The Furzes of Bristol

By 1886, William Martin Furze had (presumably) retired as a warder at Dartmoor prison, as he is recorded as living in Bristol, with his wife being the licensee of the Wellesley Arms in Totterdown.

A PUBLICHOUSE THEFT.

John Williams, a middle-aged man, was charged with stealing a kettle, shoe brushes, and a quantity of onions, value 2s 6d, the property of William Martin Furze. Mrs Furze, landlady of the Wellesley Arms, Totterdown, stated that on July 26th the prisoner and three other men entered the house and had beer. Whilst they were there she heard a noise, and on going into the taproom one of the men said, "It is all right, missus, we've only dropped our tea can." Subsequently she missed a quantity of onions, and she saw the accused leaving the house with them in his pockets. She called him back, and he gave them up to her, saying he did not know how they came there. The prisoner left, but half an hour later he was brought back to the house by the police officer and two brushes shown her she identified as her property. The accused said he did not know how the brushes came in his pocket, and that some one must have placed them there. The kettle was found in the tap room underneath a bench. P.C. Kitch proved apprehending the prisoner, and Mrs Wells said on the evening of July 26th she saw the accused, who was with other men, hide the brushes in amongst the flowers in her garden. The prisoner in his defence denied taking the onions, and said during his absence from the house they must have been put in his jacket. He knew nothing about the brushes. This statement was confirmed by a witness. Supt. Drewett said the prisoner was unknown to the police. The bench taking the prisoner's good character into consideration fined him 10s or seven days' imprisonment.

Bristol Mercury - Saturday 31 July 1886

Records then show William Martin holding the licence at The White Hart in Lewin's Mead, Bristol from at least 1888. An unsuccessful application to transfer the licence was made to the magistrates in 1890:

Refused: White Hart, Lewin's Mead, from William Martin Furze to John Hannam.

Western Daily Press - Thursday 03 April 1890

However, by the time of the 1891 census, he was landlord of the Clyde Arms in Hampton Road, Redland (north of Bristol town centre).

He died that same year and the licence was taken over by his widow Cordelia, who continued to hold it until a few years before her death in 1914 at age 80.

Ellen Paul; Clyde Arms, Hampton Road, from William Martin Furze (deceased) to Cordelia Charity Furze (widow).

Western Daily Press - Thursday 25 June 1891

FURZE William Martin.

Personal Estate £388.

27 May. The Will of William Martin Furze late of 129 Hampton-road Redland in the City and County of **Bristol** Licensed Victualler who died 12 May 1891 at 129 Hampton - road was proved at **Bristol** by George Thomas Furze of 32 Catherine-street in the City of Bristol Coal Merchant's Manager the Son one of the Executors.

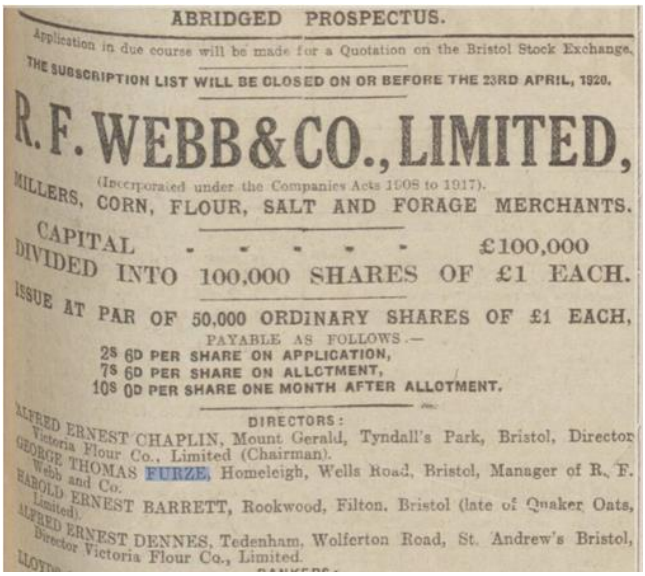
In 1888, his son George Thomas Furze married Emily Rosina Jenkins, daughter of widowed publican Mary Ann Jenkins (see "The Jenkins Story"), the former landlady and possibly owner of the Wellesley Arms. He took on the license at the Wellesley Arms the same year, although the 1891 census shows George ("Corn merchant's manager") and Emily, with daughter Daisy, aged 1, living at 32 Catherine Street, next door to Mary Ann ("*Living on her own means*").

