

Famous men with connections to Shropshire



Sir Thomas Adams

Born in Wem, 1586; died in 1667
Lord Mayor of London 1654-55
Wem Secondary School is named after him

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sir_Thomas_Adams,_1st_Baronet

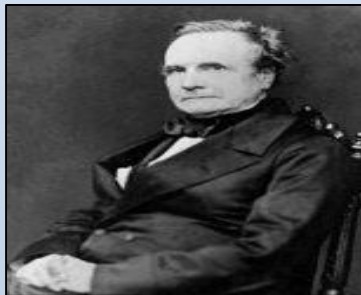


Dalian Atkinson

Born in Shrewsbury, 1968; died in 2016
Professional footballer
Died in controversial circumstances in Telford

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dalian_Atkinson



Charles Babbage

Born in Shrewsbury, 1791; died in 1871
Originated the concept of a digital programmable computer
Lived for significant periods at Dudmaston Hall, near Bridgnorth

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_Babbage



Admiral John Benbow

Born in Shrewsbury, 1653; died in 1702
English naval officer
Fought several key naval engagements in wars against the French

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Benbow



William Penny Brookes

Born in Much Wenlock, 1809; died in 1895
Physician
Inspired the modern Olympic Games

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Penny_Brookes



Max Brown

Born in Yorkshire, 1981

Actor (roles in *Hollyoaks*, *Casualty*, *Tudors*, *Spooks* and others)
Spent most of his childhood in Shrewsbury

Wikipedia Link:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Max_Brown_\(actor\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Max_Brown_(actor))



John Challis

Born in Bristol, 1942

Actor (best known as 'Boycie' in '*Only Fools and Horses*' and '*The Green Green Grass*')
Much of '*The Green Green Grass*' was filmed around Ratlinghope

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Challis



Robert Clive

Born in Market Drayton, 1725; died in 1774

Also known as Clive of India

Attributed with laying the foundations of British control of India

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_Clive



Abraham Darby I

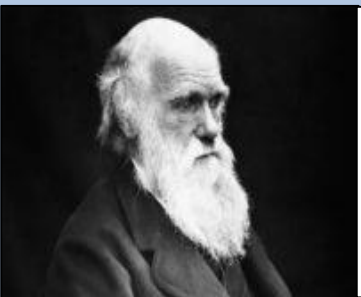
Born in Staffordshire, 1678; died in 1717

Attributed with starting the Industrial Revolution in Coalbrookdale

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abraham_Darby_I

(See also *Abraham Darby II*, *III* and *IV*)



Charles Darwin

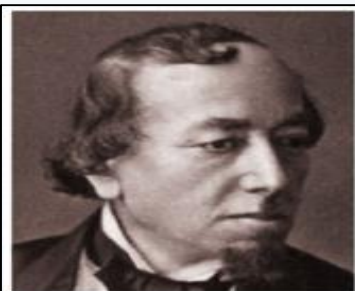
Born in Shrewsbury, 1809; died in 1882

Naturalist and geologist

Best known for the theory of evolution

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_Darwin

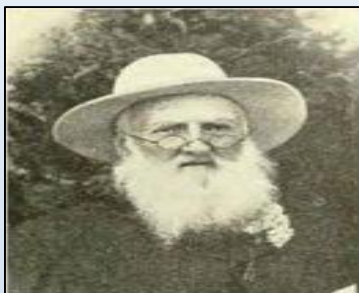


Benjamin Disraeli

Born in Middlesex, 1804; died in 1881
Prime Minister 1868 and 1874-1880
MP for Shrewsbury 1841-1847

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Benjamin_Disraeli

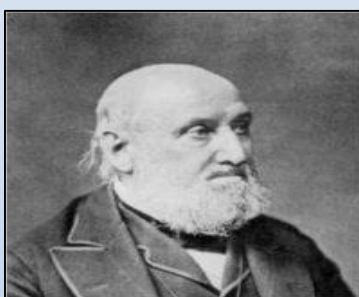


Henry Eckford

Born in Scotland, 1823; died in 1905
Horticulturalist
Moved to Wem in 1888 and established Eckford's Nursery

