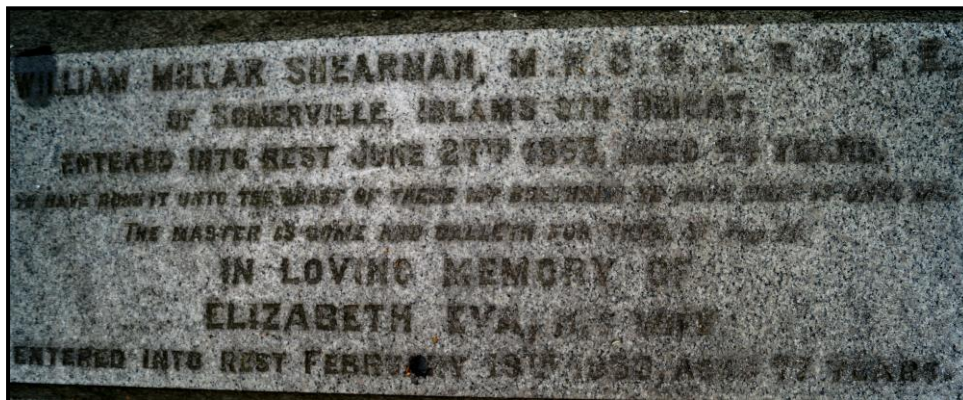
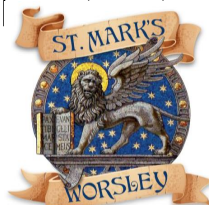


The SHEARMAN Family



Christiana Shearman	Died: 26 March 1894
Alfred Shearman	Died: 17 May 1895
Julia Shearman	Died: 19 January 1911
Priscilla Shearman	Died: 30 January 1911
William Millar Shearman	Died: 27 June 1893
Elizabeth Eva Shearman	Died: 19 February 1932
Eva Elinor Christiana Shearman	Died: 10 October 1941
Lucy May Shearman	Died: 14 January 1964



The SHEARMAN Family

All graves in any churchyard, and St. Mark's is no exception, contain the body or bodies of one or several members of the same family. The assumption is that the people buried there were members of the church or the local community. And yet we do find instances where people have been buried who may appear to have had no obvious connection with either. The **SHEARMAN** family was a case in point.

Unusual names, distinctive gravestones, large vaults, inscriptions, all offer clues to the interested passer-by of the potential significance of the person(s) buried therein. A Christian name like Christiana, a surname like Boschetti, an officer's rank like Captain, an inscription that reads 'Created Baronet,' a distinctive monument like that to Joseph Evans, all draw the attention of the onlooker, which requires research. And yet there are numerous unassuming graves where little can be gleaned; however, that person's life, and their contribution to society, equally deserves the fullest investigation.

One such grave that aroused some interest was one inscribed with the words: *'In affectionate remembrance of CHRISTIANA SHEARMAN widow of the Rev. WILLIAM SHEARMAN Wesleyan Minister'*. She was buried here together with three of her children.

The year was 1894. We find Christiana SHEARMAN in the census of **1851**. And this entry already arouses a great deal of interest and prompts a number of questions. It reads:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rel.</u>	<u>Cond.</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Where born</u>
William Shearman	Head	Mar.	39	Wesleyan Minister	Lincolnshire, Market Rasen
Christiana <i>do.</i>	Wife	Mar.	29		Ireland
Christiana <i>do.</i>	Daur.		6	Scholar	Isle of Man
Priscilla <i>do.</i>	Daur.		5	Scholar	Shropshire, Whitchurch
Julia <i>do.</i>	Daur.		3		Scotland
William M.	Son		1		Scotland
Jane Cannell	Lodger	Un.	53	No occupation	Isle of Man
Isabella Birthwick	Serv.		20	House servant	Scotland

Their address was Dockray, Penrith, Cumberland. In **1854**, they had another son, Alfred, who was born in the Isle of Man. This census reveals a few interesting points: the significant first names of the daughters; the occupation of William; the various places of birth. He clearly had a role which meant that he had an itinerant life. An Indenture, or real estate transaction, dated 15 October 1852, states:

Indenture between the Rev. William Shearman of Penrith, Wesleyan Minister, of the 1st part; George Byers of Cliburn, yeo. and many others of the 2nd part; and the said Rev. William Shearman as Superintendent Preacher of the Circuit of the 3rd part. Those of the 2nd part being possessed of money for the purchase of ground whereon to build a Chapel, now for the consideration of £5 the said Rev. William Shearman sells to the said parties a piece of ground of 100 square yards, at the north-east corner of a small garth at Cliburn, near the dwelling house of Barbara Thompson adjoining the Town Street of Cliburn, lately purchased by the said Shearman of the said Barbara, subject to conditions similar to an Indenture bearing date 3 July, 1832, between certain parties for the settlement of a piece of ground and chapel at Skercoat in the parish of Halifax, for the use of Wesleyan Methodists.

