



GREAT WAR 100

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## FROM OUR ARCHIVE



### THE OLD INFANTS SCHOOL

Originally built in 1871 and funded by local benefactress Harriet Haselfoot this building was originally West End's Dame School for infants, later being the Infants Annex for St. James' School. Between being a school and what it eventually became, a private home called "Iona", it was the Church Army Mission Room which is what our archive picture shows above. Eventually, it was acquired by developers, demolished in the 1980's and today is the housing development that grew up around the road known as Old School Gardens off Moor-green Road. Today the foundation stone can be seen set into the wall inside the Parish Centre. Another one of West End's nice old buildings with a lot of history that has fallen foul of the developers!

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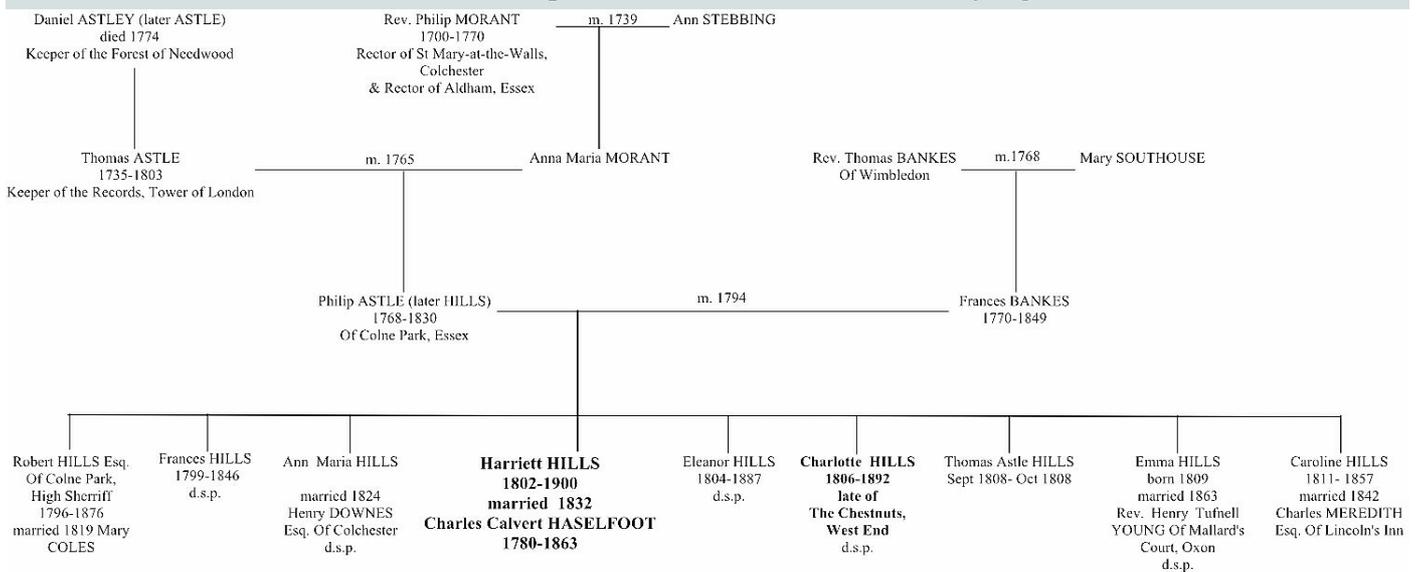
# THE ESSEX GENTLEWOMAN

By Sue Ballard, PhD.

Some years ago, Nigel Wood wrote an article for Westender entitled “The Mysterious Mrs Haselfoot”, remarking that Harriett Haselfoot remains a mystery because no photographs of her had been found and sadly, that remains true today. He touched on some of Harriett Haselfoot’s many charitable acts, for which she was so well known in West End, including her dame school at Moorgreen, her generous contributions to the building of new churches of St. James’s (West End) and St. John’s (Hedge End) and her donation of land for the extension of the burial ground and speculated that her wealth probably came from her husband, Charles Haselfoot of Boreham Manor, Essex. Subsequent research has proved this to be true, although the full extent of that wealth was not known at the time of Nigel’s writing. Probate records show that Charles Haselfoot left a little under £50,000 in 1863, which would be worth £32 million today. Mrs Haselfoot was a very wealthy widow indeed.

Mrs Haselfoot moved to West End after being widowed at the age of 61 in 1863, whereupon Boreham Manor passed to her husband’s male relatives. She purchased Moorhill House and remained there until she died in 1900 at the age of 98. She lived in some style, befitting her status. Censuses show that she kept a butler, a lady’s maid, a cook-housekeeper, a housemaid, a kitchen maid and a coachman and groom. For many years her head gardener was a Mr Nehemiah Blandford from Fontmell, Wiltshire who lived on the estate, but she would also have employed gardeners from the village. After her death, the auction of her outdoor effects included carriages, harness, hay, “three nice cows” and “choice plants”. Her household effects included nice pile carpets, large window curtains, a Spanish mahogany pedestal sideboard, 12 Morocco leather chairs, several bookcases, the contents of 10 bed-and dressing-rooms and a four-wheel dog-cart ( suitable for a single horse or a pair). Moorhill House, its grounds and outbuildings were sold separately by private treaty and included stabling, glasshouses, a lodge entrance, a coachman’s cottage, pleasure grounds and “park-like meadow land”, totalling over 27 acres.

As Harriett & Charles had no children she lived at Moorhill alone, except for her servants. Her lady’s maid Fanny Quentin and her cook-housekeeper Sarah Hales came with her from Boreham. Fanny Quentin remained with her until her death and attended her funeral. Sarah Hales, who was much the same age as Harriett Haselfoot, remained in her service for 35 years until retiring to her native Essex some time after 1881, when she was aged 78. Miss Hales died in Stepney in 1886 aged 85 and Harriett Haselfoot remembered her with a notice in the Hampshire Chronicle. She was clearly a good mistress to command



## FAMILY TREE OF HARRIETT HASELFOOT nee HILLS

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such loyalty from her servants and must have valued her cook-housekeeper highly to place a memorial notice for her.

