

ST. PETER'S CHURCH WRECCLESHAM



ST. PETER'S CHURCH 1840

KNOW YOUR CHURCH

**A CONTRIBUTION TO THE 170TH BIRTHDAY
CELEBRATIONS**

JOHN BIRCH 2010 (UPDATED 2012)

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ST PETERS' CHURCH – JULY 2010

1 INTRODUCTION

This series of short essays has been prepared as a contribution to the celebrations, in July 2010, to mark the 170th Anniversary of St Peter's Church, Wrecclesham. St Peter's was consecrated on 17th July 1840. The intention of the project was to try to find out a little about the background of all those who have so generously donated artefacts to the Church over its life time, but particularly in its early days.

Wrecclesham, in 1840, was a flourishing, small village, almost totally separate from, and independent of its larger neighbour the mediaeval town of Farnham. Since those bygone days, Farnham has extended its tentacles outwards, and Wrecclesham has itself grown, to the extent that Wrecclesham and Farnham are more or less contiguous. The map over leaf, dated 1871, shows that Wrecclesham, in the 19th Century, was a compact community centred upon its Church. Various publications about the village have shown that the Church's congregation had an interesting social mix. The village itself consisted of modest cottages, like some of those still remaining in the Street, which housed the tradesmen, shopkeepers and agricultural workers. The hop fields, that surrounded the village, provided ample opportunity for employment in agriculture.

In contrast there was a considerable presence of more landed gentry, mostly from the large houses occupying the desirable south facing slopes of Dippenhall, to the north of the Alton-Farnham Road. This latter was the route of the Pilgrim's Way, from Winchester to Canterbury, now more often and less attractively known as the A 31. The image of these 'workers', lining the streets around the Church on a Sunday morning, to 'doff their caps' to the 'gentry', arriving in their carriages, is the stuff of legend. They were of course all equal once inside the Church!! However, it was this more wealthy section of the population who have contributed many of the windows and items of church furniture that are the subject of these essays.

The exercise undertaken is by no means complete. It has relied heavily upon available sources e.g. census, birth, marriage and death records, that are more readily available for those living in the 19th Century, than for those born in more recent times. There are many gaps in the information which we would like to fill, and for this we must rely upon family records of relatives of those who are included here. Please get in touch if you have any information that you can add, or if there are any inaccuracies you can identify. You will note that there have been two major eras of contribution. The first was from Parishioners who were around at the time of the Church's development in the 19th Century. Later there were a number of dedications that arose as a result of the tragic death of parishioners, and their family members, at the time of the First World War. It is hoped that this will provide a measure of interest and will add to the sum total of our knowledge of this remarkable Church.

John Birch. July 2010.

Footnote.

Following the publication of this series of essays I have received some additional information which I have included in this updated edition.

John Birch July 2012

2. CHARLES AUSTWICK 1831 - 1908

The Organ at the west end of St Peter's Church was originally provided for St James, Church, East Street, Farnham, more than 100 years ago. It was moved to St Peter's Church in 1975 when St James Church was converted into apartments. The Organ was then some 80 years old, and was in a fairly poor condition. St James Church was consecrated on 9th January 1877 by the Bishop of Winchester and it was felt that a church of this size should have a 'real' organ. So an organ fund was instituted and on April 1st 1877 it stood at £221. 14. 1. The Organ had been built by A. Hunter and Son, of Clapham, London. Hunter Organs had long had a reputation for building fine organs and the purchase price was £200. The organ consisted then of one manual and pedals. Fortuitously St James Church decided to abandon the building of a tower, for which another fund had been started, and it was agreed that the fund should be combined with the balance of the organ fund to provide a sum of £68.5. 4. This allowed the organ to be moved to a more suitable position in the Church and to add pneumatic action and a second manual.

About this time Charles Austwick, of Firgrove House, a hard worker and benefactor for St James Church, died and left a legacy of £100 to provide the organ casework. The attractive wooden case work is that which now embellishes the organ in St Peter's Church and can be seen in the photograph below. Above the organ is an inscription which reads:

Erected to the Glory of God

by a legacy

left by

Charles Austwick 1909.



Charles Austwick was born in the City of London on 7th May 1831. He was the son of a Reading Wine Merchant, Harwood Austwick and his wife Mary Ann. He appears in 1841 Census, aged 10, living in the High Street, Camberwell, but he is not shown as living with his parents at this time. He does not appear to be recorded in the 1951 Census.

The next reference is in 1861 when he is living in Farnham. The Austwick Family had close connections with Farnham. Mary Ann was the sister of Charles Knight a well-known Farnham resident and one of the principal benefactors of St Peter's Church, (See later section on Charles Knight)

In fact it was Charles Austwick's elder brother, George, who first decided to move to Farnham and to live at Runwick House with his Uncle, Charles Knight. It was agreed that he would assist his uncle in the running of his farms and brickworks. It was expected that he would eventually take over these businesses from his Uncle, but sadly he died of smallpox, in 1855, and was buried in St Peter's Churchyard in Wrecclesham.

Charles Austwick came down to Farnham to take his brother's place, but never became a full time farmer, working instead as Head Clerk in his Uncle, James Knight's Bank, in Castle Street, where he also lived. Charles first appears in Farnham Census in 1861, living with a husband and wife, Charles and Mary Cranston, above the bank in Castle Street, aged 29. Charles Cranston is a Postman and Mary is the housekeeper. Ten years on, the 1871 Census shows Charles, aged 40, living as a lodger in Downing Street, with a 20 year old fellow bank clerk, in the home of Charles Falkner, who is a Maltser's Clerk.

At about this time he had transferred to the London and County Bank in West Street and, in 1875, at the fairly advanced age of 44, Charles marries a lady by the name of Martha Ann Piper. Martha was born in Headley, Hampshire in 1835. In 1871, just prior to her marriage, she is living in Castle Street, Farnham, with her aunt, to whom she is a companion.

In the 1881 Census, Charles is shown as a Bank Cashier. Charles and Martha are then living at Kenmore House, 32 Abbey Street, with Martha's 83 year old aunt and a Cook/Domestic Servant. Martha's aunt died 2 years later, in 1883, aged 86.

In the 1891 Census Charles and Martha are living in Abbey Street, at a house called Kenmore House, Castle View. Charles is shown then to have retired. On his retirement he became very much involved in local affairs and good works and was made President of the Farnham Institute, and donating land in South Street on which the old Institute, now part of the Bush Hotel, now stands. In 1888 he was elected to the Farnham Local Board, the local authority that preceded the Farnham Urban District Council. He appears frequently in the columns of Ewbank Smith's classic book, Victorian Farnham usually raising issues that the Board should be addressing.

The 1901 Census shows that Charles is resident in what is now called Kenmore Villa. I guess it is the same premises as Kenmore House. Charles, aged 69, is living with Martha and with the same cook/domestic servant.

Charles died in Farnham on 31st October 1908, aged 77. His wife Martha lived 13 more years and died in Farnham in 1921. They had no children. The National Probate Calendar showed that he died

leaving effects valued at £19,744. In his will Charles made several bequests to local institutions, including £500 to the Knight's Almshouse in the Street, Wrecclisham, an institution which is named after his Uncle, Charles Knight, a St Peter's Church Parishioner.

The Organ was acquired by St Peter's Church in 1996, to replace the original organ, which is still situated on the South side of the chancel. That Organ was, at the time, 120 years old and had become unreliable. Before the 'new' organ could be used there was a need for extensive refurbishment. This was to cost in total over £40,000 and a fund raising committee, chaired by Jack Crawford, and on which Roger Ellis, Christopher Ellis and Brian Cotterill served, with the assistance of Church Treasurer, Reg Skeet, and Penny Cleland who was then the Organist and Choir Master, they energetically set about raising the funds.

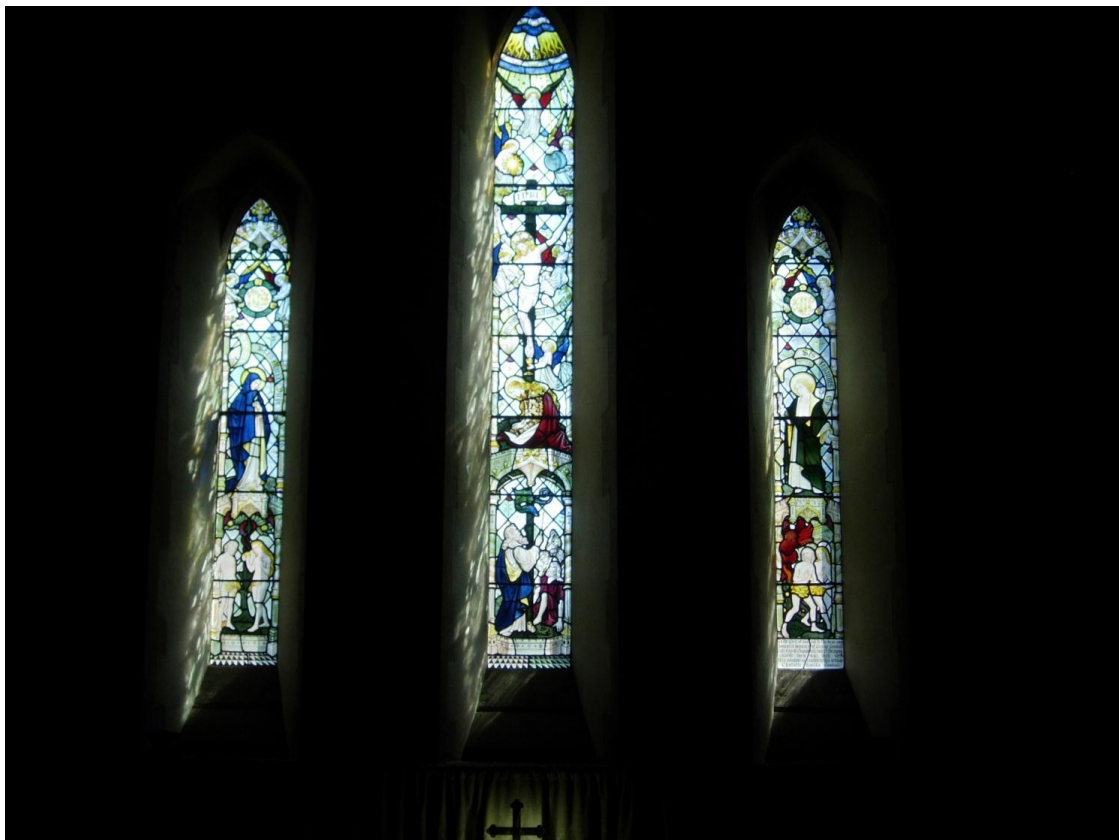
By the beginning of 2000 they had sufficient funds and promises of support to commission F.H. Browne and Son of Canterbury, another long established and renowned organ builder, to undertake the necessary work. Grants were obtained from the Guildford Diocese, the Isobella Schroeder Trust and the Weston Foundation but by far the most valuable support came from legacies and gifts from the parishioners themselves. In the Surrey History Centre in Woking is a long list of those who contributed to the final sum raised of £43,000.

To mark the completion of the work an Organ Recital was given on 22 June 2001 by Geoffrey Morgan, a well known organist, who was also the Guildford Diocesan Organ Adviser. The Recital was included as part of the 2001 Farnham Music Festival Programme. The Organ continues to serve the Church well, but in 2010 suffered some damage from dampness, which percolated the roof of the North Aisle during the 2010 heavy snow fall, when the gutter collapsed. Estimates for its repair have suggested a figure of £6,000 which will this time be covered by the Church insurance policy. The work is again expected to be carried out by F.H. Browne of Canterbury who undertook the 2000 restoration.

3. GEORGE GOODALL 1840-1913

The East Window of St Peter's Church, displaying a view of the Crucifixion, bears the following dedication:

**To the Glory of God and to the dear and honoured
memory of George Goodall, late Royal Engineers 7th
Dragoon Guards born 1840, died 1913. This window is
erected by his widow Charlotte Rosalie Goodall**



The East Window. St. Peter's Church.

George Goodall was born in Stoke Damerel, Devon Apr-Jun 1840.

In 1876, he married a lady called Charlotte Rosalie Siltzer. Charlotte was the daughter of George and Rosalie Siltzer, both of whom had been born in Hamburg, Germany, and since had become naturalized as British Subjects. George Siltzer was a Master Calico Printer and, at the time of Charlotte's birth, in 1848, was living in Middleton, Lancashire with Charlotte, two daughters and one son. Charlotte's father died in 1854, aged 64, after which his widow, Rosalie, had moved to London where, in 1871, they were living in Queen's Gate, Kensington. He was thus unable to witness his daughter's wedding which took place at Winchcomb in Gloucestershire in Apr-Jun 1876. Charlotte was six years younger than George Goodall and had been born in 1847 in Middleton, Lancashire.

Prior to living in Farnham, George had a distinguished military career. He and Charlotte must at some time have been living in Uppingham, where their first daughter Helen Mary was born in 1878. Little is known however about their lives prior to living locally.

In 1881 George was living in Pine Ridge, Boundstone, aged 40. The Census shows him to be married, although his wife Charlotte Rosalie is not present at the time of the Census. They have two daughters, Helen Maud, born in 1878, in Uppingham, and Agnes Maud, born in Frensham in 1881. Living with them at Pine Ridge were six servants, (Footman, cook, nurse, groom, housemaid and stable helper). There is no occupation given for George who is described as 'Proprietor – Landed'. In other words he was living from his own means.

In the 1891 Census George, aged 50, and Charlotte, aged 44, are shown to be living at Pine Ridge with their two daughters Helen and Agnes, now aged 13 and 10. They still have 6 servants, (Footman, Lady's Maid, Nurse, Cook, Housemaid and Coachman) George's Occupation is given here as Military Officer Retired.

In 1901 George, aged 70, and Charlotte, aged 63, remain at Pine Ridge, Boundstone with their two children Helen (23) and Agnes (20) and 5 servants. George is described as living on his own means and as a Justice of Peace. By 1911, George and Charlotte are still living at Pine Ridge but Helen has married and left home, and at the time of this Census Agnes is living in Kensington and working as an Artist..

George Goodall died in Farnham in 1913. Only a few years before his death, George had the pleasure of giving his two daughters away, when they were married. In 1908 Helen Mary was married, in Chelsea, to George Peabody Scholfield. George Scholfield had been born in Midhurst, Sussex in 1869. He was the son of Charles and Ellen Scholfield. In 1871 George's father, Charles, was Vicar of Great Ousburn, in Yorkshire, and George was then just 2 years old.

The 1881 Census finds George Scholfield, aged 12, as a boarder at St Mark's School in Windsor.

George Scholfield went on to have a distinguished army career. He served in South Africa from 1899 – 1901, at the time of the Boer War, as a Major in the Royal Engineers and he eventually rose to the rank of Brigadier General where he held the position of Chief Engineer in the Royal Engineers.

In the 1911 Census George is serving with 32nd Company Royal Engineers in Gibraltar where Helen is living in the Saint Jago's Barracks married quarters. She is shown as living with two children, Dorothy Muriel, aged 1, who had been born in Farnham in 1909, and a son, also born in Farnham of three months, Richard George Frere. Helen and George later had a second son Captain Peter Lewis Scholfield, born in 1917, who was killed in action in 1942, in El Alamein during World War II. The Battle of El Alamein was one of the decisive battles of that War about which Winston Churchill was to say:

"Now this is not the end. It is not even the beginning of the end, but it is, perhaps, the end of the beginning."

There is a memorial to Peter Scholfield in St John the Baptist Church in Greatham. Helen and George were then living in Liss. George Peabody died in 1952 and his death was registered in Petersfield.

Of their other two children I can find no further records for Dorothy Muriel. However Richard George Frere Scholfield also served as an army officer. He married a lady called Helen Phyllis but, although they were shown as living in Pyrford in 1950, and arriving in Liverpool from Rio de Janeiro aboard SS Pampas, no record of their marriage can be found. Helen Phyllis died in Portsmouth in 1999 and Richard died a year later in the New Forest.

Agnes, the other daughter of George and Charlotte Goodall, was married in 1913, in Farnham, to Cuthbert Arthur Hamilton. Cuthbert had been born in the Vicarage, Doveridge, Derbyshire in 1881 and was the son of yet another Church of England Clergyman, Charles Hamilton and his wife Alice. Little is known of the life of Agnes and Cuthbert after their marriage. However Agnes died in Croydon in 1974.