In a reference to the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel in Dumfries in 1849, an entry in an Ordnance Survey Name Book for Dumfriesshire, vol.11, Scotland, states:

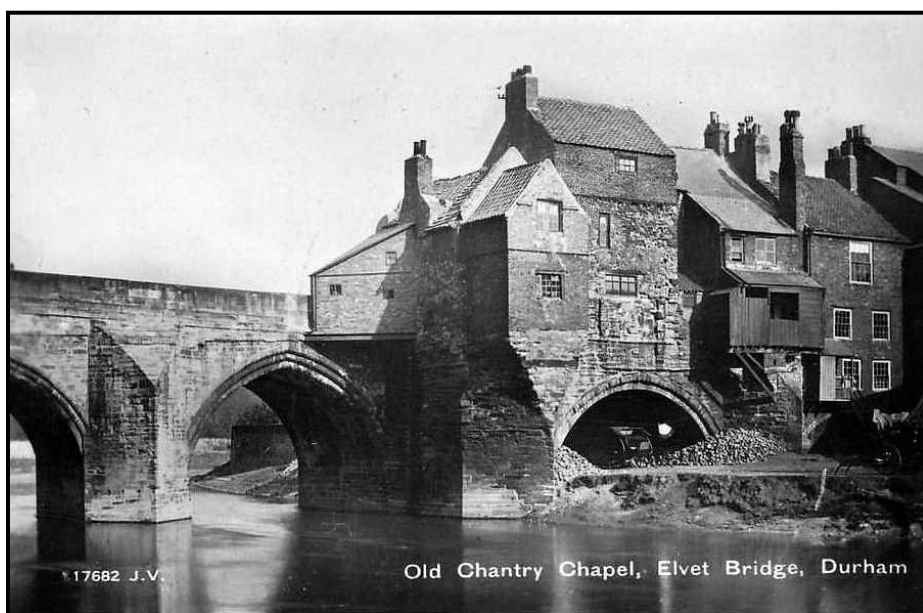
[Situation] On the N.E. [North East] Side of Queen Street.

A plain stone building erected in 1782 At a cost off about £500, capable of accommodating 300 of a Congregation with sittings. The present Congregation is about 130. The Minister is the **Reverend Mr. Shearman** whose stipend amounts to about £100. per annum. This is the only Wesleyan Methodist Chapel in Dumfries and Maxwelltown.

The census of **1861** adds a few more interesting points and raises further questions.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rel.</u>	<u>Cond.</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Where born</u>
William Shearman	Head	Mar.	49	Wesleyan Minister	Lincolnshire, Market Rasen
Christiana <i>do.</i>	Wife	Mar.	39		Ireland
Christiana <i>do.</i>	Daur.		16	Scholar	Isle of Man
Priscilla <i>do.</i>	Daur.		15	Scholar	Shropshire, Whitchurch
Julia <i>do.</i>	Daur.		13	Scholar	Scotland
Alfred	Son		7	Scholar	Isle of Man
Jane Cannell	Cousin		63		Isle of Man
Jane Burdon	Serv.		22	House servant	Durham Ferryhill

Their address at this time was Chapple [sic] Passage, Durham, in the parish of St. Oswald. In addition, the description of William's occupation added '*Minister of the Elvet Chapel & 27other Places of Worship.*' It is to be noted that their son William Millar was not present at home at that time, and no record of his whereabouts have yet been found for 1861.

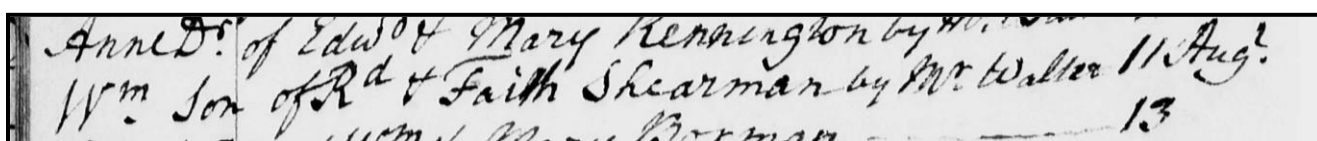


The Methodist Ministers Death Index reveals that William entered the ministry in 1838 and died in **1869**.

We learn from the probate records that '*William (was) formerly of Penrith in the County of Cumberland but late of North Shields in the County of Northumberland Wesleyan Minister died on 3 November 1869 at North Shields.*' The assumption must be that he was buried in some part of the north-east.

And the places of birth of his children and members of his household in the censuses show how far he journeyed in his work.

