

## SOME PARISHIONERS

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The notes which follow relate to a few families whose histories have been researched in the Parish Registers as a result of enquiries that have been made by their descendants whose names are given in brackets. In some instances the notes included additional information supplied by the enquirers. They are not of immediate parish interest and have therefore been heavily abbreviated; very full details appear in Geoffrey White's original notes.

The registers show, in general, a large and continuous inflow of newcomers to the parish from the Navy, the Dockyard, the Mt Edgcumbe Estate, the Army, the Coastguard, Preventive and Trinity House services and so on. Incoming men often married local girls and settled in or returned to the parish, as, for instance, William Bentley of HMS Hero who married Agnes Gray of Rame on 26 January 1761 and who established a family still well-represented in the female line. He is buried at Rame, his stone standing under a hawthorn bush at the east end of the chancel.

Very few surnames that appeared in the registers around 1654 are to be found in direct descendants today. Edgcumbe and Oliver and perhaps two or three more – yet a large number of parishioners can trace their ancestry back to that date or earlier through female lines. Surnames which have been well-known and widespread can be seen occurring for the first time in the registers eg Vallack – once very numerous and wide-spread in both parishes occurs for the first time in the late 17<sup>th</sup> Century. Edd(e)y and Glynn in the early 18<sup>th</sup> Century, Lobb in the mid-18<sup>th</sup> Century and Chapell, Kingdon and Trist in the late-18<sup>th</sup> Century.

The following are examples both of the variety of parishioners and the variety of their descendants:

Hoyton and Polsen (J G Mumford of Yeovil)

William Hoyton and Martha Polsen married (Rame) 6 July 1706

Israel Howton and Jane Belman married (Maker) 9 January 1738

William, son of Israel and Jan Hutton baptized (Maker) 22 October 1738

The surname Polsen is Norwegian and Hoyten or Hoiten is Dutch. This has its origin in the naval actions against the Dutch by England about 1670 when France took sides with this country. The family tradition is that our ancestors at that time were captured by the French. The marriage of William and Martha looks like the usual case of a bride being married in her own home town as the bridegroom came from Stoke Damerel and his family were brought up there. They might, in the first place have landed at Mevagissey; the Hoitens appear to come from there.

Sul(l)ivan (Col W Sullivan, Benton Castle, Milford Haven)

Timothy O'Sullivan, born in County Cork in 1750 or 1754, the grandson of the last of the O'Sullivans to claim the title of "the O'Sullivan Mor" ran away from home with a cousin and adopted the name of "Sullivan" which their descendants still use.

He married Elizabeth Brian, born 1759; they had 5 sons and 3 daughters. One son died in infancy, the remaining 4 all became naval officers, the eldest an Admiral. The family lived for a time in Cawsand where the eldest boy was born and baptized on 3 January 1781. He was followed by 2 daughters, Loveday Julian, baptized Rame 5 October 1783 and Eliza, baptized Rame 27 arch 1785.

Timothy enlisted voluntarily in the Navy in Plymouth in 1776 as Able Seaman. In 1782 he was one of 12 survivors of the 800 crew of HMS Centaur wrecked in the West Indies. He was then Captain's Coxswain and sailed with the other survivors across the Atlantic to Faval in 16 days without clothes, food or navigation aids. He was Warrant Gunner of HMS Neptune at Trafalgar. His youngest son Daniel Hunt was in the same ship as a midshipman at the same time and Timothy died on board her in 1808.

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His wife Elizabeth died in Millbrook in 1816.

His eldest son, Thomas Ball Sullivan, born in Cawsand in 1781, joined the Navy and when sitting for his Lieutenant's Examination in 1797 presented to the Admiralty a false baptismal certificate dated 3 January 1777 and signed by Mr S J Souter, Curate of Rame. This he required because he was not entitled to sit the examination before reaching age 20; it was common practice to submit false certificates to secure earlier seniority and no doubt Mr Souter had been prevailed upon by Timothy and Elizabeth to provide the document. However, although promoted Lieutenant in 1797, he reverted to Junior Lieutenant in 1798 and was re-promoted in 1801. It seems that he was caught out, but still reached Admiral's rank. He married the daughter of Admiral James of "Woodlands", Mylor where subsequently settled and is buried.

Samuel Hood Sullivan, the second surviving son, also served as a midshipman at Trafalgar and died at Stonehouse, February 1835<sup>1</sup>.