By 1901, George and Emily Furze had moved to 144 Wells Road, only a few doors away from the top of Firfield Street, with Daisy and her two younger sisters (Florence b 1892) and Marian (b 1893) . Also living with them was Mary Ann Jenkins.

The 1901 census also finds the Rev. Robert Henry Kipling living almost exactly opposite at 137 Wells Road. He had moved to Bristol in 1898 from South Shields, initially living at 'Mountside', Bushy Park, and left later in 1901 for Poynton in Cheshire. He was minister at the United Free Methodist chapel in Oxford Road, Totterdown. With him were his children Annie and John Spencer and his brother Alfred Jervis Kipling, a cabinet maker like his father (who by 1911 was institutionalised in Darlington and appears to have remained so until his death in 1943).

Between 1911 (census) and 1920 (Daisy Furze's wedding to John Spencer Kipling at the Baptist Chapel in Wells Road), the Furzes moved a little way up the road to 'Homeleigh', 163 Wells Road, a relatively new and substantial semi-detached house (right, 2011). It is shown on the 1902 map but not on that of 1885-6. See Appendix 1).

George Furze became a director of R.F Webb & Co, which in 1920 listed its shares on the Bristol Stock Exchange:



ABRIDGED PROSPECTUS.

Application in due course will be made for a Quotation on the Bristol Stock Exchange.

THE SUBSCRIPTION LIST WILL BE CLOSED ON OR BEFORE THE 23RD APRIL, 1920.

R. F. WEBB & CO., LIMITED,

(Incorporated under the Companies Acts 1908 to 1917).

MILLERS, CORN, FLOUR, SALT AND FORAGE MERCHANTS.

CAPITAL - - - - - £100,000

DIVIDED INTO 100,000 SHARES OF £1 EACH.

ISSUE AT PAR OF 50,000 ORDINARY SHARES OF £1 EACH,

PAYABLE AS FOLLOWS:—

2s 6d PER SHARE ON APPLICATION,
7s 6d PER SHARE ON ALLOTMENT,
10s 0d PER SHARE ONE MONTH AFTER ALLOTMENT.

DIRECTORS:

ALFRED ERNEST CHAPLIN, Mount Gerald, Tyndall's Park, Bristol, Director Victoria Flour Co., Limited (Chairman).

GEORGE THOMAS FURZE, Homeleigh, Wells Road, Bristol, Manager of R. F. Webb and Co.

HAROLD ERNEST BARRETT, Rookwood, Filton, Bristol (late of Quaker Oats, Limited).

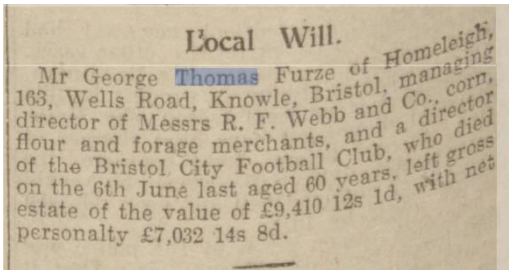
ALFRED ERNEST DENNES, Tedenham, Wolferton Road, St. Andrew's Bristol, Director Victoria Flour Co., Limited.

LLOYDS BANKERS.

Western Daily Press - Saturday 17 April 1920

George Furze, with daughter Daisy and grandson John in the rear (photo Agnes Kipling c 1922)

George Furze died in 1925 and was buried in plot II775 at Arnos Vale cemetery. In the same grave had been buried Mary Ann Jenkins in 1904 and daughter Marian Symmons (nee Furze) who had died at only 29 in 1923.



Local Will.