One may imagine Harriett Haselfoot as being lonely, living so long alone, but she appears to have been very active in the community. Much of her life in West End can be gleaned from her many charitable works reported in the Parish Magazine or the county newspapers. In addition to her dame school and her support of the church, in 1894 she had a Reading Room built for the parish which provided accommodation enabling a Working Men's Club to be formed, donated land for a new vicarage in 1897 and made frequent generous donations to the Relief Fund for the poor. Her charity was not confined to West End; she had been an annual contributor to the Southampton Sailor's Home Society and served as a Life Governor of Southampton Hospital. Her last act of charity was a contribution toward new cassocks for the choir of St. James's Church, just a month before her death. Charitable works were one of very few socially acceptable activities for gentlewomen in the period in which Harriett Haselfoot grew up. In this period, governesses provided girls of her social standing with a very limited education consisting of scripture, deportment, music, dancing, needlework, painting & drawing and perhaps French. They would not have studied mathematics, science, geography, history or politics as they were expected to marry and produce heirs, not have careers. Acceptable social activities were limited to attending church, shopping and country walks (both chaperoned), charitable works and visiting other ladies or entertaining them to tea at home. Once married, they might also involve themselves in refurbishing their houses or designing their gardens. Mrs Haselfoot was frequently mentioned in the county newspapers for her keen interest in gardening and participation in horticultural shows and competitions. She often won first prize in the categories in which she entered, particularly for orchids and other hot house plants, at competitions held by the Bitterne & West End Horticultural Society, the Eastleigh & Bishopstoke Horticultural Society and the Royal Southampton Horticultural Society. She sometimes hosted the Bitterne & West End Horticultural Show in the grounds of Moorhill or provided plants, flowers & fruit for the decoration of the show tent. Horticultural Shows were important social events, attended by long lists of the local elite. In July 1885 Harriett Haselfoot's competition entries had been rejected from the Hound & St Mary Extra Horticultural Show on the grounds of her living outside the Horticultural Society's area. Any disappointment she may have felt did not deter "Mrs Haselfoot and party" from attending the show. The words "and party" tell us that she attended as the lead member of a group: although we don't know who the other members of her party were, there is good reason to believe that one may well have been Miss Hill of The Chestnuts. These gleanings have helped build a picture of Harriett Haselfoot's life at Moorhill, but what do we know of her background before she came to West End?



**Harriett Haselfoot's paternal grandfather  
Thomas Astle, Esq.,  
Keeper of the Records  
Tower of London**

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Her husband Charles Calvert Haselfoot was baptised at Boreham, Essex in 1780, a younger son of Robert & Mary Haselfoot. Charles was squire of Boreham Manor and a Captain in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Regiment of Foot. In August 1832, at the age of 52, he married the 30 year old Harriett Hills. In this period, thirty was relatively late for a woman of her class to marry and she would have been in danger of being seen as an old maid. However, two of her sisters also married late, Caroline at 31 and Emma at the age of 54, while three of her other sisters remained single, though not for want of a dowry. This is highly unusual in an age when aristocratic girls were expected to marry – and marry well. It suggests that Harriett & Charles’s marriage was likely to have been a love match rather than an arranged marriage as the Hills girls were clearly given the option of refusal. Harriett’s husband was considerably older than her, but it would have been considered a good match. The Haselfoots were a wealthy and influential family in Boreham, where the parish church still has three Haselfoot memorials, including one for Charles himself in the form of a fine stained glass window. Wealthy and influential as the Haselfoots were, though, Harriett’s own family were even more illustrious, warranting an entry in the “History of the Landed Gentry in Great Britain & Ireland”.

Harriett Hills was one of nine children and was baptised at Colne Engaine, Essex in 1802, the daughter of Philip Hills and his wife Frances Bankes, the daughter of Rev. Thomas Bankes of Wimbledon. Phillip Hills was born Philip Astle, the second son of Thomas Astle (Keeper of Records at the Tower of London, Fellow of the Royal Society & Trustee of the British Museum) and his wife Anna Maria Morant. Philip Astle changed his surname to Hills by Royal Licence on 9th Jan 1790 to comply with the will of Michael Robert Hills as a condition of inheriting the Hills armorial bearings and the Colne Park estate. Astle was not the original family name, however, as Thomas Astle’s father Daniel (Keeper of the Forest of Needwood) had changed it from the original Astley, a Staffordshire family. In this period, changing one’s surname in order to inherit an estate was not uncommon and there are several examples here in Hampshire. William Chute MP (1757-1824) started life as William Lobb until his father changed the names of his whole family to Chute in order to inherit The Vyne, near Basingstoke. Jane Austen’s brother Edward was “adopted” by a distant cousin, Thomas Knight, and changed his surname from Austen to Knight when he inherited his estates in Kent (formal adoption had no legal status until after the Adoption of Children Act 1926). The MP James Barlow Hoy, whose memorial stands in St. James’s Church, started out simply as James Barlow, inheriting his estate with the name Hoy. Such an arrangement offered a practical solution to keeping estates within the family when there were no children to inherit. A younger relative would benefit from an increase in his fortunes, while the family name was continued unbroken by a simple change of name. The unwelcome alternative was for an estate to be broken up through a long and expensive tangle of chancery claims and counter-claims and the family name to be lost altogether. John Marius Wilson’s “Imperial Gazetteer of England and Wales 1870-1872” tells us that Colne Park was the principal residence



**Colne Park, Colne Engaine, Essex - the birthplace of Harriett Haselfoot**

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of Colne Engaine. It was originally the manor of Colne Engaine, owned by the Earls of Oxford since 1508 and subsequently passing through various families until 1762 when it was bought by Michael Hills (the father of Michael Robert Hills), who built a new house to replace the old manor house and laid out a park of “true taste and judgement”. On inheriting the estate, Harriett’s father Philip Hills developed the manor further by adding a stucco frontage and building stables and a lodge house at the end of the drive. This is the environment in which Harriett was born and grew up.

