

Interview with Caroline Allen (née Langtry; born 1952)

(by Susanne Flohr; 27th January 2026)

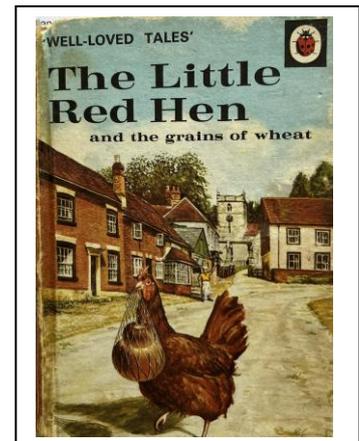
The Butcher's Shop, WH Langtry, High Street, Hambledon



William Henry Langtry, 1990s

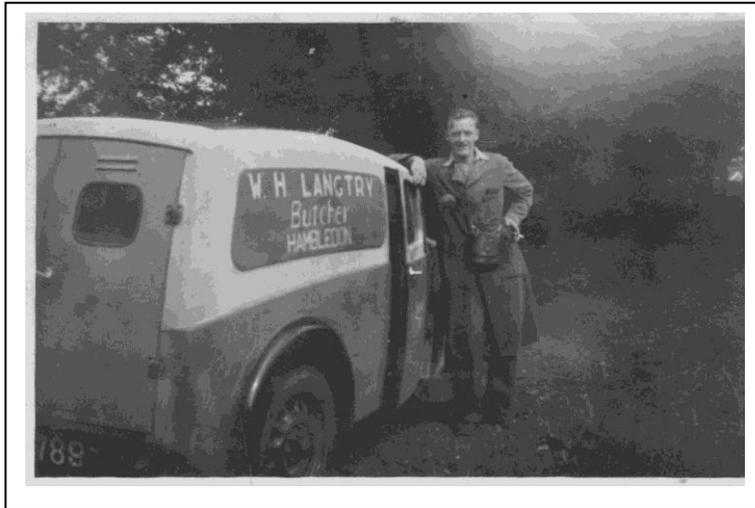


Reginald William Langtry, 1970s



0015	Introduction, Caroline Langtry, the butcher's daughter The little Red Hen	The butcher's shop is on the title page
01:35	Description of the shop, what did it look like?	Outside (thatched roof, meat hooks etc.) and inside (butcher's blocks, mincing machines, knives, carcasses on hooks on the walls, etc.); back of shop: remains of the animal pens
04.00	Introduction to the Langtry family	Mum, dad, grandmother, 2 aunts and Caroline and her brother Mark, driver, delivery boy
3.40; + 4.50	Father (Reg Langtry)	His tasks around the butcher's shop: after coming back from the war, he took over the shop, going to the market, slaughter, prepare meat and deliver around the village and surrounding areas
05.35	The slaughter house	Caroline's memories of the slaughter house from a child's perspective They were not allowed near the walk-in fridge

06.20	Dancing chickens	Picking up chickens from farmers for the shop
07.38	Grandmother	Washing clothes for the shop in a stone copper, an old mangle, heated by fire, (her father was wearing a blue cotton coat and a starched apron); keeping the ledger sitting by the fire in beautiful handwriting, (many customers paid at the end of the month), taking money, making drippings
10.00	Sausages	'Secret recipe' (passed on to Richard Clark) (in the vine they served sausages made to a special Hambledon recipe), sausage machine, plating the strings for the sausages
10.54	Mother (Pam Langtry)	Taking money, in charge of the till, taking telephone calls, washing...shop was very cold, chilblains, the stone copper got replaced by a washing machine
11.48	Scrubbing	Was a family affair on a Sat afternoon, with soda and hot water they would scrub the entire shop, Hygiene was very important Dad never took a holiday (the only day off was for Caroline's wedding)
12.30	Family allotment	next door to the vicarage, family was self-sufficient
13.17	Caroline's job at the butcher's	Man the telephone and till, earning pocket money General summary: it was a hard job to run a butcher's shop for the entire family
14.06	End of the butcher's shop	shop closes in the early 1980s, family moved to Denmead
14.42	Winter in Hambledon 1963	Snow from boxing day to March, village was snowed in, children couldn't get out to go to secondary school, children sledged on tin trays, dug tunnels in the snow, village was quite self sufficient
16.17	Christmas in Hambledon	Carol singing for the entire week before Christmas, almost to every house in the village, counting money at the vicarage, Carol service, Christmas service...
17:22	The hunt on boxing day	meet at the bottom of the High Street, a 'stirrup cup' from the George
18.00	Christmas and the butcher's shop	extra work at the butcher's over Christmas, people would still ring on Christmas morning for extra meat, people took birds to the butcher's shop to be plucked, Caroline remembers pulling out the sinus from the turkeys, the smell of burning chicken feathers....



Reginald Langtry with his delivery van



Caroline and Mark Langtry with their grandmother (1958 or 1959)