George Goodall died in Farnham on 19 Jan 1913 and is buried in the Graveyard on School Hill, his wife Charlotte Rosalie survived him for only three years and is buried alongside him in the churchyard on 29 Jan 1916. In his will George left £13,402 to his daughter Agnes and a gentleman called Francis Cotton Annesley.

4. HENRY RICHARD JULIUS 1846-1886

There are two stained glass windows in the east wall of the Chapel of St Michael and All Angels that bear the following inscription:

**To the Glory of God and to the beloved memory of Henry Richard
Julius**

for 40 Years Vicar of this Parish

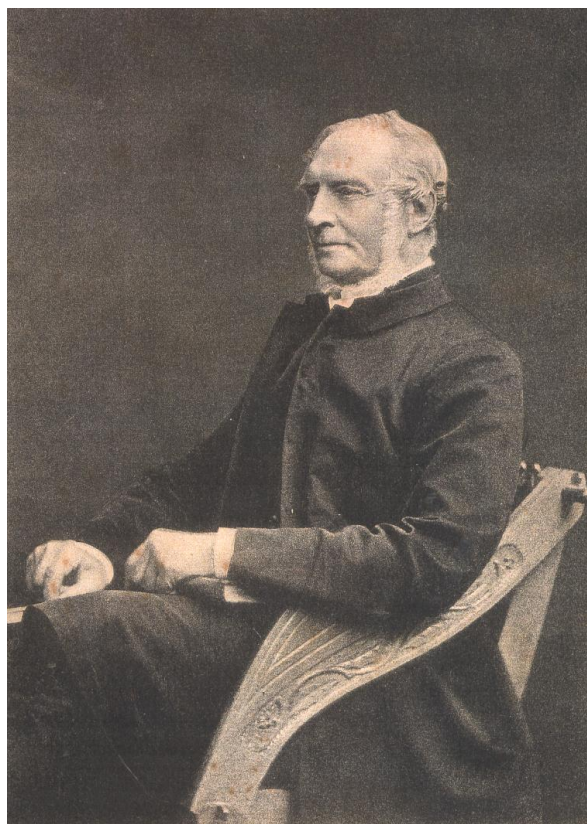
who died 27th Mar 1891.

Also of Mary Ann, his wife,

who died 27 Mar 1892.

Heirs together of the Grace of Life.

These windows, representing the Presentation of Our Lord, were originally in the East Wall of the North Aisle but were moved when the Chapel of St Michael and All Angels was completed.



The Revd. Henry Richard Julius

Henry Richard Julius was vicar of St Peter's Church, Wrecchlesham for 40 years between 1846 and 1886, when he followed Wrecchlesham's first vicar, Revd. Robert Buttermer.



The Windows in the Chapel of St Michael and All Angels

Henry was born on 30 Jun 1816 in Richmond, Surrey, his parents were George Charles Julius and Isabella Maria Gilder, at the time of his birth the couple were living at Old Court, Richmond, which was Queen Elizabeth's Old Palace at Richmond. Henry was baptised at St Mary's Church, Richmond on 14th April 1818. With his brothers, Frederick and Alfred, he attended Charterhouse School, in Godalming, and later Shrewsbury School, from where, in 1835, he gained an entrance to St. John's College, Cambridge. He graduated as Bachelor of Arts in 1839 and was awarded his Master of Arts Degree in 1842.

Henry's father, George Thomas was a Doctor in General Practice and a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons. He had been born in the island of St Kitts in the West Indies in 1776. His wife, Henry's mother, Isabella, was born in 1777, in Aspenden, a small village in Hertfordshire. Henry and Isabella had 7 children, 1 girl, Emily, born in Bristol in 1798, and 6 boys, George Charles (1805), William Moror (1807), Frederick Gilder (1812) Alfred Eneas Henry Richard (1816) and Archibald (1821). Alfred and Henry were twins.

It was an accomplished family, Alfred was a Solicitor and Attorney at Law, William was a Major in the Regular Army, two boys, George and William, followed their father into the medical profession, as General Practitioners, and both Henry and Archibald became Church of England Clergymen. Archibald was a long serving Vicar of the Church of St Mary, Southery, in Norfolk.

On July 7th 1839 Henry Julius was ordained in Winchester as a Deacon. One year later, on July 12 1840, he was ordained as a priest in the Chapel of Farnham Castle, by Bishop Richard Sumner, Bishop of Winchester. Initially he was Curate of St Andrews Church in Farnham under the Revd. Richard Sankey. He served there from 1839 to 1846. During this time his fellow Curate was Joseph Henry Butterworth who was living at Castle Hill House with his sister Mary Ann Butterworth who was very soon to become Henry's future wife

Henry was married, on 2nd Sep 1840, in Clifton, Gloucestershire, to Mary Ann Butterworth. Mary was the daughter of Mary Ann and Joseph Henry Butterworth who lived at Clapham Common, in London.

The 1841 Census records Henry, aged 20, and Mary Julius, aged 25, living in Castle Street, Farnham. Initially they lived in what was known locally as 'Birch's Lodgings', and it was here, in 1841, that their first child Mary Isabel, was born. Henry's occupation is shown as Clerk, and they are living with Mary's three sisters, Harriet, Maria and Ella Butterworth, aged respectively 20, 15 and 10, and three 20 year old ladies, probably domestic staff. Not long afterwards they moved to Castle Cottage, a pretty little house which stood where Cedar Court is now built. Here three more daughters were born, Harriet Emily(1842), Maria Louisa(1844) and Florence(1846).

Henry's wife Mary was something of a Botanist and she persuaded Henry to take up the study of Botany and after a time he became quite proficient. Henry took a special interest in Farnham Park and was a regular walker in the Park. He took a particular interest in Hale Common, which was then known as Bishop's Common, where the people were said to be '*mostly squatters or gypsies, a wild and lawless lot*'!! The Bishop had taken a particular interest in Hale and he built schools there, and Henry was charged with the task of raising funds and to superintend the building of St John's Church. Bishop Charles Sumner and his wife are both buried in the graveyard at St John's Church.

During their residence in Farnham, Henry and Mary made many friends, however, in 1842, Henry received a letter from Bishop Sumner offering him the living at Wrecclesham. The first vicar of Wrecclesham, Revd. Buttermer, was resigning and, while it is said the Mary did not relish the prospect of moving to Wrecclesham, which she thought was a '*dreary and rather savage place, with no gentry*', Henry accepted and thus, in September 1846, Henry began his forty year period of devoted service to St Peter's Church.

In 1846 Henry was installed as Vicar of Wrecclesham, and they moved into the Vicarage. It is interesting to note from B.H. Elkins booklet, 'Wrecclesham and District' that the vicarage, originally built in 1810, had to be extended to accommodate Rev. Julius's large family.

Henry and Mary Julius arrived in Wrecclesham with four daughters, but this was only the beginning of their large family. They eventually had 10 children, the first nine of whom were girls. Those born in Wrecclesham were Ellen Georgina, (1848) Edith Katherine,(1850) Constance Marion,(1852) Octavia,(1854) Madeline,(1856) and Henry John,(1858)

In the 1851 Census, Henry, aged 34, is shown as living with his wife, Mary Ann, aged 35, at the Parsonage, Wrecclesham, with a young family of 6, all girls, Mary Isabel (9), Harriet Emily (8), Maria Louisa (7), Florence (5), Ellen Georgina (3) and Edith Katherine, (a baby of 3 months). Henry is described in the Census as the 'Curate' of Wrecclesham, living in the 'Parsonage'. They have 5 servants, respectively governess, nursery maid, cook, domestic servant and housemaid.



The Old Vicarage, Wrecclesham

Surprisingly I can find no record of the Julius family in the 1861 Census, although by this time there were three further daughters, Constance Marion, (1852) Octavia (1854) and Madeline (1856), and 'at last', in 1858, a boy, Henry John.

Elkins book suggests:

'The Rev. H.R Julius and his family were often spoken of with reverence and affection by those who remembered them, for the sterling work they accomplished during his ministry.'

Henry achieved many improvements to the Church during his long Ministry in Wrecclesham. In 1861 the Chancel was re-built and the South Aisle was added. In 1876 the Nave was re-built and the North Aisle and the Bell Tower were added. Henry Julius was a significant benefactor in the church re-building contributing the major sum of £1,324.7d. towards the £1,739.15s.6d. cost of the building.

In 1860, St Peter's National School was opened and in connection with the opening a series of entertainments were held which ended in a Concert in which the Church Choir was assisted by the Farnham Choral Society. A short hand written history of St Peter's Church records that:

'These concerts were continued annually for 26 years and were considered of a particularly noteworthy character owing to the great talents of the gifted daughters of the Vicar.'

The only member of the family I have been able to trace in the 1861 Census is the eldest daughter, Mary Isabel, who is shown to have been staying with her grandmother, Mary Ann Butterworth in Clifton. Also living with them at this time are Mary Ann's brother George a widower, described as, Perpetual Curate at Deerhurst Gloucestershire, and his two children, Thomas and Francis, Mary Ann Julius' nephews.

Ten years on, the 1871 Census records Henry, aged 54, living with three daughters Ellen (22), Constance (18) and Edith (20). Two daughters Mary Louisa and Harriet Emily had left home having both married in 1868. Sadly their youngest daughter, Madeline, had died on 17 Dec 1870 and is buried in the Julius Vault in St Peters Churchyard.

Henry is now, more accurately recorded, as Vicar of Wrecclesham, and living at Wrecclesham Vicarage. He has now three servants, a housemaid, a cook and a general servant. While Ellen Georgina was shown to be still living with the family in the 1871 Census, she left home shortly afterwards, when she was married in 1873.

In that same 1871 Census, Henry's wife, Mary Ann, was recorded, as living in Clifton, Gloucestershire, aged 55, together with their daughter Florence, aged 14, and her mother Mary Ann Butterworth, aged 78. Mary Ann Julius is described as 'Clergyman's wife'. She is not recorded as a visitor so it is presumed that she was then, for a time, looking after her mother.

By the time of the next Census, in 1881, Mary Ann had returned from Clifton to the Rectory at Wrecclesham, her mother having died in 1872, and is once again living with Henry, aged 64 and two daughters Constance and Octavia. They are by now needing only three servants, a cook, a housemaid and a laundress. Their only son, Henry John, aged 23, is shown in this Census as living in London where he is recorded as a Law student. This is the last Census that records Revd. Henry Julius as living in Wrecclesham, as he retired from St Peter's Church in 1886 and moved to Reigate, where he died 5 years later, on the 27th March 1891, aged 75.

Henry's death was just prior to the 1891 Census, which records his widow, Mary Ann, aged 64, living in Earlswood, near Reigate, at a private house, called Woodgate, together with her two daughters, Edith and Constance, who were unmarried. A third daughter Harriet, now married, was visiting her mother at the time of the Census. Mary Ann now has only one servant. It is coincidental that Mary Ann died in Reigate on the same day as her husband, Henry, 27th March, but exactly one year later, in 1892.

The National Probate Calendar for 1891 records that Henry died at Woodcroft, the Common, Redhill and that he had left a Personal Estate of £3,851.

Four of the daughters were married in St Peter's Church by their father. Harriet Emily, Maria Louisa, Florence and Ellen Georgina.

Harriet was married to Arthur William Parker on 30th April 1868. Arthur, born in Shirley, Hampshire in 1841, had graduated as an MA at Oxford University and at the time of the 1871 Census held the appointment of Vicar of St James Church, Rowledge. It is understood that Henry Julius was a significant instigator in getting a church in Rowledge and, when it was consecrated in 1871, the foundation stone was laid by Henry's wife, Mary Julius. The Parker family was living in the Vicarage, in Rowledge, at the time of the Censuses of 1871, 1881 and 1891. While living in Rowledge, they raised a family of six children 4 girls and 3 boys. Harriet died in Tunbridge Wells on 13 Jan 1933 at the advanced age of 90. The stained glass windows behind the altar of St James's Church, with the theme of the resurrection, were given by the Revd. and Mrs. Arthur Parker, in memory of the Rev. and Mrs. Henry Julius. In what has become somewhat of 'a family affair' Revd Arthur Parker

donated to St Peter's Church, the ground on which, their Chapel of Ease, the former St Timothy's Church in Boundstone, was built.

Maria Louisa was married to Arthur Brewin, on July 7th 1868. Arthur was a stockbroker, and was a member of the London Stock Exchange. In the 1881, 1891 and 1901 Census they were found to be living in West London, in and around Richmond, Henry Julius birthplace, where they had 6 children, 3 boys and 3 girls. In the 1871 Census, Mary Emily, Maria's elder sister, was staying with the family in Isleworth as a visitor. Maria Louisa died in Twickenham on 19 May 1933 at the age of 88.

Ellen Georgina was married to Ambrose Morris, on 1st Jan 1873. Ambrose was a Church of England minister. They initially lived in Guernsey, where their first two children were born. The 1881 and 1891 Census show them living in Charlton, in South West London. Ambrose was the Rector of St Thomas Church, in Charlton, where a further five children were born. Unlike her parents, Ellen's family were predominantly male, 5 boys and 2 girls.

By 1901, Ambrose and Ellen, had moved out of London to a living in the Worcestershire village of Wythall, where Ambrose is the Vicar of St Mary's Church. Interestingly in the Census they have a Visitor, Ellen's sister, Octavia, whose occupation is recorded as a Missionary. As Henry and Mary's eighth child, Octavia is, of course, appropriately named. Ellen is shown in the 1911 Census as a widow, living with her daughter Ethel at Abbey Hill Lodge, Kenilworth, her husband Ambrose having died in Lingfield, Surrey, in 1908. Ellen died in Leamington Spa on 27 Feb 1941, at the age of 92.

Florence was married to James Stevens in 1873. James was a Farnham boy, born in 1848, and was practicing in the town as a solicitor. Initially they lived in Castle Street where they raised a family of 5 children, 4 girls and a boy. By 1891 they had moved out of town and were living in Tongham in a house called Talvancroft. Florence died, aged 91, in 1937. Florence made a significant contribution to the history of both Farnham and Wrecclesham with a small number of diaries and personal writings that are held in the Farnham Museum Archives. Written in her own fair hand, in a series of exercise books, they record nearly 100 years of Farnham history *'as seen through the eyes of a kindly and intelligent member of one of the town's leading families.'* The Farnham Museum Society published a selection of these in a publication called *'To the Vicarage Born.'*

Henry John, the only boy, was married in 1886, in Wallsend, New South Wales, Australia, to a lady called Isabella Crain.

Mary Isobel remained unmarried until her death in 1898. In 1851 she was living with her parents in Wrecclesham. In 1861 she was staying in Clifton, Gloucestershire, with her maternal Grandmother, Mary Ann Butteworth. At the time of the 1871 and 1881 Censuses, she was living with her sister Maria Louisa in Isleworth and Richmond. She died in 1898, aged 57, in Windsor, Berkshire. No record can be found for her on the 1891 Census.

Edith Katherine also remained unmarried. In 1851 and 1871 she can be found living with her parents in the Vicarage Wrecclesham. In 1881 she is a visitor in Christchurch, Hants. After her father, Henry, died in Reigate in 1891, Edith went to live with her mother, Mary Ann, in Reigate along with her sister Constance. In the 1891 Census the two girls are shown as living with their mother. She is living in Earlswood, nr Reigate, aged 50, with her sister Constance aged 48. They are both described as *'Living on Own Means.'*

Apart from his own children three of Henry's brothers retired to live in the Farnham area. His brother George Charles, who had been a doctor in Wakefield, had lost Susan his wife in 1852, and by the time of the 1861 Census had moved into accommodation at Willey Mill, Wrecclesham with his youngest daughter, Ellen, aged 15. In the 1871 he had moved to live with his brother Frederick, also a Doctor, in Richmond. But by 1881 he was shown as living with his son Edric, a solicitor, and a widowed daughter in law, in the Sands, nr. Farnham. Another brother, William, who had retired from the army as a Major, in both the 1861 and 1871 Censuses, was living in Tilford.

It would seem a shame, in recording memories of the life and contribution of Revd. Henry Julius, not to include some of the references that were made about Wrecclesham by Florence Stevens in her writings.

Talking of Bishop Charles Sumner she says:

'I well remember the excitement caused at Wrecclesham Church on many a Sunday by a carriage rolling up just before the service, and the Bishop coming in, followed up the aisle by his daughter, Emily, and his apparitor with a blue bag, which carried his sleeves. etc. '

'The Vestry was very small and there was only one entrance which was into the Church. There was hardly room for 3 in the Vestry and we soon saw Hackett, the valet, walk down the church again and take a seat offered to him by old Ivy, the sexton. The Bishop was very big and dignified, and it was an awesome event. He loved to take his neighbouring country parsons thus by surprise, and preach for them. Miss Sumner always sat in our pew in the chancel and sang very loud and sweetly, and went to sleep through the sermon.'