Harriett’s maternal grandfather Thomas Bankes was not the only clergyman in her family. Her paternal grandmother was Anna Maria Morant, daughter of Rev. Philip Morant of Colchester & his wife Ann Stebbing. Philip Morant was born in Jersey in 1700 and educated at Abingdon School and Pembroke College, Oxford. He was ordained in 1722 and gained his master's degree at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge in 1729. He served as Chaplain of the English Episcopal Church in Amsterdam from 1732 to 1734 before being appointed Rector of St Mary-at-the-Walls, Colchester and Rector of Aldham, Essex in 1737. After Ann’s death he went to live with his daughter Anna Maria & her husband Thomas Astle at Battersea, where he was employed at the House of Lords, though in what capacity is not known. He continued to hold both benefices; pluralism at this time was not illegal and holding a benefice does not necessarily entail having a cure of souls, although if this were the case, it would have been easy to install curates. This combination of pluralism and absenteeism suggests that Philip Morant was a career-clergyman rather than one of great faith. There were few career choices open to the sons of the upper classes at this time. If one was not in line to inherit an estate, the choice fell between the military or a career in the Church. Even the professions of law and medicine were considered a step down. Philip Morant is most well known, however, for his antiquarian interests. He excavated Roman sites around Colchester extensively and in 1748 he published “The History and Antiquities of Colchester”. He was elected to the Fellowship of the Society of Antiquaries of London in 1755 and published “The History and Antiquities of the County of Essex” in two volumes, Vol. 1 in 1763 & Vol.2 in 1768. Apart from his memorial in the church at Aldham, he was still remembered well enough for a modern secondary school to be renamed in his honour as late as 1965.

Having at least two clergymen in her family suggests that faith may have played a significant role in Harriett Haselfoot’s upbringing, borne out by her generous support of the Church. She is remembered in West End for her generosity and kindness, which appears to have been embedded in her family’s culture and values, for we find also that both her mother and her husband made generous bequests to the Essex & Colchester Hospital. The English nobility was divided into two classes: the nobilis majores (the peerage – dukes, marquises, earls, viscounts and barons) and the nobilis minores (minor nobility – gentry and baronets). The Hills were of the nobilis minores, and Harriett would have been reared in the traditions and cultural values of her class which would have imbued her with “noblesse oblige”, literally translated as “obligations of nobility”, a sense of having obligations of duty and patronage toward those less well-off. After her marriage she would have been, quite literally, Lady of the Manor of Boreham and as such expected to make provision for tenants in distressed circumstances, provide Christmas boxes and lead or assist with a range of fund-raising events such as garden parties, bazaars and sales of work in support of good causes. In June 1839 she partnered a Mrs Mills of Lexden Park on a handicrafts stall at a bazaar in aid of the Essex & Colchester Hospital at the Colchester Botanic Garden under the patronage of the Viscountess Maynard, the Countess Morton & the Lady Rivers. After Charles’s death, as a wealthy widow she would have been appealed to for almost every local cause.

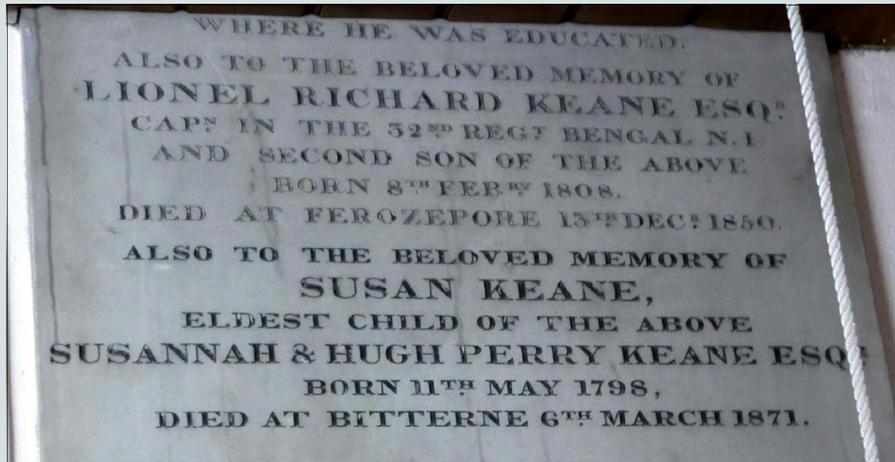
Despite the facts we have gathered about her life, Harriett Haselfoot remains a mystery in many ways. Although we think of her as a Victorian gentlewoman, she lived through the reigns of four monarchs; she was born during the reign of George III and grew up during the Regency of 1811-1820, followed by the reigns of George IV, William IV and Victoria. She lived in a rapidly changing world. It was a period of political upheaval with the Napoleonic Wars, the Reform Crisis of the early 1830s, the Swing Riots, Chartism, the Opium Wars, the formation of the British Raj, the Indian Mutiny, the Crimean War and the Suffragette Movement. It was also a time of great technological developments, being the peak of the Industrial Revolution with advances in agriculture (steam-driven traction engines, threshing machines and

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## **A VERY INTERESTING MEMORIAL IN St. JAMES' CHURCH WEST END (Susannah & Hugh Perry Keane Esq.)**

**By Paula Downer**

In the Choir Vestry of St. James' Church in West End hangs a memorial to the beloved memory of Lionel Richard and Susan Keane, the second son and eldest daughter of Susannah and Hugh Perry Keane.



