

## **Addendum: Genealogy of the Morleys in South Wales: Glamorgan and the Vale of Neath from 1700 to 1800**

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In the main article, the early history of the Morleys in Glamorgan was described starting with William Morley of Llangyfelach.<sup>1</sup> According to an administrative bond, dated 29 March 1712 and discussed in that account, William (J)<sup>2</sup> was a mariner, by then deceased, who had served in the Royal Navy on board HMS Bristol.<sup>3</sup> The original article speculates that he served on the first ship of that name, which was lost in an action against the French in 1709, although the possibility that he had served on the second ship of that name, was not discounted. Because the second ship had not apparently been involved in any naval actions that year,<sup>4</sup> and given that the administrative bond (a legal document) may have taken some time to prepare and process, it was thought that William had died on the first ship. However, new evidence has come to light<sup>5</sup> which shows unequivocally that he served on the second ship of the name<sup>6</sup> which was launched on 8 May 1711.<sup>7</sup> An examination of navy pay books reveals that he had previously served on HMS Torbay,<sup>8</sup> and before that, on HMS Cambridge.<sup>9</sup>

The pay book of the Cambridge shows that William Morley became a member of the crew on 12 December 1708 but he does not appear listed as an ordinary seaman until 19 January 1709.<sup>10</sup> He was then transferred with other crew to the tender of HMS Torbay on 27 January that year. The same pay book shows that he contributed one and sixpence to Chatham Chest and nine pence to Greenwich Hospital, sums which are fully consistent with his six weeks of service on that ship. The Cambridge was launched in 1695 as an 80 gun third rate ship of the line.<sup>11</sup> She saw action at the battles of Vigo and Malaga in 1702 and 1704 and spent much time in the Mediterranean until 1708. She was commanded by Francis Dove from 26 January 1708 to 23 September 1712<sup>12</sup> but in 1713 she was docked at Woolwich, broken up and rebuilt. Prior to this in 1709, however, she was designated as a navy Guard ship<sup>13</sup> located at the Nore, a sandbank in the Thames estuary, near to the entrance of the river Medway, and close to the naval base of Chatham. One of a guard ship's functions at this time was to receive men impressed for service and it seems likely that at least some of the Cambridge's crew fell into this category in 1709. Indeed, the pay book entries for the Cambridge are described as 'Torbays list of Ordinary Seamen' with the name William Jumper appended.<sup>14</sup> This list suggests that these seamen may have been commandeered to serve on the Torbay. Sir William Jumper, was a superintendent based at Chatham in 1709 and responsible for navy accounts,<sup>15</sup> and it is highly likely that he had drawn up the list of seamen shown in the pay book.

The Cambridge pay book shows no payment of wages to any of the seamen only a charge or debit for all their expenses on board.<sup>16</sup> This charge included the provision

of clothes, beds or hammocks, tobacco, and donations to both Chatham Chest and Greenwich Hospital. This information convincingly suggests that William Morley and his shipmates, who were subsequently transferred to the Torbay, were impressed into service as suggested in the main article.<sup>17</sup> Men who had volunteered to join the navy received conduct money and two month's salary in advance which was used to purchase clothes and equipment from the Purser, known as slops. This usually included clothes and beds. However, once a man had been seized by the press gang, he was offered a choice. He could either sign up as a volunteer and receive the same benefits (in advance payments) or he could remain a pressed man and receive nothing.<sup>18</sup> However, there is no evidence in the pay book to show that William Morley or any of his fellow sailors on the Cambridge received any advance payments at all. The possibility that William Morley had volunteered for the navy following perhaps the death of his wife cannot be discounted, though this seems unlikely given the appalling conditions on board ship at that time (see below).

On 28 January 1709, William Morley and at least 23 of his shipmates from the Cambridge were transferred to HMS Torbay from that ship's tender though they do not appear listed as ordinary seamen until 6 February 1709. The Torbay was an 80 gun third rate ship of the line launched on 16 December 1693. She saw action during the unsuccessful battle of Toulon in the summer of 1707, and was present during the great naval disaster off the Isles of Scilly in October that year, when between 1400 and 2000 sailors were lost in a violent storm on their return from Toulon, but the Torbay escaped serious damage and reached Portsmouth safely.<sup>19</sup> William Morley served for almost two years on this ship before being transferred to HMS Bristol (2) on 29 November 1710. The Torbay's pay book shows his full wages as £22-15s-10d over this period which equates to 24 weeks service at the established rate of nineteen shillings per four week month for ordinary seamen.<sup>20</sup> He was transferred from the Torbay to HMS Bristol (2) on 7 December 1711.<sup>21</sup> The pay books do not show what happened to his net wages of £19-19s-10d earned on board the Torbay, but it must be assumed that they were transferred to his family.