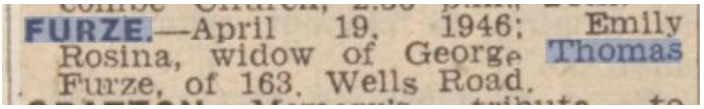
Mr George Thomas Furze of Homeleigh, 163, Wells Road, Knowle, Bristol, managing director of Messrs R. F. Webb and Co., corn, flour and forage merchants, and a director of the Bristol City Football Club, who died on the 6th June last aged 60 years, left gross estate of the value of £9,410 12s 1d, with net personalty £7,032 14s 8d.

Western Daily Press - Monday 17 August 1925

His estate of £9,410 before tax would be over £400,000 today if increased in line with prices and around £1.4m if increased in line with wages.

A full account of his funeral appears in Appendix 2.

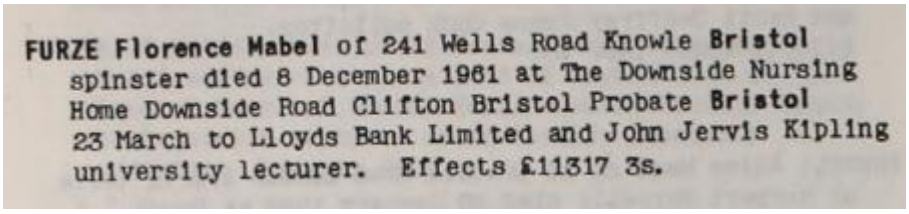
Widow Emily Rosina was looked after by unmarried daughter Flo at 163 Wells Road. In her later years she became increasingly frail and died at Bristol Mental Hospital, Fishponds in 1946.


FURZE.—April 19, 1946; Emily Rosina, widow of George Thomas Furze, of 163, Wells Road.

Western Daily Press - Monday 22 April 1946

In her will, she left specific legacies of £100 each to her four grandsons, £25 to niece Ethel Jenkins (daughter of her brother George) and £750 and her piano to daughter Flo. The balance was divided equally between Flo and Daisy. In a codicil, she also leaves to Flo ground rents[1] from 29 Bristol properties, including 24 Catherine Street and 142 and 144 Wells Road.

Flo died in 1961. She had been a Deputy Registrar or Births and Deaths and at the time of her death was living at 241 Wells Road, where she had moved shortly after Emily's death.


FURZE Florence Mabel of 241 Wells Road Knowle Bristol spinster died 8 December 1961 at The Downside Nursing Home Downside Road Clifton Bristol Probate Bristol 23 March to Lloyds Bank Limited and John Jervis Kipling university lecturer. Effects £11317 3s.

Marian, as noted died in 1923. She married schoolmaster William Symmons at the Wells Road Baptist Church in 1917 and they had two children; Harold Furze Symmons (b 1918) and Jack Furze Symmons (b 1923). Harold studied at Bristol University and married Beulah Beasley in 1941. Later they emigrated to Australia.

For some time he was a physicist at the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) in Sydney and author of amongst other things "Zero-field Masers" with G. S. Bogle (Australian Journal of Physics 1958). He also spent time at the University of Illinois, Urbana and Otago University, NZ.

Harold died in 2008 (obit. in Bristol University magazine).

Symmons, Mr Harold Furze (BSc 1940) died 2008, aged 90.

[1] A ground rent is the yearly amount the owner of a long lease on a property pays to the freeholder

Jack was a master at Ashville College, Harrogate (the school attended by John Spencer Kipling[2]). He died in 2009. He had had married a Nancy Nesbitt in 1965 in Whitby.

After Marian's death, William Symmons married again (to an Ethel Middleton) and had two more children John, who died in infancy, and Philip (b 1929).

[2] Postcard of Ashville was sent from there by JS Kipling in October 1909 to his sister Annie Kipling, then living in Neston, Wirral. It thanks her for sending some things and asks, presumably of a photograph, "Which one of the Furzes is Daisy"?

