

Dear Heather,

My niece married Martyn Sparkes and I briefly looked at the Sparkes family history for her, having extensively researched c  
own. Martyn's grandfather provided some information and his mother knew family details from Irene Sparkes, born in 191  
I wrote the attached to provide some background for the family. Do you live in Alvaston area, as do their family?

With reference to Sarah and John Ankers, the Parish Record for Thomas and Sarah's marriage says it was by Banns and  
Thomas was from Whitchurch, Shropshire. My feelings were that their daughter Sarah was working/living in Whitchurch or  
with her father's family when she became pregnant and gave birth to Arthur. Sarah Sparks married John Ankers on 22nd  
February 1858 at Whitchurch and although I have not sent for the Marriage Certificate, I felt this was the correct Sarah. I ga  
all information to Martyn's family for them to continue the research if they wished.

I did post a message of Ancestry and received the following reply.

*'I am Margaret Jill Mills, nee Smedley. Arthur and Fanny were my great grandparents on my mother's side. My mother was  
Margaret Elling Sparkes. Arthur had many jobs but he finished as a Master Plasterer in Derby. On retirement he and Fanny  
moved to Shelton Lock. They took over the lock keepers duties. I have a photo of Fanny actually at the lock taken the year I  
was born in 1937. Alvaston is on the spot and you will have found Fanny and Arthur's gravestone in Chellaston church  
cemetery. Go to Derby Record Office and get copies of Derby Telegraph for Sept 30 1997, Sept 17, 1997, Sept 2, 1997, and  
October 7, 1997. All relating to Fanny living in the Shelton Lock cottage, with photos and contributions from family member*

Hope this helps,

Would like to hear about your research

Kind regards

Helen

**Thomas Sparkes** = **Sarah Wilson**  
 b.1789 b.1790  
 m.08.04.1817  
 d.15.05.1850 d.07.02.1855

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 Ambellina 22.02.1818	 Thomas 09.04.1820	 Mary 1822	 Anne 14.11.1824	 John 04.12.1827	 George 05.07.1829	 William 30.10.1831	 George 1834-1835 d.17.01.1835 aged 10mths	 <b>Sarah</b> = John Ankers b.17.04.1836 m.22.02.1858   <b>Arthur</b> = <b>Fanny Holmes</b> b.23.02.1856 b.1859 m.1876 d.1932   d.1940	 Ellen 1839
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 Sarah Annie 1877-1939	 Thomas 1880-1954	 Mary Ellen 1883-1939	 Fanny 1885	 Florence 1890	 Hetty 1891-1977	 Charles Harold 1892-1895	 Margaret May 1895-1973	 George L 1897	 Sidney Bertrum 1900-1965	 Catherine I 1901-1989
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**Arthur Leonard** = **Annie Gertrude Ashford**  
 b.1887 b.1886  
 m.1907

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 Frederick Edwin 14.10.1908	 <b>Irene May</b> b.27.10.1910 m.1945 d.09.1999	 = Herbert S Young	 Sidney 1912	 Ernest 30.09.1914	 William Benjamin 26.03.1916	 George L 25.05.1917	 Annie G 1918
1978			1969	19.05.1978	July 1989	1982	

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**Sidney Ronald** - Margaret Ward  
1930 | b.19.08.1934 | Arthur 1932 | Maureen A 1940 | Barry E 1945  
| m.1951  
| d.11.2004

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Derek R 1951 | Stephen P 1956 | **Peter Leonard** 1959 = Gail Jackson 1964 | Richard A 1963 | David Sidney 1966 | Malcolm Roy 1970 | Stuart Robert 1971  
| m.1979

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**Martyn Jon** 06.01.1980 = Kim Richardson 06.03.1983 | Lindsey Kaye 12.11.1983 | Michael Notley  
| m.27.06.2009  
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|  
**Michael Harry** 30.10.2006 | Abigail 28.05.2012 | James Peter Alan Notley 28.05.2010