



BEAULIEU HISTORY SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

No. 26 April 2015

Editor's Column

Future Meetings

The **Visit to Sowley** on 29th May, by kind invitation of Catharina van der Vorm, includes a talk on Sow-



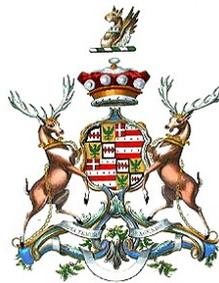
Sowley Pond

ley Ironworks by Emma Page, History Society chair. Completed in the 1590s the ironworks supplied wrought iron to the naval dockyard at Portsmouth through the Napoleonic Wars. Admission is free to members, but numbers are limited so early reservation is advised with Gillian Strathcarron preferably to her email address on page 4.

In September, Mary Montagu-Scott and Ken Robinson will give a talk on **Cowes Week** compiled from the diaries of Pearl Pleydell Bouverie, mother of Lord Montagu. The diaries reveal guests including royalty who stayed at Palace House, Beaulieu, some of whom competed in the sailing races, and the social whirl surrounding them.



In November, Timothy Duke, officer of arms at the College of Arms in London will give a talk on the **Heraldry of Beaulieu**; the fascinating study of coats of arms of families associated with Beaulieu,



Arms of Edward-Hussey Montagu,
1st Earl Beaulieu (1721–1802)

and the rights and genealogies associated with them.

Belinda Montagu Video

Copies of the video **Recollections of Belinda Montagu** presented at the January meeting will be available to members at the Visit to Sowley.



Website

The Beaulieu History website www.beaulieuhistorysociety.org.uk contains a list of society events, an archive of newsletters, presentations, Beaulieu burial records, school records and several galleries of photos. For copyright reasons, access by username and password will shortly be introduced. These will be circulated to paid-up members only, so if your subscription is due, now is the time to renew it as described opposite.

John Pemberton

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Dates for your Diary

Friday 29 May 2015 6:30pm

Visit to Sowley

Sowley House, Sowley Lane
East End, Lympington SO41 5SQ

Friday 25 September 2015 6:30pm

Cowes Week

by Mary Montagu-Scott and Ken
Robinson
Master Builder's, Buckler's Hard

Friday 13 November 2015 6:30pm

The Heraldry of Beaulieu

by Timothy Duke, College of Arms
Beaulieu Village Hall

Subscriptions

Membership fees of £5 per member were due at the start of the year. If you have not yet paid, you are encouraged to make an electronic bank transfer to Beaulieu History Society, sort code 20-53-53, account number 90157031. Please put your name in the Reference box, otherwise we may not know who sent it. If available to you, this is a preferable alternative in cost and convenience to sending a cheque to the secretary Gillian Strathcarron at her address on the back page.

Beaulieu's Emigration to South Africa

Life in Victorian England was particularly hard for those misfortunate not to be in employment. To alleviate the distress amongst the rural populations on his estates, Walter Francis Scott, 5th Duke of Buccleuch arranged for parties to emigrate to the colonies.

Most went to Australia and New Zealand, but for his Beaulieu families he bought some land in Natal to give them the opportunity for a new start in life. Such was the Duke's generosity that, as well as paying all their expenses, he maintained them in their new lives for twelve months. The February 23rd 1850 edition of *The Hampshire Advertiser* records that thirty seven Beaulieu inhabitants took advantage of his offer and gives an account, in detail, of the arrangements and their departure.

BEAULIEU, February 23.

EMIGRATION.—The manor of Beaulieu has, during the last few weeks, presented a scene of active preparation for the departure of no less than thirty-seven inhabitants, who, through the munificent kindness of the lord of the manor, the Duke of Buccleuch, are enabled to better their fortunes by emigrating to the rising colony of Port Natal, Capetown. The whole expense has been most nobly defrayed by the duke, including passage money, and a most liberal outfit for each person, a well-chosen selection of books, besides an ample supply of agricultural tools and implements, and some excellent tents completely fitted up for immediate use on arriving at Natal. So impressed were the emigrants with the liberality of their landlord that, of their own accord, they sent a letter of thanks to his grace expressive of their heartfelt gratitude. They sailed from Bucklershard on Thursday morning in a small schooner which conveyed them to Spithead, where they embarked on board the *Lady Bruce*. The clergyman of their parish accompanied them to the shore, and offered up a few suitable prayers, commending them to the Divine protection on their voyage and subsequent settlement.

