



# Family Roots

Family History Society for Eastbourne & District

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LEST WE FORGET

Vol. 40.2 November 2025



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We have two vacancies. Why not join us?

**Copy deadlines for articles please.**

**February 15<sup>th</sup>, June 16<sup>th</sup> & October 16<sup>th</sup>.**

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# CONTENTS

|                                                    |    |
|----------------------------------------------------|----|
| EASTBOURNE ANCESTORS .....                         | 44 |
| TWO MEN OF SUSSEX ON THE SOMME .....               | 54 |
| UNEXPECTED CONNECTIONS .....                       | 59 |
| FATAL BOAT ACCIDENT AT EASTBOURNE. JUNE 1876 ..... | 61 |
| TWO SHORT TALKS BY ALAN WENHAM:.....               | 64 |
| HOW RESEARCHING MY GREAT GREAT GRANDMOTHER..       | 73 |
| VISIT TO PEVENSEY CASTLE.....                      | 76 |
| FUNERAL OF SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHOLAR. ....             | 79 |
| CHRISTMAS MEETING 4TH DECEMBER 2025 .....          | 80 |
| PROGRAMME 2026 .....                               | 81 |
| FOUND DEAD IN SHED.....                            | 84 |
| THE LATE DISASTER AT SEA.....                      | 85 |
| MEMBER’S INTERESTS .....                           | 87 |

*The cover image Wilmington War Memoria © John Tyhurst*

## Editorial

A warm welcome to Amanda Sheehan who is our new secretary,

You can reach Amanda at [secretary@eastbournefhs.org.uk](mailto:secretary@eastbournefhs.org.uk)

As new computers do not come with a CD drive I have been converting the files from our data CDs, by the time you are reading this magazine they should all be available on the website; the price is still the same as we made next to nothing selling the CDs.

I have been editor of the magazine since Vol 33.2 November 2018 and now decided it is time to hand over the reins, my last edition will be March 2026; If you are interested pleas contact me or any committee member.

The society has a fully licensed application which is used in the production of this magazine and is transferable to your **Windows** computer, I will still be managing the website and producing data files for any new CD or digital media and will be willing to assist you as the new editor.

In light of the recent revalations regarding Andrew, I am wondering what the family tree for the royals will look like.

Will he be still shown as 'Prince Andrew' as I suspect this is what is on his birth certificate?

I have just had an email from our Canadian member Bob Maynard saying for personal reasons he will not be renewing his membership for 2026, which is a shame.

Over the years Bob has contributed some very interesting articles

I am taking the liberty on behalf of the committee and membership wishing Bob well, at least he will still be able to join our January and February Zoom meetings.

*Till next time John Titmuss*

Family Roots meeting – Thursday, 1st May 2025

## **Eastbourne Ancestors**

Speaker: Kevin Gordon

By: Jenny Wootton

Kevin had been researching the histories of some of the people named on the graves and monuments in St Mary the Virgin, the parish church of Eastbourne, from the rich and famous, military ancestors to ordinary working class people. Everyone had a story to tell.

We know there was an Anglo-Saxon cemetery in 1054 on the ridge at Upperton on possibly the original site of St Michael's church, but St Mary's had been the main burial ground for Eastbourne for 700 years from 1160, when the church was constructed, until about 1860 when Ocklynge Cemetery opened for burials. The ground round St Mary's church had been raised several times to allow for more burials, but because of overcrowding in the churchyard a plot of land was purchased at the garden of the Pigeon House at Ocklynge in 1853 and the first burial there took place in the summer of 1857.

There is a list of the vicars of St Mary's in the church but not much is known about the earliest ones. The earliest memorial is to John King who died in 1445, who is named on the list of vicars though this is not mentioned on his memorial.

William Bradbridge was the vicar of Eastbourne in 1553 when Henry VIII

died and the Catholic Queen Mary came to the throne. William supported the new protestant regime and fled to France to avoid being burned at the stake like the Sussex Martyrs in Lewes. When it was safe to return to England he was one of the people who assisted Myles Coverdale to translate and publish the first English version of the Bible. William later became vicar of Exeter, where he died in 1578 and is buried in Exeter cathedral.

Richard Vernon became vicar in 1558 and remained at St Mary's for 50 years. He started the parish registers in 1558, and in 1590 buried two people and wrote 'plague' alongside their names when there was obviously a plague epidemic in Eastbourne.

James Graves was the vicar of Eastbourne in the reign of Charles I, which were turbulent times for the church when the Roman Catholics were trying to turn England back to that religion. James was a Royalist but also supported Catholicism. Under Cromwell's Commonwealth he was charged with 'malignancy', supporting both the King and the Pope, which he denied but was found guilty. He was dismissed from office and died soon after in 1647. James is buried under the chancel where his brass memorial reads: *"Under this tomb is James Graves, a learned man and excellent preacher, formerly priest of this church who, when he was not permitted to perform his office, preferred to die."*

The North Chapel is dedicated to the Gildredge and Gilbert family, who

were lords of the manor, and many are buried in the vault below. The earliest brass in the church is that of Mary Gildredge dated 1616. Her memorial is in Latin and gives a detailed history of her life and marriages, first of Nicholas Gildredge and after his death to John Foster, and also mentions her children from each marriage. (A family historian's dream!)

Mary's first son Nicholas Gildredge married Katherine Burton at St Mary's in 1627. They had a son Thomas in 1628 who only lived four weeks. Katherine gave birth to a daughter in 1629, but died shortly after and the daughter lived until six years old in 1636. Nicholas was so distraught at losing his whole family that he commissioned Edward Marshall, one of the top sculptors in the country, to design a memorial for his wife who was 'worthy of perpetual remembrance'. Nicholas married again in 1640 and his wife Anne bore him seven daughters and three sons, and they moved into the new family home Gildredge Manor in The Goffs.

Henry Lushington became vicar of St Mary's in 1734 and remained there for the next 45 years, and at the same time was vicar of St Peter's Church in East Blatchington and of Bexhill Church. He married Mary Altham and they had three sons and three daughters. Two of his sons, Henry and Stephen, were employed by the East India Company, and young Henry came to the notice of Lord Clive, head of the company. Robert Clive laid the foundations of the British Raj in India and he engaged Henry Lushington, only a teenager, as his secretary and interpreter.

By the 1750s there was conflict over possession in India between the local rulers and also the French East India Company. The English started to build Fort William to fortify Calcutta but were ordered to stop construction by the local Nawab (Governor). They refused but the fort was poorly defended by British troops, one of whom was young Henry Lushington, and in 1756 were overrun by Indian forces. Henry and his EIC colleagues were taken prisoner and forced into the fort's cramped small prison cell, which became known as the Black Hole of Calcutta, where many died in the stifling heat. Henry was lucky to survive the Black Hole, though he went on to face greater danger.

