

Baptism	10 March 1826, St Martin, Birmingham, Warwickshire
Parents	William Bosworth and Elizabeth Windsor
Parent's marriage	7 June 1819, St Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
Siblings	Joseph (1820), Edwin (1822), Charles (1824), Selina (1828), William (1830), Alfred (1832), Emma (1834), Eliza (1836), George (1838), Frederick (1840), Sarah Ann (1848)
Wife 1	Elizabeth Moore
Marriage 1	None found, possibly a common-law marriage
Children 1	John (1845), Ann Selina (1847)
Wife 2	Sarah Holt
Marriage 2	4 October 1854, St Andrew, Brighton, Victoria
Children 2	Joseph (1855 - 1914), Emily Jane (1857-1892), Charles Edwin (1859-1937), William Holt (1861-1921), George Frederick (1864-1925), Selina Ann (1867-1957), Frederick Windsor (1869-1943)

When John Bosworth was baptised, the family lived in Bordesley Street, Birmingham. His father was a jeweller.

His brother, Joseph, was transported for seven years to New South Wales for larceny, per *Earl Grey* 2. He married in Ipswich, Queensland, in 1865, and is believed to have died there in about 1880.

On the 1841 census, the family were living in Tanter Street, Birmingham.¹

William, 40, a jeweller and his wife Elizabeth, 40.

Children: Charles 16, Steel foundry man; John 15, pearl button maker; Celena 12; Emma 6; Eliza 4; George 2; Frederick 5 months.

The following year, on 20 May 1842, at the Birmingham Borough Sessions:

John Bosworth, 15, can't read or write, convicted of larceny from the person, and sentenced to two days' imprisonment.

Around 1844, John met Elizabeth Moore, and their son, John Bosworth, was born on 13 September 1845 at Court 4, House 2, New Hall Street, Birmingham. Elizabeth's maiden name was given as Moore; however, no marriage has been located.

Then, at the Birmingham Borough Sessions, 23 October 1846:

John Bosworth *alias* Boswell, and Elizabeth Moore *alias* Boswell, for having in their possession nine counterfeit half-crowns with intent to pass the same. Both were sentenced to 12 months imprisonment.²

When their daughter, Ann Selina, was baptised on 24 March 1847 at St Mary, Birmingham, the register records their abode as Gaol.

Elizabeth and John would have been released from Gaol in October 1847.

The newspapers reported that on 8 January 1849: At the Police Office at Birmingham, two men, named John Greaves and John Bosworth, together with Mary Greaves, the mother of the first-named prisoner, were brought to under the following circumstances. Glossop, chief constable of the detective police, stated that in consequence of information received, he, Tandy, Dutton and

¹ The National Archives (TNA) UK, HO107/1145/1

² Aris's Birmingham Gazette, 26 October 1846, p2

Morrow, of the detective force, went to Temple-row at half past ten on the previous night. After a short time, he and Dutton went to the front door of the New Library in Temple-row west. They saw a light and heard someone inside, apparently trying to open the door, which at length opened, when he and Dutton rushed in and seized the male prisoner, Greaves. A blow with a life preserver came across his arm and fell on Tandy's head. Having secured Greaves, he found a skeleton key in his pocket, and another false key was found in the door of the library.

The two men were then taken to the station, after which, he, Tandy and Dutton went to the residence of the prisoner Greaves, where his mother also lived, and kept the premises of Mr Taylor, wine and spirit merchant, Cherry-street. He (Glossop) was shown into a bedroom where, at the stair head, he found a number of valuables, including a watch in an ornamental stand. On breaking open the lock of a box a number of skeleton keys with engraved pattern cards were found, and one of the keys, apparently new, answered to one of the engraved patterns. Also found were a stiletto, a dark lantern, and nine bottles of wine and spirits. On finding these things, Mary Greaves exclaimed, "Good God, you have what will do for him". A "jemmy" and a silver spoon were found at the door of the New Library and had evidently been used in breaking open a desk, out of which a cash box had been taken and placed on the floor. Mrs M. Cox, librarian at the New Library, identified the silver spoon as her property. The cash box, she stated, was the property of the subscribers of the library. The male prisoner Greaves, admitted his guilt, for which he said he was sorry, but declared his mother was quite innocent and knew nothing of the robbery.