Wikipedia Link:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry_Eckford_\(horticulturist\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry_Eckford_(horticulturist))



William Farr

Born in Kenley, 1807; died in 1883
Epidemiologist and medical statistician
Worked in Shrewsbury; Best known for his work on cholera
and its link to infected water

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Farr



Sir Edward German

Born in Whitchurch, 1862; died in 1936
Composer
Famous for incidental music and light opera

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edward_German



Ted Hankey

Born in Stoke, 1968
Two time World Professional Darts Champion
Lives in Telford

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ted_Hankey



Joe Hart

Born in Shrewsbury, 1987

Professional Footballer – made 54 appearances for Shrewsbury Town

Won 75 international caps as England goalkeeper

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joe_Hart



Michael Heseltine

Born in Swansea, 1933

Senior Conservative politician

Old Boy of Shrewsbury School

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Michael_Heseltine



Rowland Hill, 1st Viscount Hill

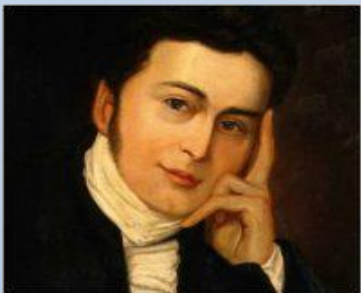
Born in Hawkstone Hall, near Prees, 1772; died in 1842

British Army officer during the Napoleonic Wars; Commander-in-Chief 1828

Lived and died in Hadnall

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rowland_Hill,_1st_Viscount_Hill



Henry Hill Hickman

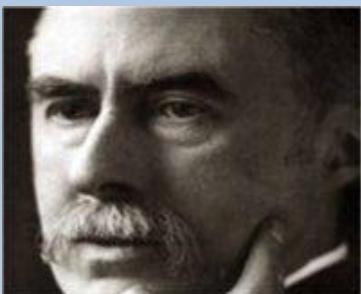
Born in Bromfield, 1800; died in 1830

Physician and promoter of anaesthesia

Practised in Ludlow and Shifnal

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry_Hill_Hickman



Alfred Edward Housman

Born in Bromsgrove, 1859; died in 1936

Classical scholar and poet

Best known for his cycle of poems known as 'A Shropshire Lad'

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/A._E._Housman



Ian Hunter

Born in Oswestry, 1939

Lead singer of the prog rock group, Mott the Hoople

Lived in Swan Hill, Shrewsbury

Wikipedia Link:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ian_Hunter_\(singer\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ian_Hunter_(singer))



George Jeffries (Judge)

Born in Wrexham, 1645; died in 1689

Known as the Hanging Judge during the reign of James II

1st Baron of Wem and resident in Wem

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Jeffreys,_1st_Baron_Jeffreys



Sandy Lyle

Born in Shrewsbury, 1958

Championship winning golfer on two occasions

Played for the European Ryder Cup team 1979-1987

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sandy_Lyle



Thomas Minton

Born in 1765; died in 1836

Successful English potter, who started at the Caughley

Pottery, near Broseley

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas_Minton



Peter Jones (Actor)

Born in Wem, 1920; died in 2000

Film and TV actor

Was the 'Book' on the radio version of Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy

Wikipedia Link:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peter_Jones_\(actor\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peter_Jones_(actor))



Humphrey Kynaston

Birthdate unknown; died in 1534

Outlawed in 1491, became Shropshire's own highwayman, operating from a cave near Nesscliffe

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Humphrey_Kynaston



Roger de Montgomery

Birthdate unknown; died 1094

A principal councillor for William the Conqueror
First Earl of Shrewsbury – responsible for the castle and the abbey

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roger_de_Montgomery



Francis Moore

Born in Bridgnorth, 1657; died in 1715

Astrologer who published what became Old Moore's Almanack

Wikipedia Link:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Francis_Moore_\(astrologer\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Francis_Moore_(astrologer))



Len Murray

Born in Hadley in 1922; died in 2004

Former General Secretary of the Trade Union Congress

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Len_Murray,_Baron_Murray_of_Epping_Forest