'After the service the carriage and pair arrived at the gate, and the Bishop insisted on driving my mother home while the children watched with delight her ascent into the Cee spring rocking vehicle, while what we thought very fine and frisky horses pranced about. I rather think the fat old coachman flicked them to show off to the interested sightseers.'

'It was a long Sunday morning for us youngsters. We began to take a class in Sunday School very early in life, I at 7, and we had to be up at the Schools half a mile away quite by 9. Kept for an hour, turned the children out for 10 minutes play, then paraded them down two and two to church by 10.30. The service and sermon lasted till about 12.30 but I never remember owning or even felling it was too long.'

'Mr and Mrs Charles Knight occupied the front seat on the right. He was a short stout man who always carried his left hand behind him. She was tall and thin and very white. We were very fond of them both and often went to tea with them at Runwick House. They were very especially fond of my sister Louie, who would spend 2 or 3 days with them and made Mr. Knight sing comic songs. 'Fanny Grey' was a favourite. Once when she was staying there Miss Varndell, a sort of companion, came to the Vicarage and asked for Miss Louie's evening dress. Our Nannie hunted out a white frock with much surprise, and then found she meant a nightgown but it was too vulgar a word to use.'

'The Knight's of Wrecclesham were leading people at Wrecclesham. Mrs. Knight had laid the foundation stone of the church about the year 1840, and on his death bed, Mr. Knight had expressed a wish for Almshouses which were built in memory of him by his widow.'

'Mrs Knight was a very kind friend to me during my first year of married life. She always attended Wrecclesham Church, driving a Brougham each Sunday morning and often taking me with her. My father marked her prayer book so when he raised his eyes to the top of the column she knew where he was in the service and always followed most devoutly. She was stone deaf but would sometimes play a tune on the piano and ask me if it was correct, which it always was.'

Yatesbury House, Wrecclesham, as it is now called, was the Parsonage occupied by the first parson when the church was opened. He was a Mr. Buttermer and had married a sister of of Mrs. Charles Sumner. They had young children, and did not have a happy sojourn in Wrecclesham, as I believe they had two outbreaks of Scarlet Fever, and lost some of their family. The Bishop kindly moved him to another part of the Diocese, and offered the living to my father, who gladly accepted the £90 per annum and a house and moved from Castle Cottage to Wrecclesham Parsonage with wife and four children in September 1846 and here he lived and worked for 40 years, the remainder of his clerical career.'

'The Parsonage was very happy house to us. It had a large garden and is well placed above an undulating lawn with a little hanger or wood of Oak trees on the north, and a pretty view Eastwards of Farnham Church and meadows. My father was very fond of gardening, and proud of his, which though poor soil, was always gay. After a little he rented an adjoining field to the West and grew his vegetables and other crops, which were taken off his hands when necessary, by Edmund Vanner, our friendly farmer neighbour. Along the North of the field he made a gravel walk which was one tenth of a mile, and was a great asset to the place.

The 'Terrace' had a lovely view West over meadows to Willey, and was the place to watch a sunset or take a bracing walk on a cold day. It ended in a little wood 'Silva Secunda' which hung over the lane below called River Lane and had some caves in it, very helpful to 'hide and seek' or for the foundation of horrible stories of the French invading England. One of the caves was called 'the Black Hole of Calcutta' so I imagine it must have been used during the mutiny i.e. 1857. I think it was only big enough to hold two and that was a tight fit.'

Down in the far East corner of the garden were our private flower beds caged around with sandstones, in which we worked industriously now and then until the happy day when two large chestnut trunks were put up and a swing started, with a revolving centre, where we could go round and do gymnastics and climb ropes as we had learned to do in France. Before this we had busied ourselves in digging a big hole in the sand which we hoped would come out at New Zealand. Our father told us if we went towards the equator from this side, the impetus would be enough to carry us up the other.'

After my father gave up the living of Wrecclesham, Mr. Burrows, now Bishop of Sheffield, was appointed, and after him Mr. Steward. Mr. Steward was succeeded by Rev. C.H. Keable, who after a time was allowed to sell the Vicarage for a smaller house nearer the church and village and Mr. Tanner who bought it gave it the name it is at present known by, 'Yatesbury'.

5. THE JULIUS SISTERS



The Handsome Brass Lectern, at the front of St Peter's Church, was a gift to St. Peter's Church from the daughters of Revd. Henry Julius. Henry Julius had a large family of ten children, of whom the last only, was a boy. A short history of St. Peter's, thought to have been written by Harriet, one of his daughters, who was married to the Vicar of Rowledge, Arthur William Parker, says that:

'In the early years of his incumbency a sum of money was collected by the daughters of Revd Henry Julius to fill the East Window with stained glass. This was removed in 1913. The balance was used to provide the present brass lectern.'

Henry had nine daughters of whom eight survived. They were born between 1841 and 1854. It is envisaged that their collection of money would have taken place at sometime in the late 1850's when the eldest of the daughters would have been in their late teens.

HAROLD CHARLES LINFORD KEABLE. 1889-1915

On the North Wall of the Lady Chapel is this window of St Michael, with the following dedication:



To the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of
2nd Lieut. Harold Charles Keable,
8th Service Battalion, Royal Berkshire Regiment,
younger and dearly loved son of
Charles Henry Keable, Vicar of this Parish and Constance May his wife
Who gave his life at the Battle of Loos, Sept 25 1915 Aged 26 years.
This Chapel is given by his parents and brother.

Harold Charles Linford Keable was born in Luton, Bedfordshire in 1889. He was the second son of Charles Henry Keable, who was later to become Vicar of Wrecclesham, and Constance Mary Linford.

Charles Henry Keable had been born in 1853, in Preshute, on the western outskirts of Marlborough, Wiltshire, the son of Richard Henry Keable and his wife Sarah Pinniger. Richard, who had been born in Bradford on Avon, Wiltshire in 1823 was a farmer and had a farm of 280 acres, at a village called Manton, near Marlborough in Wiltshire. Henry's mother Sarah had also been born in 1822, at Calne in Wiltshire.

In 1861 Charles, aged 8, was living with his parents and his younger sister, Rosa, who was 5. In the 1871 Census neither Charles nor Rosa are at home with their parents. The next record of Charles Henry Keable is in the 1881 Census, when he is shown as living at 22 Oxford Street, Southampton, aged 28, where he is a Lodger with a Mr and Mrs Powell. By this time he has become ordained as a Church of England minister and is serving as Curate of St James Church.

Not long after this Census, in 1886, Charles married, in Southampton, a lady called Constance Mary Linford. Constance had been born, in 1856, in St Pancras, London and was the daughter of Henry Albert Linford and his wife Elizabeth Martha. Henry was at the time a proprietor of a Hotel in Southampton.

The Revd. Charles Henry Keable was installed as Vicar of Wrecclesham in 1890. By the time of the Census in 1891, Revd. Keable, aged 38, is shown as living in the Vicarage in Wrecclesham, where he resides with his wife Constance, two sons, Rupert Henry, aged 3 and Harold Charles Linford, aged 2. They have two servants

In the 1901 Census the family is still living in Wrecclesham. Rupert, aged 13, and Harold, aged 12, are presumably scholars, though this is not shown on the Census document

In the 1911 Census, Revd Charles is living alone with his wife Constance in the Vicarage. They have living with them two servants, one of whom was Elsie May Elkins, aged 16, who was shown as a parlour maid, and who was the sister of Bertram Henry Elkins, who was author of the book Wrecclesham and District. In 1911 Rupert is living in a Prep School in Laleham, Bucks, where he is an assistant master. In 1919 he was married to a lady called Phyllis Langharne, in Farnham, in 1919. Rupert died in Poole, Dorset in 1967.

Harold Keable was shown in the 1911 Census to be living alone, as a single man, aged 22, at Court Lodge Cottages, Horton Kirby, Dartford, Kent, aged 22. His occupation is shown as agricultural student. It is envisaged that he was studying at Wye College, an Agricultural College of the University of London situated in the Village of Wye nr. Canterbury.

We know, from the dedication on the Church window, that Harold Charles Linford Keable joined the army soon after the outbreak of World War I and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Berkshire Regiment. His army record shows that he was sent to France in August 1915 and was killed in action, on month later on 25th September 1915 at Nouex les Mines, France, on the first day of the Battle of Loos.

The Battle of Loos was one of the major British offensives mounted on the Western Front in 1915 during World War I. It marked the first time the British had used poison gas during the war, and is also famous for the fact that it witnessed the first large-scale use of the new army or "Kitchener's Army" units. More than 61,000 British casualties were sustained in this battle. 50,000 of them were

in the main fighting area between Loos and Givenchy, and the remainder in the subsidiary attacks. Of these, 7,766 men died. Harold Keable, fell on the first day of a battle, which lasted from 25 September to 19 October, and is buried in the Bois Carre Military Cemetery near the village of Haisnes, Pas de Calais.

Harold's Father, Revd. Charles Henry Keable was Vicar of Wrecclesham from 1890 to 1923 a period of 33 years. He died on 10th August 1923 and was buried in the Graveyard on School Hill on 10 August that year (Grave D2). His wife Constance Mary died three years later, in June 1926, and is buried alongside him (Grave D3). Apart from the gift of the window, at Easter 1914, Revd. Charles Henry Keable also gave the Church a Litany Desk.

In his Probate, granted in London, in 1926, Revd Charles left effects to the value of £2091 to his widow Constance and their son Rupert Henry Keable, schoolmaster.

7 JOHN KINCAID 1821-1901

A Window on North Wall of the Sanctuary, a Prayer Desk in the Chancel, to the rear of the Altar, and the Choir Stalls, now removed to the West end of the Church from their earlier position in the Chancel, are all dedicated to John Kincaid. The window bears the following dedication:

To the Glory of God and in affectionate memory of her beloved
husband,
John Kincaid
of 8 Elm Park Gardens,
eldest son of the late Thomas Kincaid of Glasgow, died 17th
September 1900
created by his widow, Louise Elizabeth, only daughter of the late
General Edward Pole. Colonel XII Lancers and Fanny his wife.
1901.

The Prayer Desk and Choir stalls are given the following dedication

To the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of her
Dear Husband
John Kincaid
This Prayer Desk and Choir Stalls are presented by
his widow.
June 1906 .

John Kincaid was born in 1821 in Polmont, a small village in Central Scotland, near Falkirk. Little is known of his early years. His parents were Thomas and Isabella Kincaid and he was from a large family. He had 3 brothers and 2 sisters. John was the eldest of the 3 boys. His elder sister Isabella was two years his senior. As the Census records show he was evidently an entrepreneur and for years remained a single man, living in lodgings, or with his mother, until he was over 60.

In 1841, at the age of 20, he had left home, and was living, as a lodger, with the Johnson family at 74 Ann Street, Greenock, Renfrewshire. His occupation is described there as 'Ropemaker'. By the time of the 1851 Scottish Census he is back at home, in Glasgow, with his mother Isabella, who by now is a widow. John, aged 30, is described as an 'American Produce Broker.' In 1861 he is still living with

his mother, but is now calling himself a 'Butler Hommipson Agent'. In the next two Censuses, 1871 and 1881, he is living in Lancashire, in a place called Chorlton on Medlock, close to Manchester. In both locations, while in Chorlton, he was staying as a Lodger. His occupation over this period was given as 'Cotton Commission Agent'.

John remained unmarried for much of his working life. It is not known when, or how, he met his future wife, Louisa Elizabeth Pole, but they were married in 1884, in the fashionable church of St Georges, Hanover Square. At the time of his marriage John was 63 and his new wife, Louisa was 41. Louisa came from a distinguished family and was closely connected to the Van Notten Pole's, of whom there are many other references in the church dedications. Louisa's father, Edward Pole was the grandson of Sir Peter Pole, the 2nd Baronet. Edward was himself a distinguished army officer having attained the rank of Colonel in the 12th Hussars. There would seem to be a slight difference in the couple's background, from near nobility to a 'lad from the Gorbals', for that is where his parents were living in 1841.

In the 1891 Census, John and Louisa Kincaid are living in Elm Park Gardens, Chelsea. At this time John is 70 years of age and Louisa 49. It is likely that by then John will have retired from his occupation as Cotton Commission Agent, as he records his occupation as 'Living on Own Means'. They retain three servants cook, housemaid and parlour maid.

At some time during the 1980's John and Louisa Kincaid must have moved to Farnham. The reason for this move from London may have been that Louisa's brother Reginald was living in Farnham Road, Wrecclesham at this time. Their home was Shortheath House a substantial property at the top of School Hill, in the area shown on the map below, now redeveloped and known as Kings Lane.



John Kincaid died in 1900, aged 80, and was buried in Wrecclesham Churchyard on 17 Sep 1800. Although buried in Farnham, John Kincaid's death registration was in Weymouth where he died at Glencoe, Dorchester Road, Weymouth on 17 Sep 1900. Probate was granted to his widow Elizabeth to the value £4,618.

Louisa, who was childless, remained living at Shortheath House until her death in August 1919, at the age of 76. In the 1911 Census she is living there with three servants. Apart from the bequest from her husband it is thought she had a substantial private wealth as, during this period, she was clearly very active in dedicating a number of memorials in St Peter's Church to members of her family. Apart from the items in memory of her husband, listed above; the name Mrs Kincaid appears on the Font, in memory of her nephew, Edward Francis Reginald Pole; on a window in the South Aisle, dedicated to her father General Edward Pole; and on the Vicar's Desk in memory of her uncle, the Revd. Watson Buller Van Notten Pole.

Louisa Elizabeth Kincaid died on 13 August 1919, aged 76, and she was buried alongside her husband, John, in Wrecclesham Churchyard on 13 August 1919. Their graves are marked by the two handsome memorial crosses illustrated below. Probate was granted on her death to her brothers Reginald Edward Pole, who was a Major in the newly created Royal Air Force and Edward Alexander Chandos Pole, Gentleman, to the value of £28,035, which in 1919 would have represented a significant sum of money.



The Kincaid Memorial Crosses in School Hill Cemetery

8. CHARLES KNIGHT 1801 - 1860

On the wall of the Chancel there is a plaque which reads:

In a Vault near this Church are deposited the remains of
Charles Knight Esq.
Who died at Runweek House 25th Oct 1860 aged 59 years
also of his wife Elizabeth,
wife of the above who died at Farnham August 4th 1879 Aged
74.
Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord.

Charles Knight was born in Farnham in 1801, the third son of George Coldham Knight of Coxbridge, a wealthy land owner, farmer and hop grower. In 1815 The family moved to Lower House, also known as Runwick or Runweek House, in Dippenhall, just to the west of Coxbridge Farm where Charles was brought up to take over the farming side of the business. In 1830 Charles was married in Dorking to Elizabeth Cheeseman, the daughter of a wealthy brewer, and the couple set up home at Runwick House. The Tithe apportionment show Charles as holding 350 acres in Farnham, Runwick and Wreccelsham, as well as land in the surrounding parishes. He was very involved in parish affairs, including the ratepayers association and the Board of Surveyors. Farnham was an important centre for hop growing, with its hops fetching the highest prices of any in the country, and in a good year Charles would have made a great deal of money from this. He also owned two brick works – brick making was an important industry in Farnham.

The Couple appear in both the 1841 and 1851 Censuses. In the 1841 Census they are said to be living in the Lower House, Runwick, with a range of servants. By 1851 they are shown living in Runweek House, presumably what is now known as Runwick House, and Charles, aged 50, is identified as a farmer of 270 acres, employing 28 labourers. As can be noted from the dedication Charles was to die in 1860, aged 59. He was buried in the Knight Family Vault, which lies to the north of the Church, between the Chapel of All Angels and Beales Lane. As Charles and Elizabeth had no children, Charles left his legacies to his many nephews and nieces, who included Charles Austwick and John Henry Knight, later to become a well known motoring pioneer and inventor. He also endowed the Knight's Alsmhouses in the Street, Wrecclesham, which are dealt with later in this item.

His wife, Elizabeth, outlived him by 20 years and during this time appears in both the 1861 and 1871 Censuses. In the 1861 Census, Elizabeth, a widow, aged 55 is still shown to be living at Runwick House, with 4 servants (a house maid, a cook, a Lady's Maid and a Groom). She is described as 'Occupying Land. In 1871 she is shown as a visitor at Rose Hill Dorking, the home of Michael and Harriet Attlee. Michael is a retired Miller.

