

The Diaries of Charlotte Grove / Diary Notes / People

ANSON - Elizabeth Grace Anson (ca 1813-1882) married Thomas KING (1806-1862), thought to be a London banker before becoming a gentleman farmer at Norrington and later of Alvedistone House, Alvedistone. Elizabeth was the daughter of Lt. Col. Sambrooke Anson, of a famous military family ("Col. Anson" in the diaries) and Elizabeth HAWKINS. Elizabeth Grace was very young when she married Thomas King (perhaps no more than 16) and the couple arrived in Alvedistone on the day following their London marriage in a coach and four. It is thought Elizabeth was very pretty and one gets the impression Charlotte was not just a little jealous of her youth, vitality and beauty. Mrs King's portrait was painted by an artist, "Mr GREY", in 1833. The diaries show the Lane girls at Lower Bridmore Farm often kept company with Mrs King, who was of similar age.

Elizabeth and Thomas had one child., a son, Thomas Anson King. However, he died as a baby in 1834. The couple had no more children.

Following her husband's death in 1862, Elizabeth remarried. Her new husband, Thomas Jarvis BENNETT, approaching some twenty years her junior, was a medical doctor practicing in Wilton. They married during 1867, in Kensington. Elizabeth appears with her husband on the 1881 census, boarding with a family named SCHROEDER, also in Kensington.

She died on 24th January 1882, age 69.

See also KING.

AUBER - The Aubers were descended from a French Huguenot family from London. The Revd. John Auber married in 1793, Jane GROVE, the daughter of Hugh Grove, rector of Melbury Abbas. Of their children, Jane married her first cousin, Henry Peter Auber. Another daughter, Johnanna Maria (whom her father never knew, as he died just weeks before her birth) married Henry HARVEY, vicar of Eling, near Southampton.

Frederick Grove, son of Hugh and brother of Jane above, also became rector of Melbury Abbas. His daughter Mary Ann (Miss Grove of Melbury in the diaries) married Lewis George ST LO in 1828. Their daughter, Mary Jane, married Henry Peter Auber, son of Henry Peter and Jane, above, in 1853 at Caundle Marsh, Dorset.

See also the ST LO family and the GROVE family of Melbury Abbas.

BLACKMORE - The Revd. Richard Blackmore (1758-1847), rector of Donhead St Mary, married Jane WHITE, daughter of Joseph White of Poole. Richard's father, also Richard, had been rector of Shaftesbury St James, as indeed had his father, another Richard, before him.

Of the eight known children of Richard and Jane, Richard White Blackmore (1791-1882) also became rector of Donhead St Mary. Sarah (1808-1893) married Revd. William Dansey, rector of Donhead St Andrew. The diaries tell us that Richard White

Blackmore and two of the elder sisters went to Russia in the period 1819-1820, the girls returning in 1823.

There are memorials to the Blackmore family in Donhead St Mary Church.

There are family connections to the BENNET family and also to the Dorset village of Lydlinch.

BOYS - The Revd. Thomas Boys (1753-1823) was rector of Berwick St John from 1791-1817. He came originally from Cerne, Dorset, the son of a gentleman. He matriculated and graduated at New College, Oxford, was awarded his MA in 1781, Bachelor of Divinity in 1792 and Doctorate of Divinity as late as 1817. He built a new, larger rectory at Berwick in 1798.

In 1817, Boys exchanged the living at Berwick with a parish in Buckinghamshire, then held by Peregrine BINGHAM.

He married Elizabeth CROOME in 1803, at Cirencester. It is not thought the couple had any children. However, the diaries indicate that several nieces and nephews visited the Boys at various times.

Thomas Boys died 1823 and was buried at Stratton, Gloucestershire. His wife was buried there in 1832.

Names associated with Thomas Boys and his family are: CROOME, DAVIS, BRICE and FIELDER

BROMLEY - Revd. Thomas Bromley (ca 1748-1827) was Rural Dean and rector of Bishopstone. He married Rose Mary HEATH (1747-1831), daughter of Benjamin Heath and Rose Mary MICHELET (born Moliere, Ardeche, France) and one of the several other children of this couple, William (1748-1815), became Rear Admiral Heath.

COOKE - Captain John Cooke RN (1762-1805) was in command of HMS *Bellerophon* at Trafalgar when he was killed in action. His widow, Louisa nee HARDY (1757-1853), continued to live at Donhead Lodge for some years and she, together with the couple's only child, Louisa Charlotte, are mentioned frequently in the early diaries.

