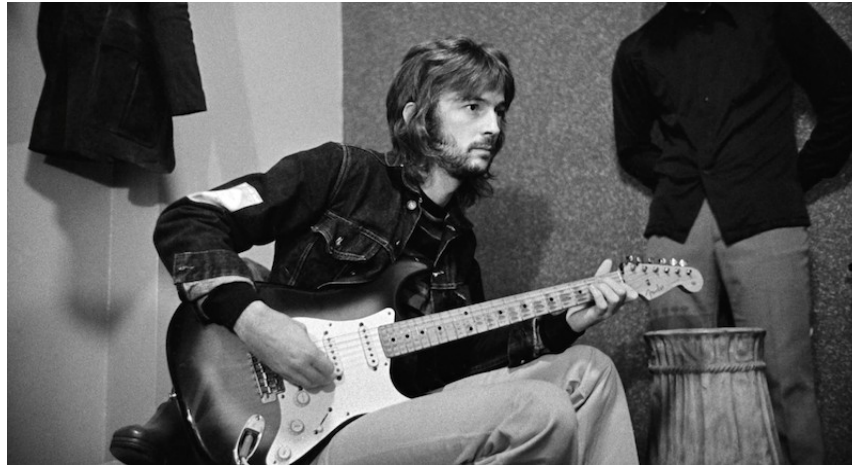


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# WHO IS ERIC CLAPTON?



*by Miles Mathis*

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After my [recent paper on Jim Gordon](#), I naturally asked myself where Eric Clapton came from. His early bio is the usual trainwreck, with the claim he thought his grandparents were his parents and his mother was his sister. We have seen that dodge many times, including with Jack Nicholson and others. No chance it is true, but it gives his fake biographers the ability to hide his real parents.

With Clapton, we have to rebuild his early bio from almost nothing. Is that possible? Maybe. There are some clues left, as usual. I will start by making some assumptions, and build out from there. I assume his real name is Clapton, since these people like their own names. They are quite proud of their real bloodlines, and prefer to surround them with lies rather than change them. Sometimes they will change them by one letter, but I don't think we have that here. So I think Clapton really is a Clapton. After some research, I think he was really born in or connected to Ripley, Surrey, as well. It passes my sniff test, so we can use it to build on.

My next assumption is that Clapton is from the peerage. He is not from a poor or middle-class family, he is obviously from a rich and connected one. He was playing in Royal Albert Hall by the time he was 19, so he was clearly the beneficiary of some major promotion. It doesn't matter how good you are on your instrument: to play Royal Albert Hall at age 19, you have to have major connections.

Clapton's early promotion was by Giorgio **Gomelsky**, a Swiss Jew from old banking and watchmaking lines who had also “discovered” the Rolling Stones. Since we now know the Stones came out of London School of Economics, we can link Gomelsky to the LSE as well. With no other data, we can assume Gomelsky was a rich spook of some sort. For more on the Gomelskys, you can see Belarussian crime boss Kushner Gomelsky, who goes under the alias Alexander Kushnerov. Does this also connect us to Jared Kushner? I wouldn't be surprised.

My guess is Gomelsky is a Russianizing of Gomez, which would link us to my recent paper on Stalin.

Stalin's grandmother was a Chomez, remember? It doesn't really matter here, since we are more interested in Clapton than Gomelsky here. I just want to remind you how strange it should look to find LSE and people like Gomelsky promoting teenage rockers in the 1960s, getting them into Royal Albert Hall before they turn 20. Why would they do that? You will say it was all about money, but I don't think so. In the beginning, the Yardbirds weren't selling a lot of records in England. I would say these rich kids wanted to be in a band, so their peerage daddies decided to promote them as geniuses. Same thing we see in the film business and the art business: a complete takeover by the rich kids. But unlike the Modern art business, these kids in bands in the 60s sometimes produced the product. Some of them did have talent, and—backed up by older songwriters and producers—occasionally they created something memorable. I am not saying they didn't. Especially if we compare it to the music the rich kids are creating today: computerized pabulum.

That said, I think we have to admit these musicians are way oversold. I mean, “I Shot the Sheriff” isn't exactly the Jupiter Symphony, is it? I like “Layla” as much as the next guy (or maybe not), but is it worth a knighthood? I wouldn't say so, except for the fact that most other things people are knighted for these days are just as inane.