By 1760 the East India Company had military control of much of north east India and the British were reaping the benefits of producing fine but cheaply made cloth and exporting it to England. Henry Lushington was one of the EIC members protecting the factories where the cloth was made. The local Nawab Mir Kasim was annoyed that they were running a profitable trade but not paying any local taxes and when he sent his tax collector to a factory in Patna to collect taxes the EIC representative took him prisoner. By 1763 the situation had escalated and the EIC sent two representatives to negotiate with the Nawab, but when the Nawab found out that they were also sending heavily armed boats towards the city he seized the two men as hostages. The EIC declared war on the Nawab and on 25 June 1763 the British overran and captured Patna. The Nawab was

incensed and ordered Somru, one of his commanders, to retake Patna and put to death any British prisoners.

Somru was not Indian but German and a mercenary who had arrived in India as part of the French East India Company. On 5 October 1763 he and his troupes took the fortified house in Patna which was occupied by members of the EIC, including Henry Lushington, and they were ordered to kill all the occupants. Despite being shot, Henry managed to attack his assassin and killed him before he too died. The following day all the British dead were thrown down a well.

There is a huge memorial in St Mary's to Henry Lushington detailing his life with the East India Company. There is also a stone column in the Christian cemetery in Patna, closed in 1912 by the British government and long neglected, that is the memorial to the Patna massacre, on which Henry Lushington is also remembered.

Henry's mother, Mary Lushington, died in 1775 and is buried under the altar and there is a large impressive memorial to her in the north aisle. Her husband, Rev Henry Lushington, went on to marry 44 year old Mary Gilbert. They were both from prominent families in Eastbourne and considerably rich. Mary owned a plot of land on the corner of Borough Lane and purchased the gardens from the Mortimer family who owned several mills in the town. In 1776 the Lushingtons had a new house built on the plot which became Gildredge Manor.

In the North Aisle of St Mary's is a memorial to Mary Ann Gilbert. Part of the wealthy Gilbert family, Mary Ann was born in 1776, and went on to inherit the vast Gilbert estate in Eastbourne when her uncle passed away. She married Davis Giddy, a farmer from Cornwall. She was a strong, intelligent woman and despite having eight children she found time for her own scientific interests.

Mary Ann was a talented agronomist (an expert in soil management and crop production). She used the family's estate land to experiment with fertilizers and different methods of vegetable production to find ways of improving crop yield. She was also a Christian philanthropist and was keen to help the poorer classes. She started the allotment movement in Eastbourne and by 1835 had 235 allotment tenants. She also started village schools to educate children from agricultural families. When she died in 1845 Mary Ann had over 400 allotment tenants and her death was reported in the 'Illustrated London News' where she was described as an 'eminent philanthropist' who spent most of her life devoted to improving the condition and comfort of the humbler classes.

Her husband, Davis Giddy, was born in Cornwall in 1767. He became High Sheriff of Cornwall and was MP for Bodmin. He fell in love with Mary Ann Gilbert and when they married in 1808 he agreed to take her name. They lived in Eastbourne, Cornwall and London and he became President of the Royal Society. Davis Gilbert noticed an old Cornish cross

beside the road between Truro and Redruth, about eight feet tall, which was being used as a gatepost. It was a Cornish relic from the 10th century and he felt it needed rescuing so he had it brought to the grounds of the Manor House in Eastbourne. In 1902 it was moved to the churchyard of St Mary's where it still stands on the corner.

Alexander Brodie was born in Antigua in 1774 where he inherited land and slaves from his father. It is uncertain when he moved to England but he was ordained in 1798. He studied at Trinity College, Oxford, receiving an MA, and went on to become a Doctor of Divinity in 1811. He married Anna Walter in Surrey in 1802 and was instituted as vicar of Eastbourne in 1809, and he and his family lived in The Gore, a large house to the north of Eastbourne.

Brodie made a number of changes to St Mary's church, including removing the schoolroom that abutted the building and arranging for the bells to be recast. However, he was also responsible for burning the old parish chest and all its documents. Brodie died in 1828 when his horse and carriage bolted and hit a post outside the Crown Inn. He is buried in the churchyard and there is a grand monument to him in the church.

Other memorable graves include one to George Chapman, decorated with an angel kneeling alongside an anchor. George was a wealthy marine merchant operating a channel crossing between Sussex and Normandy. He lived in Dieppe with his French wife and died in 1793, aged 55 years.

Edward Eardley Harris Repton is buried under a large grey slab to the west of the passageway. Edward was born in Kent in 1809 and at the age of nineteen joined the East India Company. He was promoted to magistrate for the city of Balasore, where the company had a large factory. In 1836 he is listed as Magistrate and Salt Agent, as the British held a monopoly on the sale of salt, an important ingredient in the production of food. Edward returned to England in 1843 and settled in Eastbourne, where he died in August 1843. His memorial recalls that he was ‘highly esteemed as a zealous and efficient public servant’.

William Hector Rason was born in 1832, and in 1855 he got a commission as a lieutenant in the Royal Navy and was soon posted to the Far East where he saw service around the coast of Burma. He commanded the gunboat HMS Plover and in 1859 saw action in the Second Opium War. Admiral James Hope lead the British contingent and he transferred from his flagship onto Rason’s gunboat to lead the assault. They were fired on from the Chinese forts and Rason was hit in the head and instantly killed. The memorial to Rason in the north aisle of St Mary’s church states ‘killed in battle’.

Leonard Kilham Willard was born in Eastbourne in 1776. He join the 8th Regiment of the Light Dragoons. He was promoted to lieutenant in 1801 and posted to India and he saw action in the Battle of Laswari in 1803, where he lost his right hand. He returned to Eastbourne and married

Harriet Alice Thomas, and in 1850 he became an Eastbourne Magistrate. He died in 1856 and his grave is on the north side of the church.

The first memorial you see on entering St Mary's church is that of George Homewood. George, born in 1841 in Horsted Keynes, was a farmer and in 1873 he married Sarah Jane Whitchurch and in 1883 they moved to Motcombe Farm House in Eastbourne. He was an Alderman of Eastbourne, a trustee of St Mary's School, chairman of the Eastbourne Pier Company and a Guardian of Eastbourne workhouse. When someone donated a crucifix and two candlesticks to the workhouse Homewood called them 'ritualistic artifacts' and demanded that the 'heathen and Roman Catholic' items be removed from the altar. George was also a churchwarden of St Mary's and when he died in 1896 the vicar of Eastbourne praised him for being an upright and courteous man. He is buried in Ocklynge Cemetery.