John Cooke was the son of Francis COOKE - a naval cashier - and Margaret BAKER (they married at Chatham in 1757). John's six other known siblings include Elizabeth (m. Revd. John MAULE), Christopher and Margaret (m. Revd. William LIPSCOMBE).

A monumental tablet to John Cooke's memory was placed by his widow in the parish church of Donhead St Andrew. There is also a memorial in St Paul's Cathedral. John's portrait, presented by the widow of his brother, Christopher Cooke, is in the Painted Hall at Greenwich.

Louisa Charlotte Cooke went on to marry Abraham Newenham DEVONSHER of County Cork, although the couple later divorced. She lived in Cheltenham and died there in 1871. Of her three daughters, Augusta Sarah Devonsher married Edward ROLLES, who appears in the later diaries as a curate at Berwick St John.

Augusta Devonsher is described by Charlotte Grove as a “Pocket Venus” in her diary entry of 20th September, 1841.

Other names associated with this family include: MARKLAND, SCHUYLER, HELSHAM, GIBNEY, HAMILTON and GODBY

DANSEY - The Revd. William Dansey (1792-1856) was rector of Donhead St Andrew. The son of John Dansey, a Blandford banker, and Jane JONES, William married Sarah WARBURTON, daughter of Thomas Warburton of Hackney, in 1818. They had seven known children, the first four being daughters, by 1823. Included among the “Miss Danseys” was Harriet (b. 1822) who married Thomas William MARSHALL. Following wife Sarah’s death in 1848, William remarried in 1849, Sarah BLACKMORE, the daughter of Revd. Richard Blackmore, rector of neighbouring Donhead St Mary.

There are memorials in Donhead St Andrew church to William and his second wife.

Of William’s known siblings, a sister, Harriet, married Charles BASKET at Blandford in 1810 and a brother, George, became a Lieutenant in the Royal Navy. He married Elizabeth Jane CLAVELL in 1819, but died 1823, aged 32.

Other names possibly associated with Dansey are HEYWOOD and MERRICK

DOWNES - Revd. Richard Downes (1777-1855) arrived as rector of Berwick St John in 1826, following the death of his predecessor, the Revd. Peregrine BINGHAM, who had died shortly after an accident when his carriage overturned. Richard married the 44 year old Charlotte GROVE on 12th June 1827, at Berwick St John. Richard was born Ardley, Oxfordshire. He matriculated at New College, Oxford, in 1794, gaining his BA in 1797 and MA in 1801. He was closely associated with New College throughout the rest of his life. His father, Revd. Robert Downes, was born Ireland ca 1746. He had married Hannah YOUNG, at Ardley, in 1773.

Among Richard’s known surviving siblings was Henrietta, born 1784. She is mentioned in the diaries and is not thought to have married. Also a brother, Revd. Robert, born ca 1795 at Wheatley, who became rector of Fetcham, Surrey, later vicar of Leamington, Warwickshire. In 1826 he married Philadelphia HOPPER, daughter of John Thomas Hendry Hopper of Durham.

There are connections via Richard’s uncle, Revd. Austen Downes, to Harley Street. Richard’s cousin, Margaret, married Jonathan BULLOCK of Falkborne Hall, Essex.

DU BOULAY - John Du Boulay (1811-1895), son of Francis James Housemayne (or Houseman) Du Boulay of Forest House, Walthamstow, married Mary Farr YEATMAN (1821-1896), daughter of Revd. Harry Farr Yeatman of Stock House, Stock Gaylard, Dorset. They moved to Donhead, first living at Charlton and later at Donhead Hall, succeeding Charles WYNDHAM’s widow. Their two known children were Arthur H, born Stock Gaylard, Dorset, 1843 and Bertha d’Albiac, born Buckshaw, Dorset, 1849. Bertha married Major General Charles Paulett LANE

(1826-1910) at Sturminster in 1869. The latter's first wife had been Caroline LUCY (1828-1864) of Charlecote Park, Warwickshire.