For a time Runwick House was rented out, while Elizabeth moved to Zingari Terrace in East Street, Farnham. She still attended St Peter's Church where she and Charles had been regular worshippers, indeed Charles had donated £100 to the building fund and Elizabeth had laid the foundation stone when it was opened in 1840. Elizabeth used to take Florence Stevens with her to church in Wrecclesham each Sunday in her carriage. Florence was the daughter of Henry Julius the second vicar of St Peter's whose life is dealt with elsewhere in this collection. Florence had by this time married a Farnham solicitor, James Stevens, one of the founder partners of the practice now known as Stevens and Bolton. Elizabeth had known Florence since her childhood. Elizabeth died in Farnham in 1879, aged 74, and was buried in the family vault at St Peter's alongside her husband Charles.



Runwick (Runweek) House

In Wrecclesham there are two lasting legacies to Charles Knight. The first is St Peter's Church itself. Charles was one of the principal donors of funds being raised towards the Church building fund in 1840. Indeed Mrs Elizabeth Knight laid the foundation stone for the Church. The Knight family donated £100 to the Church Building fund. The second is the Knight's Almshouses in the Street, Wrecclesham. According to Bertram Elkins, the author of the Booklet Wrecclesham and District, these Almshouses were endowed for:

'two men and two women, not less than 60 years old. Each inmate to receive five shillings (25p.) per week.'

The Almshouses remain as fine buildings in the centre of the village. Irene Fontaine is now one of the four tenants and Reg Skeet and David Taylor are two of the Trustees. All are members of the St Peter's congregation, Irene singing in the Choir, David, also singing in the choir is a former

Churchwarden and Reg, a former Treasurer, member of the PCC and Deanery Synod representative for the Parish.



Knights Almshouses, Wrecchlesham

I am not sure where Charles Knight farmed. It might be expected that it was in and around Dippenhall. However, the Elkin's book, quoted above, suggests that he tended Hop Fields in Weydon Lane. Whatever, this farm was said to be 270 acres and was therefore substantial.

9. HANNAH MARTER 1798 - 1848

On the wall of the South Aisle, just outside the door to the Vestry, is a marble plaque bearing the following inscription:

**SACRED TO THE MEMORY OF HANNAH, THE BELOVED WIFE OF SEYMOUR
MARTER OF DIPPEN HALL IN THIS COUNTY WHO DIED AGED 48 ON NOV
21 1846.**

**SHE WAS AS REMARKABLE FOR BENEVOLENCE AS SHE WAS FOR PATIENT
AND CHEERFUL ENDURANCE DURING A LONG PERIOD OF ILL HEALTH AND
HAS LEFT AMONG FRIENDS WHO SINCERELY LOVE AND DEEPLY LAMENT
FOR THE REMEMBRANCE OF A GENEROUS AND FAITHFUL AND
SYMPATHISING HEART**

**BLESSED ARE THEY WHICH DIE IN THE LORD. THAT THEY MAY REST
FROM THEIR LABOURS AND THEIR WORKS DO FOLLOW THEM**

REVELATIONS 14-18

Hannah Marter, nee Luckin, was born in 1798. She was married to Seymour Marter, in 1838, at the Strand, Middlesex. Seymour Marter had been born in Epsom in 1792. The couple had a relatively short life together. In the 1941 Census, Seymour, aged 45, and Hannah, aged 40, are living in Dippenhall, where Seymour is working as a Bailiff. By this time they have had a one year old daughter, Maria Elizabeth, who was born in Farnham in 1840.

It is clear from the memorial tablet, that Hannah had a long period of illness, and was to die in Farnham, in 1846, aged 48. In 1851, Seymour Marter is living at Dipnall Farm, Dippenhall, where he is still working as a Bailiff. He has one housekeeper. His daughter, Maria, is not at home at the time of this Census as she was then at a boarding school in Ripley. Neither Seymour nor Maria Marter are shown in the 1861 Census, but in 1871, Seymour, aged 79, is shown to be living in Littlehampton with his daughter Maria, aged 31, and a companion/servant. The Census describes Seymour as 'a Yeoman'. Seymour died soon afterwards, in East Preston, nr Littlehampton, aged 79. His daughter Maria Elizabeth remained unmarried. In 1881 she was living in Shanklin, the Isle of Wight, as a Lodger, aged 41, living on 'Income from Dividends'. There is no record of Maria in 1891 but she was to die, aged 58, living in Marylebone, London in 1897.

10 WILLIAM FRANCIS SPURSTOW MILLER 1887-1916

The Processional Cross in St Peter's Church was donated by Admiral Francis Spurstow Miller in 1924 in memory of his son William Francis Spurstow Miller. Killed in Action September 28th 1916.



The Processional Cross, St Peter's Church.

William Francis Spurstow Miller was born in 1887, in Liverpool. He was the son of Admiral Spurstow Miller and his wife Amy. Little is known of William's early life, albeit it can be deduced from obituary information, that in the early years of the 20th Century he was at school at Haileybury and the Imperial Services College in Hertfordshire. At the outset of World War I, at the age of 27, he joined the forces.

A search through the records of deaths in World War 1, show that a Lance Corporal William Francis Spurstow Miller, serving in France with the 1st Battalion of the Wellington Regiment, was killed in action on Thursday 28th September 1916, aged 23. They also confirm that William was buried in the AIF Burial Ground at Fleurs, Somme, France. Grave Reference Panel No. Sp, Mem 7.

William's father was Francis Spurstow Miller who was born in Toxteth Park, Liverpool on 25th November 1863. He was the son of Francis Benjamin Miller and his wife Charlotte Elizabeth Taylor. Francis's father had been born in Liverpool in 1838 and, in 1871, aged 33, he was working as a shipbroker. At the age of 16, Francis was to join the Royal Navy in May 1879. The 1881 Census shows him as a Midshipman at sea aboard HMS Minotaur. This was the start of a long and

successful naval **career** that ended with him reaching the rank of Admiral. His naval records show that his progression through the ranks was consistent: Appointed Lieutenant in May 1885, Commander December 1889, Captain January 1903, Rear Admiral October 1913, Vice Admiral September 1918 and Admiral January 1922. It will be seen from the above that Francis served at the highest level throughout World War 1 and he retired, at his own request, soon after the War ended on 29 January 1920. His appointment as Admiral followed his retirement when he was also appointed Companion of the Honourable Order of Bath.

During World War 1 Admiral Miller served mainly in the North Sea. The 9th Battle Squadron, based on the Humber consisted of 6 ships of the Majestic Class. HMS Hannibal was the Flagship and was commanded by Rear Admiral Francis Miller. In August 1914, on board HMS Magnificent, Rear Admiral Miller was appointed to command the new fleet base at Scapa Flow. An indication of the heights to which he climbed in the navy is that there are seven photographic portraits of Francis Miller in the National Portrait Gallery.



Portrait of Admiral Francis Spurstow Miller C.B. by Alexander Bossano

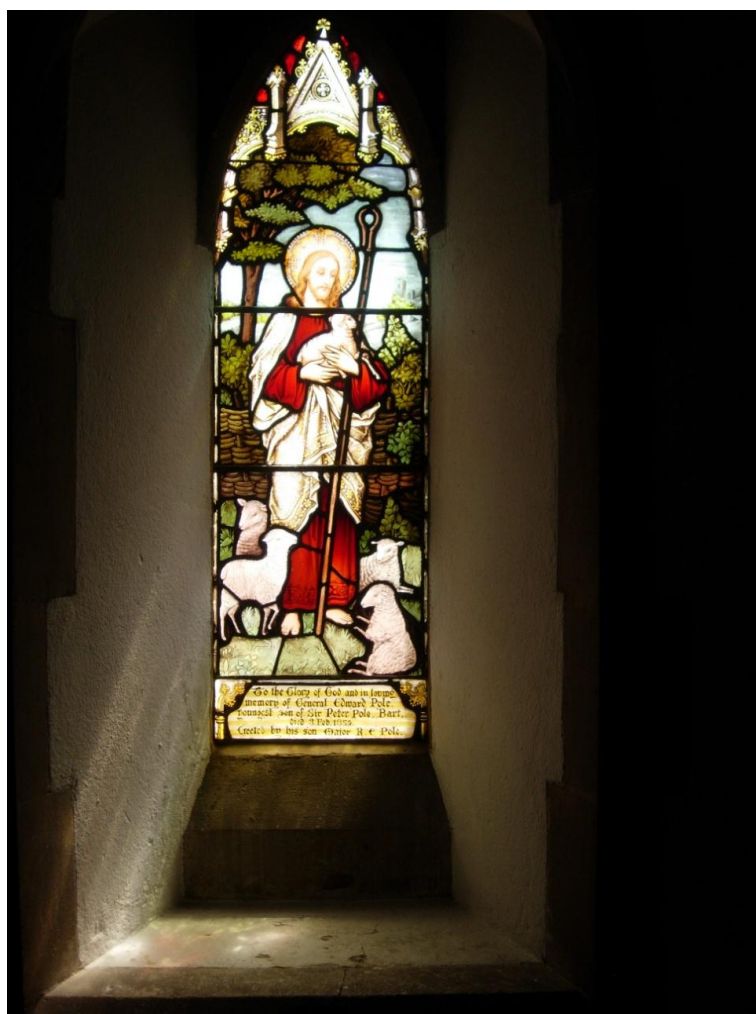
At some time after his retirement Admiral Miller and his wife settled in Bournemouth where they lived at 24 Dunkeld Road. Amy Miller died, age 79 in 1949. Admiral Francis Spurstow Miller himself died four years later in 1953 at the age of 90.

We have found no connection between the Miller family and Wrecclesham to explain why they should have gifted the Processional Cross to St Peter's Church. Is there anyone in the Farnham area who can shed light on why Admiral Miller should have donated the cross to St Peter's Church and what the family's connection with Farnham was?

11 GENERAL EDWARD POLE. 1805 -1879

This window, depicting Christ the Good Shepherd, in the South Aisle of the Church is inscribed with the following dedication:

To the Glory of God and in Loving memory of
General Edward Pole, youngest son of Sir
Peter Pole, Bart.
died 3 Feb 1859.
Created by his son
Major PVL Pole.



There are a number of references to the Pole family in St Peter's Church. (See also Edward Francis Reginald Pole, Fanny Pole and Watson Buller Van Notten Pole.)

Edward Pole was born in Bedford Square, Bloomsbury, London On 26 Aug 1805. He was the son of Sir Peter Pole. Sir Peter Pole was the 2nd Baronet in the Van Notten Pole Baronetcy of Great Britain and had been born in London on 25th October 1770. Peter Pole was the son of Admiral of the Fleet, Sir Charles Pole (formerly Charles Van Notten Pole) and his wife Millicent. Sir Charles was the 1st Baronet Pole, a baronetcy created for him in 1791. Sir Charles held many important offices of state. He was Commodore Governor of Newfoundland, Member of Parliament for Newark (1802 – 1806) and for Plymouth (1806 – 1818) and Governor of the Bank of England from 1820 to 1822.

Their family seat was Wolverton House near the village of Baughurst nr. Basingstoke. Named in the Domesday Book of 1086 as Ulvretune, Wolverton has a royal history. Circa 885, King Alfred gave the area – along with neighbouring Baughurst – to the Diocese of Winchester. Pipe Rolls identify the existence of a royal household in the village as early as the twelfth century, and it is understood that Eleanor of Aquitaine resided there in 1165 while her husband – Henry II – was in Normandy. The manor of Wolverton remained in royal ownership throughout the reigns of King John and Henry III, until possession was gained by the family of Peter Fitz Herbert sometime after 1217.

In 1770 Peter Pole succeeded his father as the 2nd Baronet Von Notten Pole. Soon after, on 24 Dec 1798, Sir Peter had married a lady called Anna Guerherlimina Buller, the daughter of Richard Buller and Felizarter Guerherlimina Burmester. Their marriage took place at St Helens, Bishopsgate, London. In 1837, Sir Peter Pole sold Wolverton to Arthur Wellesley, 1st Duke of Wellington, and it has remained part of the Wellington estate ever since. The present-day Wolverton House is a late-Georgian manor house, near to St Catherine's Church.

I have little knowledge of Sir Peter Pole's life. He was at one time the Tory Member of Parliament for Yarmouth. He was also involved in the City of London and was a major partner in the Private Bank, Pole Thornton. The story goes that, in 1925, this bank was badly undercapitalized. The bank had been inexcusably imprudent in not keeping more cash in the House, and relying on the bank's credit to enable them to borrow whenever they pleased. In a situation, not untypical of banking in 2009, on one Saturday there was a run on the bank, especially when one of their regular customers without warning withdrew his entire £30,000 deposit, leaving the bank vault literally empty. In a pre-runner of the Banking Crisis recently experienced, the Bank of England came to their rescue and lent the bank £400,000, which they collected by hand, in notes, on the following Monday morning!! It may be no coincidence that the Governor of the Bank of England was a Cornelius Buller, Sir Peter Pole's father in law. It is perhaps also noteworthy that one of his predecessors as Governor of the Bank of England, only in 1822, three years earlier, was Sir Charles Pole, Peter Pole's father and the previous Baronet. The collapse of this bank would have caused great difficulty for a number of their important customers. The Bank of England had accepted the role of maintaining orderly markets and financial stability in a crisis. Pole Thornton Bank was eventually closed. The partners lost their capital shares and the Bank of England had to wait years before getting its emergency loan back. There is nothing new in this world!!!

Returning to the subject of this dedication, Edward Pole, it is possible that his military service has restricted the records available about his early life. He matriculated at Balliol College, Oxford on 13 June 1822, at the age of 16. In 1825 he joined the army and served in the 12th Lancers. He married Fanny Grogan on 30th September 1841 in St Peter's Church, Dublin. The first Census record of Edward Pole to be found is the 1851 Census in which he is shown as a widower, living in Bootham, York with his daughter Louisa, aged 18, and two sons, Edward, aged 17 and Reginald, aged 5. He is described as Colonel Half Pay, late 12th Lancers. His wife is not present at the time of the Census but clearly he travelled with his wife, Fanny, in this period, as the three children have been born in scattered locations, Louisa, in Ireland, Edward in Manchester and Reginald in Alexandria, Egypt. Indeed his wife Fanny Pole herself died on 24 July 1857 in Bellary, East Indies.

There do not appear to be any Census records for the family in 1861 or 1871. The memorial window to Edward Pole suggests he reached the rank of General. He had formerly been Colonel of the Royal Irish Dragoons and 5th Royal Irish Lancers. During the Crimean War 1853 – 1856, he was Lieutenant Colonel in the 2nd Light Brigade of the 12th Lancers, the regiment he had joined in 1825. As in 1851 he was Colonel with half pay he may have rejoined the army to achieve the rank of General referred to on the memorial. He died on 2 Feb 1879 at Poyle Park, Tongham, Nr. Farnham. He was buried at St Catherine's Church, Wolverton, the family home. The tombstone is inscribed 'General Edward Pole, Colonel XII Royal Lancers, youngest son of Sir Peter Pole. Bart.

As to the members of his family, Louisa went on to marry a John Kincaid in 1884 and more information about Louisa and John is contained in other references. More detail is also given about the younger son Reginald in the item about the Font of the Church. Edward Albert his elder son, born in 1844, went on to marry, in Farnham, in 1834, a lady by the name of Emma Katherine Adams, who had herself been born in Plymouth in 1866. Edward Albert had followed his father into the army and in 1881 he was living in Chester, aged 37, with his wife, Emma, aged 32, and six children, 5 sons and 1 daughter. It would appear that soon after this Edward Albert died as in the 1891 Census Emma Catherine is living in Moss Side, Manchester with her only daughter, Fanny, aged 18.

12. EDWARD FRANCIS REGINALD POLE 1884 - 1909

There are a number of references to the Pole family in St Peter's Church. (See also General Edward Pole, Fanny Pole and Watson Buller Van Notten Pole. There are also other dedications that had been made by Mrs Kincaid, whose maiden name was Louisa Elizabeth Pole)

The Font, now at the front of the Nave in St Peter's Church, Wreclesham, bears the following dedication:

To the Blessed Trinity and in Loving Memory of her dear nephew
Edward Francis Reginald Pole
Only child of Major Reginald Pole
of Westfields Wreclesham
abht Oct 22nd 1909,
Erected by his Aunt Mrs Kincaid of Shortheath House,
Wreclesham.