The prisoner Bosworth said it was Officer Dutton who took the cash box out of the desk, saying, "Let us see if there is any money gone". The male prisoners were fully committed for trial.

Mrs Greaves was taken into custody on the charge of stealing the wine, but on being placed at the bar was remanded to Friday (12 January).

On 11 January, John Greaves was again committed for stealing the time-piece from the house of Mr Edward Lacey, of Pritchit-street, whose premises were entered on the morning of Sunday a week ago, by forcing the cellar window, and the time-piece, bacon, cheese and other property were stolen.

On Friday, Mrs Greaves appeared on remand, but in consequence of Mr Taylor not being able to swear to the wine, she was discharged.

At their trial on 2 March 1849, John Bosworth and John Greaves were found guilty and sentenced to seven years' transportation.³ John Greaves was transported to Tasmania in 1851 per *Rodney* 2.

The Prison Registers show that John Bosworth *alias* Boswell, 25, married with one child, a pearl button maker, was convicted on 2 March 1849 at Birmingham Sessions of housebreaking and sentenced to 7 years. He had two previous convictions - Oct-Sept 1846, uttering base coin, 12 months; and summary assault, two calendar months. He was received at Portland Prison from Northampton Gaol on 5 April 1850. The Governors Journal records: At about 5pm, the following convicts arrived: 43 from Northampton and 20 from Wakefield, including John Boswell from Northampton.

John boarded the *Pyrenees* on 13 March 1851 for the voyage to Western Australia.⁴

On arrival at Fremantle, Western Australia, on 28 June 1851, he was assigned number 647, issued with a Ticket of leave and a physical description was recorded.

647. John Bosworth, 25, 5'4½", light brown hair, grey eyes, long face, fresh complexion, proportionate stature, no marks, stone cutter, married with two children.⁵

John spent only about two years in Western Australia. He was employed by Benjamin Piggott at Springhill, Australind, from 1 October 1851 as a labourer.⁶

³ Aris's Birmingham Gazette, 15 January 1849, p3; Leamington Spa Courier, 20 January 1849, p1; Birmingham Journal, 03 March 1849, p8

⁴ TNA, HO23/8; PCOM2/383; PCOM2/354, p286, 287

⁵ State Records Office of Western Australia (SROWA), Acc 128/32

A Conditional Pardon was granted on 23 April 1853. He left Western Australia shortly after, possibly leaving from Bunbury or Vasse, to travel to Victoria, where he married in 1854.

Married on 4 October 1854 at the Anglican Church, St Andrew, Brighton, Victoria:

John Bosworth, 28, bachelor, born Warwickshire, labourer, residing in Brighton, son of William Bosworth, jeweller, and Elizabeth Windsor.

Sarah Holt, 26, spinster, born in Surrey, residing at Brighton, daughter of John Holt, coach builder, and Ann Payne. Both parties signed the register.

Sarah Holt, 25, domestic servant from Surrey, arrived in Melbourne on 5 January 1853 per *Northumbria*, as an Assisted Passenger. She was engaged by Dr Willmott, Brighton, for 3 months at a wage of £25 p.a. Sarah was Anglican and could read and write.

Around the time of their last child's birth in 1869, John began tendering for street maintenance work for the Brighton City Council. In 1898, he retired from the position of works overseer after 30 years' service.

There was a severe economic depression in 1892-3. At the Brighton City Council meeting on 22 January 1894, a letter was presented from J. Bosworth objecting to his wages being reduced to £1 1s per week in the future.- Referred to Public Works Committee.

Sarah Bosworth placed an advertisement in The Age newspaper of 23 July 1898, p. 5,

MISSING.—Charles E. Bosworth, or any one knowing his whereabouts (last heard at Officer), please write to anxious mother. Mrs. J. Bosworth, Lawrence-st., N. Brighton.