James Inglefield Sullivan was baptized in Stoke Damerel 2 October 1792

Daniel Hunt Sullivan followed him 11 October 1794

Both were later gazetted Lieutenants RN

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<sup>1</sup> Maker Burial Registers

Thomas Ball Sullivan had 4 children of whom 2 became admirals, Batholomew and Sir George Lydiard Sullivan who, while serving with the East African Squadron, did much to combat the slave trade in that area.

Veale (Sir Geoffrey Veale QC, Mr Justice Veale)

This family provided three churchwardens in successive generations for Maker (see Page 41).

John Veale married Phyllis Byland at Maker 1 January 1765. They had a son, William, in 1771, followed by Joseph in 1774, Maria in 1776 and Richard in 1777.

William Veale became a butcher and married Christian Lobb, a widow, at Maker 31 December 1795. Their son, also called William was baptized Maker 12 January 1797. He farmed Coombe Farm above Kingsand and also for a time had the tidal mill at Millbrook. While there his son Henry was born and baptized at Maker in 1831 or 1832. Henry became a doctor in Colchester Hospital, later joined the Army and reached the rank of Deputy Surgeon General. His father, William, is buried in Maker churchyard, particulars are described on his obelisk tombstone.

Other Veales recorded include:

James of Stoke Damerel, Maltster, married Sarah Martyn of Maker 3 October 1769

John, mason, married Mary Berrey, both of Maker 18 June 1786

John of Maker, innholder, married Grace Byland, sojourner, at Maker 23 July 1783

Mary, spinster, married Thomas Lobb, both of Rame 23 September 1792

Richard, bachelor, of Maker married Sarah Bawden of Rame, spinster, 27 August 1811

The two Veales last named may well be the children of John and Phyllis.

Bray (Lt Cmdr L H G Bray of Exmouth)

Lawrence Bray was a native of Tintagel and followed the sea. He was witness to marriages at Maker on many occasions between 1794 and 1804 and in each the grooms were mariners. It would that Lawrence might well have been stationed in the Maker Tower Signal Station.

He had a son William by his wife Christen, baptized 19 November 1787<sup>2</sup>.

William appears to have been a sea officer who, as a result of the paying off of the ships after Trafalgar, was forced to take a job in the Dockyard. Several of his children appear in the Maker Baptizmal Registers between 1816 and 1821.

He was discharged from the "Nimble" Revenue Cutter in 1832 for using the ship to run a cargo of brandy into Littleham Cover, Exmouth. Captain Sparshott was ordered to enquire into the incident in May 1832 and in July of that year the request of Sergeant, Peck, Barber and Blackler for reconsideration and affidavits of innocence was refused.

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### John Ham

An instance of the trades and services formerly to be found in the villages.

The first member of the family to be found in the Registers is Walter Ham who married Margery Minkings at Maker in 1758. Walter's son John, a labourer, married Constance Littlejohns at Maker 31 October 1789. Two daughters, Susanna and Catherine were baptized at Rame in 1791 and 1792 and John was baptized at Maker 29 June 1794, which suggests that the family had by then moved from Cawsand to Kingsand (or Millbrook).

About 1823, John married Mary Anne<sup>3</sup>. She was about 18<sup>4</sup>. They lived at Millbrook. Their daughter Augusta was baptized at Maker September 1824, her father was then described as 'Watchmaker'. Nine other children were baptized between 1826 and 1849, the residence throughout being Kingsand and the father's occupation Watchmaker or Clockmaker.

Of the children, a daughter, Mary Ann, baptized 1826, died of cholera in 1832 and was buried at Maker on the same September day as six other people. A son, Joseph Henry, baptized April 1839, may have followed his father's occupation. Harrison Harrod's Directory of 1862 gives "Joseph Ham, Watchmaker, Kingsand".

The absence of further entries in the registers makes it probable that the whole family left the district, except for the mother, Mary Ann.

### Rohu, Sando and Searle

In the early 1800s the names of several French pilots who had joined the British side in the Napoleonic Wars appear in the registers.

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<sup>2</sup> He also had other older children

<sup>3</sup> Surname unknown

<sup>4</sup> Died January 1874, aged 69

On 24 May 1803, Bonaventure Rohu of HMS Salvador del Mundo married Susanna Searle, sojourner, at Maker and on 7 May 1805 Matthew Searl, sojourner and husbandman, married Phillipe Sando who was probably a French émigré. The Rohu's were witnesses.

The Searls continue to appear in the registers until the 1860s.

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Umfreville (Cmdr d'Olier Umfreville, St Peter Port)

The Umfrevilles were kinsmen of the Conqueror and this history was recorded in detail until 1786. The gap is partly closed by research in the Rame and Maker Registers.