Simeon Hart was born in 1844 and married Eliza Tyler in 1863. He was a builder, advertising as 'Builder, Contractor and Undertaker', and in 1888 he signed a contract to build two rows of houses in Green Street for the Eastbourne Artisan's Dwelling Company. He also supplied coffins for the Eastbourne workhouse. The Hart family had a long association as bell-ringers at St Mary's church and in 1879 Simeon is recorded as Secretary of Eastbourne Change Ringers and their names appear on the commemorative boards in the ringing chamber of the church. Simeon died in 1914.

Thomas Lewis came from another family of bell-ringers. He was born in

Church Street, Eastbourne in 1845 and was one of six brothers who all became bell-ringers at St Mary's. In 1863 he was one of the bell-ringers who pealed the bells to celebrate the marriage of the Prince of Wales (later Edward VII) to Princess Alexandra of Denmark. In 1923 Tom rang the bells of St Mary's to celebrate the marriage of the Duke of York (later George VI) to Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon. He rang the bells of St Mary's for over 70 years and received a letter of thanks from Buckingham Palace for his loyal service. Tom died in 1935 and is buried at Ocklynge Cemetery. In the ringing chamber of St Mary's there is a marble memorial to Harry Packham Bennett, one of the bell-ringers but also a former railway policeman. He was born in Cuckfield in 1831 but moved to Eastbourne at the age of 20 and worked at Eastbourne Railway Station. He married Mary-Ann Wood in 1854. He had a passion for bell-ringing and was a founder member of the Eastbourne Society of Change-Ringers. On 12 August 1891 he gave instructions for a goods train to be moved, but unfortunately he was killed as he tried to use a shortcut to walk behind the train as it started to move. Harry is buried in Ocklynge Cemetery where his grave is in the shape of a bell.

It is estimated that there are at least 17,000 people buried in St Mary's churchyard, and probably many more that cannot be accounted for. Kevin was able to give us an insight into the lives of only a handful of those commemorated in St Mary's parish church. The inscriptions of the

gravestones and memorials that are still readable have been recorded by Family Roots. In 1951 many of the stones were moved and placed around the wall to make it easier for mowing, leaving only the larger tombs.

## **Two Men of Sussex on the Somme**

Contributed by: Donald Selmes

My wife Alison and I are active members of the Friends of Ocklynge Cemetery. One of the activities of the Group is to tidy up the graves and release them from the vegetation that has grown up and hides many of them from view. In October 2024 we were working on a stretch of the bushes and one of the graves we brought to light was that of Thomas Gordon who had died in 1902. Also mentioned on the cross were three of his children: Violet May Gordon who was a baby when her father died and died herself in 1928; 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Donald Jervais Gordon who died 3<sup>rd</sup> July 1916 and 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Bernard Vernon Gordon who was in the Royal Flying Corps and died in a flying accident on 14<sup>th</sup> December 1916. Donald Gordon was the son of an architect who had been born in 1891 in Sevenoaks and the family had two homes – one in Sevenoaks and one called Tregenna Mead in Eastbourne. He was educated at Lancing College and was training to be an architect, having been articled to an architect in St Johns Wood in 1912. He had been a member of the Officer Training Corps while at school and seeing that war was coming he applied for a commission on 24<sup>th</sup> August 1914. Germany invaded Poland

on 1<sup>st</sup> September and on the following day, unable to wait for a commission he enlisted as Private 1536 in the 18th (Service) Battalion Royal Fusiliers and was posted for training at Epsom. On the 2nd of October he wrote to the War Office asking to be struck off the list for prospective commissions as he had already enlisted as a Private soldier. He also asked to be informed if an opportunity for a commission became available in the future which happened within just a few months.



Private Gordon was discharged from the Royal Fusiliers on the 24th of December 1914 and was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion Border Regiment on the 4th of January 1915. His Battalion arrived in France on the 26th of September 1915 where they spent nine months in the routine of trench warfare before moving to Albert shortly before the beginning of the Somme

offensive. On the 1st of July 1916, the opening day of the Battle of the Somme, his Battalion was held back under orders to move at short notice to exploit any breakthrough which may occur as a result of the advance. In the event there was no breakthrough and they were not required. Twenty four hours later they marched to Martinsart Wood from where they moved into the front line trenches south of Thiepval in preparation

for an attack. They were to attack the Thiepval Ridge which had not fallen on the 1st of July.

Another man who had joined up soon after war broke up was Alison's



grandfather, Fred Andrew Cull, who was three years younger than Lt Gordon. The son of a gamekeeper turned farmer the family were living on their farm in Chiddingly when war broke out and Fred joined the newly formed 14<sup>th</sup> Heavy Battery of the Royal Garrison Artillery, possibly because he was used to looking after horses on the farm. Following training

the Battery arrived at Le Havre on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 1915 from where they went North and were first in action near Armentieres two weeks later.

We spent Remembrance Day 2024 on the Somme. One of the purposes on this visit was to track the journey of Alison's grandfather Fred Cull who had served in the 14<sup>th</sup> Heavy Battery from its inception in 1914 until they were disbanded in Germany in 1919. In the four years they were on the continent they travelled extensively in Northern France, Belgium and then Germany.

At the start of the Battle of the Somme they were dug in at Martinsart Wood, on high ground overlooking the area that was soon to see the

bloodiest battle fought by the British. There is little physical evidence of their presence there but I do have a copy of the War Diary and we have some detailed knowledge of their actions from that. One small piece of evidence was the gravestone of Captain (then Lieutenant) G E Mullis of the 14<sup>th</sup> Heavy Battery at Aveluy Cemetery which is down the slope from Martinsart. He was killed at the end of September 1916 while reconnoitering for new positions for the guns – the Battery had stayed in the area for all this time.

These two men from very different backgrounds probably never met but they would have passed very close to each other in Martinsart Wood prior to the attack on Thiepval which they both played a part in.

The 14<sup>th</sup> Heavy Battery was tasked with bombarding the German lines at Thiepval prior to the attack on 3<sup>rd</sup> July by the Brigade including the 8<sup>th</sup> Borders. At 6am the 8<sup>th</sup> Borders advanced in four waves in a line of 150 to 200 yards. The Borders took heavy casualties as they advanced but they did gain the German front line – in this case the 14<sup>th</sup> Heavy Battery had successfully cut the barbed wire with their bombardment. The battalions either side of them were less successful and the pressure on their flanks from machine gun fire took a heavy toll. The length of trench captured was about 180 yards long but there was little cover due to the heavy bombardment by British guns over the previous week. By the evening the right of the Brigade front gave way and the order to retire was

passed down the line. Casualties for the Battalion that day were four officers killed and ten wounded along with 430 other ranks killed, wounded or missing. Donald Gordon was among the dead. We visited his official war grave at Mesnil Communal Cemetery which is just down the road from Martinsart. He was shot in the chest just before reaching the German trenches, and on getting over into the trench was shot again in the head and this was where he died.

