

Alfred Heinrich BODEKER (5 Feb 1860 - 7 Aug 1920 Durban) with Ann KEARN nee GREGORY q.v..

See also Alfred Heinrich BODEKER with Charlotte HOUSDEN for later history.

Birth registration 5 February 1860, birth occurred at 69 Douglas Street, St. Paul's Deptford, of Alfred Heinrich Bodeker, father Heinrich Wilhelm Michael Bodeker, mother Emma Bodeker, formerly Hodges, occupation of father watchmaker journeyman. Birth registered by H.W.M. Bodeker, father, usual residence 69 Douglas Street, Deptford. Source: Certified copy of an entry of Birth. Certificate #BXBZ721374 dated 24 January 1995 in possession of Susan Young.

1861 census

St. Paul, St. James Hatcham, page 15

Household Schedule #105, 13 Walpole Road:

Henry Saunders [sic], head, married, 45, watchmaker, born Hamburg [sic], Germany;

Emma Saunders, wife, married, 34, born Maidstone, Kent;

Emma S. Saunders, daughter, 9 years, scholar, born Maidstone;

Catherine M., daughter, 3 years, born Deptford;

Heinrich A. Saunders, son, 1 year old, born Deptford;

Sarah Hodges, mother, widow, 64, born Maidstone, occupation was written as

"independent" but that was crossed through and superceded by "retired shopkeeper".

It is unknown why the family used the surname of Saunders for this census.

1871 census; 0978 - 096 - 34. 5, Limes cottages, Faversham, Kent.

BODIKER Emma Head Wid 45 Housekeeper Kent Maidstone

" Emma S. Dau Unm 19 Dressmaker " "

" Catherine Dau --- 13 Scholar " Deptford

" Alfred Son --- 11 " " "

" Wilhelm Son --- 9 " " "

" Charles Son --- 6 " " Faversham

1881 census

Faversham, Kent, England, RG11/968; Fol. 104, p. 36

Household Schedule #177, 3 Gatefield Lane:

Alfred Bodikar, head, mar, 22, labourer in cotton powder works, born Deptford, Kent

Ann Bodikar, wife, mar, 24, born Faversham, Kent

Annie C. Bodikar, daughter, unm, 2, born Faversham, Kent

Edith Bodikar, daughter, unm, 1, born Faversham, Kent

AN OLD GRIEVANCE. [1884]

Maria Lewis, married woman, of West Street, Faversham, was summoned by Ann Bodeker, of 3, Gatefield Lane, to show cause why she should not fine sureties to keep the peace and be of good behaviour. - Complainant (Ann) stated that a grievance had existed between her and the defendant for ten or twelve years. Defendant had recently threatened to rip her open and cut her heart out. In consequence she (Ann) was afraid of her life. - Defendant (Maria) alleged that complainant went to London with her (defendant's) husband in a barge, and that notes were continually passing between them. Defendant (Maria) accused the

complainant (Ann) with gross improprieties with her husband. She admitted saying to the complainant that she had stripped her once, and would again if she had the chance. - The Bench adjourned the case for a month in order for the complainant (Ann) to produce additional evidence as to the threats. Source: Faversham News 09 August 1884, p. 3, col. 4.

See <https://search.findmypast.co.uk/bna/viewarticle?id=bl%2f0004227%2f18840809%2f029&stringtohighlight=bodeker%20faversham>

APPLICATION FOR SURETIES OF THE PEACE. [1884]

