

## My Bargemen Ancestors: Clare Jackson

I was very excited to find these ancestral inland water people because I myself am an inland water person!

In Australia, though we have no Canals to speak of, the rivers were (and are) a challenging prospect. Without the Riverboat Pioneers the outback of Australia would have taken a lot longer to settle.

Reading the histories of the Canals, I can see many similarities with our own river history, especially the Boats V Railways saga!

So is anyone out there researching Samuel WARD (c1735 - 1771), and his son, Samuel WARD (c1760 - 1817) and their families??

My contact details are:  
Clare Jackson  
gene2bear@gmail.com  
Living in Barham, NSW, Australia

### -1 Frances WARD (1796 - 1872)

(My 3G Grandmother)

b. abt 1796 at Bath, Somerset, England

m. 07 Nov 1816 James JACKSON at Bathampton, Somerset, England

d. 26 May 1872 at Dunkerque, France

#### Notes:

*Birth: In the Bath Parish Records I found Christenings for 2 Frances WARDs with father Samuel:*

- 1) 29 Apr 1790 (a twin of a Samuel WARD) whose parents are Samuel and Mary, but also found burial for this Frances!
- 2) 6 Jun 1793 parents: Samuel & Frances (This \*could\* be a typo? Wish I could get to see the original parish record!)

*Marriage: At St Nicholas, witness William ASHMEADE (?uncle, ?brother) & Anne FORSTER (bro, sis?) Frances dau of Samuel Ward of Hampton Hill House, to James Jackson, esq. of the Kings Own Staffordshire Militia*

*Death: News report In her 90th year, widow of Capt J Jackson, but listed as 76 on Death Cert, which matches the birth #2 above.*

**Frances's Parents:** Samuel WARD (1760), Mary (?ASHMEADE) (1760)

### -2. Samuel WARD (1760 - 1817)

(my 4G Grandfather)

b. abt Feb 1760 at Bath, Somerset, England

m. 1781 Mary ASHMEADE at Gloucester, Gloucestershire, England

d. Mar 1817 at Bathampton, Somerset, England

**Title/Occupation:** Esquire. Salt Merchant & Business man, Cornfactor

*Notes: I am certain that this Samuel WARD is Frances WARD's Father because of the Newspaper reports about her marriage to James JACKSON in 1816. I found /his Will (1812, Probate 1817), and found a burial in the Bath Parish Records for Samuel WARD 2 April 1817, age 57, making his birth about 1760. I found a parish record for a Baptism for him 6 Feb 1760, parents Samuel & Ann Unfortunately his Will does not mention his children by name, except to mention his 'married daughters'. I would have expected him to mention a son if he had one then living. (but he does refer to his sisters, and brother in law, which I will deal with when I get to them). His will also mentions his barges, horses, drays, etc, and his business interests at the Quay. He also refers to his wife Mary and to his "beloved Brother in Law, Mr Wm. Ashmeade"*

#### Some news reports on Samuel WARD just for interest...

11 Apr 1793 Crime: ## barges on R Avon belonging to Mr Samuel Ward & Mr Joseph Penny have been robbed from time to time of bedding etc. Attempt was made 1 Apr to set fire to deck of Mr Penny's barge. Reward 5 guineas from Bath Guardians & 5 guineas on conviction from Mr Ward Bath Chronicle 736/1793 article:1.e  
15 Jun 1786 Law: ## London Guildhall last Sat - Mr Joseph Penny, cornfactor of Bath, plaintiff sued Mr Samuel Ward, bargemaster & cornfactor to recover of £142, value of oats lost when defendant's barge was sunk by floating timber at Bristol Bridge on 9 Jan. Verdict for defendant. Bath Chronicle 1003/1786 article:3 b  
25 Dec 1788 Travel: ## water carriages to & from Bristol - Samuel Ward, proprietor of barges requests fresh orders c/o Mr Edward Doughty, wharfinger, on the Quay, Bristol. Bath Chronicle 1977/1788 article:3 c  
22 Nov 1798 Finance: creditors of late Mr Thos Lewis & Mr Chas Lewis, carpenter & wheelwrights of Widcombe & Lyncombe. To send a/cs to Samuel Ward or Geo Stothert, both of Bath, trustees of Chas Lewis, decd Bath Chronicle 2376/1798 article:2 d  
23 Apr 1789 Crime: stolen - from the Quay, Bath a few days since, a light blue cart with "Samuel Ward, Bath" painted on the front. 10 guineas reward from Bath Soc of Guardians  
9 Feb 1792 Deaths: man drowned after being knocked overboard from Mr Ward's barges by rudder.  
21 Feb 1799 Charity: help sought for aged mother, wife & 3 small children of John Lloyd, waggoner to Mr Ward (swept away at dangerous inlet to the Avon) whose payments to Friendly Soc had lapsed recently. At Mr Ward, the Quay; Meyler's Library; & by the poor woman at Mr Tylee's opp Angel Inn