Samuel Charles Umfreville, who was christened in Ipswich in 1759 retired at Captain RN to Kingsand and was buried at Maker 24 May 1822, aged 62 and was followed by his wife Ann on 15 August 1832. She was a victim of cholera and died aged 67.

Two of their children were baptized at Rame. Eliza, 27 June 1806 and William George, 25 August 1811.

Their son, Samuel Charles who was born in 1792 is mentioned in O'Byrnes Naval Anthology:

"Is entered in RN as Boy 2<sup>nd</sup> Class, June 1803 – Midshipman August 1806 – Master's Mate 1811

In 1813, serving in the Frigate Amelia 48, is employed on the coast of West Africa which ship is fever-ridden and short-handed when she engaged the newly arrived French Arethuse. A desperate action ensued in which the Captain is gravely wounded and all other officers wounded except young Samuel. The senior 'walking case' officer wishes to strike his colours but Samuel approaches the Captain and asks permission to take over command to recommence the action. This he does and forces the Arethuse to bear away and sails the Amelia back to Spithead where he arrives in March and is promoted Lieutenant".

In 1817 Samuel marries Jane Clarke of Kingsand at Rame. A daughter, Jane, was baptized 8 June 1819 and a son, Samuel Charles, 21 December 1820, both at Maker, the father Lieutenant RN.

There were at least five other children and Samuel finished his days at Greenhithe.

Saxon, Sexon or Sexton

There are several entries for this family between 1810 and 1851. The first Samuel Saxon of HMS Salvador appears to have settled in Cawsand as a ropemaker. He was

said to have owned a rope-walk which was washed away in a storm in the mid-1850s. The family is also said to have smuggling connexions.

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Sir Charles-Mary Wentworth Bart

Buried at Maker 17 April 1844, aged 69, residence Kingsand.

He was the son of Sir John Wentworth, the last Royal Governor of the province of New Hampshire and later Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia.

He owed his curious Christian names to the fact that his godparents were the Marquis and Marchioness of Rockingham to whom his family was related.

He came to reside in Kingsand about 1822/24. He died unmarried.

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Maynard (Miss E Maguire, Hartley, Plymouth)

John Maynard, son of John and Mary Maynard of St Germans' married Ann inkins Evans at Maker, 26 July 1818.

Their son John was baptized at Maker 18 October 1818, father labourer, residence Kingsand.

Further children were baptized at Rame, residence Cawsand:

Mary Ann 30 March 1823	Father, seaman
Elizabeth 30 October 1825	Father, seaman
George Evans 3 February 1828	Father, seaman HMS Britannic
Henry 6 June 1830	Father, seaman HMS Caledonia

Ann died 25 January 1832 and John married Susanna<sup>5</sup> who died 1877 aged 78.

Harry (Henry), Mary Ann and George Evans were at Greenwich Hospital School where Mary Ann was presented with a silver award medal and George Evans composed a poem "The Greenwich Schoolboy" which is dedicated "From JM, from his eldest brother". This cannot be the first John, must be a late child of Ann or child of Susanna.

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<sup>5</sup> Surname unkown

The grand-daughters were devoted to Susanna and to their 'Uncle Harry'. Susanna suffered from asthma; her saying was "I wouldn't wish it to a dog, my dear".

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“The Greenwich Schoolboy”

We Greenwich schoolboys, sons of heroes  
Apply to navigation's art  
Sport, gymnastics like good fellows  
Observe by sextant coast or chart  
Impelled by honour, truth and duty  
Fifteen's the age we bear away  
To prove our country ever mighty  
In peace or war our Queen obey

Mark: boys have left the school with merit  
And gained high navel rank in style  
And may not others, if they try it,  
Become the boast of Britain's Isle.  
Success attend all sailors loyal  
In hearts of oak upon the sea  
May schoolboys from th' asylum royal  
The pride of England ever be.

Fam'd Dibden sang the British Navy  
From Rodney down to brave Pellew  
We still can boast continued glory  
In British Tata for ever true.  
At Acre, Stopford led our sailors  
And victory gained of lasting fame.  
In ships that sail\* or hissing steamers  
Britannia still maintains her name.

\* Other reading “of war”

By G E Maynard

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De Larne

Jean Prosper de Larne of Devonport, aged 67, buried Maker 1 October 1867, also his wife Lavinia, date not noted.

A friend of the Mt Edgcumbe family.

E J Springett

Edward James Springett, buried Maker 3 September 1938

A Barrack Warden at Maker Barracks with 35 years service ASC.

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