The Font at St Peter's Church, Wreclesham

Edward Francis Reginald Pole was born in the Bourne, Farnham on 14th April 1884. As is recorded in the dedication on the Font, Edward was the only child of Major Reginald Pole and his wife Ethelreda Frances Bowyer Smith.

Edward's Father, Reginald Edward Pole, was born on 18th May 1856, in Alexandria in Egypt, where he was registered as a British subject.

The first record I have of Reginald Pole is in the 1861 Census where, at the age of 5, he is resident at 88 Bootham, York, with his father Edward, aged 55. His father, Edward was then a widower having by this time lost his wife Mary. Also resident with him at the time were his daughter Louisa Elizabeth, aged 18 (later to become Mrs. Kincaid) and son Edward, aged 17. Edward, their father, was described as 'Colonel, half pay, late 12th Lancers'. More details of Edward Pole are given elsewhere under General Edward Pole.



Uniform of the 12th Lancers in middle of 19th Century

The 12th (Prince of Wales's) Royal Lancers was a cavalry regiment of the British Army. The regiment served with distinction in most theatres of war of the British empire including: South Africa 1852, The Crimea, The Indian Mutiny 1858 - 1860, The Boer War 1899 - 1902 and The Great War 1914 - 1918. In 1930 the horse had to make way for the automobile, as tanks and armoured cars took over. As an armoured regiment the 12th Lancers fought in several theatres of the Second World War.

In 1880 Reginald had married Ethelreda Frances Bowyer Smyth at St George's Hanover Square, Westminster, London. Ethelreda, born in Marylebone, Middlesex in 1849, was the daughter of the

Revd. Alfred John Edward Bowyer Smyth and Mary Constantine Smyth, nee Rolt. Alfred was at one time in the 1950's the Vicar of Attleborough, in Norfolk.

The 1891 Census records Reginald Pole as living at Farnham Road, Wrecclesham with Ethelreda and their son, Edward. Reginald, aged 35, is shown as being a Captain in His Majesty's Land Forces. He was at the time Captain in the Hampshire Yeomanry Cavalry. Edward, then aged 6, is shown as having been born in the Bourne, Farnham. Also living in their home is one servant, a cook/domestic.

Ten years later, in the 1901 Census, the family is still living in Farnham Road. Reginald, now aged 46, is shown as Head of Household and Major, late 3rd Battalion, the Royal West Surrey, Queens Regiment. He had now retired from the Army. He is also recorded as an employer. His wife, Ethelreda, is now 50 and their son Edward is 16. No entry is made to suggest whether Edward is still in full time education.

In 1909, at the time of his son Edward's death, Reginald and Ethelreda were living in Westfields, Wrecclesham. It is understood that Westfields is a large house just on the edge of Wrecclesham, down a short lane leading off the road to Bordon just beyond Wrecclesham Hill and before you reach the Forest Inn. One of our Parishioners, Bob Parrot's, father was the gardener at Westfields in the early part of the 20th Century.

Edward Francis Reginald Pole died from dysentery, on 24th October 1909 in the Medical Missionary Hospital in Canton, China, at the tender age of 25. A memorial service was held in St Peter's Church on Saturday 30th October 1909. There is no record of this branch of the Pole family in the 1911 Census. Reginald Edward Pole, died on 13 November 1926 in Chandos Lodge, Alton. His wife, Ethelreda, survived her husband by a further 9 years and died on 9th December 1935.

At this stage I would like to trace the background of Ethelreda and her parents, the Revd. Alfred John Edward Bowyer Smyth and Mary Constantine Smyth, nee Rolt.

Alfred was born on 20th August 1825 in Bishopsbourne, Kent. I have no information of Alfred's early life. He was however the youngest son of Sir Edward Bowyer Smith and his wife Letitia Cecilia Bowyer Smyth, whose maiden name had been Weyland. The Bowyer Smith family was an old established family and Sir Edward was the 10th Baronet. The Bowyer-Smyth Baronetcy was created in 1661 for Thomas Smith, the High Sheriff of Essex. The family home was originally Hill Hall, near Epping, in Essex. The Smyth family lived at Hill Hall until the mid-19th century.

However at the time of the 10th Baronetcy, Sir Edward Bowyer Smyth was living at Bourne House, within the 2000 acre estate of the Manor of Bourne, in Bishopsbourne, Kent, some 4 miles south east of Canterbury. Bourne House, built in 1702, is regarded as one of the best Georgian Houses in Kent. Following an Education at Eton College and Trinity College, Cambridge, where he graduated with an MA in 1811, Sir Edward took Holy Orders and was Vicar of Camberwell in 1809 and Rector of Theydon Mount, Essex from 1837-1838. He held the office of Chaplain to King George IV. He succeeded to the title of 10th Baronet Smith of Hill Hall, Essex on 9th December 1838. In 1839 his name was legally changed to Edward Bowyer Smijth by Royal Licence, and this later was changed to Bowyer Smyth.

It was in Bourne House that Alfred was born on 20th August 1825.



Bourne House, Bishopsbourne

Sir Edward and Letitia had a family of 6 children, 2 boys and 4 girls.

We have no records of Alfred John Edward Bowyer Smyth's early life, albeit it is known that he graduated with Master of Arts, from a University, which has not been identified, and that he qualified as a Priest.

On 17th June 1847, Alfred married Mary Constantine Rolt, at St George's Church, Hanover Square. Mary had been born in 1826 in Marylebone, Middlesex, the daughter of Major General Sir John Rolt, and his wife Charlotte. John Rolt was a Waterman on the River Thames.

The first Census record available for this couple is the 1851 Census. At this time Alfred, aged 25, is living in the Rectory in Attleborough, in Norfolk, with his wife, Mary Constantine, also aged 25, and their two children, Ethelreda aged 2 and their 6 month old son, Alfred John. Alfred is the Rector at the Church of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Attleborough.

The 1861 Census shows Alfred and Mary to be living at Thorpe Lea, in the village of Thorpe in Surrey. They are then living at the home of Alfred's mother, Lady Letitia Bowyer Smyth, who is aged 70 and is by this time a widow, Sir Edward having passed away on 15th August 1850. With them at the time are their daughters Ethelreda, aged 12, and Helen, aged 4, and their son Edmund, aged 5. It is not certain where the rest of the family is at the time as, between 1849 and 1857, Alfred and Mary had 6 children. Ethelreda Francis, born 1849 in Marylebone, Middlesex, Alfred John (1850), Clement Weyland (1851) Edmund Caswall (1853) Ada Cicily (1855) and Helen Mary (1857). The last five were all born in Attleborough. It is probable that their three older sons. Alfred, Clement and Edmund were away at boarding schools.

It is also not known whether this is their permanent home, as Alfred's occupation is still shown as Rector of Attleborough. However, they are not recorded in the Census as Visitors.

Lady Bowyer Smith was at this time employing 11 servants, Housekeeper, 2 Lady's Maids, 2 House Maids, Kitchen Maid, Scullery Maid, Footman, Nurse, Nursery Maid and Coachman.

By the time of the 1871 Census, it would appear that circumstances of the family have changed significantly. Alfred, aged 45, is now on board a Royal Naval Yacht called the Rattlesnake, which is in harbour in Portsmouth. He is described as a 'Clerk in Holy Orders'. It is difficult to assess whether he is a RN Chaplain, as there appear to be only 9 people on board, including a Master, a 2nd Mate, 5 Able Seamen and a Stewardess. Significantly the Stewardess is a lady by the name of Charlotte Sarah Pollard, aged 33.

The significance of her presence is that in the 1881 Census, Alfred, aged 55, is shown as 'Head of Household' living in Gravesend, Kent with Charlotte Pollard, aged 43, who is described as 'Housekeeper.' Also living with them is her son, Alfred Edward Pollard, aged 15, who is described as 'Son of Head of Household.'!! Alfred's occupation is given here as 'Clerk in Holy Orders without Cure of Souls'.

On 17th January 1887, and prior to the 1891 Census, Revd. Alfred Bowyer Smyth died in London. In that Census Charlotte Pollard and her 10 year old son Alfred are living in Rosaline Road, Fulham. Charlotte describes herself as 'Living on Own Means' The 1901 Census shows Charlotte, aged 64, and her son Alfred Edward, aged 20, living in Chippenham Road, Paddington, where Alfred is by now working as a Draper. I imagine that little did he know that he might have been in line for the Pole Baronetcy!! Soon after this, in 1902, Charlotte died in Paddington.

Meanwhile, during this time Mary Constantine is living separately from her husband. There seems to be no record for her, or her children, in the 1871 Census. In 1881, aged 55, she is living in Winchester with a lady companion and her son, Alfred John Bowyer Smyth, aged 30, who is shown as a 'Captain in the Hants Militia.' Mary describes herself as 'Wife of Clerk in Holy Orders'. They are living with 2 servants.

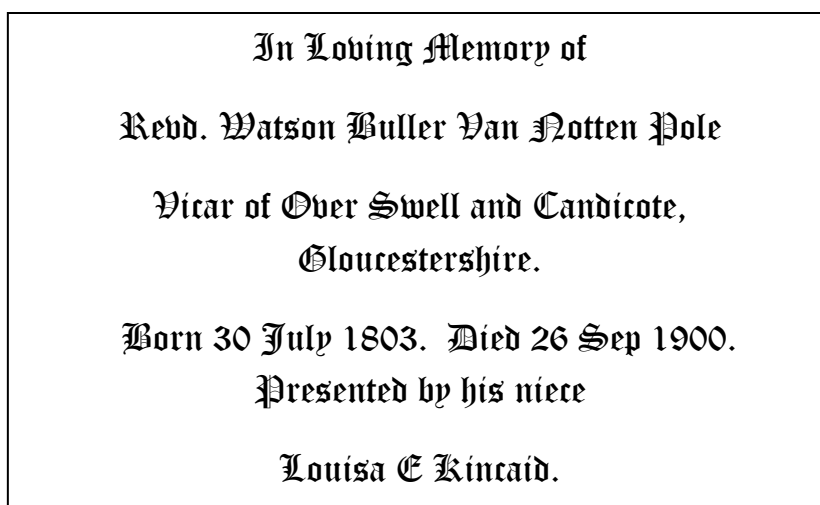
In 1891, still living in Winchester, Mary now describes herself as Widow and 'Living on her own means.' Alfred, her son, now aged 40, has progressed in rank to 'Major, 3rd Hampshire Regiment'. They now have 3 Servants, a Lady's Maid, a Cook and a Housemaid. Mary Constantine died in Winchester on 24th November 1898.

In 1901 Alfred John, aged 50, has retired from the Army. By then he had gained the rank of Honorary Lieutenant Colonel in the service of the 3rd Hampshire Regiment. On 22nd July 1916 Alfred succeeded to the title 13th Baronet of Hill Hall, Essex.

Lieutenant Colonel Sir Alfred John Bowyer Smyth died in Winchester on 4th August 1927.

13 REVD. WATSON BULLER VAN NOTTEN POLE. 1803 - 1900

The Vicar's Desk in the Chancel was given:



Watson Buller Van Notten Pole was born in Tooting, South West London on 20 July 1803. He was the son of Charles Van Notten Pole, born in 1772 and Felizarda Van Notten Pole (nee Felizarda Matilda Buller, born 1781. It is claimed that the Van Notten Pole's are descended from Royalty.

The Royal Genealogical database identifies that Watson requires but 20 relationships to connect him with Charlemagne, 'Charles the Great'.

He attended Rugby School from the age of 12 and appears in the Rugby School register in 1815. He gained his matriculation in May 1821 at the age of 17 and gained entrance to Balliol College, Oxford that year. The Register of Oxford Alumni identifies that he graduated as Bachelor of Arts (Oxon) in 1825.

We have minimal knowledge of Watson's parents and his father's occupation, but, having been living in Tooting, at the time of Watson's birth, they are then shown as living in St Martin in the Fields, Westminster, at the time of the 1841 Census, when Charles is described as a Merchant and Watson, then 35 years old, listed as a clerk. It is probable that he was only visiting his parents at the time of this Census. They were then both over 60, and possibly Clerk is a shortening for Clerk in Holy Orders. The Oxford Alumni Register records that Watson was ordained as a Church of England Minister and was Rector of a Parish in Upper Swell, Gloucestershire from 1821 to 1881 and of Condicote, Gloucestershire from 1841 to 1881.

On 11th August 1846 Watson was married to Matilda Pole in St. Marylebone Parish Church, Middlesex. Matilda was the daughter of Sir Peter Pole, 3rd Baronet of Wolverton. The marriage was against the commonly accepted traditions of the Church of England as Matilda was marrying the son of her father's younger brother Charles i.e. her nephew. Unusually Matilda had no need to change her surname on marriage.

The 1851 Census shows Watson and Matilda to be living in the Parsonage at Upper Swell with 5 servants, a lady's maid, cook, house maid, groom and labourer. Watson is recorded as being 'Rector of Upper Swell' and Matilda as 'Parson's Wife'.

Over a period of about 60 years in the 19th Century it would appear that Watson served two parishes Upper Swell and Condicote. These are both small villages, situated in the Cotswolds. Upper Swell is some 1½ miles north west of Stow on the Wold, while Condicote is a small and remote parish lying on an exposed slope of the Cotswolds three miles north west of Stow-on-the-Wold. They are both ancient villages and are recorded in the Domesday Book.

The Church of St Mary, Upper Swell, is a rugged building, built of Cotswold Stone, and dating from the 14th Century. The Church of St Nicholas, Condicote dates back 1000 years, parts of the building are Norman whilst, despite its small size, it shows many other periods of architecture.



Church of St Mary, Upper Swell



St. Nicholas Church, Condicote.

Watson and Matilda remained in Upper Swell until 1881. They again appear in the Census in both 1861 and 1871 with very similar entries. Perhaps wisely, in view of their close relationship they had no children. They are however well served by their range of servants, to whom they have now added a butler. In 1861 Watson describes himself as the 'Rector of Upper Swell and Condicote'.

Watson retired from his livings in Gloucestershire in early 1881 and, in the Census of 1881, age 77, is living with Matilda in Farncombe Street, Godalming, Surrey. He describes himself as Clergyman 'without care of souls', by which I take it to mean he has retired. A niece, Sarah Elizabeth Pole, aged 38, is living with them as a housekeeper, and they still have five servants!!

Watson's wife, Matilda died on 25 May 1887, at Farncombe Place, Godalming, aged 80. They had lived together for 41 years. The next record I have of Watson is that he had moved to live in Cookham, Berkshire at the time of the 1891 Census. He describes himself as 'Clerk in Holy Orders'. He is now accompanied by another niece, Agnes Pole, aged 35. They now employ 4 servants, including their butler, Henry Truton, now 63, who had served the family for at least 30 years. Cookham was Watson's last port of call as he died on 26 Sep 1900 in Maidenhead, aged 97.

The Vicars Desk given by Watson's niece, Louisa Kincaid, is but one of a number of items that she had donated to St Peter's Church. Details of her life is given elsewhere with that of her husband John Kincaid to whom she also dedicated a matching desk, Both now stand to the rear of the altar, either side of the chancel.