Maria Lewis of West St., appeared to an adjourned summons issued at the instance of a woman who gave the name of Ann Bodiker, who complained that the defendant had threatened her life, and applied that she might be bound over to keep the peace. This case was before the Bench last month, when the complainant enumerated the threats which she alleged the defendant had used to her, the defendant pleaded provocation if she had committed any offence, alleging improper intimacy between her husband and the complainant (Ann), and the case was adjourned for the complainant (Ann) to produce corroborative evidence. **She now called Alfred Bodiker, who said he heard the defendant threaten his "missus."** She also stepped inside his door. - The defendant (Maria) here stated that the complainant (Ann) had come there in a false name; she lived with the last Witness, but her name was not Bodiker at all; she was married, but her husband would not live with her because of the proceedings between her and her (defendant's) husband. - The Mayor (to complainant (Ann)): You have given your evidence in the name of Ann Bodiker; is that your name? No, my name is Ann Kearns. **As far as I know, my husband is living, but I have not seen him for many years, and I am known by the name of Bodiker.** - The Mayor said there was sufficient evidence to show that the defendant made use of threats to the complainant, and however much she might have been vexed and annoyed by that woman, it was not for her to threaten her. In dealing with the case, however, the magistrates would mark their sense of what had transpired by calling upon the defendant to enter into her own recognisances in the sum of GB10, and to find one surety in the sum of GB5, to keep the peace for six months. The required surety was at once found, and the parties left the court. Source: Faversham Times and Mercury and North-East Kent Journal 06 September 1884, p. 5, col. 2. See <https://search.findmypast.co.uk/bna/ViewArticle?id=BL%2F0001346%2F18840906%2F048%2F0005&browse=true>

1891 census

Faversham, Kent, England, RG12/713, ED 8, fol. 139, p. 9

Household Schedule #55, 33 Westgate Road:

Alfred Bodeker, head, married, 31, labourer guncotton works, born at Deptford

Ann, wife, married, 34, born at Faversham

Edith, daughter, 12, born at Faversham

Frederick, son, 3, born at Faversham

Jane, daughter, 2, born at Faversham

The children:

Alice Jane Gregory

Baptism of Alice Jane Gregory to Ann Gregory of West Street, a single woman on 18 Feb 1876, by A. Boys, curate of Faversham Parish Church. Alice Jane Gregory was buried 3 Mar 1877 at Faversham Parish Church. Age recorded on burial is 1 year, residence at Tanner Street.

Albert Kearn

Baptism on 10 May 1877, son of Henry and Ann Kearn, of West Street, father a brickmaker. Albert died that same year. Source: Whitstable Times and Herne Bay Herald, p. 4, 18 August 1877. "DEATHS. Aug. 11 Albert Kearn, Drayson-Square, aged 3 month."

Annie Catherine Kearn

Baptism on 15 July 1881, daughter of Henry and Ann Kearn, of Gatefield Lane, father a mariner. Child born 12 August 1878 inscribed in margin. As Annie Catherine did not survive childhood she has no descendants that could help the identification of her father with DNA. Annie Catherine died 31 January 1886 and was buried at Faversham on 3 Feb 1886. So, she may have known no other father but Alfred Bodeker.

Edith Louise Kearn

Baptism on 15 July 1881 of Edith Kearn, daughter of Henry and Ann Kearn, of Gatefield Lane, father a mariner. Child born 4 September 1879 inscribed in margin. DNA test results and a match with a great-grandchild of Edith Louise strongly suggests that Edith Louise was a child of Alfred Heinrich Bodeker and not Henry Kearn. Edith Louise died during 1956 at Maidstone, Kent.

Minnie Kearn

Minnie was born during the December quarter of 1881. Buried 11 March 1886 residing at Gatefield Lane, aged 4 years. Buried under the name of Johnnie Kearn. Her civil death registration is under the name of Minnie Kearn. No baptism has been found.

Rosa Kearn

Rosa was born during the September quarter of 1885 and buried 28 October 1886 at Faversham at the age of 20 months. The family had moved to Park Place by this time. No baptism has been found.

Frederick Bodeker

Frederick is the first child to be born and baptised with the Bodeker surname, despite the fact that his younger siblings Rosa and Minnie would have been children of Alfred Bodeker. I would like to see if there is any mention of Ann being brought before the vestry. Fred was born 25 Oct 1887 at Faversham, baptised there 14 March 1890. Fred emigrated to Toronto, Ontario, Canada with his mother and siblings during 1912. He was KIA 28 August 1918 in France near or at Arras and is buried in the Vis-en-Artois British Cemetery at Haucourt.