Today, Homeleigh is little changed. However, 144 Wells Road is now a Chinese restaurant……

and 137 has gone missing!

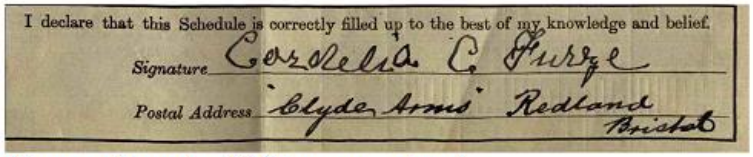
The Furze grave in Arnos Vale is also sadly fallen and overgrown

Wells Road in or before 1919 (card sent to Frank Langridge on his birthday from "Dais. and Spencer" dated "Blaise Castle 9-6-19" and postmarked Bristol). The wall of Homeleigh's garden is on the cusp of the bend on the extreme left.

The same scene in 2011 (the Catholic church on the right was bombed during the war and rebuilt)

Meanwhile, back at the Clyde Arms in 1911:

1	Cordelia C Furze	wife		80	Widow		6	6		Publican
2	Anne Furze	lodger		77	Single					private means
3	Rosalie C. Herridge	daughter of No1		40	Widow					Assistant
4	Elsie C. Herridge	daughter of No3		16	single					assistnt Draper
5	Rita Herridge	do		10						school
6	Emma Pilot	servant		30	single					Servant
7										



I declare that this Schedule is correctly filled up to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature Cordelia C. Furze

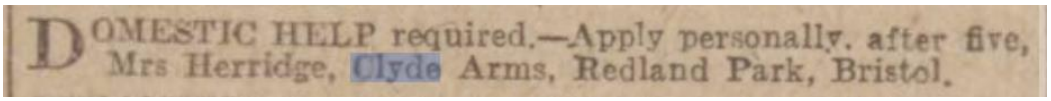
Postal Address Clyde Arms Redland Bristol

(Images from the 1911 census return)

Anne Furze was William Martin's Furze's spinster sister. She had been living with the Furzes since at least 1891. Previously (1881), she had been housekeeper for her uncle Abiathar Metherell, a vet in Spalding, Lincolnshire.

CLYDE ARMS Hampton Road	1937 - 38. Edwin Long
1883 - 87. Samuel Symes	1944 - 53. John Hartley
1889. Frederick Hale	1960. G. A. Brown
1891. William Furze	1975. J. C. Jones
1892 - 1909. Cordelia Furze	*the Clyde Arms is still trading*
1914. Rosina Herridge	
1917 - 35. Roselie Cordelia Cann Herridge	

The licence than passed to Rosalie Cordelia Cann Herridge, George Furze's widowed sister. "Rosina" seems to be an error in the listing above. Rosalie Herridge died in 1947 (she had married Edward Herridge in 1893; he died in 1900, aged 36), having held the licence until 1935 or 6.



DOMESTIC HELP required.—Apply personally, after five, Mrs Herridge, Clyde Arms, Redland Park, Bristol.