The upper part of the memorial is now covered by the organ loft flooring so after speaking nicely to the Revd Thomas Wharton, my husband Mike was allowed to shinny up the steep ladder to gain access to the organ loft space. From above he was able to take a photo of the upper part of the memorial which is inscribed :-

**TO THE BELOVED MEMORY OF  
SUSANNAH KEANE  
OF NETLEY FIRS IN THIS DISTRICT  
WIDOW OF HUGH PERRY KEANE ESQ.  
AND DAUGHTER OF SIR GILLIES PAYNE BART.  
BORN 22<sup>ND</sup> DEC 1767 DIED 7<sup>TH</sup> OCT 1849  
AND ALSO TO THE BELOVED MEMORY OF  
HUGH PERRY KEANE ESQ.**

Unfortunately, some of the wording in the middle of the memorial is hidden by wooden beams. A family crest is mounted above the memorial depicting three lions and three fishes with the words 'NEC TIMEO NEC SPERNO' (Neither Fear nor Despise).



Susannah Keane must have been very well thought of in this area as she also has a notable gravestone close to the south door of the church.

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Hugh Perry Keane is acknowledged in Southampton's local history publications as the owner of Merry Oak House in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Hugh Perry Keane was born in Barbados on 24<sup>th</sup> November 1767 to Irish gentry Michael and Esther Keane, owner of sugar plantations and land in the Caribbean. Their only son was educated in England at Harrow, London and St.John's College, Cambridge. In 1785 Hugh was admitted to Lincoln's Inn to train as a Barrister at Law, he was 'Called to the Bar' in 1790.

During the second half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, Britain and France fought to gain control of the Island of St.Vincent in the Caribbean. From 1763-1778 and again from 1784, it was under British control. Land was sold by auction to the British who then set up and managed coffee, cocoa and sugar plantations using slave labour, by early 19<sup>th</sup> century sugar was St.Vincent's main export; in 1804 sugar accounted for 97% of the colony's exports.

Fortunately for today's historians Hugh Perry Keane kept a diary (his diaries for 1788-1819 are with the Virginia Historical Society in the USA).

Hugh Perry Keane's diary reveal that in 1788 he travelled aboard a merchant ship named "Sugar Cane" to the Caribbean Island of St.Vincent where his father, an influential lawyer, had recently taken up position of Attorney-General. Michael Keane owned two plantations (Liberty Lodge and Bow Wood) in St.Vincent and property in Barbados. For many years the family had lived in Barbados. Hugh Perry Keane became the owner of a black slave named Betty, purchasing her from his father in 1791 with whom Betty had a previous relationship. Betty was Hugh's 'plantation wife' although this was never publicly acknowledged. A plantation wife was responsible for managing the plantation house and delegation of domestic duties. Betty was indispensable as she also saw to her Master's comfort. Hugh and Betty became embroiled in a passionate love affair, there were jealous rages, he wrote in his diary that when Betty was away that he pined for her. This carried on for about five years, until one day, Betty was abused by another man. Hugh implied that it must have been her own fault, after this, Betty was spurned and forbidden to return.

In 1796 Michael Keane died, Hugh Perry Keane took over the plantations. He subsequently erected a memorial to his father in St.Michael's Cathedral in Barbados. The following year, in Tempsford, Bedfordshire, Hugh Perry Keane married Susannah Payne (b. Dec 1767), the daughter of Sir Gillies Payne, Baronet of Tempsford Hall. Sir Gillies Payne owned plantations in Caribbean Islands of St.Kitts and Nevis.

In May 1798 Hugh Perry and Susannah Keane's daughter Susan was born, another daughter Mariana followed in June a year later. In around 1800 Hugh Perry Keane was living at Merry Oak House situated to the east of Southampton Town and the River Itchen, they also had a home in London. A few years later, their two sons were born in St.Marylebone; Hugh Payne Keane (May 1807), Lionel Richard Keane (Feb 1808). Hugh Perry Keane was a friend of Josias Jackson, another St.Vincent sugar plantation owner who likewise had a home both in London and Southampton; Bellevue House being his Southampton residence. Josias Jackson appears to have been the young Susan Keane's sponsor (godfather). Incidentally, Josias Jackson was a Member of Parliament for Southampton 1807-1812. He unsuccessfully tried to establish trading links with the British West Indies, his efforts had been in vain, in 1807 Britain abolished the slave trade from England to the British West Indies, the heyday of the Caribbean sugar industry was over. The British in St.Vincent persevered even though there were now smaller profits to be made.

In 1810 Hugh Perry Keane appears to have sold Merry Oak House, he then alternated between his Law practice in London and his sugar plantation in St.Vincent. His daughter Susan kept a diary, describing her life in St.Vincent. In 1812 St.Vincent witnessed the major eruption of a volcano in the Souffrier Mountains. Hugh Perry Keane kept a close eye, in his diary he wrote of dark clouds, vomiting black sands, a dreadful eruption followed by showers of stones, earthquakes and burnt carcasses of cattle lying everywhere. These notes were accompanied by a sketch. This sketch was used by Joseph Mallord William Turner, it is thought

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that he and Hugh Perry Keane were acquaintances. JMW Turner had read reports in England of this terrible disaster with great interest, he was fascinated by the power of nature and had a gift of re-creating this in his paintings. Using Hugh Perry Keane's sketch, JMW Turner produced an oil painting entitled 'The Eruption of the Souffrier Mountains in the Island of St Vincent, at Midnight on the 30th of April, 1812'. The painting was exhibited in 1815, it is now in the University of Liverpool's art collection.