Anyway, to figure out who Clapton really is, we have to go to thepeerage.com and look for clues. The first big clue we find is on [the page for Felicity Scudamore-Smith](#). We notice that her first marriage is partially scrubbed. Only her second husband is given. But the clue remains: her married name was Clapton until 1941. Eric Clapton's birth year is given as 1945. So if this is his family, he may be five years older than we are told. Also suspicious is how scrubbed Felicity is in other ways. Although her second husband was a Baronet, we aren't told Felicity's mother's name. And her father is given but he is given no parents. You will say this is because the Scudamore-Smiths have no other ties to the peerage. But we find that isn't so. They are related to the Scudamore-Stanhopes and Scudamores, linking us to the Earls of Chesterfield as well as to the Viscounts Scudamore and the Dukes of Beaufort. These links give us many more clues about Eric Clapton, indicating we have already solved the puzzle. What had initially looked impossible turned out to be easy.

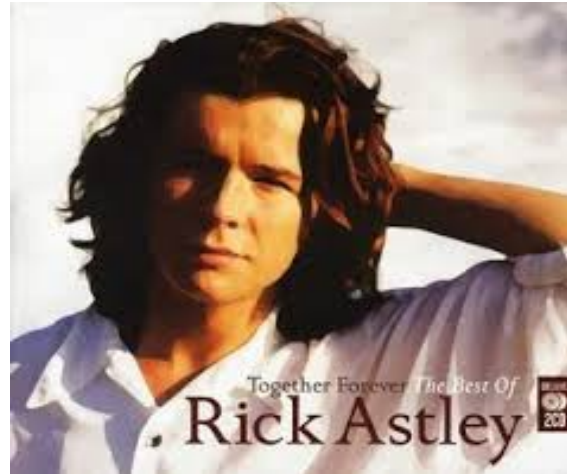
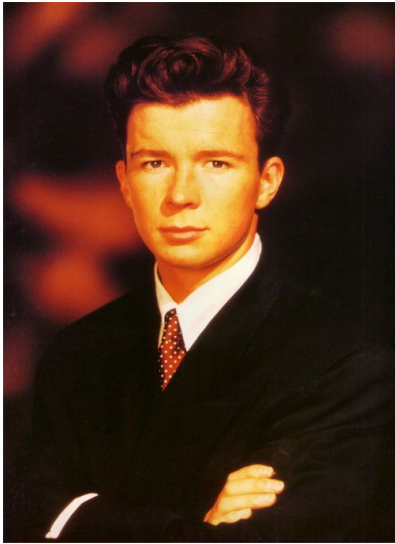
To start with, The Viscounts Scudamore are related to the **Cecils**. See the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount, whose mother was Lady Cecil, daughter of the Earl of Exeter. Her mother was a Manners, of the Earl of Rutland. This also links us to the Montagues, the Egertons, the **Bennets**, and the Stewarts. Why is this a clue? Because Eric Clapton's grandfather was Reginald **Cecil** Clapton.

Tim Dowling at Geneanet also admits Eric Clapton was a **Clements**. Possibly tying us to Samuel Clemens, Mark Twain. These Clapton Clements go back to a Moses Clements, and before that to a John Austin, whose mother was a . . . **Bennett**. Taking that back to the peerage, we find the Bennets related to the Scudamores were Baronets, Barons and Earls, related to the Greys and Berkeleys. The 5<sup>th</sup> Earl of Tankerville was Charles **Augustus** Bennet. Eric Clapton's great-grandfather is listed as. . . **Augustus** Oliver Clapton.

These Bennets lived at Kew Green, Surrey, not far from where Eric Clapton came from. The distance is about 10 miles. Also see Peter Bennett, a big music promoter who worked with Clapton. He now tries to tell us he was born Pietro Benedetto, but I don't tend to believe it. He was a partner of Allen **Klein**, so he sounds more like a Bennett than a Benedetto.

Moreover, Eric has three cousins listed at Geneanet, and they all have middle initials A. They are the only ones on the page whose middle names are hidden that way, so the name looks scrubbed. With more research, we find the name is **Astley**. Possibly scrubbed to prevent anyone from tying Clapton to

Rick Astley. That just wouldn't be cool, you know.



I almost hate to say it, but when Astley grew his hair long he had a definite resemblance to Clapton. They both have large foreheads and weakish chins. Their noses are *a lot* alike. As an older man, Astley now looks like a cross between Clapton and Ricky Gervais.

And a search finds many current ties between Clapton and the name Astley. See for example his producer Jon Astley, who we now know is a cousin. However the ties are bigger than that, as we see at [thepeerage.com](http://thepeerage.com). Charles Bennet, 3<sup>rd</sup> Earl of Tankerville, married Alicia Astley, daughter of the second Baronet Astley. This links Clapton (and Astley) to the Earls of Tankerville, and through them to just about everyone else.

But the links go even higher. Henry Bennet, 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Ossulton, had a daughter Isabella, and she married Henry FitzRoy, Duke of Grafton. Grafton just happened to be the son of the King, Charles II. Here's something strange: the current Duke of Beaufort, Henry **FitzRoy** Somerset, is a singer/songwriter who has performed with Eric Clapton, Brian Ferry, Roger Waters, and others. What are the odds?