Sarah died on 8 November 1901:

BOSWORTH.—On the 8th November, at Lawrence-street, Middle Brighton, Sarah, the beloved wife of John Bosworth, aged 74 years. At rest.

John Bosworth died 5 February 1907, aged 80, and was buried 7 February at Brighton General Cemetery. He is buried in the Anglican Section B85, No 5616. He died of Acute Cystitis.

BOSWORTH.—On the 5th February, at his residence, Lawrence-street, Middle Brighton, John Bosworth, relict of the late Sarah Jane Bosworth, in his 81st year—A colonist of 54 years.

Will of John Bosworth, dated 27 March 1906.

This is the last Will and Testament of me John Bosworth of Lawrence Street Brighton in the State of Victoria, Laborer, I hereby revoke all Wills and Testamentary dispositions heretofore made by me and declare this to be my very last Will and Testament.

I direct that the whole of my real and personal estate or so much thereof as shall not consist of money shall be sold by public auction or private sale and at such time as my executor hereinafter appointed shall deem expedient and after payment of my just debts funeral and testamentary expenses the residue of my estate shall be equally divided between my children namely - Selina Ann

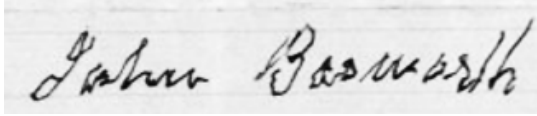
⁶ Convicts South West WA website; Convicts in Western Australia 1850-1887.

Collins the wife of Edward Collins, William Holt Bosworth, George Frederick Bosworth and Frederick Windsor Bosworth or the survivors or survivor of them.

I hereby appoint Edward Collins of Glen Huntley Road Elsternwick in the State aforesaid, Bootmaker, Sole Executor of this my Will.

In witness whereof I the said John Bosworth have to this my last Will and Testament set my hand this 27th day of March one thousand nine hundred and six.

Signed



Witnesses: C.H. Lindsay, Town Hall, Brighton, F.A. Monk Wilson St, Brighton.

The two eldest children, Joseph and Charles Edwin Bosworth, are not mentioned in the Will. They may have been estranged from their father.

Back in England.

Elizabeth Moore married in 1851, before John Bosworth left England.

Marriage: 20 January 1851, St Philip's Church, Birmingham, by Banns.

James Hinks, 22, bachelor, brass founder, resides at Tonk Street, father John Hinks, shoemaker.

Elizabeth Moore, 24, spinster, resides at Tonk Street, father Edward Moore, butcher.

Elizabeth Moore signed the register, and James Hinks made his mark.

Witnesses: Ann Moore and Edward Moore, both made their marks.

1851 census, Coventry Street, Birmingham.⁷

James Hinks, head, married, 22, poulterer, born in Ireland

Elizabeth, married, wife, 25, born in Birmingham

John Bosworth, son, 4; Ann Bosworth, daughter, 2

Ann Quinn, 15, servant, born in Ireland.

By 1861, the two children of John Boswell were using the surname Hinks.

The 1861 census, Hurst Street, court blk 43, Birmingham.⁸

James Hinks, 29, general dealer; Elizabeth, 33, wife

Children: **John Hinks 15**, porter; **Ann Hinks, 13**, scholar; Mary 9; Frederick 8; Alice 5; Elizabeth 3, all scholars; and Jane 1.

In 1871, John Hinks, 25, was a cabinet case maker in Birmingham, according to the census.

No trace has been found of his sister Ann Hinks after 1861.

When John married on 21 March 1875, at St Mary, Birmingham, he was using a new surname.

John Hinks Moore, 29, bachelor, cabinet case maker, resides in Birmingham, with no father named.

Jane Emily Horton, 19, spinster, resides in Birmingham, her father is Thomas Horton, gunsmith.

Both signed the register; witnesses were Thomas Horton and Emma Williams.

John and Jane had 10 children, nine of whom were alive in 1911.

He probably died in 1916 in Birmingham, indexed as John Moore.

⁷ TNA, HO107/2053

⁸ TNA, RG9/2143