'The Eruption of the Souffrier Mountains in the Island of St Vincent,  
at Midnight on the 30th of April, 1812'  
by Joseph Mallord William Turner

Image is courtesy of University of Liverpool, Victoria Gallery & Museum

In April 1821 Hugh Perry Keane, aged 53, died at his London home in New Street, Spring Gardens, he was buried at St.Mary's in Harrow. Josias Jackson was one of the executors of Hugh Perry Keane's Will, the eldest son Hugh Payne Keane being the main benefactor. The following year, Hugh Perry Keane's youngest daughter Mariana married Henry Palmer and left New Street to live with his family in Bedfordshire.

The youngest son Lionel Richard Keane joined the East India Company Bengal Army as an Infantry Cadet in 1826, in due course he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant then a Captain in the 32<sup>nd</sup> Regiment of Bengal Native Infantry (their red coats were distinguished by black facings/gold trim). The 1841 Census for England shows Lionel Keane with his mother Susannah and sister Susan at Netley Firs House in South Stoneham, Hampshire. Lionel was probably on leave (furlough), he was then 30 years old so it was possible that he was seeking a wife, apparently, there was a shortage of suitable wives in India at this time. In February 1848 his Regiment was stationed at an Army cantonment in the Ferozepore district of the Indian Punjab. Unfortunately, in January 1849, Lionel Richard Keane's name appears on the 'East India Register and Army List' of men in the 'Invalid Establishment', little is detailed online about the movements of his Regiment in India but he must have been wounded, possibly caught up with the Siege of Multan, he died in December 1850 at the age of 42.

The eldest daughter Susan Keane never married, she lived with her mother Susannah at Netley Firs House. A tithe map of 1844 shows Susannah owning 13 acres of plantation and arable land between Netley Firs and Kane's Hill. Susannah Keane died in October 1849 aged 81, Susan continued to live at Netley Firs, she kept up with her diaries, yearly almanacs were annotated.

Both Susannah and daughter Susan must have been kindly souls, willing to give anyone down on their luck a home. In 1853 a Thomas Othen was living there, who subsequently became their gardener. The 1861 Census shows the cook with her children, two general servants, two lodgers, one with a year old baby (both lodgers receiving parish allowance). Apparently, the butler Jean Nidecker was away in Switzerland,

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the butler and the cook obviously got together while Susan was away from home; in June 1851 they had married, with the birth of a son Benjamin Henry three months later. The Census shows four Nidecker children, two born at Netley Firs. For untold reasons, by 1869 Susan had moved from Netley Firs to Albert Terrace in the nearby village of Bitterne, she died in March 1871 aged 73.

The Nidecker family appear to have moved on afterwards; perhaps Susan Keane paid for their passage to Switzerland ?

So how did the diaries end up 3750 miles away in Virginia USA ?

The eldest son Hugh Payne Keane was admitted to Lincoln's Inn in 1822, then matriculated at Queen's College in 1826. In 1833 Hugh Payne Keane was in New York where he met Jeanne (née) Naret who came from an eminent French family. They married and settled in Richmond, Virginia USA. Hugh and Jeanne had an only daughter, Virginia. Virginia Keane became an artist, she ran her own art school in Richmond. Her father was also an artist, being commissioned to co-produce military flags for the State of Virginia Cavalry and Infantry Regiments. Hugh Payne and Jeanne Keane are buried in Oakwood Cemetery in Richmond. Their daughter, by then, Virginia Bryce, donated the Keane family diaries to the Virginia Historical Society.

There are 15 volumes of Susan Keane's annotated almanacs for the years between 1846 to 1867, they would certainly make fascinating reading for the West End Local History Society ! it's a pity that they are not available online.

N.B.

Netley Firs House was pulled down in the 1920's. The road name remains, the area is now part of Botley. I have not managed to locate a photograph of this house. Merry Oak House was also demolished around this time.

Kane's Hill is thought to be a derivation of the name Keane, I have been unable to verify this.

This begs another question - who did erect this memorial ?

**My thanks go to the following :-**

Dr Simon Smith of Brasenose College, Oxford for information on Hugh Payne Keane and the Keane family diaries.

Barbados Historical Society for information on Michael Keane

Revd Thomas Wharton for allowing my husband and I to access the memorial in the first place !

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2018

**O**ur Annual General Meeting for 2018 falls on Wednesday 4th April. As in previous years we are looking for nominations from the membership for posts on the committee, it is advantageous to the society to have new blood taking up the posts with new ideas to take the society forward. These nominations ideally should be handed to the Secretary Lin Dowdell or one of the existing committee members prior to the meeting. Also on a lighter note we will have a talk by Kay Ainsworth who previously gave us her excellent talk on Anglo-Saxon Art, this time talking about "The Normans in Wessex".

Subscriptions - these were due for 2018 in January, if you haven't yet paid see Delphine who will be happy to take your subs now. Ed.

## NEW OCCASIONAL FEATURE

### RECIPE CORNER - “Funges” by Sue Ballard

Thinking of the many market gardeners there used to be in the West End area put me in mind of this recipe, which makes great use of leeks. Funges, as its rather unappetising name suggests, is a medieval recipe for mushrooms. It is taken from “The Forme of Cury”, one of the oldest surviving cookbooks in the world. “Cury” as used here is not “curry” but is the Middle English word for “cooking” although the manuscript was not named until 1780, when it was published for the British Museum. The original was written on a vellum scroll around 1390 by the master cooks in the household of King Richard II (1377-1399) and contains up to 200 recipes for a wide range of dishes, from everyday household fare to high-class banquet dishes to be served at court. It was intended to be instructional and the recipes were written with advice from doctors and philosophers to ensure they were healthy by the standards of that period, which sought to balance the four “humours”. Various medieval versions of the manuscript exist, with different numbers of recipes, suggesting that it was popular enough to be copied among the higher classes who could afford to pay scribes. The visual effect of a dish was very important when entertaining in high-class medieval households, especially the use of colour. The Forme of Cury includes a recipe for a white savoury stew called “blanc manger” – Norman-French for “white eating”, from which we get our word blancmange. This recipe for mushrooms and leeks would originally have used the whitest mushrooms and only the white part of the leeks, to enable the colour of the saffron to show up. Although you would lose the visual effect, it is equally tasty (and more economical) if made with Portobello or chestnut mushrooms and the whole leek.