And there's more. These Scudamores/Bennets are also closely related to the Noels/Gordons. See the 6<sup>th</sup> Earl of Tankerville, who married a Montagu, daughter of the Duke of Manchester. Her grandmother was Lady Gordon, daughter of the Duke of Gordon. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount Scudamore married a Digby, daughter of the Baron Digby and Lady Noel, daughter of the 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Gainsborough. This also links us to the Herberts, Bentincks, and Villiers. A Noel married a Bentinck, Duke of Portland. So that line is also important to us here. This line links us to the Cavendishes and **Scotts**. Though the male line soon ended, the female lines link us to the Ellises, the Herveys (Lee Harvey Oswald), Bathursts (Hearsts), and the Buckleys. The Buckleys are Stewarts, and of course they link us to the Buckleys in music—to whom Clapton is also related—as well as to William F. Buckley. Remember, Jeff Buckley's middle name was **Scott**, which I now see as a surname from the families, not a given name. The Buckleys link us to the Butlers, Viscounts Mountgarret. Also to the Stirlings. Clintons, and Bouvieres (Bouviers).

I mention all this for a reason. I said in that previous paper that Jim Gordon was probably descended from the Dukes of Gordon, and this just tends to confirm that. Eric Clapton, his bandmate, was also

descended from the Gordons/Noels in several lines. So it looks like they were cousins.

At the peerage, we find Claptons marrying Ashburners. The Ashburners also help us link Eric Clapton to the peerage, since like Eric, [these Ashburners](#) in the peerage who married Claptons *are also from Surrey*. See Thomas Lionel Ashburner Clapton, listed on the Surrey Honor Roll for WWII. We also find him in the peerage, linking the peerage Claptons to Surrey. Since Surrey is a very small shire, that is not a small clue.

Geneanet has another line I missed. Going back from the Mitchell line in Eric Clapton's, we hit **Judith** Irwin and **Judith** Weaver. We may assume Clapton is Jewish in those lines—even more, perhaps, than the other lines. At Geneanet, the old lines of Clapton come mainly from Oxfordshire, which is also a clue. There we find the Applebees, the **Cripps**, and the Kersells.

Now let's return to the Scudamores, Earls of Chesterfield, to see if there was anything we missed the first time. We find them related to the Potters, **Hays**, Grants, Wilsons, and **Wellesleys**. So, at least three US Presidents and the Duke of Wellington. The Duke of Wellington is informative here, since he was also from the area of Surrey. His castle is at Stratfield-Saye, about 15 miles west of Ripley, Clapton's home.



The Scudamore-Stanhopes are also related to the Brydges (Bridges), Marquesses of Carnarvon, linking us back to my previous paper, and Leon Russell (Bridges). We also link to the Hoskyns Baronets, who take us back to the Bennets again. Also the Philips, Peytons, Lathams, and Leighs. We also find the 13<sup>th</sup> Baronet Hoskyns named Sir Edwyn **Clement** Hoskyns. Remember, according to Geneanet, Eric Clapton is a Clements. More recently the Hoskyns are related to the Sellers, as in Peter Sellers.

Next we find that Frances Scudamore, daughter of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount, married Henry Somerset, 3<sup>rd</sup> Duke of Beaufort, in 1729. Although a Somerset Duke, this Henry changed his name to Scudamore! Parliament divorced them for criminal conspiracy in 1744, and Henry died almost immediately. He was only 37, so he may have faked his death. I may look into it later. Frances then married Charles Fitzroy-Scudamore, illegitimate son of the Duke of Grafton. He also added the Scudamore to his name. Their daughter Frances Scudamore married Charles Howard, Duke of Norfolk, in 1771. The Dukes of Norfolk are also active in Surrey, owning land there. They used to be the Earls of Surrey. Their cousins the Leveson-Gores owned Sutton Place in Surrey up until 1959. It is a large manor and grounds about **2 miles** from Ripley, the home of Eric Clapton.





Even better is Bagshot Park (below), about 10 miles from Ripley. This is a huge castle on 51 acres within the 5000 acres of Windsor Great Park. It was built for Charles I by Inigo Jones. We have seen Charles II above, related to the Bennets—linking us to Eric Clapton. More recently the house was used by Prince Arthur, son of Queen Victoria. Arthur's godfather was the Duke of Wellington, who we saw above as well. But we can link Arthur to the folks above in another way. His son, Prince Arthur of Connacht, married Princess Alexandra, Duchess of Fife. Her father was Alexander **Duff**, 1<sup>st</sup> Duke of Fife, and his mother was. . . Lady Agnes **Hay**. Scan above, where you will find my genealogy work was not in vain. The Scudamore-Stanhopes, Earls of Chesterfield, were closely related to the Hays. [The 9<sup>th</sup> Earl](#) married Dorothea Hay, daughter of the 7<sup>th</sup> Baronet. Lady Agnes Hay was born within a year of Dorothea Hay, though Lady Agnes was of the Earls of Erroll. But this is the same Hay family of Scotland.