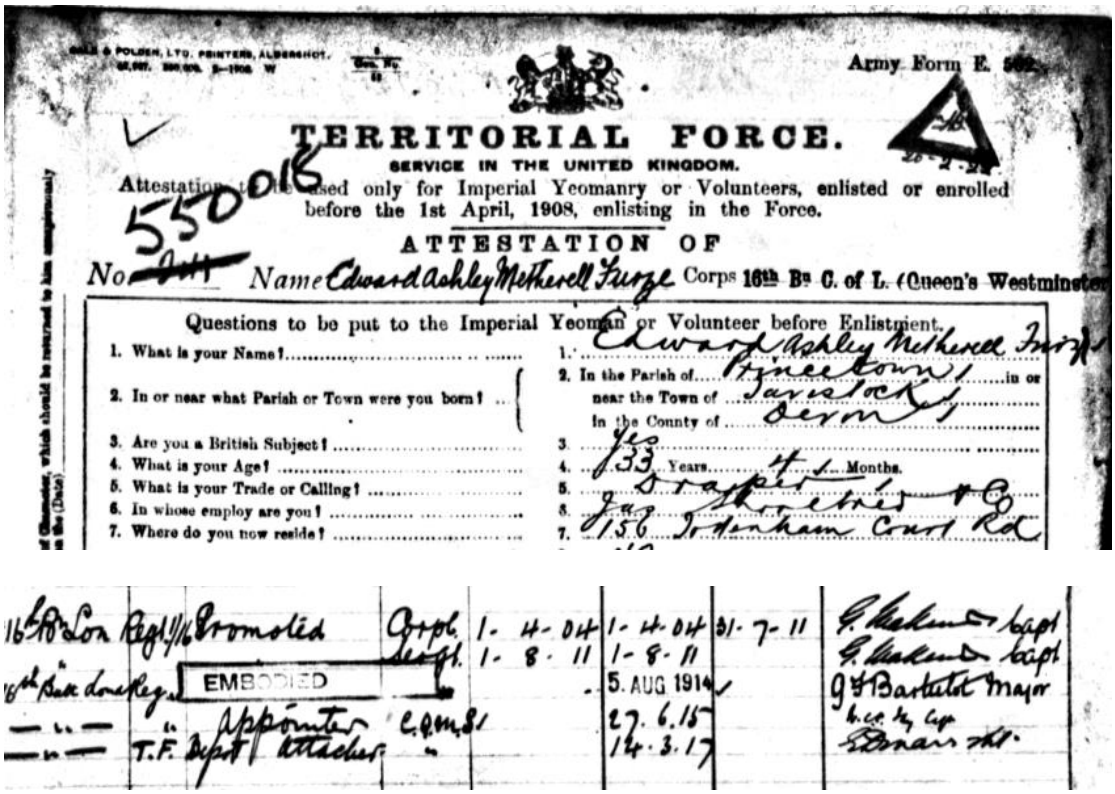
Western Daily Press - Thursday 28 June 1923

William Martin and Cordelia Furze actually had six children; George and Rosalie have been mentioned. The others were Edward, Matilda, Walter and Susan.

Edward remained single and lived and worked at Shoolbreds department store in Tottenham Court Road[3], first in furniture then, by 1911, in oriental carpets. Edward had joined the Territorial Army in 1908, with the Queens's Westminster Regiment. He

[3] James Shoolbred established a drapery business in the 1820s in To nineteenth century. By the 1870s, the store was noted for its substar furnishings. Around 1873, James Shoolbred entered the furniture tr physical additions to the site were rebuilt into a new department sto in 1931.

served in France from 1915 to 1917, rising to the rank of Company Quartermaster Sergeant, being discharged on grounds of age.



Army Form E. 502.

TERRITORIAL FORCE.

SERVICE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

Attestation to be used only for Imperial Yeomanry or Volunteers, enlisted or enrolled before the 1st April, 1908, enlisting in the Force.

ATTESTATION OF

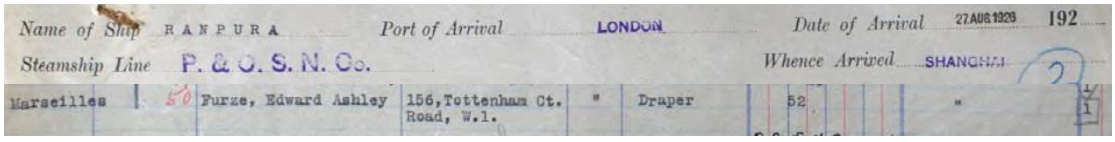
No. 550 Name Edward Ashley Metherell Furze Corps 16th Bn C. of L. (Queen's Westminster

Questions to be put to the Imperial Yeoman or Volunteer before Enlistment.