The original recipe in Middle English:

Take funges, and pare hem clene and dyce hem. Take leke, and shred hym small and do hym to seeth in gode broth. Color it with safron, and do there-inne powder-fort.

(Take fungus and pare them, clean and dice them. Take leeks and shred them small and seethe them in good broth. Colour it with saffron and mix in powder-fort.)

Powder-fort translates as “strong spices” – a mix of spices to add heat to a dish, such as grains of paradise (a hot, peppery spice with a hint of citrus, made from the seeds of a West African plant, Melegueta), pepper, ginger and galingale (also written as galangal, a root related to ginger but milder). The other main spice mix was powder-douce or “sweet spices”, chosen from a range including mace, nutmeg, cinnamon and cloves. Sugar was so expensive (and time-consuming to grind down) that it was also considered a spice and used in tiny quantities in powder-douce. Like today’s spice mixes such as garam masala, ras el hanout and dukkah, exact mixes and proportions of spices were not fixed and individual spice merchants had their own secret blends.

#### ***Funges recipe with instructions for modern cooks:***

8 small leeks, white part only (or 4 whole leeks) – sliced into rings and carefully washed  
 3 oz (85g) butter  
 1 1/2 lbs (680g) mushrooms – wiped clean with a damp cloth (not washed) and thinly sliced  
 1 cup (8 fl. oz or 235 ml) vegetable or chicken stock  
 1/2 tsp sugar  
 good pinch of saffron threads  
 1/2 tsp fresh root ginger, minced (or a heaped teaspoon of ground ginger)  
 ground black pepper to taste  
 3 Tbsp flour

1. Melt half the butter in a heavy frying pan and sauté the leeks for a few minutes until they begin to wilt. Add the mushrooms and toss to coat.
2. Combine the stock, sugar, saffron, ginger and pepper and pour over the vegetables. Simmer for about 2 minutes.
3. While the dish is simmering, make a roux by melting the remaining butter in a small pan and adding the flour. Cook until thickened, stirring constantly.
4. Add the roux to the vegetables, stirring well and continue to cook until the sauce has thickened and the vegetables are evenly glazed. Serve hot as a side vegetable or as a light lunch with crusty bread or on thick toast.

## WHEN NEW WAS OLD

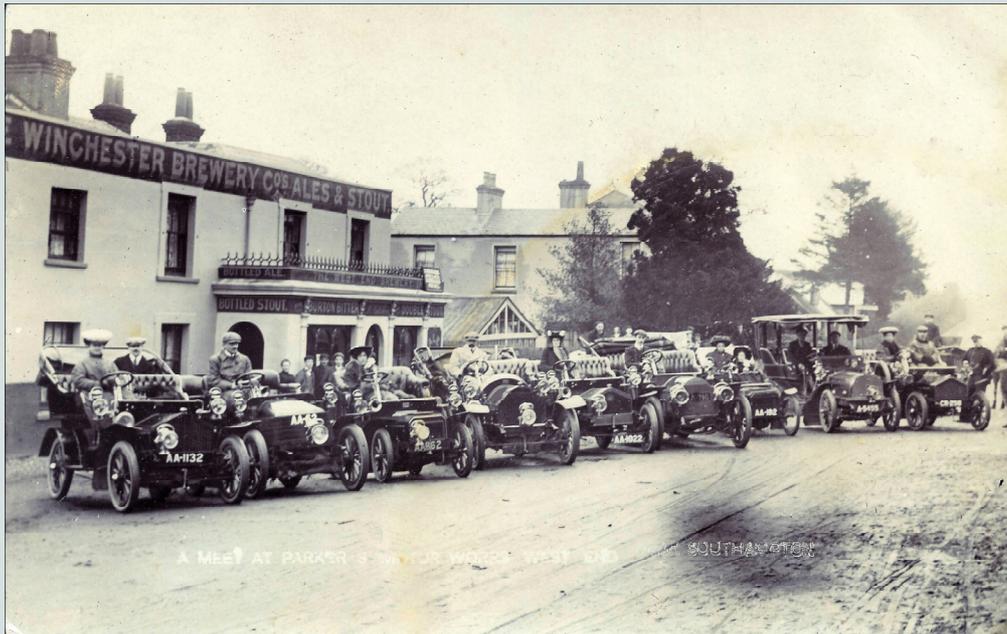
### Part 2 - Lower New Road

By Pauline Berry

The crossroads where West End High Street meets Upper and Lower New Road, is probably the hub of the area today. But the date 1845 was when West End village was carefully recorded on the South Stoneham Tithe Map and Lower New Road, like the Upper part, was just a nameless stony lane, surrounded by large tracts of farmland, small holdings etc. Several cottages stood on the north side of the main High Street, and the crossroads were already looking established.

The late James Barlow Hoy was the former landowner of much of the centre of the village. He had inherited wealth from his late uncle, but had met an early death on a mountaineering holiday in 1843. A strip of pasture running the full length of the eastern side of Lower New Road also belonged to him. By 1845, however, it was in the hands of his executors and was occupied by farmer Richard Langley. The land was then named Almshouse Meadow, which probably originated from the almshouse round the corner in Hatch Bottom (now Chapel Road).