Fort Belvedere is another royal residence in Windsor Great Park, formerly inhabited by Edward VIII. He and Wallis Simpson shacked up there in the 1930s. We should also look at Birch Hall and Windlesham Moor, two more royal residences in Surrey. Windlesham Moor was a residence of Prince Philip after the Second World War. He rented the house from Mrs. Warwick **Bryant**. Windlesham

Moor is part of the same Crown Estates as Bagshot Park, so you can see the extent of the royal/noble holdings in the area. Birch Hall is also nearby, and it had been owned by the Queen. She bought it for the Duchess of York (Fergie), although she never moved in.

Just south of Clapton's home town of Ripley, we find Surrey Hills, which covers  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the county of Surrey. This is basically a large conservation park, where development is severely restricted. So, once again this is not a place where poor people live. This is an open space for the very wealthy who live nearby. As you are seeing, most of Surrey is either parkland or land owned by the nobility. So when you are told Eric Clapton came from the middle class, they are relying on your ignorance of the area of Ripley. According to Google Maps, Clapton's childhood home at 1 the Green, Ripley, is next door to a cricket club. I actually doubt that address. It looks made up. More likely Clapton was raised at one of the manors of Surrey, though I can't tell you which one.

But let's go back to Princess Alexandra. Why was this daughter of the Duke of Fife a princess? Because her mother was Princess Louise, eldest daughter of Edward VII and Alexandra of Denmark—who was herself the daughter of King Christian IX. So you see who the Hays were related to in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Let's return to the Scudamores as well. Very strange that these two Dukes would both take the name Scudamore. The only reason for that that I can imagine is that the Scudamores actually owned more land and property than the Dukes themselves. Since the Scudamores had added huge acreages in Ireland to their land in Herefordshire in the past century, it is possible these Irish lands are what gave them such wealth and clout. See [the writ of 1666](#), which gives land in Ireland to the Scudamores by **Charles II**. Searching on this yields something else peculiar. The Scudamores are much more ancient than you might think. They came over to Hertfordshire in the Norman invasion in 1066. Before that they were obviously from France, where they were Erkembalds (Archambault). Geneanet traces them back to the early Carolingians, including Pepin the Old, *and before*. The line doesn't end until [Lando de Menapie](#) in 420 AD!

If we go forward instead of back, the Scudamores became Skidmores. The name Archambault became Archibald. See the horn section for the Blues Breakers (1966), which included an Alan Skidmore.

**[Added April 30, 2019:** If you don't think Eric Clapton is from the peerage, you might want to remind yourself of Alice Ormsby-Gore, who was engaged to Clapton in 1969, when she was just 17. They had met the year before when she was 15 and Clapton was 22. Her father was the 5<sup>th</sup> Baron Harlech. Clapton was already living in Hurtwood Edge by that time, which is another clue. It is a castle in Surrey.



A further clue is given us on Alice's Wiki page, where we learn Clapton's castle was being redecorated by David Mlinaric, who “was part of a group of **aristocratic** hippies who hung out around London in the 1960s and was friends with Alice's siblings, Jane, Julian and Victoria Ormsby-Gore, the older children of Lord Harlech, who had been British ambassador to Washington during the [Kennedy](#) era.” Hmm. What could it mean? One of Mlinaric's links to the peerage was his marriage to the daughter of Maj. Gen. Sir Robert Laycock, who was the half-brother of the 7<sup>th</sup> Marquess of Downshire (Hill). His mother was of the Hares, Earls of Listowel. Mlinaric's other clients included Lord Rothschild.

Then there is Clapton Court, Somerset.



This was owned over the centuries by the Berkeleys and the Winters. Remember, we just saw the Scudamores are related to the Berkeleys, meaning the Claptons of the peerage are related to the Berkeleys. It wasn't named Clapton Court for nothing.

But if you search on the town where this castle exists, Clapton in Gordano, you get nothing but misdirection on its naming. Wikipedia tells you something of the name Gordano (it comes from Gordon), but conspicuously avoids telling you anything about the name Clapton. Couldn't have anything to do with Eric, right? But I point out we once again have a link between Clapton and Gordon—the very thing that got me started on this paper, if you will remember. The clue to Clapton in Gordano is that it is a part of Portishead, being a **port** on the Bristol Channel, opposite Cardiff and Newport.]