Donald Gordon's Company Commander wrote of him "He is easily the finest man I have had as an officer. The feelings of his platoon could not have been expressed better than by the Lance Corporal who said the other men in the battalion "envied them their officer.""

We had now seen both of the gravestones for Lieutenant Gordon and seen the terrain over which Alison's grandfather had supported his attack. The Gordon family lost both of their sons but the Culls were more fortunate – Fred survived and so did his many family members who went to war. We have a page from the Sussex Express in December 1918 entitled "Horeham Road War Group" and is celebrating the safe return of the family of Andrew Cull of the Gun Inn, Fred's father. Fred's older brothers (William) George and Ernest had both served in France and Ernest had been invalided home. His younger sister Edith had served in the WAAC in France. Sister Alice had been a munitions worker and her husband William Barnes had served in the Army Service Corps in France.

His sister Elizabeth's husband Arthur Rigden had also been a sapper in the Royal Engineers in France.

Fred went on to die of cancer in 1954. He is commemorated on the duckboards around Lochnagar Crater and is buried at Old Heathfield Church.

## **Unexpected Connections**

Contributed by: Rosalind Hodge.

When I attended the Family Roots meeting in August little did I think I would have any connection to the people in the presentation 'A Blogg Blog', a talk on the Blogg Family. As Steve Sims started his talk he mentioned the number of Edwards in this Old Town family and my memory went back some 60 years when I briefly knew an Eddie Blogg from Old Town through a close friend of mine. I even rode on the back of his motor bike and recalled he had heart problems at birth from which he tragically died in his early twenties. As the story unfolded it was indeed the story of Eddie's family and how nice to find the lady I was sitting close to was his sister Margaret.

Steve started off the Blogg family history with the marriage of Urban HOLMAN to Elizabeth FIELDER. Now this really rang bells as both names are very familiar to me and feature in my family history as my mother was born a Fielder. I knew Urban and Elizabeth lived in Chiddingly a few doors away from the Gun Inn towards Swanbrook Lane.

Chiddingly features strongly in my maternal line, the GANDER family, my 5x great grandparents had owned the Copyhold of the Gun Inn, the Barn Lands and a house named ‘Siggle Wriggle’, which a few years ago was the home of the artistic director at Glyndebourne.

I first encountered Urban as he was the master cordwainer to whom my great great grandfather Alfred Gander had been apprenticed for 7 years. In the 1851 census of Chiddingly Alfred is listed in the house of Urban and Elizabeth Holman as a cordwainer’s apprentice aged 18. Also listed was Janet/Jeanette, Urban’s daughter, who married Edward Blogg at Chiddingly 11 Aug 1872. Alfred Gander became the cordwainer at Willingdon living in a cottage in Meachants Lane. My grandmother described in her memories how she used to visit his workshop with the lovely smell of leather and watched him making beautiful riding boots for the local farmers and button-up heeled boots for ladies and girls, including for herself.

We were told Urban Holman married Elizabeth Fielder/Filder and from my researches many years ago I knew she was the daughter of my 4x great grandparents Frederick Filder and Elizabeth née Harmer of Waldron, sister of my 3x great grandfather Stephen. This is a line from the Filder family of Framfield that can be traced back in that parish to the early 1600s. Members of the family also came to Eastbourne, farmers at Colstocks, now St Andrew’s School Meads, Susans Farm, Upperton

Farm, Park Farm Willingdon and Jevington Place. Members of the family were Churchwardens and overseers at Eastbourne, Willingdon and Jevington. Interestingly Elizabeth Harmer was related to Jonathan Harmer of Heathfield who created the attractive clay plaques used in gravestones, examples of which can still be seen in some local churchyards and the Victoria and Albert Museum.

This was all going through my mind as I listened to Steve's interesting talk but it was only when I was back home I realised that this meant I was genetically related to most of the Blogg family mentioned in the talk and that Eddie who I knew briefly in my teens was a distant cousin, as we shared common Fielder/Filder ancestors. All so unexpected but the evening certainly proved to be a very interesting and enjoyable Blog for me.

## **FATAL BOAT ACCIDENT AT EASTBOURNE. June 1876**

Contributed by: John Tyhurst

Yesterday morning Sunday June 11<sup>th</sup> about 11 o'clock the fishing lugger "Nancy's Pride" put off from Eastbourne, in charge of the owner Samuel Huggett, who had on board a party of eleven men and a child. The wind, which was rather choppy, was from the North East, and when the party had got about three quarters of a mile off the Redoubt a sudden gust came and the boat heeled onto one side and shipped a little water. Some of the occupants seem in the excitement of the moment to have rushed to the

leeward, the result being the craft was over balanced and capsized, the whole party being precipitated into the water. According to the statement of the sole survivor from the disaster, the Captain called out “Keep back” but they seemed too confused to heed the warning. Finding the boat was going over he made a leap into the water and swam away. After going a few yards, seeing the boat had not disappeared, he swam to it thinking possibly might be righted.

The occupants were clinging around and he laid hold of the mast. Three or four snatched at it also and seeing it would not support him he “slung off again” to use his own expression, and with some difficulty managed to get clear, though dragged under twice by others clutching hold of his legs. The boat almost immediately went down. He laid hold of an oar, which another young man also attempted to reach, but before he could do so his arms went up and he disappeared. Deen the man who was saved kept afloat by means of this oar until a boat came up and brought him ashore.

Another picked up the body of the little boy named Groves. Ten of the bodied were recovered during the afternoon and removed to the Victoria Tavern. The names of the deceased are: Samuel Huggett, boatman Eastbourne; Edward Parker 22 carpenter of Rotherfield; George Paine 22 carpenter of Rotherfield; Frederick Wood 25 Carpenter of Shoreham; Edward Carpenter 19 Railway porter, Bedhampton; William Rogers 25

blacksmith Wesham?;( could be Westham ) Edwin Poole labourer place of abode unknown; Henry Russell 25 fireman of Eastbourne his brother Alfred Russell labourer Eastbourne; Jacob Baker, labourer, Eastbourne; and the little boy Groves son of John Groves of Eastbourne, and another not known. All are single men except Baker and Huggett. The Nancy's Pride is said to be an unlicensed boat, and Richard Deen the survivor states that the sails were all fastened and not worked by hand.

The funerals of Jacob Baker, John Thomas Groves and Samuel Huggett took place at St. Mary's Parish Church, Old Town on June 14<sup>th</sup> 1876

### INQUEST.

They went down one after the other, Huggett was the first, he threw his arms over his head and went down straight. One young man called to me and I told him to lay back, he did and floated for a bit then a high wave took him under. "I shall never forget the cries of those drowning men" The inquest was adjourned while evidence was gathered and that night Churches in the town held remembrance services for the dead. The following Monday the inquest was reopened and the jury returned a verdict of accidental death on the victims.