On the west side of Lower New Road was a mixture of property then owned by John Gurman. The most outstanding was the Bugle Inn, where the West End Brewery is to be found today. The Innkeeper, Charles Baigent ran this popular drinking place of local farm workers and cottagers alike. It was not until 1871 that the name was changed to the West End Brewery Inn, occupied by Walter Hewett (grocer and brewer), his wife and family. By the end of the 19th century it was recorded as being owned by the Winchester Brewery Co. Ales with Edwin Wiltshire in charge. Thomas Beckett Forder was the beer retailer here for many years



**PARKERS GARAGE MOTOR MEET IN HIGH STREET OUTSIDE THE BREWERY & HAINES YARD BEHIND c.1906**

During the 20th century until the late 1950's. The entire building was demolished in the 1960's and the West End Brewery Inn was rebuilt, but further back to create a car park, as it appears today.

The next property to the public house, in Lower New Road, was recorded simply as 'a cottage and garden' in 1845, occupied by Thomas Painter. The carpark to the shops is here today. Its name "Holly Cottage" was first mentioned in the 1851 census, when a retired timber merchant from Dorset, named Thomas Jarvis, lived there. Thereon, it was also occupied in the 1860's by Edward Coombs 'yeoman' ( a middle class man owning a piece of land). From the 1880's the Haines Insurance ledger (NUFIS) records the long occupation of members of the Othen family living in "Holly House" until the 1930's.

First, was Thomas Othen, then William Barfoot Othen who was a 'fly proprietor' (hired out vehicles) as shown on the signboard at the gate of his property (see photo on next page):

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**HOLLY HOUSE, LOWER NEW ROAD (Othen's Fly Hire business)**

*“W.B.Othen, Fly Proprietor - single and pair (of) horses, open and closed carriages for hire”*. This popular business supplied paid transport for villagers wishing to go to Southampton, Swaythling or the railway station. The stable and sheds were to be found at the side and rear of his attractive Holly House. William Othen also owned a couple of cottages in Hatch Bottom (Chapel Road) inhabited by Edwin Othen and Davis Coffin, a coachman.

Unfortunately a tragedy occurred in 1903 when William sent his son Samuel into Southampton to fetch lead required by Haines Bros., who were constructing the new school, now the Hilldene Centre.



**LANCES HILL, BITTERNE - Cosser postcard dated 1905**

On his return, however, his horse and cart rolled backwards on Lances Hill and killed his son beneath its wheels. In those days Lances Hill was stony, steep and narrow, with overhanging trees. William Othen, remained at Holly House until his death in 1933.

Another sad occasion happened when Wilfred Othen died in 1914 on HMS ‘Bulwark’, aged 19 years. His father, Edwin Othen, also living then in Lower New Road, survived World War 1, having been a veterinary

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Sergeant in the R.A. Veterinary Corps. His skills learnt nearby, no doubt, at William's business at Holly House.

Leslie Clifford Lassom, also having survived that war in the 1st. Btn. Grenadier Guards, moved into Holly House after William's death in 1933. He was a market gardener and sold the produce of his large garden until his death in 1954.

The motor car had taken over events and with West End expanding rapidly by the 1960's, the entire site was demolished and cleared for a large car park behind the new shops built in the High Street.

Four pairs of semi-detached houses, including "Eastview", "Fernlea" and "Clovelly" were built next to this by Haines Bros. From 1902 onwards and still stand today.



**LOWER NEW ROAD AND THE HOUSES MENTIONED WITH HORSE DRAWN DELIVERY CART - postcard dated 1906**

The Haines Bros. building business was on the opposite side of the road for almost one hundred years, where the Post Office is to be found now. The original brothers, Daniel and Henry, moved from Wiltshire in the 1840's, seeing the opportunity for the rapid development in West End village. Their hopes proved prosperous for them, constructing many cottages, villas and two schools (one 1871 Infant School - see front cover photo which was once off Moorgreen Road and the 1904 West End School - now the Hilldene Centre).

Their burgeoning business occupied a larger site than the modern Post Office, including a builder's yard, workshop and office, was taken over by nephews Harry, Walter and George Henry in the 1890's. Undertaking and the Norwich Union Fire Insurance policies added to their many activities and their business, taken over eventually by Bert and Roy Haines, thrived until the late 1950's. The lack of a fourth generation to take over and competition from other sources, caused the cessation of Haines Bros. It was sold in the early 1960's and the present Post Office built circa 1967-8.

Modern houses quickly followed to complete that side of Lower New Road and how things have changed! It is now hard to imagine the young Bob Moody racing across the crossroads into this road on his go-cart or the borrowed bath chair!

NB.

With thanks to Peter Sillence and Nigel Wood for extra information.

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milking machines – and the resultant reduction in labour requirements which led to the Swing Riots), advances in medicine (including the discovery of bacteria – resulting in the principles of hygiene that we take for granted, the development of X-rays and anaesthesia), the development of photography (from the first experiments around the time of Harriett's birth, to the rise in photographic portraiture from around 1860 onward), gas lighting, the invention of bicycles and the coming of the railway. How aware she was of all of these changes, which of them may have impacted upon her life and to what extent – and what she thought and felt about them – we will never know for certain, although I suspect she was very well informed. When a combination of a series of poor harvests and cheap imported grain caused the great Agricultural Depression of the 1870s, land values fell and many of the landed gentry fell into financial difficulties. Harriett Haselfoot's probate record shows, however, that despite her considerable generosity her estate was worth the same when she died as when she had inherited it from Charles, suggesting that she was very astute and had invested wisely. We know that she had shares in the London & South Western Railway and that her investment remained safe, while others were not so lucky when the railway boom of the early 1840s, which peaked in 1846, had crashed by 1849 and many smaller railway companies folded, leaving shareholders financially embarrassed or even bankrupt. We cannot know how much it was a question of good judgment on her part, knowledgeable advice from a careful financial advisor, or simply good fortune that the railway most local to her home in which she had invested was one of the few which flourished.