Are we finished with this wondrous quest? Not even. Let's return to Alexander Duff, Duke of Fife. Not only does this probably link us to Gordon Duff at *Veteran's Today*, more importantly it links us to Alexander Duff's grandmother, Anne **Stein**, obviously Jewish. Also interesting is Alexander's sister Anne, who married John **Townshend**, Marquess of Townshend. This links us to Pete Townshend of the Who, and explains why he looks like he does. Alexander's other sister was named Agnes **Cecil** Emmeline Duff, proving once again that when we see the name Cecil with these people, it is a surname. Remember, Eric Clapton's grandfather was Reginald Cecil Clapton. Agnes married a Hay-Drummond, Earl of Kinnoull, giving us the Hays once again. Then she married Alfred **Cooper**, and they admit that David Cameron is a descendant of this marriage. Not only that, but we link to the Coopers in music, think drummer Ray Cooper—another cousin of Eric Clapton who has worked closely with him.





We can also link Clapton to Jimmy Page. We are told Jimmy's father worked in plastic coatings. You have to laugh. But we will start on Clapton's side, then hit Page's side. See Lt. Cdr. Thomas Clapton of the peerage, who married Mildred Ashburner in 1909. Her grandfather was William **Page** Ashburner, and her uncle was Maj. Gen. Ashburner. They were also related to the Eliots and Erskines that we just saw in my papers on Port Arthur, Christchurch, and Dunblane. Mildred's first cousin Nellie Ashburner married Lt. Col. Charles Mountstuart Erskine in 1875. He links us to Maj. Gen. George Elphinstone Erskine and Admiral John Elphinstone Erskine, and these Erskines all link us to **Andy Murray's** mother Judith Erskine.

Jimmy Page's middle name is Patrick, same as Eric Clapton. Except that I think both middle names are fake. They were changed to hide something. We are seeing what that was—obvious links to the peerage. First, we can confirm the link to the Murrays. See [Henry Stewart Murray Page](#), son of John Edward Page and Anne Murray. But like Andy Murray, Jimmy Page's genealogy is unavailable. Geni has a page but it doesn't list his parents. Not much of a genealogy. Ethnicelebs tells us his father is James Patrick Page—so why isn't Jimmy a Jr.? Ethnicelebs' source for Jimmy's mother's side is Geni, but as I said that page is empty. Ethnicelebs gives us some names, but we don't know whether to trust them: Gaffikin, Thomas, Pick, Kells, McCallum, Holdom, Mansfield, Mileman, Morton, and Burtles.

So let's check that against the peerage Pages. The Pages started out as Baronets in 1714. They were directors of the **East India Company**. They were related to the Burtons, Howes, Howells, and Turners.

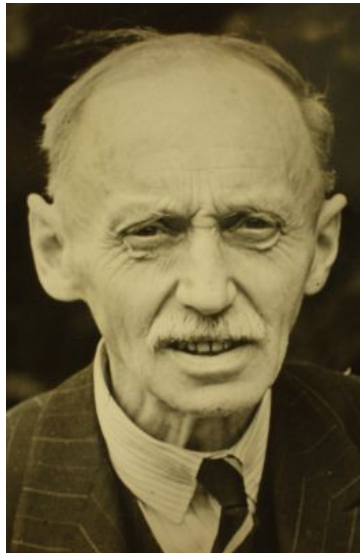
[Already we see some possible misdirection. I think Burton was fudged into Burtles at Ethnicelebs. A check at forebears.io indicates only 48 people in the entire world with the name Burtles, which indicates to me a fake name used by Intel.]

The Page estates passed to the Turners, who became the Baronets Page-Turner. At that point they became related to the Leighs and Lords, linking us to the painter J. M. W. Turner. One of the sons of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Baronet Page-Turner married a Dryden and became the Dryden Baronet. Later we find a John Derek Page, Baron Waddon. Although a Baron, he is given no parents in the peerage. We find a Rev. Maeburn Page who married a Darroch, descended from the Stuarts. We find a Cdr. Thomas Philip



Urquhart Page who married the daughter of Maj. James Neville Stopford, Earl of Courtown. This also links us to the Graham-Tolers, Maxwells, Molyneux, Roper-Curzons, Trotters, Milles, Mills, Montagu-Scotts, Fellows and Brabazons. Through the Fellows, we link to John Spencer-Churchill, 7<sup>th</sup> Duke of Marlborough. We also link to the Barclays, Brands, Watts, Milners, Cavendishes, Greys, and Hoggs. This links us to Hayley Mills, Brad Pitt, Charles Milles Manson, Yuri Milner and many others too numerous to mention.

[We may have uncovered another fudge there from Milles to Mileman. The Trotters are also Pitts, so we may have a second fudge from Pitt to Pick.]