### PUBLIC MEETING.

The tragedy prompted certain religious people to call a public meeting. There it was drummed into those present that if they worked or went seeking enjoyment on the Sabbath they too rendered themselves liable to

suffering all sorts of tragedies. The Gazette while admitting that such accidents were more suited and more likely to occur on weekdays than Sundays, advised that more people in the town should learn to swim.

Family Roots meeting – Thursday, 5th June 2025

## **Two short talks by Alan Wenham:**

By: Jenny Wootton

### Women who made a difference

Alan's first talk focussed on women who had made a difference to Eastbourne's history, such as Julia Brodie (1814-1872). Julia was born into a rich family. Her father was Reverend Brodie, vicar of Eastbourne, who was born in Antigua where his family owned slaves and made a lot of money from their plantations. Her mother Anne (née Gilbert) was proprietress of The Times newspaper and was also wealthy. Julia grew up with her siblings in the family home, The Gore, Gore Park Road, Eastbourne. Her mother inherited a fortune when her parents died and funded the building of Christ Church, the third church to be built in Eastbourne. Julia and one of her sisters started the Eastbourne Blanket Loan Society in 1848, where families could rent a blanket for the winter and return it in the spring.

Julia funded a schoolroom in the grounds of Christ Church in the 1860s, the first to provide education for children from the east end of Eastbourne, the poorest and fastest growing area of the town. It provided education

for 100 children in the morning and another 100 in the afternoon. Christ Church was a big part of the community, not just for religion but it also provided a basic welfare service. They had their own parish nurses because there were no doctors in that part of the town.

The Rising Sun ‘pub’ was opened in 1879, seven years after Julia Brodie died, but she had impressed on one of her nieces, Wilhelmina Brodie, the importance of attacking the influence of the demon drink among the poorer classes. This establishment, made to look like a public house, served only coffee and soft drinks in an effort to keep working men out of the pubs.

Lady Victoria Catherine Mary Paul Tilney, came from a long line of influential and affluent families stretching back to Norman times. She was born in Wanstead and became a leading light in progressive thinking about social care. She was a half-niece of the Duke of Wellington and sister of Earl Mornington. When the Earl died without issue she would have been the sole inheritor of the family fortune, but three weeks before he died he changed his will, leaving everything to a distant unknown cousin.

Victoria was left with only a small pension, but dedicated most of her life to looking after two elderly but quite wealthy aunts, Dorothy and Emily. They moved to Eastbourne, where Victoria used some of their money to set up small charities for distressed gentlewomen. Her aunts were ailing

and before they died they expressed a wish that she should use her inheritance to establish some good in Eastbourne.

Lady Victoria was a personal friend of the Duke of Devonshire, and she persuaded him to gift an acre of land to the town in the marsh area of Susans Road on which to build a church. She then used her family's money to found All Souls Church. The church was built by James Peerless and building work started in 1882. It was built in the unusual Romano-Byzantine style and included not only the church but a whole complex of vicarage, kitchen and schoolroom to support the community of labouring classes in the area. The church was consecrated in 1883. It became the heart of the community. The kitchen served 2000 penny dinners a week for the starving. There was a library and reading room for working men, penny concerts in the evenings, a youth institute in a effort to keep people out of the pubs and off the street. The school went on to become Bourne School.

There was a parish nurse at All Souls as there was no doctor's practice in the east or west ends of Eastbourne until 1905. All Souls Church did not charge rental for its pews, the first one in Sussex to be entirely rent-free. They funded a public dispensary and started a small cottage hospital, which became absorbed into the Princess Alice Hospital in Carew Road in 1902.

Lady Victoria never married, and in her own unassuming way devoted her

time to do a lot of good for the town.

Mary Ann Gilbert was the daughter of William Gilbert, a grocer from Lewes. He was the third son in a generation of the Gilbert family, when third sons were not expected to inherit any of the family wealth. Mary Ann's parents died when she was quite young and she was farmed out to be looked after by relatives. She ended up with her uncle Charles Gilbert, a significant if rather eccentric landowner, who did a lot to help unemployed men in the Old Town part of Eastbourne. This encouraged Mary Ann to take an interest in improving the lot of the unemployed and she started the allotments scheme in Eastbourne.

Mary Ann married John Davies Giddy, a wealthy farmer with a large family estate in Cornwall. He was a clever chap with an interest in science, became president of the Royal Society and an MP, and introduced our weight and measures, pounds and ounces system that is still in use today.

Davies Giddy married Mary Ann in 1808 and a fair amount of Uncle Charles' money was given to them at that time. When Uncle Charles died in 1816 and Mary Ann inherited his fortune Davies changed his name and the names of their children to Gilbert to keep that name in the family.

Life for an agricultural worker in the 1830s was really hard and Mary Ann introduced a scheme to try and improve their lot. She gave a small sum of money and a plot of land to her own labourers and encouraged them to

grow food for themselves and to sell any surplus to give them some financial independence. She travelled far and wide finding out how to get the best results out of poor quality land and passed on helpful techniques to her workers.

She started the allotments scheme in Eastbourne with 100 of her workers. No one abused her generosity and all the loans were paid back. The scheme became so successful that soon there were 300 allotments on sites all over the town. Mary Ann started to campaign nationally for the allotments scheme to bring useless plots of land into food production. She set up schools for children of the poor, with lessons in horticulture so they could carry on their parents' allotments.

Mary Ann did not get on well with her husband as he was opposed to mass education and did not believe in encouraging agricultural labourers to become independent. She died in 1845 and had hoped that her son John would carry on her idea but he didn't have any interest in the allotments. Nevertheless, the idea Mary Ann had started did go on from strength to strength and by the start of the First World War in 1914 there were half a million allotments in England, which grew to 1.5 million in the four years of the war.

Lady Emily Shackleton (née Emily Dorman) came from a well-off Kent family who married Ernest Shackleton, the adventurer and Arctic explorer. Shackleton was an officer in the Merchant Navy and courted her

for seven years as her parents disapproved and believed he was beneath her, and they eventually married in 1904. They had three children and moved to Eastbourne in 1916. Shackleton was abroad a lot on his expeditions and he was useless with money and ran up huge debts, so Emily managed his finances. She had a small family pension and knew a lot of influential people, so used her keen business brain to keep his exploration business going and support herself and pay for the schooling of their children.

As her husband was away a lot Emily had time on her hands and got involved with many good works. She got involved with the Red Cross and did a lot of fundraising for them, which was much needed in wartime. She also got involved with the Girl Guide movement and really championed the cause at a time when society thought camping and other activities were not suitable for young girls.