In the Palace House account book for 1850 there is a full audited account of the 'Emigration Expenses' including 'Edward Collins, Hire of vessel taking Emigrants to Portsmouth and putting them on board the *Lady Bruce*' and 'Benjamin Edgington for tents for the emigrants upon their arrival in Natal.' Mr David Kitcher, Clerk of the Works at Beaulieu in the 1960s recounts a tale told him by his mother, who went to see her brother, Mr Gregory, embark on the barge *John Samuel* at Buckler's Hard, that the unhappy master, Mr Collins, put his barge aground on Exbury shore. However, it would appear that they didn't miss the boat, and picked it up at Spithead.

The Duke of Buccleuch's party of thirty seven consisted of five families, together with nine young men. Each of the young men were provided with 20 acres to cultivate, while the families were given larger farms. A full list of names is given at the end of this article.

The expenses for wagon-hire to their allotments and

survey fees were charged to the Duke's account and he also met the costs of flour, tents, and seed. He even donated £100 to Pietermaritzburg's Anglican minister, the Revd James Green, to be used towards the construction of a church in their new settlement. Their rural allotments were on land which was given the name Beaulieu Estate, and Beaulieu was the name given to the village.

A newspaper report in the January 24th 1863 edition of the *Hampshire Independent* provided news of how the emigrants had fared in their new life.

By and by our readers no doubt feel an interest in some of the villagers which left this place for Port Natal some years ago, we give the following extract from a letter which has been received:—“Ambrose Foss's wife died about six years ago. He sold his place at Richmond, and bought another one at a place called New England, about three miles from Pietermaritzburg. Tinker is dead, and young John Gordon has married his widow. Stephen Crouch has married Tinker's oldest daughter. He has bought John Gordon's land at Richmond, and is living on it. John Gordon and both of his sons are living at Pinetown. Old John Crute is still living on the hill at Richmond. James Stote is in the hospital out of his mind. James Westbrook is married, and keeps a bottle store in town; Henry is still in the bush. John Warren, Charles House, and Alexander Bound were all up among the Dutch, and we have not heard from them for some time. Land has increased in value within these few years.”

FAREHAM.]—PERRY SESSIONS, MONDAY.—Present, Sir Lucius Curtis, Bart., chairman, Spencer Smith, Francis Le Blanc, and George Wingate, Esqrs.

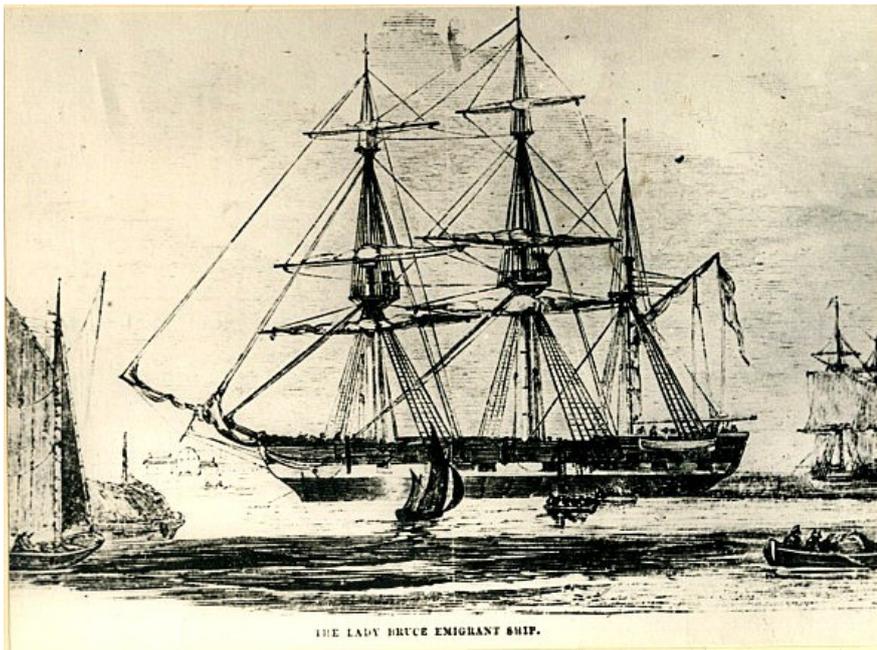
Trespass.—Thomas Carter, of Farlington, was charged with trespass on the 14th inst. at the parish of Farlington.