1. What is your Name? — 1. Edward Ashley Metherell Furze
2. In or near what Parish or Town were you born? — 2. In the Parish of Ilfracombe in or near the Town of Barnstaple In the County of Devon
3. Are you a British Subject? — 3. Yes
4. What is your Age? — 4. 33 Years 4 Months.
5. What is your Trade or Calling? — 5. Draper's Assistant
6. In whose employ are you? — 6. Self
7. Where do you now reside? — 7. 156 Tottenham Court Rd

16th Bn. Lon. Regt. Promoted Corpl. 1-4-04 1-4-04 31-7-11 G. Hedworth Capt
Sergt. 1-8-11 1-8-11 G. Hedworth Capt
16th Bn. London Regt. EMBODIED 5. AUG 1914 G. H. Bartlett Major
" " Appointed C.Q.M.S. 27.6.15
T.F. Depot attached " 14.3.17 Discharged

He is also noted as arriving in London by sea from Marseilles in 1926



Name of Ship RANPURA Port of Arrival LONDON Date of Arrival 27 AUG 1926 192

Steamship Line P. & O. S. N. Co. Whence Arrived SHANGHAI

Marseilles | 50 | Furze, Edward Ashley | 156, Tottenham Ct. Road, W.1. | " | Draper | 52 | "

Edward retired early to Bristol (32 Redland Park, near the Clyde Arms), dying in 1932. His death was notified by Edwin Charles Long, who was the husband of Rita Herridge (married 1929), one of Rosalie's children. Edwin also took over the Clyde Arms licence after Rosalie gave it up, holding it until 1940, meaning that it had been in Furze hands for either a little more or a little less than 50 years!

Clyde Arms, Hampton Road, Redland, from Edward Charles Long to John Percy Hartley.

Western Daily Press - Tuesday 28 May 1940

Susan married a Bristol accountant, Frederick Ridler, Matilda married van driver Ambras Potter in Bristol in 1884 (they later moved to Budleigh Salterton; one of their children was Harry Potter!) and Walter became a schoolmaster in Falmouth.

FURZE—WEBBER—At the Parish Church, Falmouth, April 18, by the rector, Rev. B. Christopherson, M.A., Walter Martin Furze, son of the late W. M. Furze, of Redland, Clifton, Bristol, to Lilian, second daughter of Albert E. Webber, of Strand House, Falmouth.

Royal Cornwall Gazette - Thursday 21 April 1892

FURZE Walter Martin of Rothie Norman Western-terrace Falmouth **Cornwall** died 19 December 1937 Probate **London** 31 January to Lilian Furze widow and Geoffrey Webber Furze private schoolmaster. Effects £1340 1s. 11d.

Walter's son, Geoffrey Webber Furze, was born in 1903 and married Lilian Harris in Cornwall in 1931. They had children:

FURZE	Geoffrey F	England	Yorkshire, Leeds North	1931
FURZE	Rosemary E L	England	Yorkshire, Leeds North	1936

Geoffrey W Furze served in the RAF during the Second World War:

THE LONDON GAZETTE, 6 JANUARY, 1942

TECHNICAL BRANCH.

To be actg. Plt. Offs. on prob. (emergency):—

Geoffrey Webber FURZE (112632).

SUPPLEMENT TO THE LONDON GAZETTE, 11 DECEMBER, 1942

Actg. Plt. Offs. (prob.) to be Plt. Offs. (prob.) 24th July 1942:—

G. W. FURZE (112632).

3682 SUPPLEMENT TO THE LONDON GAZETTE, 22 JUNE, 1954

Air Ministry, 22nd June, 1954.

EMERGENCY LIST.

The undermentioned relinquished their commissions under the provisions of the Navy, Army and Air Force Reserves Act 1954, and have been granted permission to retain rank, as stated, with effect from 10th Feb. 1954:—

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

Flying Officers, retaining the rank of Flight Lieutenants:—

G. W. FURZE (112632).

He was a school teacher in Leeds for may years:

Moorlands School was founded in 1898 in a property in Headingley. The school is therefore the oldest preparatory school in Leeds. The school opened with just one pupil!

Headteachers 1948 - 1957 Geoffrey Furze

He died in Yorkshire in 1987.