Shackleton died in abroad in 1922 and left extensive debts and although Emily did her best to pay them off, she relied on friends to keep a roof above her family's heads, until 1929 when the King granted her a grace-and-favour flat at Hampton Court. She died at her daughter's home in West Sussex in 1936.

Alice Hudson led an unremarkable early life. She moved to Eastbourne from Manchester with her parents when her father retired. They lived a comfortable lifestyle in Meads Court, a large house on the junction of

Blackwater Road and Meads Road, where they had a staff of eight. When her mother died in 1913 she looked after her father until the First World War started the following year.

Alice was 37 at the time and felt the need to become involved in war work in some way. She was a brilliant organiser and administrator and quickly became involved in about everything that was going on in the town. In 1919 she was elected a woman councillor for the town and seven years later in 1926 was elected the first woman mayor of Eastbourne. She was mayor of Eastbourne three times and sat on many committees throughout her time on the council.

In 1939 she organised housing for evacuees to Eastbourne for 20,000 people from the East End of London as a “safe place” during the Second World War. It was a delicate matter placing people from the East End into homes with the genteel Eastbourne residents and Alice’s organisation skills were tested to the limit.

By June 1940 55,000 people had to be moved away from Eastbourne because the bombing made it unsafe and again Alice’s organisation made it all run smoothly. She then organised Eastbourne’s Women’s Voluntary Service, which during the war did not just offer cups of tea but also had fire watching duties and helped to re-house people who had been bombed out.

Alice chaired several women’s groups and sat on numerous committees.

She was one of the first female magistrates in the town. She was awarded an MBE for her contribution to the war effort, and in 1952 was made a Freeman of the Borough of Eastbourne for all the work she had done.

One final lady to mention was Elizabeth David. She was the daughter of Sir Rupert Gwynne, the MP for Eastbourne until 1924 when he died of a sudden heart attack. Elizabeth grew up in Wootton Manor, Polegate, and studied at the Sorbonne in France and then in Munich, but when she returned to Eastbourne she decided to become an actress and worked with several companies.

She then went back to France, where she ran off with a married man, causing quite a scandal. They moved around Europe and ended up in Italy at the start of the Second World War. They managed to escape to Greece and eventually to Egypt, where she worked in Cairo for most of the war. She married a senior army officer and they moved to India where he was posted, but the marriage did not last and they divorced and Elizabeth moved back to England. She was invited by a friend to write an article on cookery for Harper's Bazaar using her knowledge of cooking in France and Italy, introducing such strange and unusual foods as garlic and aubergines to the frugal post-war British diet in the 1950s. She went on to write twelve books about cookery which have inspired the work of Prue Leith, Jamie Oliver and Rick Stein.

Winifred Barnes – too racy for Mead

Winifred Barnes was an actress who lived in Weircombe Cottage, on the cliffs near Holywell in Eastbourne. The cottage was built in 1870 when the Duke of Devonshire was employing men to tame the western cliffs and construct the walkway levels along the seafront. George Ambrose Wallis was the Duke's agent and architect, and he went on to become the first mayor of Eastbourne. Wallis' foreman, Joe Smith, lived in the cottage while the extensive building works were going on, but it was purchased by the council in 1914.

Winifred Barnes was born in Brixton in 1892 and she first appear on stage at the age of 15. Within two years through a rapid rise to fame Winifred became a megastar. She was a very attractive young woman and during the First World War she became a "forces sweetheart".

She married a lawyer in 1924 and immediately retired from the stage. They moved into Weircombe Cottage, Eastbourne, but her husband spent a lot of his time in London and it was not a successful marriage. Winifred loved animals and always had dogs and parrots. She ran her own poultry farm at Whitbread Hollow, became quite an expert and was able to advise other poultry farmers.

For all her years on the stage Winifred had a wide circle of friends and enjoyed the wild side of the celebrity life. Many of these friends, including world famous stars such as Noel Coward, were invited down at weekends to her little cottage in Eastbourne and the wild and noisy parties

held there often upset her neighbours in Meads. Being in such a secluded position Winifred and her friends would often sunbath in the nude in her garden, which certainly shocked the Meads residents if they looked down when walking along the cliffs above.

From leading a wild celebrity life in London to living quietly on the Sussex coast, Winifred proved “too racy for Meads”. She died suddenly at Weircombe Cottage in 1935 at the age of 42.

## **How Researching My Great Great Grandmother**

**Led Me To A Smuggler.**

Contributed by: Peggy Westwood.

When I first started looking at my family tree, my Mother wrote down the details of her ancestors for me. This was a great help because she was raised by her grandmother and knew her great grandmother, Emily Pierce, who was born in Hurstpierpoint, West Sussex. I continued to add names to the tree and eventually I found Emily Pierce's mother. She was Jane Pierce born 1821. Jane wasn't married when she had Emily in 1844 but she later married George Still and Emily was listed as Emily Still in the 1861 census. It was easy to assume George Still was her father, however, one day I decided to order Emily's birth certificate. I was very surprised to read that her father was James Bartley, shoe maker. Someone I had never heard of!

Further research revealed that James was born in Hurstpierpoint. In the 1851 census he was married to Catherine Harris and living in Kent. By this time they had 4 children.

James's father was William Bartley and his Grandfather was Thomas Bartley, landlord of the Royal Oak pub in Hurstpierpoint.

I didn't look for any more information until I bought the book 'The Power and The Poverty, Life in a Sussex Village 1790 -1850' by E.J. Colgate. The book is about the people of Hurstpierpoint and how they were affected by National events as well as how their place in society affected their lives.

My first action was to turn to the index and look in the index for the name 'Bartley'. Thomas Bartley was born in the Saddler's shop next to the Royal Oak in 1761.

In 1803 Thomas Bartley was a smuggler as well as landlord of the Royal Oak with his mother Widow Bartley. At that time contraband from France would be run over the Downs from Brighton. The excise-men were regularly on the outlook for smugglers and they would have their own informers who would look out for smugglers and report on them. The local informer was Robert Bignall.

In September 1803, Thomas and his gang were making their way to Ditchling when they came across Robert Bignall. There was an altercation with Robert Bignall which resulted in his jaw being broken and him losing a tooth. Three days later Thomas and his friends were brought before the J.P. They acknowledged sureties of £50. Their case was respite to the January sessions.

Meanwhile, another smuggling family, the Webbers of Locks Farm, were confronted by the excise-men and Robert Bignall was with them. There was an argument and a shot was fired. John Webber was slumped in his saddle and the gun was in the hand of Robert Bignall. John Webber died a week later. Robert Bignall fled and was caught at Newhaven.

At the January Assizes Thomas Bartley and his gang were found not guilty of assault on Robert Bignall. As Robert by then was a wanted man, Webber's death had given them freedom.