Records of Baptisms in Market Rasen in **1811** show that William Shearman was baptised on 6 August. His parents were Richard and Faith (née Park) Shearman.



According to the Baptism record (1814) at Market Rasen and Middle Rasen Wesleyan Chapel for one of their children, Richard was a Shoemaker. The 1826 White's Trade Directory confirms this and gives

an address at Prospect Place, Market Rasen. On another Baptism certificate, he was a Cordwainer. They had been married on 30 May 1811, and it seems that they had four children, William being the eldest.

There is no evidence of the early years of William's life, except for the reference to him becoming a Wesleyan Minister in 1838. From the details given above, he moved around a great deal. By the time of the **1871** census, we know that he had died. Hence, his wife, Christiana, was to be recorded as widow. The family address that year was 1 Hall Terrace, Gateshead, Durham. In the household, were:

Christiana Shearman	Head	49	Widow	Interest of money
Christiana do.	Daur.	26		
Priscilla do.	Daur.	25		
Julia do.	Daur.	23		
Alfred do.	Son	17		
Jane Cannell	Cousin	72		
Sarah Drammen	Servant	14		

By this stage, their son **William Millar Shearman**, aged 21, was living as an Assistant at an address in Hulme, Manchester - 366 Shalford Road. The head of that household was Robert Heslop, a married man with 5 children. He was a General Practitioner, aged 47, one of whose sons was also Robert, aged 21, and an undergraduate at St. Mary Hall Oxford. William was described as a Student in Medicine.

So far, then, there was no obvious connection between the Shearman family and Worsley. Moving on to the census of **1881**, we began to get closer. At least, the son William by then had already been living in the Manchester area. On the night of 3 April 1881, Christiana was living at 'Rose Bank', 45 Slack Lane, Barton upon Irwell. She was alone, with Annie Lloyd, a General Servant, and living on the 'income from interest on money.' Ten years later, in the **1891** census, now aged 69, she was living at 137 Monton Road, Barton, with Priscilla 45, Julia 43 and Alfred 37. She was 'living on her own means.' They were served by a General Domestic Servant. Curiously, there is no trace of where the 3 children were in 1881. At least, they were not with their mother, but they were all single. However, it is possible that the eldest, Christiana, had married in 1875, in Gateshead, but this needs to be verified.

So what of William Shearman, medical practitioner, in **1881**? He was living at 20 Worsley Road, Swinton, in the parish of St. Peter. He was married, with a son, William R. de C., aged 3, and a daughter, Eva Elinor, aged 2, and another son, Herbert, aged 10 months. Also in the house was a Nurse and 3 Domestic. In fact, William had married Elizabeth Eva de Castro at St. Peter's, Swinton, on 23 February **1876**.

1876. Marriage solemnized at <i>St Peter Church</i> in the Parish of <i>Swinton</i> in the County of <i>Lancaster</i>								
No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the Time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
422	Feb 23	<i>William Millar Shearman</i>	<i>full</i>	<i>Bachelor</i>	<i>Surgeon</i>	<i>Swinton</i>	<i>William Shearman</i>	<i>Wesleyan Minister deceased</i>
		<i>Elizabeth Eva De Castro</i>	<i>full</i>	<i>Spinster</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>Swinton</i>	<i>Joseph Henry Reginald de Castro</i>	<i>Merchant deceased</i>
Married in the <i>Church of Swinton</i> according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the <i>Church of England</i> by me, <i>H. P. Heywood</i> <i>By licence</i>								
This Marriage was solemnized between us,		<i>William Millar Shearman</i>			in the Presence of us,		<i>Priscilla Shearman</i>	

The marriage register tells us that William and Elizabeth were married by Licence and that the fathers of both parties were deceased. William's sister, Priscilla, was one of the witnesses and he was practising as a Surgeon. They were to have 7 children, all of whom were baptised at St. Peter's: -

William Reynell De Castro Shearman, born 17 July 1877, and baptised on 29 August 1877;
 Eva Elinor Christiana Shearman, born 26 March 1879, and baptised on 30 April 1879;
 Herbert Henry Atherton Shearman, born 10 May 1880, and baptised on 30 June 1880;
 Lucy Mary Shearman, born on 16 August 1881, and baptised on 14 September 1881;
 Twins Alfred Ernest Shearman and Arthur Hubert Shearman, born on 31 January 1884, and
 baptised on 27 March 1884;
 Lilian May Shearman, born on 7 August 1885, and baptised on 20 September 1885.

By the census of **1891**, William Millar Shearman, now with a larger family, was living at 'Somerville,' Bolton Road, Pendleton. All the family was present at the time of the census being taken on 5 April, together with a Nurse (Isabella Harrison who was with them in 1881) and 6 Domestic. William's occupation was now recorded as Surgeon (Retired). Sadly, in the final column of the census return, the words 'Paralysis Nervous System' were added. He was at this time just 41 years of age, and his wife 37. **William Millar Shearman** died on 27 June 1893. The Probate Calendar shows that he lived at Somerville, Irlams-o'-th'-Height. His effects, in excess of £10K, [equivalent to £1.25 million today] were left to his wife. He was buried in a Private Vault in the churchyard.

