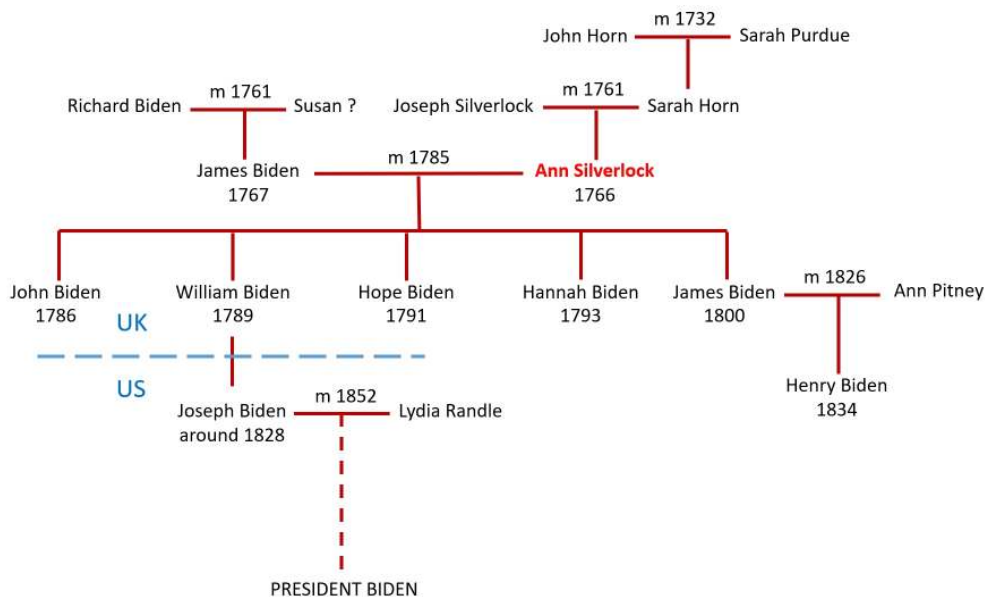


Joe Biden and Bosham

Last month (*Bosham Life*, January 2021, page 13) we suggested that some of the ancestors of Joe Biden, the new President of USA, once lived in this area. Eddie Greenfield published an interesting article on this subject in the Chichester Observer, and further information has come from Ian Burrell. This is our current understanding, although it is a 'work in progress', and may need some correction in the future.



The person of greatest interest from Bosham's point of view is Ann Silverlock. Her parents, Joseph Silverlock and Sarah Horn, were married in Bosham Church on December 29th 1761. Ann was the third of their eight children. As with everyone else on this family tree, Ann's actual date of birth is not known, but she was christened in Bosham Church on March 7th 1766. Ann married a James Biden from Pagham, in Westbourne Church, on May 16th 1785. The remaining christening and marriage records in the tree are all from Westbourne or further afield.

Ann and James' son William emigrated to America some time around 1800. Some time later, William's son, Joseph, was visited from England by his cousin Henry Biden, who left a written account of his visit, in which he mentions Joseph's father, William Biden.

A further four generations take us from Joseph Biden to Joseph Robinette Biden Jr, 46th President of the United States, who has his family roots firmly in Sussex!

Joan Langhorne and Mike Whittle