At the Spring Assizes in Horsham, after 5 hours of evidence, Robert Bignall was found 'Not guilty' of the murder of John Webber.

By 1811 Widow Bartley had died and Thomas was sole Landlord.

The future looked good for Thomas and his family. However, his future changed when the New Inn was built opposite the Royal Oak. Both pubs had licences but the New Inn was cleaner with comfortable bedrooms and

was attracting the overnight visitors that used to lodge at the Royal Oak. The competition didn't help Thomas Bartley and he pawned the Royal Oak and a new landlord was found to run it. He focussed on the saddlery but a new smarter saddlery was opened next to the New Inn and eventually Thomas became a charge on the parish. He died on October 19<sup>th</sup>, 1834 aged 73 years.

For anyone having connections to Hurstpierpoint I would recommend the book 'The Power and the Poverty'.

## Visit to Pevensey Castle

By: Helen Warren.

Family Roots could not have chosen a better evening for their visit to Pevensey Castle on 3rd July; there was hardly a cloud in the sky and the



sun turned the castle walls golden. Over twenty members joined Colin Torode from English Heritage to hear about the Roman fort, the Norman Castle and St Marys Church, Westham.

Pevensey Castle's impressive ruins stand on what was once a peninsula projecting from the Sussex coast. This naturally defensible site, first fortified by the Romans, was most famously the place where the Norman

Conquest of England began, when William the Conqueror landed there on 28 September 1066. Just where the Norman army landed is open to conjecture but what is certain is that temporary defences were built at Pevensey, probably within the Roman fort, and later a great medieval castle developed inside its walls.

Built around 290 AD and known to the Romans as Anderitum, the fort appears to have been the base for a fleet called the Classis Anderidaensis. The reasons for its construction are unclear; long thought to have been part of a Roman defensive system to guard the British and Gallic coasts against Saxon pirates, it has more recently been suggested that Pevensey and the other Saxon Shore forts were built by a usurper in an ultimately unsuccessful attempt to prevent Rome from reimposing its control over Britain.

Anderitum fell into ruin following the end of the Roman occupation but was reoccupied in 1066 by the Normans, for whom it became a key strategic bulwark. A stone keep and fortification was built within the Roman walls and faced several sieges. Although its garrison was twice starved into surrender, it was never successfully stormed. It had been abandoned by the late 16th century and remained a crumbling, partly overgrown ruin until it was acquired by the state in 1925.

Colin also told us about the 16th century demi-culverin which has the royal cipher of E R on top of the barrel. It was once thought that this

stood for Elizabeth I but after recent investigation it is now believed to stand for Edward VI making it a rare and early example of iron cannon founding in the Weald at this time. It is mounted as a field gun on a replica 16th century trail carriage.

Pevensey Castle was reoccupied between 1940 and 1945, during the Second World War, when it was garrisoned by units from the Home Guard, together with Canadian and United States army units. Machine-gun posts were built into the Roman and medieval walls to control the flat land around Pevensey and guard against the threat of a German invasion. They were left in place after the war and can still be seen today.

The group then made a short walk to the churchyard at St Marys Church,

Westham. This historic church is believed to be the first church built by the Normans. Its large size indicates that it was originally intended to be the church serving a monastery with a hospital as



reference to the Hospital of St John is found in later medieval writing. On the south side of the church is Norman herringbone flintwork and the nave retains three round-headed windows above a stringcourse. Though Norman windows were often set high, the presence of the stringcourse would be unusual unless there was some kind of intended structure, perhaps a cloister belonging to the hospital.

It was interesting that several members told me about their ancestors who are buried in Westham churchyard. The group then walked on to the new part of the cemetery where we heard about the grave of seventeen-year-old Peggy Harland, a girl guide who was killed on the afternoon of 28th September 1940 when a German bomb fell on Eastbourne. Peggy was posthumously awarded the Girl Guides Gold Cross for Fortitude, her citation reading 'Gallantry in face of danger and great suffering before her death after an air raid'. Peggy's brother, Robert, who is also mentioned on her headstone, had been among those reported missing during the retreat to Dunkirk in May 1940; his name can be found on the Dunkirk Memorial.

We then walked back towards the castle which looked magnificent in the setting sun thanking Colin for a most interesting talk and walk, a memorable evening for sure.

## **FUNERAL OF SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHOLAR.**

Eastbourne Gazette 7th March 1877

Contributed by: John Tyhurst.

On Thursday the mortal remains of Ellen Hounsom, aged 13 years the daughter of Mr.J.Hounsom, builder of Grange Road, were consigned to their final earthly resting place. The child having been a scholar at the Congregational Sabbath School for several years. About 80 of the Sunday

School children, attended by Messrs Strange, Toomer, and Hall, Miss Vine her teacher and other teachers preceded the hearse, and at the cemetery gates formed in rows to let the procession pass through. After the service in the church, the children followed the relatives, and on nearing the grave sang “ Death has been here and borne away, a scholar from our side ”.

After the clergyman had closed, they sang “ Safe in the arms of Jesus “. Many of the children brought flowers and strewed them on the coffin of their departed fellow scholar.

Ellen Hounsom’s funeral took place at St.Mary’s Parish Church, Old Town on 25<sup>th</sup> February 1877.

### **Christmas Meeting 4<sup>th</sup> December 2025**

Members and visitors are invited to share their findings on any aspect of family history including old photographs, postcard collections and/or family heirlooms. These could include artefacts that have a story to tell or simply items of historic interest. We hope that this will be a light-hearted, informal meeting with a chance to chat to fellow members and visitors, sharing research, memorabilia and keepsakes. It is not necessary to bring something just come along and enjoy! There will be festive refreshments and a raffle too.

## **Programme 2026**

### **8<sup>th</sup> January - Zoom.**

‘When Time Team...Met Family History’

Speaker - Dr Sophie Kay

It’s now over thirty years since Time Team first brought their unique blend of archaeology and history to UK screens and beyond. Since then, their celebrated approach of having ‘only three days’ to explore each dig location has delighted millions of viewers around the world.

2023 marked a new milestone for the programme, when it embraced family history research as a means to investigate the historical narratives of the people and communities associated with the dig location. Armed with images and insights from the programme, Time Team’s very own ‘Ancestry and Genealogy Expert’, Dr. Sophie Kay, will take attendees behind the scenes of the show, providing a sneak peek into what happens when the worlds of family history and archaeology collide!

### **5<sup>th</sup> February - Zoom.**

‘Behind the scenes of WDYTYA? magazine’.

Speaker - Sarah Williams.

Sarah, editor of the WDYTYA? magazine, will talk about the history of the magazine; how articles are chosen; what came first the series or the magazine and her own particular interest in genealogy, etc.