**Harriett Haselfoot's nephew Henry Hills and his wife Laura, dressed for Ascot Cup Day 1901**

As is common in carrying out research, each question answered generates more. Why did Harriett Haselfoot leave her home county of Essex, where she was known and established in society with status, friends and relations? Why did she come to Hampshire, where no-one knew her? Was it to be near relatives? Her death was registered by her nephew Henry Hills Meredith of Woodley House, Romsey. Henry was the son of her youngest sister Caroline, but he was born at Paddington in 1853, and would only have been a child when Harriett moved to Hampshire in 1863 and Caroline had died in 1857. Henry was a barrister and married and settled in Wales, later moving to Berkshire and then to London around the time of Harriett's death, so presumably he had been staying in Romsey only temporarily. A document at Hampshire Record Office dated 1888 refers to Harriett Haselfoot, Moorhill, West End & Charlotte Hills, The Chestnuts, West End as residual legatees for the estate of their sister Eleanor Hills of Portman Square, Middlesex. This document provides evidence that Harriett's unmarried sister Charlotte Hills is the same Miss Hills who is listed in Kelly's Directory of 1887 as residing at The Chestnuts, West End. She died there in 1892 and is buried in the old burial ground. But the earliest record of her living at The Chestnuts is Stevens's Directory of Southampton & Neighbourhood 1884, which lists her as Lady Hills. These dates show that Charlotte did not move to the area until almost 20 years after Harriett; she had previously lived in Chelmsford with their younger sister Emma. This leaves us with the biggest question of all: what drew Harriett Haselfoot to choose West End in particular in which to live?

## MAKING OUR MARK - CHALK CUT FIGURES

A Review by Roy Andrews

The talk given by Andy Skinner, Learning Officer at Southampton Museums, at the January meeting, was a presentation of many questions but no definitive answers. He explained that humans all over the world have been leaving their mark since time began, from cave drawings to drawings in California thought to have been done 1000 years ago, in Chile 800 to 1400 years ago and the huge Nazca Lines in Peru, only really visible from the air, thought to have been built sometime after 500AD. Closer to home, he showed a carving on a beam in Southampton's Tudor House Museum known as a *Witch Mark*, although probably a builder's mark.

His talk however would be on the reason for and how old were three famous figures cut into the chalk downlands of southern England. Over 50% of the world's chalk is found in southern England and when the covering turf is removed, the white shines through and can be seen over great distances. These figures are thought by some to be hundreds, if not thousands, of years old but research has shown that if the chalk is not cleaned about every six years, it will become overgrown and for this to have been done back into distant history does not seem to have been possible.

The first figure, at Uffington, is known as the White Horse but is a very stylised carving which can only clearly be seen from the air and could be a dragon, given its close proximity to the hill known as Dragons Hill. There is also an Iron Age Hill Fort nearby, the occupants of which could have carried out the carving. The Romans are also possible contenders as they venerated horses. Modern OSL dating technology, whereby soil samples can show when the soil was first disturbed suggest the horse could have been carved first between 1400 and 600BC.

The Cerne Abbas Giant at 55 metres high is thought to be at least 300 years old and was first written about in 1794. Who is he? Various names have been suggested: Hercules, the Roman Emperor Commodus or it is possible that Denis Holles, 1599-1680, and MP for Dorchester may have had it carved as an effigy of Oliver Cromwell?

The Long Man of Wilmington is 75 metres high and was thought to depict a wise Anglo Saxon; however, there was no mention of the carving until 1710 and by 1850 the outline was grassed over. William Cavendish funded the reinstatement of the figure in 1870 using concrete slabs which is what you see today. OSL dating suggests the figure was carved in 1545 which means it could be of Henry VIII.

This was an interesting talk which showed that where history is concerned. Often, nothing can be certain.



THE LONG MAN OF WILMINGTON



THE CERNE ABBAS GIANT



THE WHITE HORSE AT UFFINGTON

## WEST END POLICE AUXILIARY POLICE MESSENGERS

Information supplied by Jack Tebb

The PAMS, a forerunner of the Police Cadets were formed during the Second World War to assist the Police generally and in particular during Air Raids and communication breakdowns.

In large towns and cities they certainly were a uniformed and I think a full time service. However, they were also used on a voluntary part time basis. Their means of transport was the bicycle.

In about 1943 it was apparently decided that West End should have their own. Bob Moody ( the local Scout master who else) was approached and it was decided to select those who were Patrol Leaders and held the Cyclist Badge in the Scouts. As far as I remember these were:

Phillip Daley (Telegraph Road)  
Graham Thompson (Hatley Road)  
Edmund Powell (Hinkler Road)  
Jack Tebb (Telegraph Road)

Subsequently we were joined by Richard Peck (Chapel Road) whose mother, upset by his omission went to the Police Station and successfully demanded the inclusion of Richard. There may have been others that I can't recall,

We were each issued with a blue tin helmet emblazoned POLICE, a posh Civil Defence gas mask and a Police Warrant card. I'm not sure if there was an armband or not.

I had visions of bravely cycling through the Blitz bearing messages, but as you will note from the date there were no further demands or our services. We had no parades, meetings or any contact with the police except I imagine to hand back our equipment.

My memory is not clear, but I think there was a letter of thanks.

### NOTE:

*Jack Tebb was born in 1929 at North Shields. In 1931 he lived at Thornhill (then part of West End Parish) and in 1933 at "Landour" 54 Telegraph Road, moving to "Spring Bank" 12 Telegraph Road in 1936. By 1954 Jack was living at Barnsland and in 1959 at Megan Road, moving to Locks Heath in 1961 and finally to Wotton-under-Edge, Gloucestershire in 1976.*

*Jacks mother Mrs Tebb was a well known teacher here in West End for 30 years, retiring in the early 1960's. For most of this time the Headmaster was Mr Harris*

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

March 7

**SALISBURY - A Tale of Two Cities (Part 3) concluding**

*Andrew Negus*

April 4

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

plus

**THE NORMANS IN WESSEX**

*Kay Ainsworth*