No. 55	William Millar Shearman	Pendleton	July 1 st	44 years	H. R. Heywood	Private Vault
No. 54						

To complete the cycle of censuses, let us look at the information contained in the next three. In **1891**, we have already seen that Christiana was living with three of her children in Eccles. Ten years later, in **1901**, **Christiana** had by then died. She was buried in the churchyard on 29 March 1894. The church.

8/3	No. 121	Christiana Shearman	Eccles	March 29	72 years	F. H. Hodgkinson
D 2656 ✓	No. 122					

gave her abode simply as Eccles, though we can surmise that she was living at her

home address in Eccles. She was aged 72, and her grave plot is D.2656. Julia (53) and Priscilla (55) were still at 137 Monton Road, Eccles, with Marion Thompson, 25, a General Servant, Domestic. Both were 'living on own means.'

By **1911**, William's widow, Elizabeth Eva, now aged 57, was still living at Somerville House, Bolton Road, Pendleton. Also with her were William Reynell, 33, a Medical Student; Eva Elinor, 32; Herbert Henry, 30, living on Private Means; and Lucy Mary, 29. There were also 6 Domestic Servants. Elizabeth died on 19 February **1932** (39 years after her husband). Her address was Ravensdale, Worsley, and she left her small estate to her sons William Reynell de Castro Shearman and Herbert Henry Atherton, Gentlemen. She was 78 years old.

	Elizabeth Eva Shearman	Ravensdale Woodcock Park Swinton	23 Feb 1932	78 yrs	Reuben Vicar	D 402 Vault
No. 1555						

The three children of William and Christiana - Priscilla, Julia and Alfred - were all buried in the churchyard. Alfred (died 17 May) was buried on 20 May 1895, aged 44; Julia (died 16 January) on 19

January 1911, aged 63; and Priscilla (died 25 January) on 30 January 1911. They had all been living together at 137 Monton Road. Alfred left his assets to his two sisters, just over £2,000. The two ladies left their assets to William Reynell de Castro, medical student. [Combined, they were valued at about £12,000 - at today's rates, about £1.5 million].

Two daughters of William and Elizabeth Eva - Eva Elinor Christiana and Lucy Mary - were both buried in the churchyard. Eva Elinor (Spinster, died 10 October) was buried on 14 October 1941, aged 62, and Lucy May, (died 14 January) aged 82, on 17 January 1964. Eva had been living at Woodholme, Broad Oak Road, Worsley, and Lucy at 17 Lambton Road, Worsley. Eva left her estate to her sister Lucy. And Lucy left her own estate to Lillian May Lamb, sister and widow. At both of these burials, the minister was J. Raynell Shearman, in the first instance Curate of Underwood, and latterly Vicar of Pannal, Harrogate.

William Millar Shearman (1850-1893) first appeared in the U.K. Medical Registers in 1875. He first registered on 16 November 1872. His address was Somerville, Pendleton, and he was working at the Royal Hospital, Salford. His qualifications were Mem. R. Coll. Surg. Eng. 1872, and Lic. R. Coll. Phys. Edin. 1873. In 1883, his work location was simply given as Swinton, Manchester; and by 1891 it was his home address at Somerville.

His grandson, **William Anthony de Castro Shearman**, (1915-1987) first registered as a doctor on 28 April 1939. He commenced his studies at Guy's Hospital in 1934. In 1943, his address was 19 Spencer Road, East Molesey, Surrey. His qualifications were M.R.C.S. Eng. 1939 and L.R.C.P. Lond. 1939. In the 1943 Register, his details were the same. William Anthony was born on 16 January 1915 in Teddington, Middlesex. His father was William Reynell de Castro Shearman, (1877-1955) though curiously he was still a Medical Student.

The minister who presided over the two burials in 1941 and 1964 was John Reynell Shearman (1916-1977). He was a son of William Reynell Shearman and was born in Teddington, and was nephew to Eva Elinor Christiana and Lucy Mary. At the time of the first burial, in 1941, he was at Selston, Notts., in charge of St. Michael's, Underwood. And then in 1964, he was Vicar of Pannal, near Harrogate.

And so several members of the SHEARMAN family were buried in the churchyard of St. Mark's, Worsley. An interesting account of how a family migrated around the country in the late nineteenth century. They came from Ireland, Scotland the Isle of Man; they lived and worked originally in the north west and north east; members of the family became professional people - and by various routes, they came to settle in Worsley and the surrounding area.