His elder son, Geoffrey Frank Furze, married Shirley Bennett in Leeds in 1956 and died in 1996 in Surrey. They [probably] had children:

FURZE	Timothy	England	Berkshire, Reading	1963
FURZE	Martin William	England	Surrey, Surrey South Western	1967

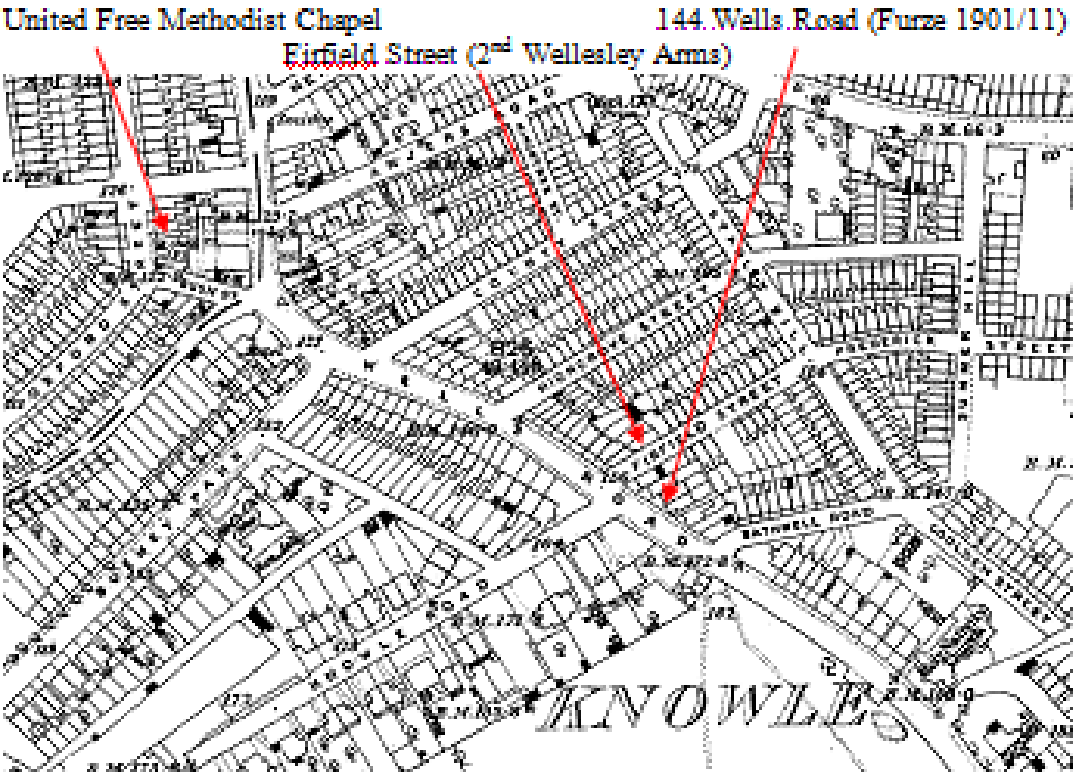
Timothy Furze married in April 1990 and had two children:

Children of **Timothy Furze** and **Janet Marie Toovey** are:

i. **James William Furze**, b. November 25, 1993.
ii. **Emma Judith Furze**, b. September 05, 1995.

Martin William Furze lives in Woking.

Appendix 1



1885-1886 - County Series 1:2500

1902 - Six Inch County Series

Appendix 2

PLAYED THE GAME.

Funeral of Mr G. T. Furze.

There was a large attendance at the funeral yesterday of the late Mr G. T. Furze, of 163, Wells Road, Knowle, managing director of R. F. Webb and Co., Ltd., St. Philip's. The first part of the service was conducted in Oxford Street Methodist Chapel by the Rev. J. T. Mildon, who said that he had known Mr Furze for nearly 20 years, and always found him a man who "played the game." He loved games, he loved watching others play, and he played the game himself. The Empire needed men who "played the game," and he played it to the very last. As he faced pain, so he faced death, and he "passed in" true to the last. He had lived in their midst, and he was a man that he (Mr Mildon) had never heard a word against. And that was saying a great deal to-day. He was a man who faced the world, and looked every man in the face. He was glad so many had come to show their respect for one who was a friend of all. They would respect his memory in days to come; and they all gave their sympathy to the widow and children.