Ada Jane "Lillian" Bodeker

Ada aka Lillian was born 28 December 1889 at Faversham and baptised there on 14 March 1890 with her brother Frederick. She emigrated to Toronto, Ontario, Canada during 1912 with her mother and siblings. She died 27 May 1971 at Wasaga Beach, Ontario, Canada. I

knew Aunt Lill and had many family visits with her and my cousins during the 1960s and early 1970s.

MARRIAGE 1890

Faversham parish church marriage 31 Aug 1890, Registrar's certificate.

Alfred BODEKER, 31y, Bachelor, Millman, Gun Cotton works, of 33, Westgate Road, Park Place, son of Heinrich Wilhelm Bodeker, Silversmith.

Ann KEARN, 33y, Widow, of 6, St. Marys Road, dau. of Edward Gregory, Bargeman. Wits; Charles Horatio and Sarah Ann Bodeker.

Minnie Winifred Bodeker (my grandmother)

Minnie was baptised 3 March 1893 as Minnie Winifred Bocker [sic] [Bodeker], daughter of Alfred and Anne, of 33 Westgate Road, father a millman.

She emigrated to Toronto, Ontario, Canada during 1912 with Alfred's wife (her mother) and several siblings. Minnie died 3 July 1972 at St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada.

1901 census

Ospringe, Kent, England, RG13/803, ED 1, fol. 13, p. 17

Schedule #110, Water Lane East, Village of Ospringe:

Ann Bodeker, head, married, 45, charwoman, worker, born at Preston;

Frederick ", son, 14, house boy domestic, a worker, born at

Faversham; Ada ", daughter, 11, born at Faversham; Minnie ",

daughter, 8, born at Faversham.

1901 census; 0804 - 067 - 6. 75, Westgate Road, Faversham within, Kent.

SHARP Henry Head Mar 57 Blacksmith Kent Borden

" Susan Wife Mar 56 ---- " Sittingbourne

" George Son S. 21 Cordite Manufacturer " Oare

" Harry Son S. 16 Cotton picker, Cotton Gunpowder works. Kent Oare.

Faversham parish church marriage 25 Dec 1901 banns. George Thomas SHARP, 23y, Bachelor, Labourer, of 75, Westgate Road, son of Henry Sharp, Blacksmith. Louisa Edith BODEKER, 21y, Spinster, of Preston Street, Faversham, dau. of Alfred Bodeker, Mechanic. Wits; William Goatham, Annie Bunting.

Faversham parish church marriage 25 Dec 1907, banns. George Benjamin HEAD, 24y, Bachelor, Labourer of 15, Nightigale Road, son of Henry Head (Dec'd), Labourer. Ada Jane BODEKER, 19y, Spinster, of 1, Kingsfield cottages, dau. of Alfred Bodeker, Labourer. Wits; George Thomas, Edith Sharp. Faversham parish church baptism of Groom. HEAD. 6 Apr 1884 George Benjamin, son of Henry and Mary Jane, of 6, Alfred Place, Labourer.

Faversham Mercury 28 Dec 1907. Marriage 25 Dec at Faversham parish church, George Benjamin HEAD to Ada Jane BODEKER. Both of Faversham.

Faversham society museum collection. Website notes from Rootschat. com to Dr. Percival, May 2013.

Ref;; HEAD and JEMMETT families.

See also Alfred Heinrich BODEKER with Charlotte HOUSDEN for later history.

Alfred Heinrich BODEKER (1860 – 1920) with Charlotte HOUSDEN
See also Alfred Heinrich BODEKER with Ann GREGORY for earlier history.

1901 census Corringham, Essex, England, RG13/1662, fol. 117, p. 22. 10 Fleet Street:
Alfred H. Bodeker, head, married, 40, foreman guncotton powder explosive works,
born London New Cross
Charlotte E. Bodeker, wife, married, 29, born Faversham, Kent
Alfred H. Bodeker, son, 1, born in Essex
Hilda M. Bodeker, daughter, 2 months, born in Essex
and with two male boarders, both general labourers and both born in the U.S.A. but British
Subjects.