John Mytton

Born in Whittington in 1796; died in 1834

Known as Mad Jack Mytton, he was an eccentric and one time MP for Shrewsbury

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Mytton



John Osborne

Born in 1929; died in Clun in 1994
Famous playwright – one of the 'Angry Young Men'
Lived in Clunton

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Osborne



Nick Owen

Born in 1947
TV presenter and newsreader
Educated in Shrewsbury

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nick_Owen



Wilfred Owen

Born in Oswestry in 1893; died in 1918
Lived in Shrewsbury
Leading poet of the First World War

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wilfred_Owen



Michael Palin

Born in Sheffield in 1943
Former schoolboy at Shrewsbury School
Leading member of Monty Python

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Michael_Palin



Old Tom Parr

Born in Alberbury in 1483; died in 1635
Allegedly lived for 152 years...

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Old_Tom_Parr



John Peel

Born in Cheshire in 1939; died in 2004
Radio 1 presenter, promoting many artists
Former schoolboy at Shrewsbury School

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Peel



Edmund Plowden

Born in Lydbury in 1518; died in 1585
Legal scholar and theorist
Catholic recusant in the reign of Elizabeth I

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edmund_Plowden



Peter Postlethwaite

Born in 1946; died in Shrewsbury in 2011
English actor, starring in many films and TV programmes
Lived near Bishop's Castle

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pete_Postlethwaite



Gordon Richards

Born in Donnington Wood in 1904; died in 1986
British flat racing champion jockey 26 times
The only flat race jockey to have been knighted

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gordon_Richards



Arthur Rowley

Born in 1926; died in Shrewsbury in 2002
Record goal scorer in English league football and for
Shrewsbury Town

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arthur_Rowley



Willie Rushton

Born in 1937; died in 1996
Comedian and satirist
Educated at Shrewsbury School

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Willie_Rushton



Philip Sidney

Born in 1554; died in 1586
Poet, courtier and soldier in the age of Elizabeth I
Educated at Shrewsbury School

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Philip_Sidney



John Talbot

Born c.1387 at Blackmere Castle; died in 1453
Military Commander in the Hundred Years' War
Earl of Shrewsbury

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Talbot,_1st_Earl_of_Shrewsbury



Thomas Telford

Born in 1757; died in 1834
Civil engineer of road and canal projects in Shropshire
Telford is named after him

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas_Telford



Percy Thrower

Born in 1913; died in 1988
Broadcaster, gardener and horticulturalist
Lived and worked in Shrewsbury

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Percy_Thrower



Christopher Timothy

Born in 1940

Actor, best known for 'EastEnders' and 'All Creatures Great and Small'

Educated in Shrewsbury

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christopher_Timothy



Graham Turner

Born in 1947

Footballer and Manager

Shrewsbury Town's most successful manager, bringing promotion in 1979 and 2012

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Graham_Turner



Peter Vaughan

Born in Wem in 1923; died in 2016

English actor, best known as 'Grouty' in 'Porridge' and as 'Maester Aemon' in 'Game of Thrones'

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peter_Vaughan



Matthew Webb

Born in Dawley in 1848; died in 1883

First person to swim across the English Channel

Died trying to swim the Whirlpool Rapids below Niagara Falls

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Matthew_Webb



Eadric the Wild

Dates of birth and death unknown

Actively resisted the Normans between 1068 and 1070

Said to reappear when England is threatened...

Wikipedia Links

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eadric_the_Wild



John Wilkinson

Born in 1728; died in 1808

Pioneered the manufacture and use of cast iron

Worked in Broseley

Wikipedia Link:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Wilkinson_\(industrialist\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Wilkinson_(industrialist))



Richie Woodhall

Born in 1968 in Telford

Professional boxing champion at middleweight and super-middleweight

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richie_Woodhall



Ian Woosnam

Born in Oswestry in 1958

Professional champion golfer

European Ryder Cup player between 1983 and 1997

Wikipedia Link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ian_Woosnam



Billy Wright

Born in Ironbridge in 1924; died in 1994

Professional footballer for Wolverhampton Wanderers

First footballer to earn 100 international caps

Wikipedia Link:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Billy_Wright_\(footballer,_born_1924\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Billy_Wright_(footballer,_born_1924))