

Mum's family by Susan Foster, August 2020

Mum's parents were James Wright and Miriam Cooper. Mum had an older sister Phyllis and an older brother Edward James. This photo is the only one I have with the whole family on. The photo shows, from left to right, Phyllis, Miriam, Ted, Aunty Min from Nottingham, Mum on her knee and James. (Aunty Min was not a real Aunty but was Mum's Godmother.)



I also have an earlier photo taken before Mum was born.



These are the facts I know about Mum's parents:

James (my grandfather) was born in Coton Road, Nuneaton on 4th March 1895 and died in Nuneaton in January 1953. He spent most of his childhood in Devon (presumably Trusham as that is where his younger brother was born.)

He met Grandma when he was an apprentice butcher in Bedworth and she worked at the greengrocer's in Bedworth.

Miriam (my grandmother) Grandma was born on 24th August 1892 in Bloxwich, Staffordshire. In 1911, Grandma lived at 52, Norman Avenue Nuneaton.

They married on Christmas day 1915 at Chilvers Coton Church. Grandad was 20 and Grandma was 23. He was in the army in the Great war and fought at the Somme. These are photos of Grandad.



Phyllis was born in 1916. Ted was born in January 1920 in Nuneaton.

Mum (Dorothy Margaret Wright) was born on 16th February 1931 at Loveday Street Hospital in Birmingham. Grandma Wright was sent there because she was nearly 40.

Grandad was the manager of the Co-op butchers in Queen's Road when Mum was born. It was located in the row of shops under the Co-op Hall.

Mum lived the first 2 years of her life at 24, Tomkinson Road, Stockingford, Nuneaton. Her Grandma Cooper lived next door at 22.

When Mum was 2, they moved to Kingsbridge Road. I think the house was called Chudleigh. After a few years, they moved down the road to 95 Kingsbridge Road. This was a lovely house with gardens on 3 sides and fields at the bottom of the garden. The milkman's horse lived in the field at the bottom of the garden. Grandad and Ted were both keen gardeners and Ted was very practical and so the gardens were well tended.

Grandad was a special constable during the second world war. He was always a heavy smoker and died of a stroke at the age of 58, while Mum was expecting Paul.

Grandma lived with Mum and Dad for a short while when they first moved to Berrington Road and then moved to a ground floor flat in Heath End Road. She moved to a first floor flat in Princes Street in about 1970 but she became very immobile and couldn't manage the stairs and so hardly left the flat. In about 1976, she had a fall and was admitted to High View Hospital, Hospital Lane, Bedworth and remained there until her death on 12th December 1986. She was 94. She was cremated at Canley.

Grandad James's family

Grandad's parents were Joseph Henry Wright and Sarah Jane Barrs. Joseph was born in Gillmorton, Leicestershire in 1873. In 1911, according to the census, he was a stone quarry settmaker. He died before Mum was born.

Sarah Jane Barr was born in Atherstone, Warwickshire in December 1875. Joseph and Sarah married in April 1892 in Hinckley. Joseph was 19 and Sarah was 17. They lived on Mancetter Road, Nuneaton for some of their life.

There is a photograph of Sarah in a nurse's uniform. Mum thinks she was some kind of nurse in the first world war. However, she looks younger in the photo of her in a nurse's uniform than the one of her with Lucy May, who was born in 1904 and so this suggests that she was a nurse before the war.



They had 4 children.



Charles Wright (1893 to ?)

Born at Stoney Stanton, Leicestershire

Occupation in 1911, assistant stereotype in printing industry

Mum remembers Uncle Charlie. He worked for Cooks, the furniture store next to the Scala on Abbey Street. Mum thinks he was the manager. After the war, he married a French lady called Berta and moved to Boulogne. This is a photo of Charlie and Uncle Ted, presumably in Boulogne.



I have a passport for Grandma which shows she visited Charlie in Boulogne in 1964.

James Wright (Grandad). See page 1.

Thomas William Wright(1902–1981)

Born 23 Mar 1902 in Trusham, Devon, England. In 1943 married Ethel Waters in Atherstone according to ancestry.co.uk. Known as Bill. Mum says he worked at a quarry. He died September 1981 in Cheltenham according to ancestry.co.uk.

Lucy May Wright(1905 – ?)

Born 30 Apr 1905 in Thornbury, Gloucester, England. Known as May. May had learning difficulties and lived with her Mum until she died, when she was admitted to a care facility.

Grandma Miriam's Family

Grandma's parents were William Cooper and Elizabeth Holford

William was born in 1865 in Penkridge, Staffordshire. According to the 1911 census, he was a Miner Pit Clippson. I don't know when or where Elizabeth was born.

This is Elizabeth.



They married 13th May 1885 at Pipe Ridware, Staffordshire. According to the 1911 census, they lived at 54 Whittleford Rd, Stockingford, Nuneaton.

They had 5 children.

Edith Annie Cooper(1891–)

abt 1891 • Wiltshire, England (?). (This is from ancestry.co.uk. I'm dubious because why would she have been born in Wiltshire?)

Miriam Cooper(1892–1984)

Grandma, See page 1. This is Grandma's passport photo from 1964 and this is how I remember her.



Grandma is on the right on this photo. Are the other 2 Edith and Beatrice? Mum doesn't think so. She said "They are wearing flowers and so perhaps they were bridesmaids". Love the hair dos!

George Cooper(1895–)

abt 1895 • Pelsall, Staffordshire, England

Mum said she thought this photo could be George and Doris's wedding photo.



Beatrice Cooper(1898-)

abt 1898 • Bloxwich, Staffordshire, England

(Mum says that she still lives next to the Post Office in Manor Court Road at number 24. That makes her 122!)

Charles Cooper(1901-)

abt 1901 • Bloxwich, Staffordshire, England



This is a photo of Charles at his wedding to his second wife. He lived in Barwell and was a manager in the electrical trade.



I found this photo. Second from the left is Great Grandma Elizabeth Cooper. Are the others husband William and daughters Edith, Miriam (Grandma) and Beatrice?