If we follow the Stopfords to the 8<sup>th</sup> Earl, we find him marrying Christina Cameron, daughter of Admiral John Ewen Cameron. This links us again to David Cameron, who we already saw above. David's grandfather was Ewen Cameron. This is our first link to Clapton, though we can do better than that. These Camerons take us to the Hoares, which brings in Jennifer Aniston. The brother of this 8<sup>th</sup> Earl was Capt. Terence Stopford, and he also married a Page. She is given no mother in the peerage and has no genealogy posted elsewhere.

We can also link Jimmy Page to John Lennon through the Stanleys. Lennon's mother was a Stanley, remember? See [Stanley Page](#) of the peerage, b. 1885, son of Joseph Page and Emma Stanley. She was the daughter of Admiral Edward Stanley, descended from Stanleys of Balla Cagan, **Isle of Mann**. These are the Baronets Stanley, linking us to the Mainwarings and Warburtons as well.

Clapton is also linked to the Stanleys. See Justin Stanley, who co-wrote "Every Little Thing" with Clapton. Stanley is also one of his producers.

This gives us a chance to check thepeerage.com against an old Burke's peerage from 1914. [The former gives Admiral Stanley as an only child.](#) [The latter](#) gives us *five* other siblings: Frederick, Henry, Charles Thomas, Jane, and Caroline. So why the scrub? Probably because Charles married a Ward, daughter of James Ward of Surrey and widow of Cdr. Robert Henry Stanhope, nephew of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Earl of Harrington. That actually ties in here, since you will recognize the name Stanhope from the Scudamore-Stanhopes above, ancestors of Eric Clapton.

Anyway, it is curious to find this Joseph Page married to a prominent Stanley, but given no parents. The Pages are extremely well scrubbed at thepeerage.com, and I would assume Jimmy Page is the reason why. They are making this very difficult for me.

The Wards are still marrying the Stanleys/Pages, since we find Rosalind Brereton Page marrying Peter Every Ward in 1962. And it is here we find our first big link to Clapton. Peter's mother is **Leila** Every. No, that isn't the link I am talking about, though you could respell that Layla.\* Leila's father is Sir Edward Oswald Every, 11<sup>th</sup> Baronet, grandson of the [10<sup>th</sup> Baronet](#).\*\* This 10<sup>th</sup> Baronet was the son of a Flower, 4<sup>th</sup> Viscount Ashbrook. Even better, he married Gertrude Noel, granddaughter of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Baronet Noel and Diana **Middleton**, Baroness Barham. We linked the Claptons above to the Noels/Gordons, and in my last paper we saw that Kris Kristofferson's mother is an Ashbrook. Also interesting is that if we take these Noels forward as the Earls of Gainsborough, we find them related to the Ansons and Fords, linking us to my recent paper on Henry Ford.

If we take the Every Baronets forward, we find the 12<sup>th</sup> Baronet also married a Page. This Janet Marion Page once again has no mother and no grandparents listed, although she married a Baronet. These Everys married into the **De Beers** of South Africa in 1974.

We can also link the Pages to Hobart, Tasmania, bringing in yet another recent paper. Alfred Page was a governor of Tasmania in 1887, and his son Oliver married a MacLeod, daughter of the 15<sup>th</sup> of Raasay. They were Quakers.

Which brings us to Sir Earle Christmas **Grafton** Page, b. 8/8/1880, Prime Minister of Australia in the 1920s and 30s.



He was also a **Cox** on his mother's side. We are told he was named after Grafton, NSW, but we can now see he was named for the Duke of Grafton, to whom he was related through the Fitzroys/Stewarts.

Also see Anne Page from Ware, Hertfordshire, who married Richard Croft in 1869. His mother was a Russell, and his grandfather was a Lt. Col. in the **East India Company**. Their son became Brig. Gen. Henry Page Croft, 1<sup>st</sup> Baron Croft. This links us to the Barons Borwick, as well as to the Marquesses

Conyngham.

Also see Amy Clara Page who married Cdr. Dudley **Stuart** in 1875. He was of the Marquesses of Bute as well as the Windsors. Her father was a Lt. Col. from Glamorgan Wales, but her mother is not given as usual.

Also see [Alan Thomas Page](#). And remember that Ethnicelebs listed Jimmy Page as a **Thomas**. He married Jane Rosetta Samuel in 1939. Her parents are obviously Jewish, her mother given as Lily **Valentine** Mendel. That Valentine also links us to my paper on Henry Ford. So you see why everyone is scrubbing Jimmy Page like mad.

