DOCK NEWS,"

With which are incorporated the "SOUTH WALES STAR" and "PENARTH STAR AND COGAN NEWS." Friday, March 4th, 1898.

FRIDAY, MARCH 4, 1898.

FATAL FALL AT BARRY DOCK.

A rigger named William Howells, who lived at 11, Travis-street, Barry Docks, was at work on board the British barque Donna Julia, lying at Barry Dock, on Wednesday morning last, when some men were in the act of swinging round the ship's boat on deck to get clear of the hatchway. Deceased was standing on the main rail, and was struck by the boat, and he fell against the quay, and rolled into the dock. When picked up by a man named Durman and others life was found to be extinct. Dr Bray examined the body, and found a large bleeding gash on the back of the head. Deceased was removed to his home. An inquest was held on the body on Thursday morning, and a verdict of "Accidental death" was returned. Deceased, who was also a boarding-house keeper, was 61 years of age, and leaves a widow and three children.

Barry Herald and Vale of Glamorgan Times

FRIDAY, AUGUST 24th, 1951.

Obituary

MR. W. J. HOWELLS

The death occurred suddenly at his daughter's residence in Porth-y-Castell, Barry, on Friday. Mr. William James Howells. Mr. Howells was the only surviving son of Mr. and Mrs. William Howells, Tivy House, Barry. He was 81 years of age and one of the last of the "Cape Horners," having spent many years aboard sailing ships and experiencing the hazards of the Cape many times. A master rigger, Mr. Howells was later a boatman at Barry Docks. He was one of the pioneers of the Transport and General Workers Union. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Margaret Howells, five daughters, Mrs. I Burch, Mrs. S. Care, Mrs. E. Jeffreys, Miss O. Howells and Miss D. Howells, five grandchildren and three great grandchildren. His two sons, Apprentice Officer Gwyn Owen Howells died from wounds sustained in the 1914-18 war, and Engineer Officer Llewellyn James Howells was killed in action during the last war. His son-in-law went down with the s.s. Tregenna, of which he was master, during the war. The funeral was held on Tuesday with cremation at Glyntarf.

Barry Herald and Vale of Glamorgan Times

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18th, 1955.

Obituary

MRS. MARGARET HOWELLS

The funeral, followed by cremation at Thornhill, took place on February 7, of Mrs. Margaret Howells, who died at her residence, "Llew-Gwyn," Port Road East, Barry, on February 3.

A native of Newport, Mon., Mrs. Howells came to reside in Barry over 62 years ago, and was amongst the few surviving residents who remember the town's developments from a small new township to its present size.

The widow of Mr. William James Howells, a pioneer in the Trades Union movement in Barry, Mrs. Howells was in earlier years an active worker in the Labour Party and the Co-operative movement. She was 84 years of age.

Her two sons, Apprentice Officer Gwyn Owen Howells, died of wounds received in the 1914-18 War, and Engineer Officer Llewellyn James Howells M.N., was killed in action during the last war.

Surviving her are five daughters, Mrs. I Burch (Barry), Mrs. S. Care (Barry), Mrs. B. Jeffreys (Tasmania), Miss O. Howells and Miss D. Howells (Barry), and five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Howells was a founder member of Barry National Spiritualist Church and a short service, conducted by Mr. George Corp, was held at the house and later at the crematorium.

Accidents at the Docks.

Shocking Fatality on Sunday.

At Barry Dock, on Sunday evening, Wm. John Howells (9), son of John Howells, a rigger, of Fryatt street, was accidentally killed near Messrs Watson's timber yard at the docks. The boy, with several companions, was playing round the yard with a large crane, which was wound up by means of a handie. The boys had lifted a large baulk of timber, to which the chain was fastened, when they were startled by the shout of a man, who called to them to leave the crane alone. The boy, who was holding the handle, let go, and it suddenly struck Howells behind the ear, flinging him to the ground, and causing a severe wound from which he died within half an hour, after being carried into the Port Sanitary Offices. Dr O'Donnell was called, and arrived just before the boy died. The body was conveyed home. The inquest on Tuesday was adjourned, to enable a representative of Messrs Watson to attend.

THE BARRY HERALD.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10th, 1941.

ROYAL SYMPATHY.

Mrs. Sophie Care, of Porth-y-Castell, Barry, whose husband, Captain William Thomas Care, lost his life through the sinking of his ship by enemy action, received a letter of sympathy from H.M. King George VI on New Year's Day. The letter stated, "The Queen and I offer you our heartfelt sympathy in your great sorrow. We pray that your country's gratitude for a life so nobly given in its service may bring you some measure of consolation, George R.I."

Barry Herald

and

VALE OF GLAMORGAN TIMES

11 MOLTON ROAD, BARRY, GLAM.

Telephone: Barry 227

FRIDAY, APRIL 27, 1956

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS,
IN MEMORIAM, etc.

DEATH

CARE — On April 20, at her residence, 47 Porth-y-Castell, Barry, after a long illness, patiently borne, Gwendoline Margaret Sophia (Sophie), beloved wife of the late Captain William Thomas Care, M.N., and devoted eldest daughter of the late William and Margaret Howells and loving aunt of Catherine. Cremation at Thornhill, 25th April, 1956.
"Peace after pain."



Mrs. ANN JENKINS
"Brynteifi",
Barry
(1840-1930)

Mrs. SARAH HOWELLS (1839-1918)
with grand-daughter STELLA IRENE HOWELLS
now Mrs. Jenkins (born 1901)
and grandson WILLIAM JOHN HOWELLS (1899-1908)
(photographed 1905)



The children of William and Sarah Howells:-

SOPHIA MARGRETTA HOWELLS (1880-1893)
JOHN THOMAS HOWELLS (1877-1929)
WILLIAM JAMES HOWELLS (1870-1951)
DAVID BENJAMIN HOWELLS (1870-1951)



THOMAS EDWARD MORGAN (1873-1941)
MARY JENKINS (1871-1912)
married at Salem Baptist chapel, Barry
16th August 1900