14 GEORGE FREDERICK ROUMIEU 1851 - 1942

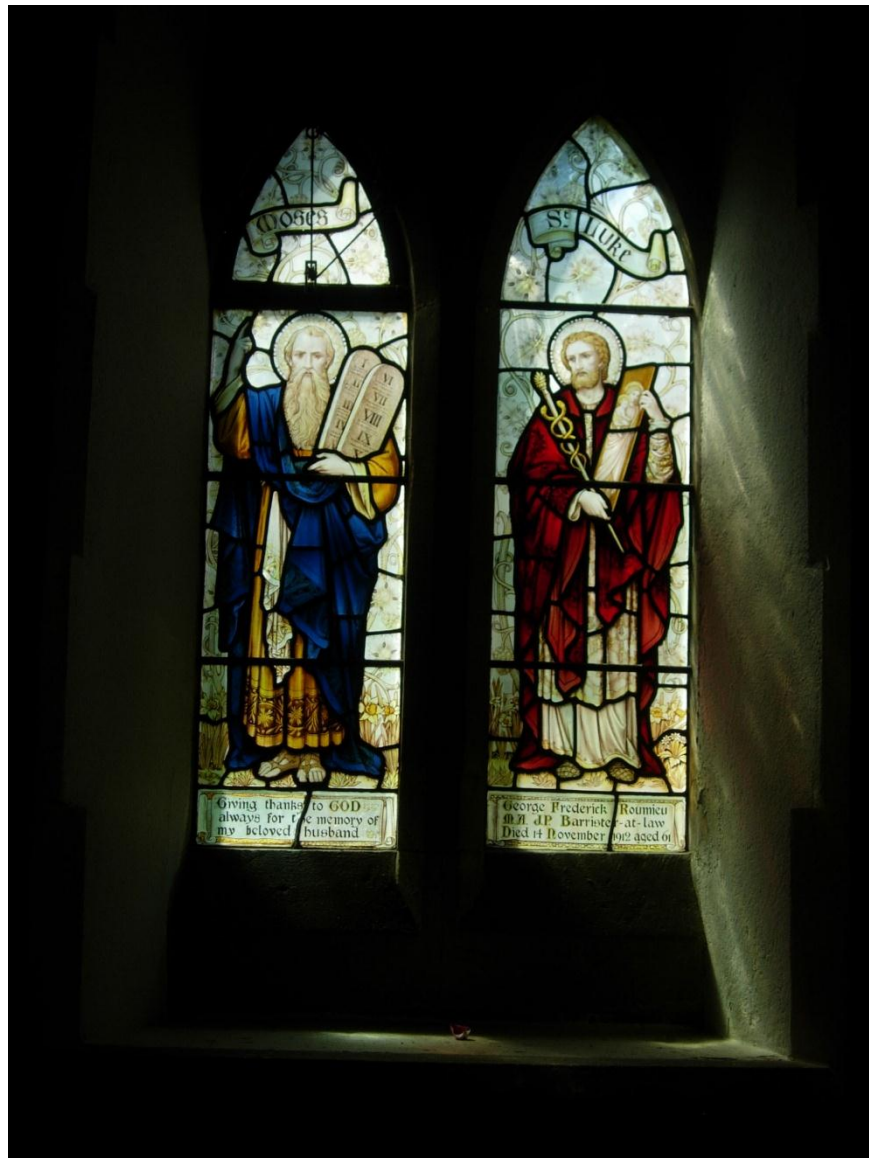
Two windows in the South Aisle, one representing Moses, the other St Luke, and situated just outside the Vestry, bear the following inscription.

Giving thanks to God always for the memory of my beloved
husband,

George Frederick Roumieu

M.D. Barrister of Law,

Died 14th November 1942. Aged 61.



George Frederick Roumieu was born in Wraysbury, Buckinghamshire in 1851. He was the second son of Charles and Eliza Jane Roumieu. His brother, John Joseph, was born seven years before in 1844. He was first educated at Christ's College, Finchley where he matriculated in 1870, and gained an entrance to Jesus College, Cambridge. There he gained a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1874, and was awarded Master of Arts in 1877.

Seeking a career in law he was admitted to Lincoln's Inn on 26 October 1874 and called to the bar six years later on 21 April 1880. He was then working on the Western Circuit.

It was in 1862 that he first moved to Farnham and he lived in the town for 50 years, until his death in 1912. In 1877, aged 26, George married Augusta Henrietta Ward in Hastings, Sussex. Augusta was three years younger than George and had been born in Bath, Somerset in 1854. The 1871 Census records that Augusta was a visitor staying with the Hall family in Alton High Street. Henry Hall the Head of this family, according to the Census, surprisingly combined the occupations of both Brewer and Banker!! It is possible that it was while she was staying in Alton that Augusta met George Roumieu.

No record has been found for George and Augusta in the 1881 Census. However the 1891 Census shows that George and Augusta were living at Runwick House, Dippenhall with George's father and mother, Charles and Eliza, then aged 73 and 78 respectively. George's parents, Charles and Eliza both died in Farnham. Eliza in 1896, aged 82 and Charles in 1902, aged 84. Charles is buried in the Wrecclesham Churchyard on School Hill.

In 1896 George Roumieu's father Charles had built Willey Park, now the Farnham House Hotel, for his son's residence and they lived there until the early years of the 20th Century when they moved into Farnham and lived in Bethune House in West Street.



Willey Park

The Roumieu's had no children and in 1914 Willey Park was auctioned and was purchased by William Septimus Trimmer, the youngest son of George Trimmer, one of the most influential and wealthiest men in Farnham, and owner of the Lion Brewery.

George Roumieu remained active until the day that he died, in Farnham, of cancer, in Nov 1912, at the relatively young age of 61. Augusta lived for a further 13 years after his death until she died at sea off South Africa on 31st January 1925. Her body was interred in Port Elizabeth. They had no children. George's brother, the Rev. John. J. Roumieu was at this time the Vicar of Reigate. He died in Reigate in 1925.

Throughout much of his time in Farnham George had served as the as Coroner for West Surrey a position he held for 30 years. His obituary in the British Medical Journal says:

'He was essentially a doctor's coroner. He further always showed his interest in and sympathy with the profession in never allowing a jury to criticise a medical man's actions. A man of pronounced opinions to which he fearlessly gave expression, his nature was genial to a degree. He was given to much hospitality and was often embarrassingly generous to his friends.'

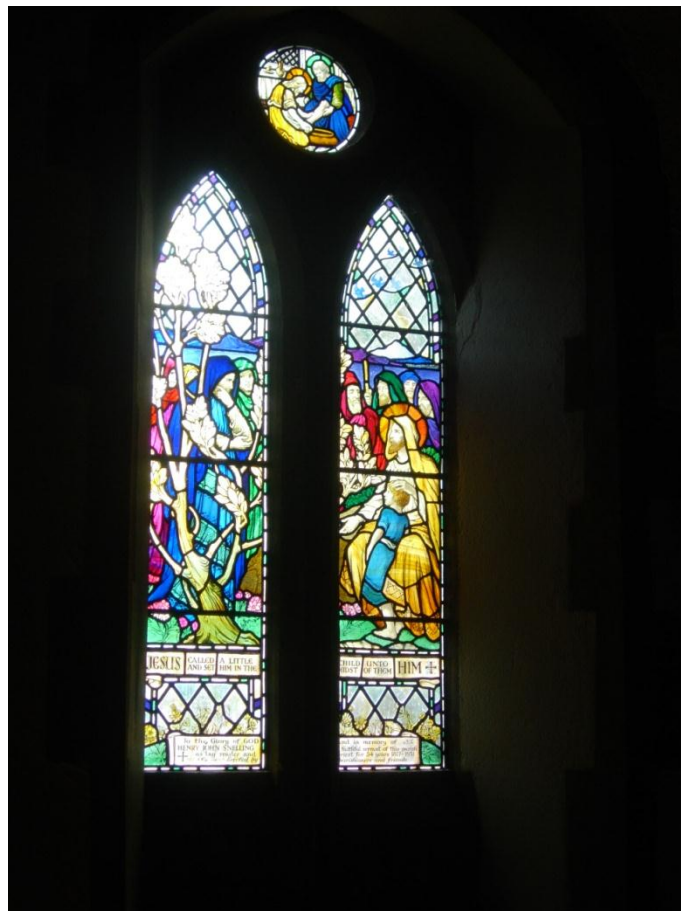
George had a busy life. He had a keen interest in farming and was twice appointed President of the British Dairy Farmers Association. He was active as a well-known judge of Cattle at County and National agricultural shows. He was a Justice of the Peace, a Member of Farnham Urban District Council, a member of the Farnham Board of Guardians, Chairman of the Parish Council and of the Farnham Joint Isolation Hospital in what is now Greenfield Road. He was an active Freemason and a keen sportsman.

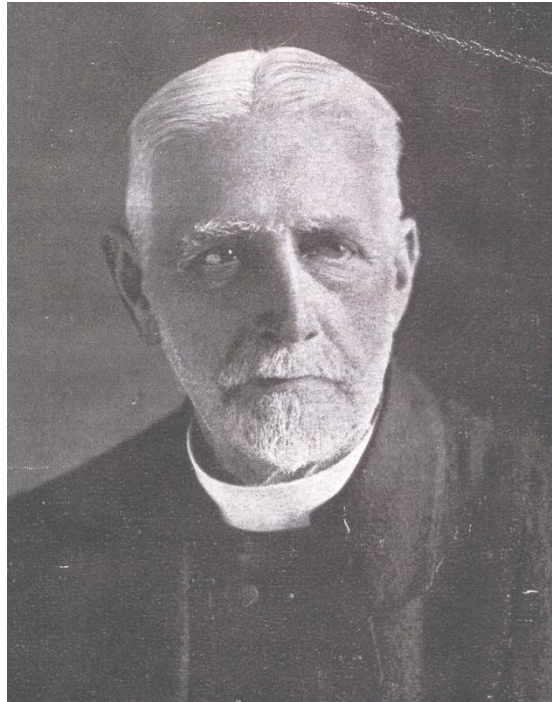
George was a generous supporter of local activity. Among those to benefit from his generosity was Church House in Union Street, Farnham. The site for these premises was gifted by George Roumieu.

14 HENRY JOHN SNELLING 1858 - 1931

A Window, showing Christ blessing the children, appropriately recognising Revd. Snelling's dedication to Junior Church, is situated at the West end of the South Aisle and has the following dedication:

To the Glory of God and in Memory of
Henry John Snelling
a Faithful Servant of the Parish as Lay
Reader and Priest for 54 years 1877-1931
Erected by Parishioners and Friends.





The Revd. Henry John Snelling

Henry John Snelling was born in Farnham in 1858. He was the eldest son of William and Mary Snelling, who lived in West Street, Farnham. William, also born in Farnham, in 1839, was a bricklayer, employing 17 men. William married Mary Ann Nash in 1854. Mary was born in Farnham, in 1839. Her father Thomas Nash had been a carpenter. Henry John was the second of William and Mary's four children. The others were William Beaumont born in 1856, Mary, in 1861, and Thomas in 1865.

The 1861 Census records Henry's father, William, as being a builder employing 2 men. However by 1871 he has moved on and is recorded as a 'Builder employing 20 men.' The four children are all shown as being at school. By 1881 Henry's brother, William, had left home. Henry's father William is now recorded as a master bricklayer, employing only 2 men. The three remaining children are all working, Henry, aged 22, is shown as working as a Grocer, Mary aged 20, is a Dressmaker and Thomas aged 16, is a grocer's assistant, no doubt working for his brother. It is understood that Henry at first was an assistant grocer for a man called James Longhurst, who ran a grocer's shop in Send House. Snelling remained until Longhurst's death and then took over the shop.

By 1891 Henry is shown living with his father in Bower House, Wrecclesham. William, aged 61, who has retired and is a widower, Henry's mother Mary having died in 1886, at the age of 62. All the remaining children have left home. Henry is now shown as being a Licensed Diocesan Reader.

In 1891, Henry's brother, William, is married and living with his wife Lucy, in Stockbridge, Hampshire where he is employed as an Inland Revenue Officer, living in a house provided by the Inland Revenue. William and Lucy have four children 3 boys and a girl. Mary Ann had married in 1893.

As can be seen from the dedication on the window, gifted in his memory by the Parishioners of St Peter's, Henry played an important part in the life of the Church. Initially he was an enthusiastic leader of the Sunday School. He later gave up his grocery business to become a Lay Reader. His lack

of education had however frustrated his ambition to be ordained as a priest. However after eighteen years of dedicated ministry, the Bishop of Guildford recommended that he be appointed as a Curate of Wrecclesham, a position he held until his death. The Licence for Henry John Snelling to be Assistant Curate was issued in 1901. In the Census for 1901 Henry is shown to be living on his own, in Diamond Villas, Wrecclesham, his father, William, having died in 1900. In 1911 Henry is shown living in Woodview, Wrecclesham, with John Henry Cranham who is described as a boarder and a gardener by occupation. It is thought that the picture below was chosen by Henry for his Christmas Card and was taken in the garden of Woodview. It shows Henry with John Henry Cranham proudly displaying their garden.



We have only a few details of Henry's life in the early part of the 20th Century. What is known is that soon after he was made Curate, the Parish acquired St Timothy's Chapel of Ease, in Boundstone. This had come about as a result of an indenture gifted to the parish by Revd. Arthur William Parker, the Vicar of Rowledge. In 1907, the Revd. Parker had gifted the land in Sandrock Hill in Trust for a Mission Hall to be built in Sandrock Hill. At this time there were very close links between St Peter's Church and St James's Church, Rowledge. The Revd. Arthur Parker's wife was Harriet Julius, one of the many daughters of the Revd Henry Julius, a previous long serving Vicar of St Peter's Church, Wrecclesham. (For more detail see the separate report on Henry Julius).

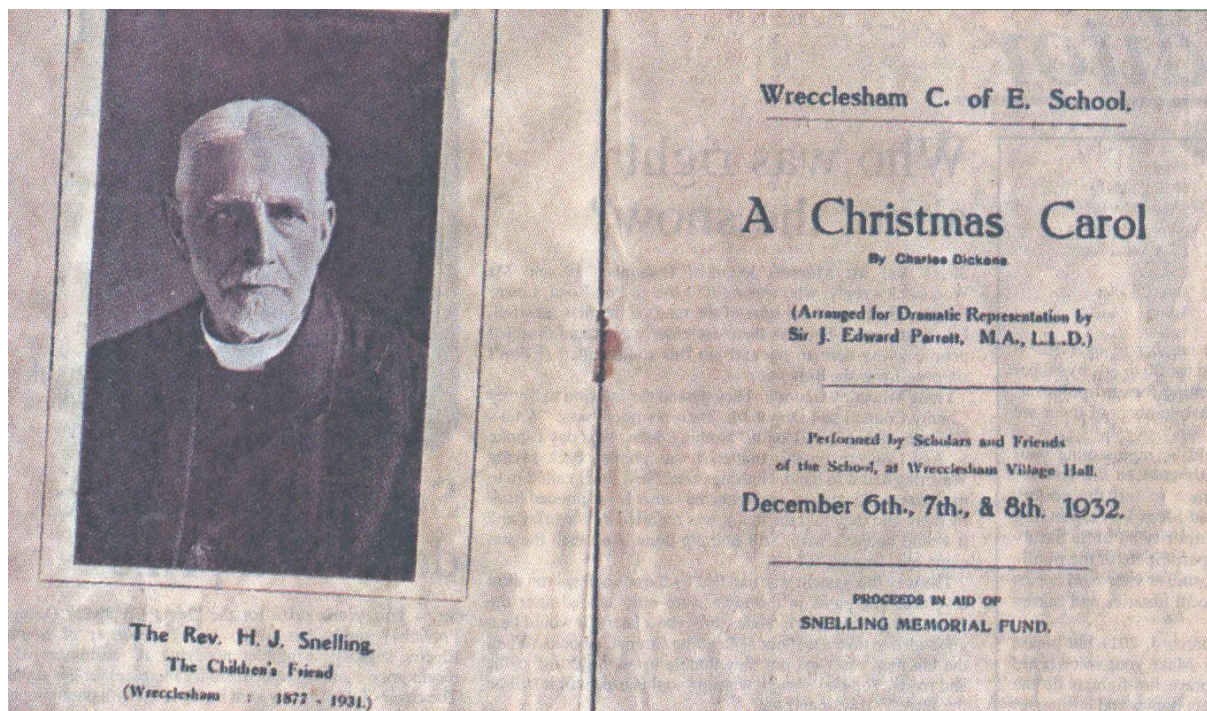
In his later years, and until his death in December 1931, the Revd. Henry Snelling was Priest in Charge at St Timothy's. A Memorial Tablet, seen overleaf, was erected in St. Timothy's for Henry John Snelling and, when St Timothy's was sold in 2005, this was moved to St Peter's, where it now hangs in the Vestry.

Henry John Snelling died, at the Eldon House Nursing Home in the Lower Bourne in Farnham, on 12 Dec 1931 aged 73. At his funeral his coffin was carried into St Peter's Church by six men from the parish, all of whom were Godsons of Henry John.