Now, there is one name I didn't mention from Ethnicelebs' page on Page: **Chichester**. They really should have scrubbed that, and someone is getting fired right now. This is a huge clue, one that I saved for now. That also links us to the peerage Pages. The Chichesters are Baronets and Earls. The 11<sup>th</sup> Baronet who just died in 2007 was married to a Douglas-Scott-Montagu, linking us to the research on Clapton above. His great-grandmother was a Mills, linking us to Page. The Douglas-Scott-Montagus link us to the Kerrs, and I now suspect that the Kells in Jimmy Page's genealogy are Kerrs. These Kerrs are Marquesses of Lothian, and they link us immediately to the Hobarts, Fortesques, and Wesleys (**Wellesleys**). Going back, we also hit the Murrays and Campbells. The Chichesters take us back to the Leighs of Isle of Wight. They also link us to the Musgraves, Fordhams, Darcys, Osbornes, Russells, Comptons and the Fifes.

The Chichester name also links us to the FitzRois, Dukes of Cleveland we saw above. I remind you FitzRoy was the bastard son of Charles II with Barbara Villiers, Duchess of Cleveland. You will say with a mother like that, how could he be illegitimate? Well, because they weren't married of course. Barbara wasn't the queen, you know. Anyway, this FitzRoy was also the Earl of Chichester. He married a Wood whose mother was a **Gardiner**. See my *Titanic* paper for more on that. The Earldom of Chichester was revived in 1801 for Thomas **Pelham**. He married Anne **Frankland**, linking us to Ben Franklin. His son married an Osborne, daughter of a Darcy, linking us to all the people above again. The Osbornes were Dukes of Leeds. The Pelhams link us forward to the Smiths, and Abel Smith again. They also link us to the Blighs, Barclays, Greys, Dundases, Cockburns, and Brands.

The Osbornes link us forward to the Towshends, Montgomerys, Pitts, Lane-Foxes, Comptons, Dunn-Gardners, Edens, and Eliots.

Other Chichesters were the Marquesses of Donegal, related to the Hamiltons, Stanleys, Grahams, and Spencer-Churchills. They also link us to the Ashley-Coopers, Earls of Shaftesbury. See Lady Harriet Chichester who married the 8<sup>th</sup> Earl in 1857. This links us to the Coopers we looked at above with Clapton. They then married into the Grosvenors, Hawkes, Hoggs, Barings, and Douglas-Pennants. Notice the Hoggs keep coming up. This may link us to crisis actor David Hogg.

The Chichester in Jimmy Page's ancestry is given as a Gaffikin, same as his mother. There is one Gaffikin in the peerage, but before we look at her, I want to point out this probably links us to comedian Jim Gaffigan as well. Anyway, the Gaffikin in the peerage is treated to the usual scrubbing, indicating once again we are on the right track. She is Eileen Renny, mother not given, no birth or death dates, second marriage in 1966 to Capt. Charles **Clinton** Stevens. And yes, these are the Clintons, Earls of Lincoln. Her first husband is not given, but we are told her married name had been Gaffikin. So it appears that the fact that Jimmy Page's mother is a Gaffikin has required a rather thorough scrubbing of the world. More research finds this Gaffikin was Denis Gaffikin, father of



[Michael John Renny](#), accountant in New Zealand. Wow. Even this living guy had to change his last name, just to protect Jimmy Page from prying eyes like mine. Findagrave has also scrubbed this Denis Gaffikin, for the same reason I suppose. The Yellow Pages give us four listing for Denis Gaffikin, including a Denis Patrick Gaffikin, three of them on post-2000 electoral rolls. But that doesn't really help us connect Page to the peerage.

What does help is that Eileen's father is a Renny-Tailyour, and although we aren't linked to them in the peerage, there *are* others in the peerage. They link us to the Petres, who link us back to the Howards, Lindsays, Molesworths, and Musgraves again. Which does provide us a link between the Gaffikins and the rest of the folks above. I don't think we hit the Lindsays in this paper, but they are the Earls of Balcarres, linking to the Campbells and Stuarts. The Renny-Tailyours also link us to the Wingfield-Stratfords, and through them to the Grants, who we did see above.

OK, that is probably enough to convince you Jimmy Page is from the peerage. Given his life, that shouldn't have been too hard to do, but they didn't make it easy, I have to admit. Let's return to Clapton. Remember, Geneanet admitted he was a [Cripps](#). Interesting, because the Cripps are Barons in two lines. See the Barons Parmoor, related to the Potters, Nelsons, Nashes, Joyces, Milners, Seymours, Egertons, Ormsby-Gores, Cavendish-Bentincks, Hopes, Harrison, [Lawrences](#). The 5<sup>th</sup> Baron links us to the [Scotts](#). Also see Bertram Upton Sinclair Cripps, who of course links us to Upton Sinclair. This Cripps links us to the Goulds and Owens. Through the Lawrence Baronets we link to the Gordons.