The mourners were:—Mrs Furze (widow), Mr Walter Furze (brother), Mrs Kipling (daughter), Mr Kipling (son-in-law), Miss F. Furze (daughter), Mr Edward Furze (brother), Mrs Herridge (sister), Mrs Ridler (sister), Mr Ridler (brother-in-law), Mr Arnold Ridler (nephew), Mr Symmons, Mr R. F. Webb. Messrs R. F. Webb and Co., Ltd., were represented by Messrs A. E. Chaplin (chairman), H. E. Barnett, A. E. Dennes (directors), and A. J. Moss (secretary. In the late Mr Furze's private car were Messrs E. J. Brown, E. F. Webb, P. Brown, and Ralphs. Other members of the staff, in addition to a number of workpeople, included Messrs W. G. Savage, G. S. Palmer, E. T. Clutson, F. J. Bellamy, H. S. Pockson, P. Brown, A. Nichols, P. G. Greethead, Roberts, Russell, E. Webb, Ellis, Elton, senr., Elton, junr., Brown, Vickery, Haines, Fitz Gibbins, Poole, Reeves, Chard, and others.

There were also present: Messrs W. E. Osmond (vice-president), N. Shore Nye (secretary), J. F. Trewin (assistant secretary), E. O. Appleby, J. Phillips, Bristol and West of England Cattle Foods Association, of which he was president; Messrs M. F. Gibbons (Chamberlain, Pole, and Co.), Basil Humphries and Crossman (Humphries and Bobbett), Conrad Ford (Bristol and West of England Corn Trade Association), W. J. Ford (Bristol Flour and Bread Concern), H. C. Monks (West of England Agricultural Produce Co.), W. E. Hayward (St. Raphael's Milling Co.), W. K. Bond (Bond, Wedlake, and Shellard), W. W. Hillier (Hodder and Stone), J. B. Warriner (Warriner, Ltd.), F. J. Gillam, R. Stevens, C. Saunders, Geo. Warren, C. R. Perrett, C. Staley, N. Taylor, A. McAdam, T. Pearce, Sprackman, and Gideon Warren. The City Football Club, of which the deceased was a director, was represented by Messrs G. Jenkins (chairman), A. G. Pont, and A. Raisbeck (secretary).

Floral tributes were sent by Mr Sidney Smith (London), Mrs Furze, Miss Furze, Mr and Mrs Kipling, Mr and Mrs Jaggard and family, Mr and Mrs Sprackman, Mr and Mrs Arnold Ridler, Mrs and Miss Herridge, Mr and Mrs Symmons, Miss Shortman, Mr Pockson, Mr Basil Humphries, Mr and Mrs Ridler, Mr and Mrs Frank Langridge, the Rev. R. H. Kipling, the Bristol Forage Trade Association, Mr R. F. Webb, Mr E. Webb, the Travellers and Office Staff of R. F. Webb and Co., Ltd., Mrs Jenkins and family, Mr and Mrs F. J. Humphries, the Directors of the Bristol City Football Club, the Directors and Secretary of the Bristol Flour and Bread Concern, Ltd., Mr and Mrs A. Saunders, Miss Lena Lester, Members of the Bristol, South Wales, and West of England Cattle Food Trade Association, Mr R. H. Crocker and Sons, Mrs Moss and children, the Directors of the Bristol Rovers Football Club, Mr and Mrs Woods (Hambrook), Mrs Park, Mr Allan G. Wise, Mr and Mrs W. W. Shortman, the Workmen of R. F. Webb and Co., Ltd., Mr Fred Gillam.

The interment was at Arno's Vale Cemetery. The undertaker was Mr C. Smith, of the Three Lamps, Totterdown.

Western Daily Press - Thursday 11 June 1925