It was evident that Henry was highly revered by the Parishioners of Wrecclesham, who raised the collection in his memory to install the window in the Church. The Commemoration Window in St Peter's was unveiled on 23 April 1933. Among the events that were held to raise money for the Snelling memorial Fund was a performance of a musical play, A Christmas Carol, performed at the

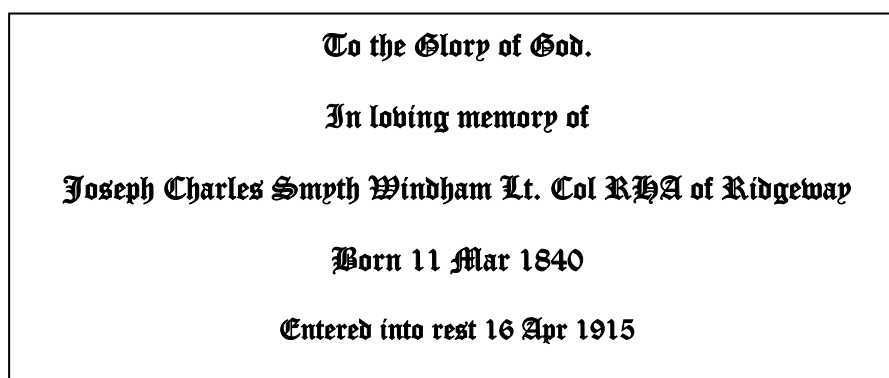
Wrecclesham Village Hall by scholars and friends of Wrecclesham C of E School. In the programme for this play, part of which is shown overleaf Henry John Snelling is referred to as:

‘the Children’s Friend’.



16 JOSEPH CHARLES SMYTH WINDHAM 1840 - 1915

In the South Aisle of St Peter's Church is a brass plaque with the following inscription:



Joseph Charles Smyth Windham was born in Buckhurst Park, Essex on 14 March 1838, the son of Joseph Smyth Windham and Mary, nee Trotter. Joseph and Mary had 7 children, 6 boys and 1 girl. Joseph Jnr. Was the 4th son to be born. The family cannot be found in the 1841 Census return. However, in the 1851 Census, aged 13, Joseph is shown to be living at the Rectory in Buckhurst Park with the family of the Revd. Henry W. Sewell, the Rector of Little Berkhamstead. The Revd. Sewell and his wife Eliza had three daughters, two of them of school age and they ran a small preparatory school. Living in the Rectory with this family was a tutor, a further 18 scholars and 6 servants.

No Census records for Joseph are to be found for the period 1861 – 1881. However during this period it is known that Joseph was serving, as an officer, in the army. He had a distinguished military career in the Royal Horse Artillery, eventually reaching the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. The RHA was, and still is, a most prestigious regiment. When on parade with its guns, the Royal Horse Artillery takes precedence over every other regiment and corps in the British Army, and parades at the right of the line. Regrettably the service records of RHA officers were destroyed in enemy action at Chelsea Barracks during World War II.

On 25th Oct 1876, Joseph was married in St. George's Church, Hanover Square to Emily Harriet Champion de Crespigny. Emily was 15 years Joseph's junior, and had been born in Wickhams Bishop in Essex on 11 April 1853. Her father was Sir Claude William de Crespigny and her mother's maiden name was Mary Tyrrell. The Champion de Crespigny family had its origins in Normandy, France, from whence they, as a Protestant family, had fled to England, in 1687, to avoid persecution. It is said that they escaped by sea and crossed the channel disguised as fishermen.

Emily's father was the 4th Baronet de Champion Crespigny, the 1st Baronet was Sir Claude Champion de Crespigny, who was created Baronet in 1805. At the time of his knighthood he was said to be 18th in direct descent from King Edward III, King of England. Joseph was thus seen to be marrying a lady of some substance.

St George's Church, Hanover Square, in London's West End, where the happy couple were married, was built in the early 18th Century, and has always been regarded as a favoured venue for society weddings. It is situated in one of the wealthiest areas in London which has provided a home for

aristocrats, MP's, Peers, royalty and rich businessmen. Emily came from a similarly privileged background.

Little is known about the early years of this marriage as neither partner appears in the 1861 or 1871 Census. The only record that provides a glimpse of this period is the 1891 Census which records the birth of their two children. Their first child, Katherine Emily, was born in Curragh, Co. Kildare, Ireland on 15 Aug 1877. It seems probable that Emily had followed her husband, Joseph, to Ireland, when he was posted there with his regiment. Following the Crimean War the British Army built a large permanent camp in Curragh, to service its activity in Ireland. By this time Ireland was recovering from the potato famine and this period had witnessed the start of the campaign for 'Home Rule'.

There were still skirmishes between the Republican forces and the British and, to meet a growing need for barrack accommodation, it was decided that a camp for 10,000 infantry would be built at the Curragh in County Kildare.

Joseph and Emily's second child, Mary, was born in Farnham in 1868. There is some confusion about her date of birth. It has been suggested that she was born on 3 Dec 1868. However, other records show that her mother, Emily had died on 8 Sep 1868. It would appear likely that at least one of these dates may be unreliable. Whatever the true situation, it is sad that the two girls lost their mother so early in their young lives. Joseph, left a widower, with two young girls to bring up, clearly decided firstly, to retire his commission and to take residence in Farnham, and secondly to remarry.

Joseph's second wife, a widow, Frances Helen Fordati, had been born Frances Helen Curry, in Old Palace Yard, Westminster, in 1847. In 1868, aged 21, she had been married to George Quayle Fordati, in Chertsey, Surrey. George Fordati had died in Kensington in 1877. Some nine years later Joseph and Frances were married, in Farnham, in 1886. Frances brought to the marriage her own family of three children, George Basil, born in 1871, Frances Mary, in 1878 and Katherine Helen, in 1874.

By this time Joseph had purchased Ridgeway House, in Dippenhall. Ridgeway House is still in occupation and is south of the A 31, just a little north of what is now the Farnham House Hotel. Ridgeway House, seen below, can be approached from Runwick Lane. It is a substantial Georgian house with a number of subsidiary buildings.

Bernard Ekins book 'Wrecclesham and District', suggests that, 'from 1899, it was occupied by Colonel Windham', but that, 'in 1913 only his wife was mentioned.' This would appear to be inaccurate as the 1891 Census records the family as living in Ridgeway House earlier in that decade.

The 1891 Census records a family of eight headed by Joseph, aged 53, described as 'Retired R.H. Artillery', his second wife, Frances (44), her three children George Basil Fordati, aged 19, a Law Student, Margaret Helen (17) and Frances Mary Fordati (13), the two children from Joseph's first marriage, Katherine Emily and Mary Smythe Windham, both inaccurately shown as aged 12, and a new child from the second marriage, a baby girl, aged 1, Violet Agnes Smythe Windham. By this time the double barreled name seems to have been used. The family enjoy the services of a governess, a lady's maid, a cook and two house maids. The 1901 Census still shows the family resident at Ridgeway House. Joseph now aged 63 is recorded as a Justice of the Peace and the girls from the three families are still living at home, but George Fordati is no longer present.



Ridgeway House, Dippenhall

On 9 Feb 1907, Joseph was no doubt delighted to give away his daughter Katherine, in marriage to Thomas Bonhoto Henderson. Fittingly, they were married in St George's Church, Hanover Square, where Joseph himself had married some 70 years previously. Joseph would also have been present at the wedding of his youngest daughter, Violet Agnes, and the only child from the second marriage of Joseph and his wife Frances, who was married in Farnham on 15 Nov 1912 to John Windham Wright.

In the 1911 Census Joseph is shown as living with his wife Frances and two step daughters, Margaret Helen and Frances Mary Fordati. I have been unable to find a public record of Joseph's life beyond this point. 10 months after the outbreak of World War 1, Joseph Windham died, in Farnham, on 16 April 1915, aged 77.

It is not known how long Frances Windham continued living at Ridgeway House after Joseph's death, but it is known that she moved to Petersfield, with her two daughters, Margaret Helen and Frances Mary. Frances Helen Windham died in Petersfield 1921. Neither of the two Fordati daughters married and they both died in Petersfield, Margaret in 1931 and Frances Mary in 1941. It is believed they were all at the time living in Liss, just outside Petersfield.

Of Joseph's other two daughters I have found no record of Mary Smyth Windham marrying nor of her death registration. It has been recorded in one of the family trees associated with Smyth Windham's that she died on 12 Jun 1963 but I can find no confirmation of this. Joseph's youngest daughter Violet died, aged 69, on 14 Jan 1959.

17 WALTER REGINALD TANNER 1874 -1959

In memory of
Walter Reginald Tanner of Yatesbury House 1874-1959
for many years Churchwarden and Treasurer. Also of his
wife Christine Jessie Tanner 1886-1977. Affectionately
remembered for their unfailing help and kindness

Walter Reginald Tanner was born in Yatesbury, a small village in Wiltshire, in 1874. His father was Charles Albert Tanner, who had also been born in Yatesbury, in 1839, and his mother Elizabeth Tanner, nee Pratt, who had been born in Wooton Bassett, in 1834. Charles and Elizabeth had been married in 1861 in Cricklade, Wiltshire. Elizabeth was the eldest daughter of James Pratt, a solicitor in Wooton Bassett, and his wife Rose.

While living in Yatesbury, Charles Albert Tanner describes himself variously as Landowner, Farmer and Gentleman. He and Elizabeth enjoyed a large family. Elizabeth Frances (1863), Mary Marketyne (1864), Sophia Rose (1866), Minnie Alberta (1867), Charles Henry James (1868), John (1870), Lillian (1871), Ann Dorothea (1872), Beatrice Adelaide (1874), Walter Reginald (1875), Frances Margaret Bertha (1876) and Marion Charlotte Eugenie (1878).

Unfortunately Reginald's sister, Mary Marketyne Tanner, died at the age of 10 in 1874.

Charles Tanner remained living in Yatesbury until sometime in the 1880's when he and his wife moved to Didmarton, a small village in Gloucestershire. Charles, aged 52, had taken up a position as Steward on West End Farm in Didmarton. By this time Walter, aged 23, had left home but there were still 5 unmarried daughters living at home, as well as Charles' 57 year old sister Frances.

In the 1891 Census Reginald Tanner, aged 16, was a pupil at Philberds House School in Holyport, nr Bray in Berkshire. Philberds House School was, at that time, a popular boarding school, established in the 16th Century by John Milton, *'where he taught the sons of relatives and other wealthy acquaintances'*. It appears that the school prepared boys (aged between 8 and 16) for entry into universities and the armed services.

There is no detail of the whereabouts of Walter Tanner between 1891 and 1911. He is not shown in the 1901 Census. At some time in this period he trained and qualified as an accountant. There is some evidence that he spent time in India in the army serving in the Calcutta Light Regiment but this has not been confirmed to date. There is a record of Walter sailing from Liverpool to New York on SS Etruria on 18th March 1893 so it is possible that he was in America at the time of the 1901 Census.

By the time of the 1901 Census, most of the Tanner family had left home and Charles, aged 62, is shown as a widower, living with three of his unmarried daughters Elizabeth, aged 38, Minnie, aged 34 and Frances, aged 23. His wife Elizabeth had died in 1901.

Walter was back in England at the time of the 1911 Census and living at Seaford in east Sussex, where he is shown as a boarder at **Claremont Road, East Blatchington**, aged 36, single and a Chartered Accountant.

The next confirmed record of Walter Tanner is that he was back in India in 1913 as he is shown as having married a lady called Christine Jessie Radmore. This wedding took place in Madras Cathedral on 6th Dec 1913. Their first child followed soon afterwards as Thomas Reginald Oriel Tanner was born in Ballygunge, Calcutta on 17 Jan 1914. It is thought they returned to England in 1915 as their second son John Darley Tanner was born in Swanage, Dorset on 27 Sep 1915. There is a further record of a Mr and Mrs W R Tanner and 2 sons returning to Bombay, India aboard the P & O Ship, S.S. Arcadia, on 13 Nov 1915.

Walter was at this time working as Senior Partner for the well-known London based Accountancy Company, Price Waterhouse. A third child, a daughter, Mary Elizabeth was born in Calcutta on 9 Jul 1917. The family returned to England in 1919 on the S.S. Ormonde which sailed from Bombay with a destination Plymouth on 30 April 1919. It is thought that initially the family settled in Dorset as a fourth child Margaret was born in Wareham in 1919.

At some time after 1919 the family moved to Farnham where they settled in the Old Vicarage in Wrecclesham. While it is evident that they were active members of the St. Peters congregation, they obviously felt that there was a need to change the name of their house and it was, from that time, known as Yatesbury House, named after Walter's birth place, and the name it retains today.



Yatesbury House, Wrecclesham – The Old Vicarage.

Walter and Jessie remained in Wrecclesham for the remainder of their life. They added two more children to their growing family, Christine, who was born in Farnham in 1923 and Joan Marcia also born in Farnham on 8 Dec 1926. The British Telephone records show that the Tanners continued living in Yatesbury House in the 30 year period between 1928 and 1959.

It is clear that for a long period they were very active members of the Wrecclesham community. Walter was both a member of the PCC and Treasurer. The Church records should be able to tell us when he held these offices. That he was prominent in the life of the village is shown by his being chosen as the spokesman for Wrecclesham when he thanked Farnham Urban District Council for their provision of a recreation ground in 1927, and some 20 years later, in 1947, he was one of the managers of St Peter's School.

There are just a few more facts that we can record here. Walter Reginald Tanner died in Farnham in 1959, aged 84. His wife Christine Jessie Tanner outlasted him by 18 years, dying in Farnham in 1972, aged 86. After Walter's death, Yatesbury House was sold in 1962 and Christine moved into smaller properties. The first of these was Lyn Lea Cottage in Gorse Lane, which she was occupying in 1972, and then came a house called Squirrel Bank, which was built in Yatesbury Close, which runs just beyond Yatesbury House. Thus the link with Walter's home village of Yatesbury was again acknowledged.

Of the family, it is known that Thomas Reginald, having been a tea taster in London, served in the army in the Middle East, in World War 2, before emigrating to Australia where he became a sheep farmer. In 1968 he married Molly Whittaker, a New Zealand lady, and they had one child. Molly died in Auckland, New Zealand in 1968 and Thomas also died some 15 years later, also in Auckland, on 24 Sep 1983.

John Darley followed in his father's footsteps and returned to India where, in 1943, he served in the Calcutta Light Horse Regiment. He also qualified as an accountant and worked in Calcutta, Rangoon and Reading. He was married in Rangoon, Burma, on 24 Sep 1983 and died on 20 Sep 1981 at Goring on Thames. It is understood that he is survived by his wife Lucy and two children.

Mary Elizabeth was married, in Columbo, Ceylon, on 22 Aug 1944 to George Charles Desbrisay Curnock, who was a Commander in the Royal Navy. It is understood that for a while after Walter's death Mary and her husband George shared a house with Christine, called Tarawera in Boundstone Road. Little is known after that point except that George Curnock died in Droxford in 1956 and Mary Elizabeth died in Winchester on 6 Mar 1993. They are survived by two children.

Joan Marcia, who was married to Alfred Frewin, at St Joan of Arc Church in Farnham in 1943. She was a Radiographer in London and Winchester from where she emigrated to Ashburton, New Zealand, where she died in 1988.

Not a lot is known about Christine Tanner, the youngest child. It is thought that she married a man called Donald Rowntree in South West Surrey in 1949 but I have no further records from that point in time.

18 WILLIAM CHARLES TRIMMER 1896 - 1916

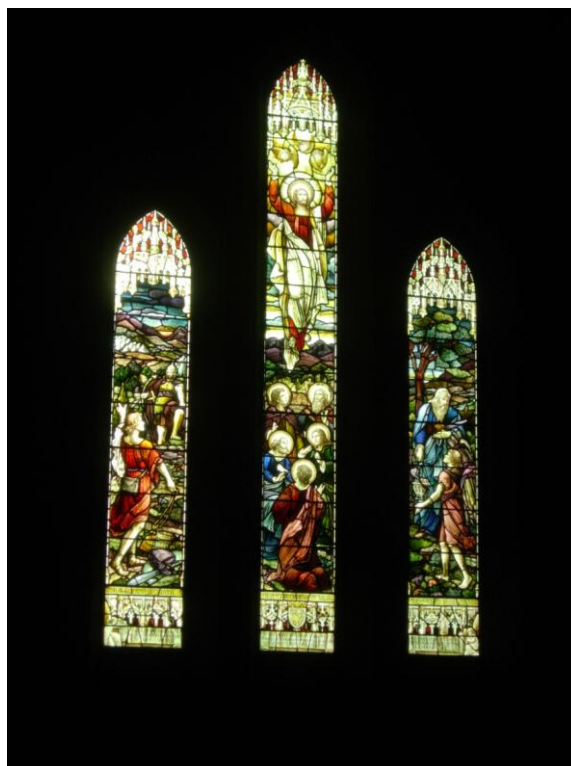
The West Window of St Peter's Church consisting of 3 lights illustrating respectively, David and Goliath, The Ascension of our Lord and the Sacrifice of Isaac, has a Dedication which reads:

To the Glory of God and to the sacred memory of an only son

2nd Lieutenant Wilson Charles Trimmer,

1st Bucks Territorial Battalion, Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry. Born Sep
19th 1896 fell in action near Pozieres 21 July 1916

And I will give them a Crown of Life.