GRAVES - Robert Graves, born Bloomsbury in 1800, became a London barrister before coming down to Wiltshire where he lived at Charlton, near Donhead St Mary. He married, in 1837, Mary KNYFTON (1801-1859) of Uphill, Axebury, Somerset. The couple had five children, three girls and two boys. Of the former, Mary Louisa and Emma Maria died as infants and Anna died age 12. The eldest son, Robert Knyfton, also died young, age nine. The second son, Albert Reginald, born 1840, survived childhood and after studying at Holy Trinity College, Cambridge, married Mary Jane BENETT in 1871 in Marylebone. However, he too was to die relatively young, aged just 39, in 1880. They couple had two children, Reginald Benett (1873-1918) and Robert (1875-1878). Reginald became known as GRAVES-KNYFTON and married Edith Mary ALSTON in 1897. They had two known children, Edith (1898) and Joan. The latter married FRITH.

The elder Robert Graves (who also owned property near Bridport in Dorset - Delapre House, Bradpole) lived at Charlton Cottage from about 1823. He enlarged the house into what became known as Charlton House in 1850. Buying more land, he built Manor Farm, Charlton and developed it into a Model Farm, where he experimented with pioneering new agricultural ideas and methods of cultivation.

Throughout much of the nineteenth century, Robert Graves owned most of the land in Charlton. When the Charlton church was considered too small for its congregation in 1839, it was demolished. Although the new church of St John's ("the church with two towers") was built by public subscription, Robert Graves is said to have contributed greatly, both financially and in its building.

When his wife Mary died in 1859, Robert Graves remarried, to Emily Josephine TURNER, in 1864. He died in 1874 and is buried at Charlton.

GROVE - a wealthy land-owning family living on the Wiltshire-Dorset borders near Shaftesbury, in the area of the Donheads and Berwick St John, but also with other estates in Wales, Norfolk and the Midlands. The initial rise in the family's fortunes may be attributed to their close associations with some other local families of influence. The earliest family seat, the fifteenth century abbey property, Berry Court (now Lower Berry Court), sits astride the boundary between Donhead St Andrew (Lower Donhead) and Donhead St Mary (Upper Donhead). It was held by the Groves until the nineteenth century. However, the property most associated with the Groves, the manor of Ferne, itself dates back to 1236 and came into Grove ownership during 1563. There have been a number of houses on the site throughout its history. In 1811, Charlotte recorded in her diary the period when the family finally moved back into a new, completely rebuilt house, the earlier structure having been discovered unsafe.

This house, the house Charlotte knew for most of her life, was later substantially altered by her great nephew, Sir Thomas Fraser Grove, when he inherited the estate in 1858. Upon his death in 1897 the house was put up for sale to repay mounting debts and was finally sold in 1902.

Sir Thomas' son and heir, Walter, with his wife from 1882, Agnes (d. of Lord Rivers, Augustus Henry LANE-FOX) never actually resided at Ferne. They lived their later lives at Sedgemoor Manor and during the 1930's even this, the very last of the Grove properties, was sold off together with its contents (including the now missing portrait of Charlotte, by Thomas Musgrove JOY). Some remaining members of the family went to live in America - and to relative obscurity.

Other families closely associated with Grove during the period of Charlotte's diaries include, among others: CHAFIN GROVE, PILFOLD, LONG, WHITE, JACKSON, SHELLEY, HELYAR, WADDINGTON, FRASER, FARQUHARSON, HILL, RUDGE and EYRE.

HARDY - (see also COOKE and MARKLAND). Louisa Hardy, wife of Captain John Cooke RN, was the daughter of Josiah Hardy (Governor of the Jerseys in America and Consul in Cadiz) – himself from a distinguished naval background, his father was Sir Charles Hardy, Lord of the Admiralty and his grandfather was Vice Admiral Sir Thomas Hardy MP.

Of Louisa Hardy's other three known sisters, Charlotte married George Lewis HAMILTON, Elizabeth Sophia married Edward MARKLAND and Priscilla married John GODBY, steward of the Royal Hospital, Greenwich.

KING - Thomas King (ca 1806-1862) was the son of Henry King and Sarah nee PINCHARD of Chilmark. He inherited the Alvedistone property from his uncle, Thomas King, upon the latter's death in 1825. (There is a plaque dedicated to this gentleman in Alvedistone church. His brother Henry King, cousin William ROOKE and friend John LANE of Bridmore were executors to his will, proved 1825).

Thomas King, the nephew, was a banker, probably in London, prior to acquiring his inheritance at Alvedistone in 1826. In 1831 he married Elizabeth Grace ANSON, daughter of Lt. Col. Sambrooke Anson. The couple first lived at Norrington and later at Alvedistone House – the home, during the twentieth century, of British Prime Minister Anthony EDEN (who incidentally, is buried at Alvedistone).