Ambrose Foss, an agricultural labourer from Beaulieu Rails took his wife Mary and five children. The report suggests he made a great success of his new life. James Stote was one of the nine children of John and Elizabeth Stote, all baptised by Rev. Henry Adams on November 18th 1832. John Stote was the village shoemaker and James was 26 years old when he joined the emigration party. Young John Godden (not Gordon) emigrated with his family, whose father was also named John and is referred to later in the report. John Crouch (not Crute) emigrated with his wife and family. James and Henry Westbrook were sons of the village baker and were aged about 19 and 16 years respectively. Stephen Crouch, from Hatchett Lane, was 19 and had emigrated with his parents; Charles House 18; John Warn (not Warren) was 20 and Charles Bound (not Alexander) of North Gate, was 19. But who was Tinker?

The ages of the young men who emigrated alone do suggest a level of apprehension amongst them of their prospects if they remained in Beaulieu. It must have been a tremendous wrench to leave home for a foreign land with the knowledge that they would probably not see their families again. However, they must have been very grateful to their benefactor who gave them their chance in life.

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Getty Images

churchyard and found several Beaulieu names there.

I wonder how many present Beaulieu and Beaulieu Rails residents, unbeknown to themselves, have ancestors in South Africa! A complete list of everyone who emigrated to South Africa is given below. I am grateful to Susan Tomkins for providing me with this list.

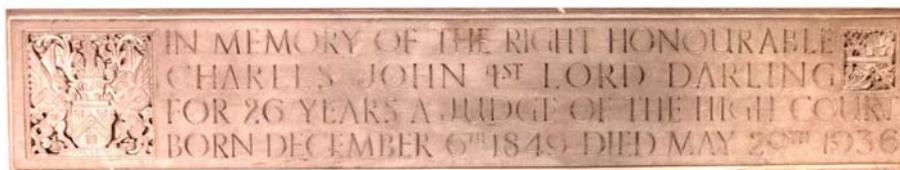
Families: *John and Frances Crouch and children Priscilla, George, Stephen and Eliza; William and Sarah Jane Crouch and children Anne, William and John; Ambrose and Mary Foss and children Ann, Elias, Elizabeth, Wyatt and Richard; John and Ann Godden and children John and George; Isaac and Sarah Godden and children Jane, Mary, William and Emma.*

Although the land that the Duke purchased was initially called Beaulieu, some time later, with the Duke's blessing, the name was changed to Richmond. In 1959 the present Lord Montagu, while on a tour to South Africa with some veteran cars, visited Richmond and was given a great reception. He visited the local

Individuals: *Charles Bound; William Burgess; Charles Gregory; Charles House; James Stote; John Warn; James and Henry Westbrook; William Willis.*

Anthony Norris

First Lord Darling

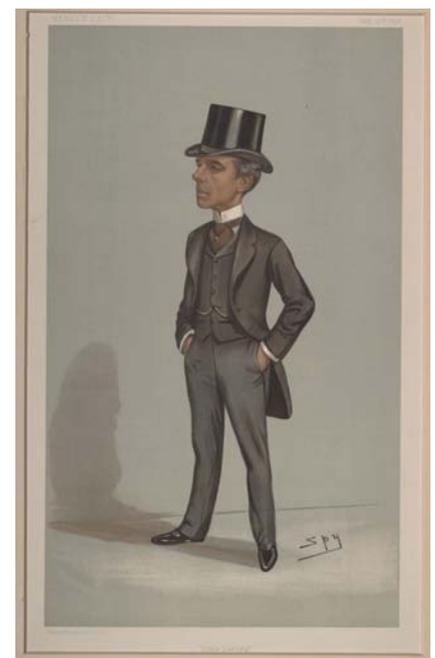


On the west wall of the Beaulieu Abbey there are three plaques bearing the name of Darling. Wondering who they were I looked up the First Lord Darling, whose name is on the bottom plaque of the trio, to find he was a prominent judge, politician and writer.