### -2. Mary (?ASHMEADE) (1760 - 1833)

(my 4G Grandmother)

*A 'Mary' is the mother listed on the baptism records as mother of the WARD children found so far.*

*Samuel WARD (1760-1817) mentions his 'dear wife Mary' in his Will.*

*He also mentions his "beloved Brother in Law Mr Wm. Ashmeade" in the Will, so I looked for a marriage of a Mary Ashmeade to a Samuel Ward, and found one in the Pallot's Marriage Index at St Michael's Gloucester in 1781. As their first child Mary is born in 1782, I think it is a most likely match.*

*There is also a William ASHMEADE as witness on Frances WARD's marriage to James JACKSON certificate, suggesting a family tie. (an uncle? a cousin?)*

*I found a Christening for a Mary ASHMEADE in St Michael's Gloucester 16 June 1760, which fits in with her burial in Bath on 27 March 1833, age 74. The Christening*

Record mentions Father William ASHMEADE and mother Mary.

**-3. Samuel WARD (1735 - 1771)**

(my 5G Grandfather)

b. abt 1735  
m. 11 Jan 1756 Ann (?Woodward) at Bath, Somerset, England  
d. 11 Mar 1771 at Bath, Somerset, England

**Title/Occupation:** Bargeman Cornfactor

**Notes:** I am satisfied that this Samuel WARD is the father of Samuel, and the grandfather of Frances, because Samuel Senior specifically mentioned his children by name in his will. (Yeay!!) I also found Parish Records of 3 of the 4 children. His daughter MARY was in his Will dated 1771, and she is not mentioned in Samuel Junior's will in 1812, so I assume she died before 1812. Samuel WARD Junior also is a Bargeman and Cornfactor, as was his father.

**-3. Ann (?Woodward) (1735 - 1785)**

(my 5G Grandmother)

b. abt 1735  
m. 11 Jan 1756 Samuel WARD at Bath, Somerset, England  
d. 14 Dec 1785 at Bath, Somerset, England

**Title/Occupation:** Salt, Coal & Barge business,

**Notes:** An 'Ann' is definitely the mother of the four children of Samuel WARD Senior, as she appears on the Parish Records. An 'Ann' is definitely Samuel's wife as she is mentioned in his Will by name.

Ann appears to have run the barge business after her husband's death in 1771 until her own death in 1785, when her son Samuel takes over.

'29 Dec 1785 Finance: all persons indebted to estate late Mrs Ann Ward are requested to pay her son Mr Samuel Ward. [no address] and 5 Jan 1786 Finance: debtors to estate of late Mrs Ann Ward, decd to pay her son Mr Samuel Ward, who continues salt, coal & barge business.'

The clue to WOODWARD came from an unsorted Family Tree on Ancestry.com, so I searched for a marriage by that name, and found one at Bath Abbey of Samuel WARD and Ann WOODWARD, in 1756, which looks very likely.

From Parish Records I have these Children of Samuel WARD & Ann:

Ann (1757)  
Elizabeth (1758)  
Samuel (1760-1817)  
Mary (1762)