The West Window

In addition to the main window there is a small circular window, above the main lights, which embraces the regimental arms of William Trimmer's regiment, the Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry.





Badge of the Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry



The Trimmer Family Vault and Memorial, West street Cemetery, Farnham.

William Charles Trimmer was born on 19th September 1896, in Farnham. He was the son of William Septimus Trimmer, and his wife Elizabeth, known as Lily. William Septimus Trimmer was the youngest child of George Trimmer, one of the most wealthy and influential men in Farnham in the second half of the 19th Century. George Trimmer founded the Lion Brewery, a business that still survives in East Street, Farnham.

The book 'Farnham Buildings and People' by Nigel Temple says of him:

'George Trimmer started with nothing, married well and died worth Three Quarters of a Million Pounds*.....His success was apocryphal. He bought land, built pubs, developed a house and stables at 69 West Street and snapped up sites all over the district.'

He owned land at Runfold, Sheephatch, Manley Bridge, Runwick and Deans Farm. On his death, in 1892, he left money to various local charitable causes, including the Trimmer's Almshouses, opposite the West Street cemetery, where the Trimmer Family had an impressive vault and memorial.

*worth about £105 million at today's prices.

In 1849 George Trimmer married Ellen Bravery, the daughter of James Bravery, a miller from Dorking, and his wife Sarah, whose maiden name was Brett. George and Ellen married in Dorking and over the next 12 years they raised 5 children, Alice (1851), Robert George (1853), Horace James, (1857) Charles Edwin (1858) and William Septimus (1861).



George Trimmer

As might be expected George's four sons were successful in their own right. Three of the boys, Robert, Horace and William became farmers. Robert farmed at Runwick Farm. Horace, who in 1881 was following in his father's footsteps as a Brewer in Winchester, had, by the time of the next Census, in 1891, become a farmer in Andover. William Septimus, the youngest son, was staying in Martyr Worthy in 1891, where he was listed as a farmer. The only son who does not appear to have progressed is Charles Edwin. At the age of 20, Charles gained entrance to Peterhouse College, Cambridge. There is no record of him gaining a degree. In 1891 he is 'living on his own means' with his father. There is no further record for him until he died in 1906 aged 48.

By 1901 William Septimus Trimmer had married a lady called Elizabeth Davis. Elizabeth, also known as Lily, had previously lived in London. They were married in 1895 at St George's Church, Hanover Square.

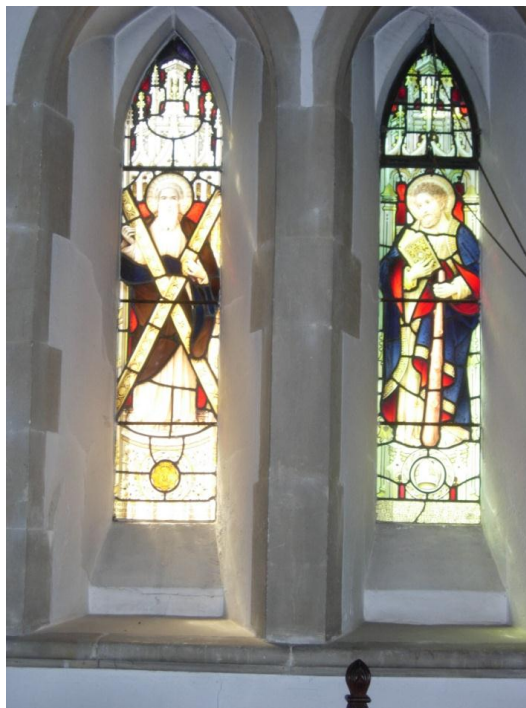
In the 1901 Census, William and Lily were living at The Meadows, Crowhurst, Sussex, and had two children, William Charles aged 4 and Dorothy aged 3. They had three servants, a governess, a cook and a housemaid. William was said to be 'living on his own means.' In the 1911 Census William is shown as a student at Cheltenham College but William's father is now shown as living with his wife and servant s in Runwick House. There is no further record of William Charles before the notification of his death , in France, during World War I. By 1916 he had reached the rank of 2nd Lieutenant in the Buckingham Territorial Battalion of the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry. He was killed in action on 21st September 1916. The memorial window says he fell in action near Pozieres.

Pozieres is a village 6 kilometres north-east of the town of Albert. The Memorial there commemorates over 14,000 casualties of the United Kingdom and 300 of the South African Forces who have no known grave and who died in the later stage of the Battle on the Somme in 1918. However several plots were made after the Armistice when graves were brought in from the battlefields immediately surrounding the cemetery, the majority of them of soldiers who died in the Autumn of 1916. The Commonwealth Graves Commission has no record of him having a grave in France.

19 OWEN FLORANCE LOUIS WARD 1823 - 1873

On the South Wall of the Sanctuary is a window with two lights representing St. Andrew, erected by the Revd. Stanhope Ward, one in memory of his parents, the other in memory of his grandfather.

The Inscriptions read:



To the Glory of God
And in pious memory of
Owen F L Ward.
Captain of Foot
and of Annie Alice, his wife, placed by their son
The Revd. Stanhope Ward.

To the Glory of God and to the memory of
James Ward of Willey Place,
a munificent contributor to the building fund of
the Church.

Owen Florance Louis Ward was born in Farnham in 1823, the son of James and Elizabeth Ward, nee Smith. His father, James Arthur Ward, was a magistrate in Hampshire, and lived in Willey Farnham, Surrey. According to the inscription on the church window, James had been a major contributor to funds raised to build St Peters Church in 1840.

They had at least nine children, not all of whom were to survive. Owen Florance Louis Ward was James's fifth born child. Not much is known about Owen's early life but it is known that his mother was to die at Willey in 1832 when he was only nine.

On 25 May 1847, when aged 24, Owen married Annie Alicia Welman, at Trinity Church, Launceston, Tasmania, Australia. Annie had been born in Sydney, New South Wales, on 30 March 1829. She was the daughter of Harvey Welman and Mary Collins. At present it is not known what Annie and Owen were doing in Tasmania at that time, but it may have been connected with Owen's army career or perhaps while he was just travelling for pleasure.

Owen does not appear in the 1841, 1851 or 1861 Census. Again this may be because he was serving in the Army. We know from the inscription on the window of the Church that he was a 'Captain of Foot' but we have been unable to find Army Service Records for him in the National Archives ..

Owen and Annie had 12 children. Their first child, James Arthur, was born in Tasmania in 1849. Their second son, Owen Charles Ward, was born in Sydney in 1850. Their third child, Rosamond Alice, the last of the children to be born in Australia, was born in 1851. On their return to England the couple must have lived for a while in Bath as Ernestine, their fourth child, was born there in 1856. The remainder of the family were born in Dippenhall. Percy Milton 1857, Gertrude Annie 1861, Edith Maude 1862, Stanhope Edgar 1863, Edgerton Harvey 1865, Gerald Lechmere 1866 and William Edwin 1867. It is said that there was a further boy Florance Henry but we can find not details for him. At least five of these children, Percy, Gertrude, Edith, Gerald and William were baptised at St Peters and both Gertrude and Edith were buried there.

At the time of the 1871 Census, Owen is living in Ridgeway House, Dippenhall, aged 46, with Annie, aged 41. There were 5 children, 4 sons and one daughter, living at home at the time, Owen Charles, aged 22, who is now a Law Student, Ernestine, aged 15, Stanhope aged 7, Gerald aged 5 and William Edwin aged 4. The family had 4 servants, cook, nursemaid, nurse and housemaid. Also living with them was James Shenton who was a law student, and presumably a friend of Owen Arthur.

Not present at Ridgeway House in 1871 were James, Rosamond, Gertrude and Edith. Sadly both Gertrude and Edith had died in October 1864. I have found no record for James in the 1871 Census. However, in 1881, Rosamond, having been married to the Revd. George Jones at St. Peters Wrecclesham in 1869, at the tender age of 18, was now living at Rose Cottage in Headley, where George was Curate of All Saints Church. Percy Milton, aged 14, is a boarder at Egypt House, Northwood School in West Cowes. Gerald aged 14, is a boarder at Granville House School in Lee, South London and Edgerton is living as a lodger in Bromley, where he is described as a 'Law Pupil.'

Following their father Owen Florance Ward's death, in 1873, Annie moved to Lower Bourne where, in 1881 she was living at Gold Hill House in Gold Hill. Recorded with her in the 1881 Census are her eldest James Arthur, aged 32 and the youngest, William Edgar, aged 13. James Arthur is shown as

having no occupation and William Edgar is still at school. Annie is described as living on 'Income from Land'.



Ridgeway House

Not present at Ridgeway House in 1871 were James, Rosamond, Gertrude and Edith. Sadly both Gertrude and Edith had died in October 1864. I have found no record for James in the 1871 Census. However, in 1881, Rosamond, having been married to the Revd. George Jones at St. Peter's Wrecclesham in 1869, at the tender age of 18, was now living at Rose Cottage in Headley, where George was Curate of All Saints Church. Percy Milton, aged 14, is a boarder at Egypt House, Northwood School in West Cowes. Gerald aged 14, is a boarder at Granville House School in Lee, South London and Edgerton is living as a lodger in Bromley, where he is described as a 'Law Pupil'.

Following their father Owen Florance Ward's death, in 1873, Annie moved to Lower Bourne where, in 1881 she was living at Gold Hill House in Gold Hill. Recorded with her in the 1881 Census are her eldest James Arthur, aged 32 and the youngest, William Edgar, aged 13. James Arthur is shown as having no occupation and William Edgar is still at school. Annie is described as living on 'Income from Land'.

The remainder of the family are widely scattered at this time. Ernestine, aged 25, is shown as a niece, staying with relatives, in Hastings. Stanhope, aged 17, is a boarder at St John's Grammar School, Lichfield. St John's a long established school has recently celebrated its 500th anniversary. Among notable Old Boys of St John's Lichfield are Douglas Bader and Dr. Samuel Johnson. In 1891 Annie is still in the Lower Bourne where she is living with her son James, aged 42, Ernestine, aged 34, and William, aged 23. They are all unmarried, none of them are shown as having an occupation and they are credited with 'living on their own means.' By 1901 Annie, aged 72, is seen to be living alone at Gold Hill with two servants. She died in Farnham in the spring of 1914, aged 83.

This narrative now concentrates upon **Stanhope Edgar Ward**, as it is Stanhope who gifted the memorial windows to St. Peter's Church. Stanhope gained his matriculation from St John's Grammar

School in Lichfield, in 1882, and gained entrance to Pembroke College, Oxford , where he was awarded Bachelor of Arts in 1887 which he subsequently converted to an MA.

While still at Oxford he married a widow, Adelaide Miley. They were married in Headington, Oxford, in 1885. It was a somewhat strange marriage as Adelaide, born in London, St George's Hanover Square in May 1830, was 55 at the time of the wedding, whereas Stanhope was an undergraduate student of only 33. It is likely that it was marriage of convenience as it is known that Adelaide was a wealthy widow.

She had been born as Adelaide Simpson and had married Robert Parsons Miley, in Kensington, in 1858. In both the 1861 and 1871 Censuses, Adelaide, aged 32 and 42, is living in Warwick Street, Westminster, with her husband Robert and two servants. Robert gives his occupation as a Mercer in the 1861 Census and this is expanded in the 1871 Census where he is described as a Manchester warehouseman, employing 5 warehousemen and 2 boys.

Robert Miley is to die in Farnham in 1875, aged 46. It is possible that he and Adelaide had moved to live in Farnham prior to his death as, in the 1881 Census, Adelaide is shown as a widow, living at Boundstone Lodge, aged 50, with her niece, Grace Ward, aged 14. Grace was the daughter of Robert and Caroline Ward, who had been born in Monmouthshire in 1867. Grace's mother, Caroline, was Adelaide Wiley's sister and she had died in 1873. Adelaide had taken Grace under her wing and raised her. Obviously this arrangement, which was not uncommon in those days, was agreed by her father, Robert. Grace would be the only child that Adelaide would raise as she had no children from her two marriages. She was a 'ward' in every sense!! Grace was later to marry James Arthur Ward, Owen and Annie Ward's, eldest son.

It is not known whether Stanhope was to live in Boundstone after his marriage, as initially, he would have had to complete his degree. He would, at about this time, also have completed his training in Holy Orders to become a Church of England minister. Stanhope was known to have spent some time in both India and Ceylon, where he was to baptise at least two children from other branches of the Ward family.

Stanhope reappears in Farnham in the 1891 Census, where he is shown to be living at Fox Hall, in Bentley, with Adelaide, who is inaccurately shown as aged 52, when in reality she was 61. Stanhope, aged 27 is shown as a 'Student of Law and MA' and 'Living on his own means'. They have 3 servants a groom, a parlour maid and a cook.

By 1901, Stanhope, aged 37, and Adelaide, aged 70, have moved to Bracken Hill in Rowledge where they still have the two servants a parlour maid and a cook. By this time it is understood that Stanhope is Curate of St James Church, Rowledge, albeit this is not mentioned in this Census where it says he is 'living on his own means'.

The 1911 Census shows Stanhope, aged 47, as Curate of Rowledge, living at Bracken Hill, a large home with 13 rooms, not counting scullery, bathrooms closets or offices. Adelaide's age is wrongly reported as 50, when in reality it was 81!! Living with them is a nephew, who is a stockbroker's clerk and 3 servants.

Adelaide died in Farnham in 1922, aged 91. Stanhope was to remarry in Chelmsford , in 1924, to a lady called Charlotte E. M Clapperton. I have little information about their life together. Stanhope

died early in 1940, soon after the outbreak of World War II, aged 76. Information obtained from a distant relative of Stanhope suggests that he 'was a much loved and respected man,'

The following section traces the whereabouts of the remaining family of Owen Florance Louis Ward.

James Arthur married Grace Ward, in 1895. Grace had been living in Lower Bourne with Stanhope's wife, Adelaide, before her marriage. In 1901 Arthur and Grace were living in Rose Cottage in Rowledge where they had a 5 year old son, James.

Owen Charles had married a lady called Ellen, whose maiden name has not yet been determined. In 1881 Owen and Ellen were living, with two servants and no family, at Park Cottage, Hale Road, Farnham. Owen was then working as a solicitor. He was to die in Farnham June 1885, at the very young age of 35. I have no record of Ellen beyond that date.

Rosamund Alice had moved with her husband from Headley to live in various parts of Hampshire, where in 1881 George was to be Vicar of St Mary's Church Herriard, and, in 1891, of All Saints Church, Dummer. They were to have six children

Ernestine Ellen married Kempson Hendrick Thomas, in Farnham, in 1893. Kempson, who had been born in Liverpool, in 1858, was an accountant and, in 1991, he and Ernestine were living in Elm Bank, Pirbright, where they had a daughter Augusta, aged 7 and two sons, Frederick, aged 4, and Lechmere, aged 3.

Percy Milton. Little is known of him since he was at boarding school in the Isle of Wight in 1871. There is a record of a Percy Milton Ward marrying in Southampton, in 1876, but his wife cannot be accurately determined from the two ladies marrying there on that day.

Edgerton Harvey. It is known that he lived in Canada towards the end of the century where he met, and married, a lady called Ethel. Her maiden name is not known, but it is known that she was born in Kingston, Ontario in 1871. While in Canada they had a son, also Charles, who was born in Toronto in 1895. In 1901 the family had returned to England and are living in Hampstead, Middlesex. Edgerton, aged 35, is working as an Inspector for the RSPCA,.

Gerald Lechmere. There is no record of Gerald in the 1891, or in subsequent Censuses, and it is said that he emigrated to Canada where he eventually died.

William Edwin was missing in earlier Censuses as he was in the army. He married in Farnham, in 1894, a lady called Adelaide Mary Johnstone. Adelaide hailed from Old Charlton, Kent and had been born in 1880. In 1901 William, aged 33 and Adelaide, aged 31, were living in Charlwood, Surrey, with their daughter, Gillen, aged 4 who had been born in Farnham. William is described in the Census as a Retired Army Officer – Living on Own Means.

The Ward family clearly had a significant influence in Farnham as there are other branches of the family who also lived in the town. They were clearly wealthy. Stanhope recognises in his dedication that his Grandfather James was a major contributor to the building fund for St Peter's. Stanhope himself no doubt inherited much of his wealth from Adelaide who had been well endowed from her previous marriage,