Charles John first Baron Darling (1849-1936) trained as barrister, having started as a solicitor, and was admitted to the Inner Temple in 1872. The *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* notes 'his career at the Bar was not particularly noteworthy'. Nonetheless he took silk in 1885. He then went on a political venture as many prominent Victorian gentlemen were inclined to do.

Returned as a Conservative MP in 1888 for Deptford, having defeated Wilfrid Scawen Blunt, he was an MP until 1897 when he was elevated to the House of Lords. The ODNB summed up his political years with the damning verdict 'undistinguished - a competent man rather than a politician with any original contributions to make'.

However he caught the eye of the Lord Chancellor, Lord Halsbury, who in spite of prominent opposition expressed in a leader in *The Times* and echoed by some politicians, Darling was appointed to the Queen's Bench Division in 1897.



"Little Darling" as caricatured by Spy (Leslie Ward) in *Vanity Fair*, July 1897

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Now a High Court judge and a peer, Darling set out on a long judicial career which saw him presiding over several infamous cases such as Stinie Morrison murder trial (1911), the appeal of Dr Crippen (1910) and Roger Casement's appeal for treason, sabotage and espionage (1916). Both Crippen and Casement were hanged.

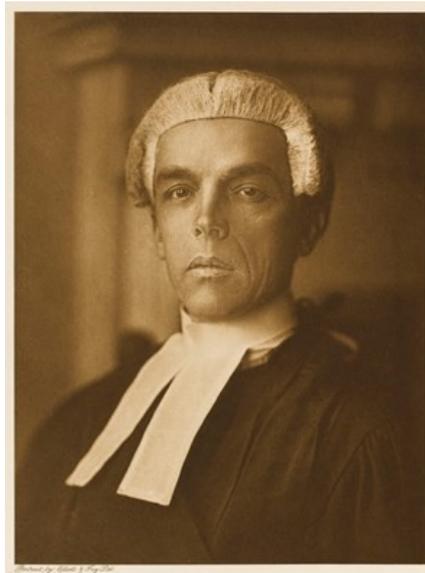
Darling was a man noted for his 'gnomic wisdom and sharp satire' and he found the drama of a courtroom fruitful territory for his wit. His habit of behaving with a 'levity quite unsuited to the trial of a criminal case' was blamed for the jury returning an acquittal on Noel Pemberton Billing for criminal libel in 1918. Pemberton Billing, an MP, had claimed that the Germans had the names of 47,000 prominent men and women, including Asquith the then Prime Minister and Darling himself, listed in a Black Book



National Portrait Gallery

whom they were black mailing as they 'propagate evils which all decent men thought had perished n Sodom and Lesbia'.

However his wit stood him in good stead as a writer. The novelist and barrister F.C. Philips gave his opinion, 'I think that the wittiest book ever written by a legal luminary was one called 'Scintillæ Juris' by Mr. Justice Darling, when he was a junior barrister.



Darling also wrote for the *St James' Gazette*, the *Pall Mall Gazette* and the *Saturday Review*. He was noted for his impeccable and immaculate dressing. He died in Lymington Cottage Hospital in 1936 at the age of 86. He is buried in Beaulieu.

A plaque above Darling's is for Mary Caroline Greathed who married Darling in 1885. She was the daughter of Major-General William Wilberforce Harris Greathed CB who had won acclaim for his action in the Indian mutiny. Darling and Caroline had three children; two daughters, Lucia who married Kep-



National Portrait Gallery

pel Pulteney and lived in the New Forest till her death in 1962, and Diana Darling who died in 1961 unmarried.

Mary faces the plaque of John Clive Darling, her and Charles Darling's only son. In the 1901 census he is noted as living in Lady Cross Lodge with his mother Mary. John was a Captain in the XXth Hussars and fought in the First World War. He was mentioned in dispatches several times and won a DSO. He married Eleanor Powell from Minstead and died in 1933 also in Lymington Hospital aged 45.

An article in the *Daily Telegraph* on 26 June 2014, notable for its amusement value rather than any validity, suggested John Clive Darling might just have been the real-life namesake for the blundering Captain Darling in the BBC popular comedy *Blackadder*. Except the real John Clive Darling actually was a hero.

Christina Dykes

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