The Bristol pay book indicates that William was due to be discharged at Plymouth on 24 March 1712 but he became sick and died on 24 February 1712 though the circumstances leading to his death are not known.<sup>22</sup> The ship's pay book also shows a payment of £2-19s-0d (for full wages) and three payments each of one shilling and sixpence respectively to Chatham Chest and Greenwich hospital for his service up to his expected date of discharge but whether this was actually paid out is not known. There is also a much later entry dated 19 June that year to 'Hugh Lawne for Christian Vickars, admn'. This is almost certainly a payment made to the administrator of William Morley's account (and to other deceased seamen's accounts), who was known as Christian Vickars. Unfortunately, she was indicted a few year's later, in 1716, for attempting to misappropriate the wages of another seaman called William Lambeth of HMS Anglesea and she was sentenced at the Old Bailey to six months imprisonment.<sup>23</sup>

William's early death may have been due to illness or disease, because in the eighteenth century, one in seven men in the Royal Navy was expected to die from scurvy, typhus, or dysentery.<sup>24</sup> That disease should kill more sailors than from any other cause is not surprising given the egregious conditions on board the average ship of the line. Large numbers of men were accommodated in cramped and damp conditions, with inadequate nutrition and water, which provided a fertile breeding ground for disease, especially typhus, known on shore as gaol fever.<sup>25</sup> At the time of William's death on 24 February 1712 his two children were probably being looked after in Llandybie by Walter Morley (J) and his wife Elizabeth as indicated in the main article. As the administrative bond, which was issued only a month or so after his death on 29 March 1712, contains no reference to William's wife at all it must be assumed that she had predeceased him, perhaps while he was at sea, as previously thought.

## Notes and References

<sup>1</sup> John O. Morley, "Genealogy of the Morleys in South Wales: Glamorgan and the Vale of Neath from 1700 to 1800", *Annals of Genealogical Research* Vol. 8, No. 1 (2012), 3-5; at <http://www.genlit.org/agr/viewarticle.php?id=37>.

<sup>2</sup> To distinguish between members of the Morley family with the same forename, the standard Generation Grid has been adopted (see for example, *Debrett's Guide to Tracing Your Ancestry*, Webb and Bower, London, 1981, p.189) which assigns the following letters to the date of birth: A 1380-1409; B 1410-1439; C 1440-1469; D 1470-1499; E 1500-1529; F 1530-1559; G 1560-1589; H 1590-1619; I 1620-1649; J 1650-1679; K 1680-1709; L 1710-1739; M 1740-1769; N 1770-1799; O 1800-1829; P 1830-1859; Q 1860-1889; R 1890-1919; S 1920-1949; T 1950-1979; U 1980-2009.

<sup>3</sup> National Library of Wales (hereafter NLW), Administrative Bond: William Morley of Llangyfelach, Glamorgan, dated 29 March 1712; St. David's Probate Records 1556-1858; see [URL: <http://hdl.handle.net/10107/245893>].

<sup>4</sup> The major naval action of 1711 was the Quebec expedition led by Admiral Sir Hovenden Walker which arrived in Boston in the Spring and departed on 30 July. There were 16 warships involved but not HMS Bristol; their names are listed in *Wikipedia* [URL: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Quebec\\_Expedition](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Quebec_Expedition)].

<sup>5</sup> I am grateful to Mr. John Tanner for bringing this information to my attention. He lives conveniently near The National Archives at Kew, London, and he has provided copies of the ships pay books which are referred in this account.

<sup>6</sup> The National Archives (hereafter TNA), Navy Board: Navy Pay Office: Ships' Pay Books (Series I): 1669-1778, Cat. Ref. ADM 33/293, Ship: Bristol (9 May 1711 – 21 January 1715).

<sup>7</sup> B. Lavery, *The Ship of the Line - Volume 1: The development of the battlefleet 1650-1850*, (Conway Maritime Press, 2003), p.168. For an abstract see the entry for

the second HMS Bristol in Wikipedia [URL:

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS\\_Bristol\\_\(1711\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS_Bristol_(1711))].

<sup>8</sup> TNA, Navy Board: Navy Pay Office: Ships' Pay Books (Series I): 1669-1778, Cat. Ref. ADM 33/285, Ship: Torbay (1 July 1708 – 6 December 1711).

<sup>9</sup> TNA, Navy Board: Navy Pay Office: Ships' Pay Books (Series I): 1669-1778, Cat. Ref. ADM 33/276, Ship: Cambridge (26 Jan 1709 – 23 September 1712).