Thomas King was an executor to the will of John Lane of Bridmore. After Thomas died in 1862, without a surviving heir, his wife Elizabeth remarried.

See also ANSON.

LANE - John Lane (1769-1840) was a churchwarden and tenant farmer of the Grove family at Lower Bridmore, which lies east of Berwick St John. He was born at Hangar Farm, Eling, near Southampton, the son of John Lane and Betty ATKINS. The Lane line can be traced back to about the year 1500, a family probably living at Silkstead, near the village of Hursley, south of Winchester.

John Lane acquired the tenancy of Lower Bridmore in 1798. He married Mansel MOORE, only daughter of Stafford Moore, at Fontmell Magna in 1805. The couple had eight children;

1. Mansel (1806-1861). M. James BRINE, farmer of Tolpuddle and first cousin to his more famous namesake, James Brine, the Tolpuddle Martyr. One child.

2. John (1807-1873). Brewer of the Wenlock Brewery, Islington, London. M. Eliza Bevan MITCHELL of East Orchard in 1837. Five children.
3. Elizabeth (1810-1839). M. Richard Tewkesbury CHAMEN, a London wine merchant, in 1838. No children.
4. Mary Ann (1812-1877). M. William Young FOOT, farmer of Melbury Abbas. One surviving child.
5. Stafford Moore (1814-1868). M. in 1850, Louisa FUTCHER of Fovant. Became Farm Bailiff at Spye Park. See photo of portrait on Photographs / People page. Five children.
6. William (1816-1848). Buried in the family tomb, Berwick St John. Did not marry.
7. Thomas (1819- 1847). Ditto.
8. James (1826-1863). M. in 1851, Dionisia Futcher, younger sister of Louisa, above. James and Dionisia farmed at Alfriston, Sussex. James suffered bad health and died of TB on St Helier, Jersey. Five children. (James was the direct ancestor of both John Lane & Valerie Lane Kay).

Names associated with the Lane family include: BRINE, MITCHELL, FOOT, CHAMEN, BARNES, ATKINS, WHITE, CHEYNEY, MOORE, FUTCHER, BRACHER, LOVE, BOORN, ETHERIDGE, STEVENS, PURKIS, THATCHER and BISHOP.

LUSH - A branch of this family can be traced back for several centuries in and around the Donheads, in Wiltshire and in Hazelbury Bryan, Dorset. John Lush (1789-1849) farmed at Easton Farm, Berwick St John. He was a Nonconformist like his father, John, before him. Charlotte Grove mentions the Lush family throughout the period of her diaries, but particularly the girls. She writes in June 1829:

“We went to M^r Lushes. Miss Lush is in high beauty. Miss Charlotte is also at Home”.

Four of John Lush’s daughters are buried in the churchyard, including Mary Arethusa Ellis who died in 1838, age 20, Sarah Kellaway who also died in 1838, age 16 and Clara Maria, who died in 1843, age 11.

Names associated with the Lush family during this period include: WEBB, GILBERT, KELLAWAY, FINCH, HOFFE and DOWNE.

MARKLAND - Captain John Duff Markland RN (1780-1848) married Helen Ellery TREGONWELL in 1814, at Cranborne. A nephew of Captain John COOKE, John Markland became a Rear Admiral. It is thought he was born in Leeds, the son of Edward Markland and Elizabeth Sophia HARDY (sister to Mrs Cooke) and that he died in Bath. John’s younger brother (or possibly a cousin) John Edward Markland, served as a volunteer aboard HMS *Bellerophon* at Trafalgar.

SHERE - Thomas Shere (1771-1852) was born Cullompton, Devon, the son of Ambrose Shere and Jenny Salter. A well-respected member of the community, he was farm bailiff to the GROVE family before taking Upton Farm, Berwick St John, in

his own right. He first married Elizabeth FUTCHER, the daughter of Robert Futcher and Mary GOODFELLOW of Fovant. After a number of still-born children, Elizabeth died in the February of 1819. Charlotte describes these tragic events in some detail, together with the obvious pain felt by Thomas during the weeks following his wife's death.

However, in 1822, Thomas married again. Deborah ANDREWS, widow of John Andrews, was born Deborah ROWDEN, another Fovant family, in 1789. Indeed, Deborah's younger sister, Dionisia, married James Futcher, younger brother of Thomas Shere's first wife, Elizabeth.