## **5<sup>th</sup> March.**

‘Making Sense of DNA for Family History: What to do with your matches’

Speaker - Helen Rimmer

DNA testing has become a popular tool for family historians, but many people are left wondering what to do once their results arrive. This talk explains, in plain English, how DNA works for genealogy and how to make sense of your matches. We will look at the basics of inheritance, what centimorgans mean, and how to use matches to confirm family lines, break through “brick walls,” and connect with new relatives. Practical tips, clear examples, and simple analogies will show how DNA can become a powerful partner to your paper-based research.

## **2<sup>nd</sup> April.**

Speaker - Alan Wenham.

‘Fishing, Boating & Smuggling’

This fully illustrated talk tells the history of Eastbourne’s fishing community and their diversification into pleasure boating and smuggling.

## **7<sup>th</sup> May.**

Speaker - Kevin Gordon.

‘Eastbourne People’

Kevin has discovered the stories about many interesting local people from Sioux to saints and glamour models and from politicians to pilots.

#### **4<sup>th</sup> June.**

Speaker - Helen Warren

‘The History of A Foundling’

Helen’s talk tells the story of a baby given up to the London Foundling Hospital in the mid-18th century and what happened to him during his long life.

#### **July.**

Visit to The Keep Archives at Falmer. Places will be limited. More info to follow next year.

#### **6<sup>th</sup> August.**

To be arranged

#### **3<sup>rd</sup> September.**

Speaker - Tony Pulford

‘The Lost Farms of Eastbourne’

Even as late as 1960 Eastbourne boasted substantial farms but all have vanished, one by one. Tony brings these back to life, in maps, photos, family trees and newspaper articles.

#### **1<sup>st</sup> October.**

Speaker - David Cufley

‘Brickmakers and Brickmaking’

Focusing mainly on the nineteenth century, David’s talk will explain and

discuss brickmaking, how the workforce behaved and what a working life in the brick industry was like.

**5<sup>th</sup> November.**

Speaker - To be arranged

**3<sup>rd</sup> December.**

Christmas Meeting -further details to follow next year.

**FOUND DEAD IN SHED.**

Contributed by: John Tyhurst

**Jobbing Gardeners Lonely End.**

Mr.James Henry Waymark aged 61 a jobbing gardener was found dead in a locked shed on the Gorringe Road allotments on Wednesday afternoon. The discovery was made quite casually, and it is believed that Mr.Waymark had already been dead about five days before his body was found. He had been in the habit of spending a great deal of his time in the hut, in which he pursued his occupation. The body was discovered by Mr.Albert Edward Cosham of Susans Road when he visited the shed at about 12.30pm for the purpose of fetching some bulbs which Mr.Waymark had promised him.

Finding the door locked Mr.Cosham looked through the window and saw Mr.Waymark lying on a bench apparently dead. He informed the Police who forced the door and found

Mr.Waymark lying dead fully dressed except for his boots. The body was taken to the Borough mortuary.

James Henry Waymark's funeral took place at St.Mary's Parish Church, Old Town on 14<sup>th</sup> December 1878.

## **THE LATE DISASTER AT SEA.**

Contributed by: John Tyhurst

On Monday last Mr.F.H.Gell Esq. held an inquest at the Ship touching the death of Robert Smith Lower. Maria Lower said she was a widow and mother of the deceased who she had seen lying in a stable at the Ship Inn. She identified him by his trousers and boots.

Edward Mewett said he was a boat builder at Newhaven. He was part owner of a boat called "Comet". On Monday 21<sup>st</sup> May he went to sea in the boat to get a cargo of stone. The deceased, his father James Lower and Henry Spratt accompanied him. They arrived at Eastbourne beach in the evening and commenced loading the following morning and finished the same day. They left Eastbourne at 7 o'clock with a nice breeze for home. After they had left about an hour they found something wrong in the action of the boat, as if something had burst. Before he could make any arrangements he boat went down with all crew. He saved himself by swimming. They were about half a mile from land and the same

distance to the East of Beachy Head. It was about eight o'clock. After he had been swimming about a minute and a half he saw the top of the deceased head above the water. It disappeared immediately and he never saw him again. There was only a moderate breeze and a smooth sea on at the time. The boat had been under repair for 14 days before it left Newhaven. She went down stern foremost. She was not overloaded, but was capable of carrying a much heavier load. He had every reason to believe that the accident occurred owing to the fastening of the boat going away. William Godden a fisherman at Eastbourne said about six o'clock on Sunday morning he was the cliff near a place called Cow Gap when he saw a body washed up by the tide. He got assistance and conveyed it to the Ship stable. The body was in a very decomposed state and he did not know who it was.

The jury found a verdict of "Accidental death"

Robert Smith Lower's funeral took place at St.Mary's Parish Church, Old Town on 15<sup>th</sup> July 1861.

*The Sussex Express, Surrey Standard, Weald of Kent Mail & Hants and County Advertiser.*

## Member's Interests

| <b>SURNAME</b> | <b>PARISH/<br/>COUNTY</b> | <b>DATES</b>   | <b>MEM No.</b> |
|----------------|---------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| DEACON         | East Sussex               | 1700s, 1600s   | 293            |
| TUCKNOTT       | East Sussex               | Backwards 1900 | 293            |
| BURT           | Kent                      | Backwards 1900 | 293            |
| SIMS           | East Sussex/Kent          | 1800s onwards  | 1297           |
| BARHAM         | East Sussex/Kent          | 1800s onwards  | 1297           |
| KETCHELL       | West Sussex/<br>Hampshire | Any            | 1438           |
| LOFT           | Any                       | Any            | 1438           |
| LONG           | Any                       | Any            | 1438           |
| RISBRIDGER     | Surrey                    | Any            | 1552           |
| MEDWAY         | Any                       | Any            | 1574           |
| BROWN          | Rhymey Valley             | Any            | 1574           |
| CUMMING        | Rhymey Valley             | Any            | 1574           |

# MAP OF "DISTRICT"

Showing parishes for "Family Roots" local research.



Map reproduced by kind permission of East Sussex County Record Office.

Alciston \* Alfriston \* Arlington \* Berwick \* Bishopstone \*  
 Chalvington \* Chiddingly \* Dallington \* East Blatchington \*  
 East Dean \* East Hoathly \* Eastbourne \* Folkington\*  
 Friston \* Glynde \* Hailsham \* Heathfield \* Hellingly\*  
 Herstmonceux \* Hooe \* Jevington \* Laughton \* Litlington \*  
 Lullington \* Ninfield \* Pevensey \* Ringmer \* Ripe\* Seaford\*  
 Selmeston\* Warbleton \* Wartling \* Westdean \* West Firle  
 \*Westham \* Willington \* Wilmington.

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