

## Joseph Webb 1813 - 1869



Joseph was a member of an important family of glass-masters. He gained much shop-floor experience with several firms. In 1844 he went into a partnership with his cousin Edward at the Holloway End Glassworks.

In 1850 Joseph purchased the Coalbourne Hill Glassworks (now the site of the Ruskin Centre) where he developed a very successful process for pressed glass. During the 1850's he was involved in a number of disputes with the fledgling trade unions. He lived at Coalbourne House where he died in 1869.

## William King 1799 - 1850



William King was the clay master who donated the bricks of which the Church is built. Clay was the key to the glass industry.

The clay deposits at Amblecote were ideally suited to the manufacture of refractory products among them the 'pots' in which glass could be melted. William died on the 16th March, 1850 aged 50 years, affectionately known as "King Billie". King William Street is named after him.

## William Greathead 1799 - 1867

By the 1830's William was working for the Birmingham glassmakers William Gammon. He was invited to work in Dudley by Thomas Hawkes MP a local glass manufacturer but the business failed and he left to work for Badgers of Dudley.



He left in 1850 to form Davis, Greathead and Green in Brettell Lane. Their painted glass imitations of Greek pottery were very highly regarded. In 1853 the firm moved to the Dial Glassworks. By 1861 William had moved to live at the new Dennis Park development in the former grounds of Dennis Hall.

## William Mullett 1851 - 1938

William was an assistant to the brothers Thomas & George Wallhall two of the most renowned artists in Cameo glass.



This process involved carving designs through one of several layers of coloured glass onto a dark background. This was an incredibly painstaking process requiring almost superhuman feats of concentration and manual dexterity, as well as superlative artistic skill. Even at the height of Victorian prosperity the process proved to be simply too expensive. It remains however a wonderful, and now highly collectable, classic glass art form.

## Holy Trinity Church Monuments to the Glassmakers



The churchyard at Holy Trinity has served as the final resting place for a number of individuals involved in the design, manufacture and sale of glass.

There was a time when almost every family in Amblecote would have been associated with the glass trade in one form or another.

The glass industry was at its peak during the same period that the Victorian and Edwardian obsession with funerary and mourning rites was at its height.

Thus the churchyard brims with superb examples of grave monuments which stand as a grand testimony to the stonemasons' and ironworkers' craft.

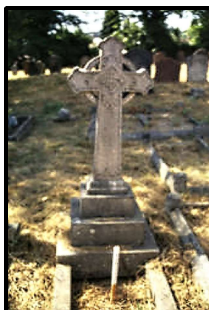
## Edwin & Richard Deeley



The Deeleys belonged to a class of rather ruthless Black Country manufacturers. They were from a wealthy family of glassmakers, engineers, ironmasters and mine owners. The father and son made a

during the 'hungry forties'. The output from their business included bottles for Schweppes soda water (the famous 'Codd' bottles) and for Lee and Perrins Worcestershire sauce. Although recorded on the vault Richard is not actually interred there.

## Silas & Levi Hingley



The Hingley family were important local figures in the nineteenth and twentieth century glass trade.

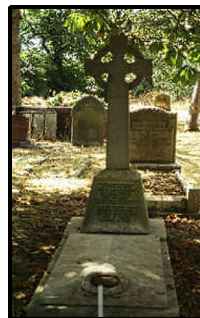
Silas served as an apprentice glass engraver in Dudley and with a third brother, Jabaz, worked for Levi.

Levi set up a workshop for glass decorating behind his house in King William Street in 1852. He was joined in the business by his sons George and Alfred and by Silas' sons William, Charles and Alfred. They purchased the Albert Glassworks in Wordsley and the firm survived until 1948.



## William Fritsche 1858 - 1924

William was one of several Bohemian engravers to be offered work in Stourbridge. He spent his entire working life at Thomas Webb's. He is regarded as the greatest of the Bohemian engravers. He lived at, and was possibly the proprietor of the Red Lion in Brettell Lane.



## Adolph Zinkie 1845 - 1926



Adolph was one of a group of Bohemian engravers attracted to the Amblecote glass trade during the late nineteenth century. In common with most of this group he settled permanently in Stourbridge and married local girl Agnes Humphries in 1866.

## John Guest 1841 - 1888



John Guest lived at Dennis Park. He was a member of a large and important glass industry family. They were renown as furnace builders. John also had an important holding in the Platts Glassworks.

Acknowledgement:- This leaflet is an edited version of one created by Amblecote History Society for IFOG 2006

## Harry Ernest Kny 1887 - 1917

Harry's father was another of the Bohemian glassmakers attracted to the area in the 1860's. The Knys made Amblecote and England their home and members of the family worked in the glass industry. Harry joined the British Army as a member of the Army Cyclist Corps. He died in hospital in Salonica.



## William (Bill) Evans 1911 - 1993

Bill worked for the whole of his career as a glass blower at Royal Brierley. He was secretary of the Flint Glassmakers Union. He is said to have completed a full shift

before driving to Glasgow for a meeting. He was the last chairman of Amblecote Urban District Council in 1966.



## The others

The names of the glassmakers shown in this leaflet are perhaps those who are better known or have substantial headstones. What is certain is that the churchyard is also the resting place of many others who worked in, or were associated with, the industry. Many of these do not have, nor never have had, a monument to their name.