<sup>10</sup> TNA; Ships' Pay Books (Series I): 1669-1778), ADM 33/276.

<sup>11</sup> R. Winfield, *British Warships In The Age Of Sail - 1603-1714 - Design, Construction, Careers And Fates* (Seaforth Publishing, Barnsley, S70 2AS, 2010).

For an abstract see:

[[http://threedecks.org/index.php?display\\_type=show\\_ship&id=169](http://threedecks.org/index.php?display_type=show_ship&id=169)].

<sup>12</sup> 'Declared Accounts: Navy', *Calendar of Treasury Books, Volume 26: 1712* (1954), ed. William A. Shaw, pp. CLXXXI-CCIII. [URL: <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=85920> Date accessed: 24 April 2012].

<sup>13</sup> Winfield, *op. cit.*

<sup>14</sup> Shown under the column: *Whence and whether Prest or not.*

<sup>15</sup> 'Declared Accounts: Navy', *Calendar of Treasury Books, Volume 23: 1709* (1949), ed. William A. Shaw, pp. CCLI-CCLXXX. [URL: <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=90765> Date accessed: 24 April 2012].

<sup>16</sup> The first seven seamen including William Morley are grouped together. They are charged a total of £4-2s-3d which represents: (A) £1-8s-0d (to Mr. Harnage for clothes) and 12s-0d (to Mr. Franklin for clothes); (B) 19s-0d (for beds); (C) 6s-4d (for tobacco); (D) 11s-3d (to Chatham Chest); and (E) 5s-8d (to Greenwich Hospital). TNA; ADM 33/276.

<sup>17</sup> Morley, *Annals of Genealogical Research* Vol. 8, No. 1 (2012), 4-5.

<sup>18</sup> Details taken from the website of National Museum of the Royal Navy, Portsmouth [[http://www.royalnavalmuseum.org/info\\_sheet\\_impressment.htm](http://www.royalnavalmuseum.org/info_sheet_impressment.htm)].

<sup>19</sup> Lavery, *The Ship of the Line - Volume 1: The development of the battlefleet 1650-1850*, pp. 163, 167. For an abstract see the entry for HMS Torbay in Wikipedia [URL: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS\\_Torbay\\_%281693%29](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS_Torbay_%281693%29)].

<sup>20</sup> Contributions to Chatham Chest and Greenwich Hospital were £1-4s-0d and 12s-0d respectively which are fully consistent with 24 weeks service. There are two other charges listed of 5s-5d for clothes and 14s-9d for tobacco resulting in an overall debit of £2-16s-3d from his full wages. TNA; Ships' Pay Books (Series I): 1669-1778, ADM 33/285.

<sup>21</sup> TNA; Ships' Pay Books (Series I): 1669-1778, Cat. Ref. ADM 33/293.

<sup>22</sup> The first entry in the Bristol pay book written as '21 March' under the column *Time of discharge* has been scored out and replaced by '24 February'. The previous entry under the column *D or R* (for *Discharged or Run*) shows 'Ds<sub>q</sub>' which means discharged to sick quarters (Ds) with the addition of a query (q), which acted as a stop to the payment of wages until removed by subsequent action [see N.A.M. Rodger, *Naval Records for Genealogists*, Public Record Office Handbook No. 22 PRO Publications, Kew, 1998].

<sup>23</sup> See the entry for ‘Christian Vickars’ in *Old Bailey Proceedings Online* [(URL: <http://www.oldbaileyonline.org>), version 6.0, 05 April 2012, 5 November 1716 (ref: 17161105)]. Christian Vickars was indicted for a misdemeanor in publishing a false power to receive the wages of William Lambeth in the Ship Anglesea. She was found guilty and sentenced along with others to stand in the pillory and six months imprisonment (Case Number: t17161105-94).

<sup>24</sup> See for example, G. C. Cook, ‘Influence of diarrhoeal disease on military and naval campaigns’, *J. R. Soc. Med.*, 2001, 94, 95-7 [URL: <http://www.jrsm.rsmjournals.com/content/94/2/95.full.pdf>]; *Scurvy, the Sailors Nightmare: Dietary Inefficiency in the Age of Sail*, [Suite101.com <http://grant-sebastian-nell.suite101.com/scurvy-the-sailors-nightmare-a127834#ixzz1qiLim4nj>].

<sup>25</sup> See for example, the website ‘Broadside’ which is a collection of pages describing life in Royal Navy: [URL: <http://www.nelsonsnavy.co.uk/broadside2.html>].