Children from the non-marital union of Alfred Bodeker and Charlotte Housden (no divorce
was ever sought by either Alfred Bodeker or his legal wife, Ann nee Gregory. Ann outlived
Alfred.):

1. G.R.O. Births index. Jun 1899. BODEKER, Alfred Heinrich.
Orsett 4a. p. 578. Born 30 Apr 1899. Baptised 8 August 1900 at Faversham.
Died 11 June 1967 at Durban Kwazulu-Natal, South Africa. Married and had two children.
2. G.R.O. Births index. Mar 1901. BODEKER, Hilda Mildred.
Orsett 4a. p. 649. Baptised 26 May 1901 at Faversham, dau. of Alfred and Charlotte, of
Stanford, Essex, Guncotton worker.
3. G.R.O. Births index. Jun 1902. BODEKER, Charles William. Orsett 4a. p. 653.
4. G.R.O. Births index. Jun 1902. BODEKER, Arthur George.
Orsett 4a. p. 657. Died 1 Aug 1942 Durban, South Africa. Married and had 1 child.
5. G.R.O. Births index. Dec 1905. BODEKER, Vida May
Orsett 4a. p. 641. Died 1986 Durban, South Africa. Married and had 6 children.
6. G.R.O. Births index. Jun 1907. BODEKER, Bertram Norman Orsett 4a. p. 669. Died
1960 unmarried at South Africa.

3 October 1908

Alfred, Charlotte and their children set sail on the Norman out of Southampton bound for
Natal, South Africa. On board 204 adults over and above the master, crew and cabin
passengers. The ship's Master T. J. Bremner certified that there were provisions on board
were sufficient for 100 adults for a voyage of 33 days. Mr. Bodeker was listed with the
occupation of Foreman. Four boys and 2 girls were listed at Bodeker family travelling with
Mr. and Mrs. Bodeker.

Family history obtained from cousins whose mother was Alfred's daughter:
Alfred Bodeker eventually rose to the position of foreman at the gun cotton works.
He was a rather confused and abusive sort and eventually deserted Ann around 1899.
We are told that he had run off with a younger woman and certainly two entries in the
Faversham parish registers bear this out: christened 8 August 1900 Alfred Heinrich Bodeker
(G.R.O. June Qtr, 1899, Orsett, 4a, 578) and christened 26 May

1901 Hilda Mildred Bodeker (G.R.O. March Qtr 1901, Orsett, 4a, 649), the children of Alfred Bodeker and Charlotte Eliza Houseden. His residence was recorded as being Stanford, Essex.

About 1908 Alfred was sent to South Africa to assist in the start up of a new gun cotton works. Word eventually came back to Ann that he had been killed there in an explosion. Research in the KwaZulu-Natal archives has produced his death certificate which reads:

"Province of Natal

Deaths in the District of Durban for the Month ended 31 Aug 19[20]

No. 465

When and where died: 7 August 1920, Sanatorium, Durban

Name, Surname, Birthplace: Alfred Heinrich Bodeker, England

Sex, Race: Male, English

Age: 58 years

Rank or Profession and Conjugal Condition: Explosives Foreman, Married

Cause of death: Carcinoma Eosophagus, Starvation, Post-operative shock

Duration: 3 weeks

By whom Certified: Dr. Radford

Place of Burial: Church of England Cemetery, Durban

Signature, Description, Residence of Informant: Harold S. Adlam, Undertaker, Durban

When Registered: Aug. 9, 1920

I, Harold S. Adlam of Durban following the occupation of Undertaker do solemnly declare that the foregoing information is true to the best of my knowledge and belief. Signature "Harold S. Adlam"

Declared before me this 9th day of August 1920 at Durban.

Signed by the Deputy Registrar for the District of Durban [signature illegible]"

Charlotte died during 1954 at South Africa.

I have been in touch with my half cousins in Africa, descendants of Alfred Bodeker and Charlotte Housden and much has been exchanged about the family.