Thomas and Deborah had four children, Thomas, Dionisia, Jane and James:

1. Thomas jnr farmed at Berwick. He married Mary Ann TANNER and the couple had seven known children.
2. Dionisia Shere married another James Futcher, the nephew of Elizabeth and James above. The younger James was brother to Louisa (married Stafford Moore LANE) and Dionisia (married James Lane). A sheep farmer at Fovant, James died in Australia in 1866. His widow Dionisia and two of their five children are buried at Fovant.
3. Jane Shere married John COATE, farmer of Hammoon, Dorset.
4. James Shere married Caroline Dinah WALLIS. They had four children, all girls, two of whom died young and two who lived to a good age, but never married. The family are buried together at Berwick St John. The inscription on James' headstone reads "He Called His Own Sheep by Name".

It is believed Thomas Shere snr is buried at Ferne.

STRICKLAND - Mr Strickland (usually written as "Strictland" by Charlotte) appears early on in the diaries. He appears to be closely related to, or associated with, the ARUNDELL family - although the editors are so far unable to find the connection. In 1814 he was expected to marry either Miss Catherine or Miss Laura Arundell (see End Pages for that year), but in fact marries neither, instead marrying an unknown lady between dates 23rd July and 8th September. The couple reside at "Hook Farm", or Hook Manor, near Sedgemoor - an Arundell property.

Later in the diaries, a Frederick Strickland arrives in Berwick St John, residing at The Priory. Frederick William Strickland is thought to be the son of the above. He was born Middlesex about 1817. He married Margaret JONES at St Martin in the Fields in 1850. The couple had three known children, Arthur William, ca 1849, Frederick Edward, ca 1851 and Charles Edward, ca 1857. At least two of these boys are mentioned in the diaries.

In 1858, the family moved away to Warwick, much to Charlotte's regret. Mrs Strickland died Warwick, 1860.

It is possible that Frederick snr was a Wine Merchant by trade and that his brother, John, born ca 1814, became a Professor of Music (1841 census).

TREGONWELL - Charlotte's schoolfriend, indeed lifelong friend, Helen Tregonwell (1784-1866), married Captain John Duff MARKLAND. The couple lived

at Farnham, south of Tollard Royal. After her husband's death, Helen rented Handley House at Sixpenny Handley, where she is buried with other members of her family. Helen was the daughter of Lewis Dimoke Grosvenor Tregonwell and his first wife, sole heiress Katherine SYDENHAM (he later became associated with another wealthy family when he married Henrietta PORTMAN of Brianston). Tregonwell is regarded as the founder of Bournemouth, for it was he who built the very first house there in around 1810 (see Harriet GROVE diary entries and early Charlotte Grove entries). He had earlier been a Captain of the Dorset Rangers and there are theories that although part of his role was to protect against smuggling, he was in fact complicit in it. There are close connections to Cranborne and Cranborne Chase, notorious for its smuggling activity during the period in question. Tregonwell was born at Anderson, near Cranborne, in 1758 and died there in 1832. He was later interred at St Peter's, Bournemouth.

A son by the first marriage and an older brother to Helen, St Barbe Tregonwell, named after his maternal Sydenham grandfather, was almost certainly mentally handicapped, and this is borne out among several references Charlotte makes to him in her earlier diaries.

WADDINGTON - John Horsey Waddington (1783-1863) married Charlotte's older sister, Emma Philippa GROVE in 1805. They had seven children together before Emma tragically died in 1819. Charlotte displays not only a duty, but an obvious affection, toward her dead sister's children and, indeed perhaps, for "Waddington" himself.

The Waddington family can be traced back to Suffolk, to Bury St Edmunds and then beyond to Doddington, near Ely. John's father, George, of Bury St Edmunds, married Caroline HORSEY in 1781. When George died, Caroline married the Revd. Samuel KILDERBEE.

Following Emma's death, John did not re-marry. Of Little Park, near Gosport, later of Clay Hall, Hertfordshire and then Langrish House in Hampshire, John Waddington lies buried with members of his family at East Meon.

Other names associated with Waddington are: MILNE, BEAUCHAMP, ROUS and RADCLIFFE.

John's daughter Emma Waddington (1806-1880) and her half-aunt, Georgiana Kilderbee, were pioneering botanists.