Also note the name Lawrence. I saw it many times in my research today. Do you remember who was a Lawrence? Clapton's grandmother, who he allegedly thought was his mother. She is the daughter of the Clements.



You may remember The Shadows, an English group that backed Cliff Richard. They are the fourth most popular act in the UK singles chart, ever. Well, one of their founders is Bruce Welch. Except that Bruce Welch is really Bruce Cripps. His bandmates are . . . Warren Bennett and Brian Bennett. Just a coincidence, right?

What about the Applebees in Clapton's line? Well, that should probably be [Appleby](#), in which case it

links us to all the same people in the peerage, including the Hoskyns, Comptons, Leighs, Philips, and Stanhopes.

Which just gives me one last name to check from Geneanet: Kersell. That should probably be Kessell, and they are related to the Gores, Napiers, and Stuarts, including the Earls of Arran.



If you thought Clapton was scrubbed, you ought to see Pattie Boyd, his wife. Tim Dowling at Geneanet doesn't even list her grandparents. Geni scrubs her maternal line, but gives us a **Lindsay** in her paternal line, indicating she and Clapton are cousins. Her grandmother is a Buckley, doubling or tripling that bet. We can see why Geneanet scrubbed this. According to Geni, a 2great-aunt was **Martha Stewart**, and her father was governor of the Bahamas. According to Wiki, there was no such person, but they may mean John Murray, 4<sup>th</sup> Earl of Dunmore, Governor of the Bahamas at that time, whose wife was Lady Charlotte Stewart, daughter of the Earl of Galloway. They did indeed have five daughters. None were named Martha, however. Their daughter Susan had three husbands, the second being **Chichester** Old Bank (now Royal Bank of Scotland RBS) head John Drew. The Drews do indeed link us to all the people above, including the Franklands/Franklins. They also link us to the Duke of Sussex, who married Lady Charlotte's sister. Prince Augustus Frederick was the son of George III. After Lady Murray died, he married a Gore, daughter of the Earl of Arran. He was head of the Freemasons in England at the time. He also had a keen interest in Hebrew and Jewish emancipation. Not surprising, since almost all his ancestors were “German”.

For a change I do not think Clapton is gay. Why? Because he hit on a girl I was dating. She told me the story herself. This was about 25 years ago. She was on a flight to Los Angeles, if I remember correctly. He spoke to her in line and invited her to come up to first class with him. She did, and he asked her to fly to New York or London with him in a few days (I can't remember all the specifics). She didn't. She told me he was too old. She was about 22, I was about 30, and Clapton was about 50. Since I didn't like her very much (though she was extremely beautiful), I told her she should have done it. She would have made him miserable.

\*I think the story we are told about the song “Layla” being named for a 7<sup>th</sup> century Persian poem is a lie. The

young Clapton and Gordon just don't seem that erudite. It looks like a story manufactured after the fact as cover. They looked up the name Layla, discovered this old poem, and then back-linked it to the song. More likely Clapton wrote the song for a girl named Leila, then changed the spelling to give her some anonymity. Possibly he didn't want Patti Boyd knowing he was writing songs to other girls, so he told her it was about her. Since these people hang around with no one but rich cousins, we should look for a rich cousin named Leila. Well, we just found her above, didn't we? Or her aunt. The Leila Every I found above is too old to be a flame of Eric, so I looked for a younger namesake. Sure enough, I found her. She is [Vanessa Leila Every](#), granddaughter of the 11<sup>th</sup> Baronet and niece of the 12<sup>th</sup>. She is about five years younger than Clapton. She would have been 20 when the song was written. She married four years later in 1974. We do find some confirmation beyond that, since the Everys have a castle in Axminster, Devon. Though Axminster only has about 5,000 people, Clapton loves to play there. He also likes to play *Layla* there. Just search on Eric Clapton Axminster and see all the stuff that comes up. Another place Clapton seems to be tied to somehow is Bridport, Dorset. The Bridport Art Centre recently did a retrospective of Clapton called "A Life in 12 Bars". Why? Maybe because the Everys also have a manor there. See Wootton Abbots. I bet you want to know what Leila looks like now. Well, she married a de Beers in South Africa, so she is now Vanessa de Beers. And, sure enough, we find this picture of a Vanessa de Beers at za.pinterest:



A possible match. That older woman could be a well-preserved 60. Leila should be 68 now, but maybe that pic was taken a few years ago. You can tell she was a beauty when she was younger, and we know Clapton likes blondes. Yes, she dyes her hair now, but we can tell she was a natural blonde from her eyebrows.

\*\*The Everys link us to the recent paper on Jewish pirates, since one of their ancestors was the famous pirate Henry Every.