

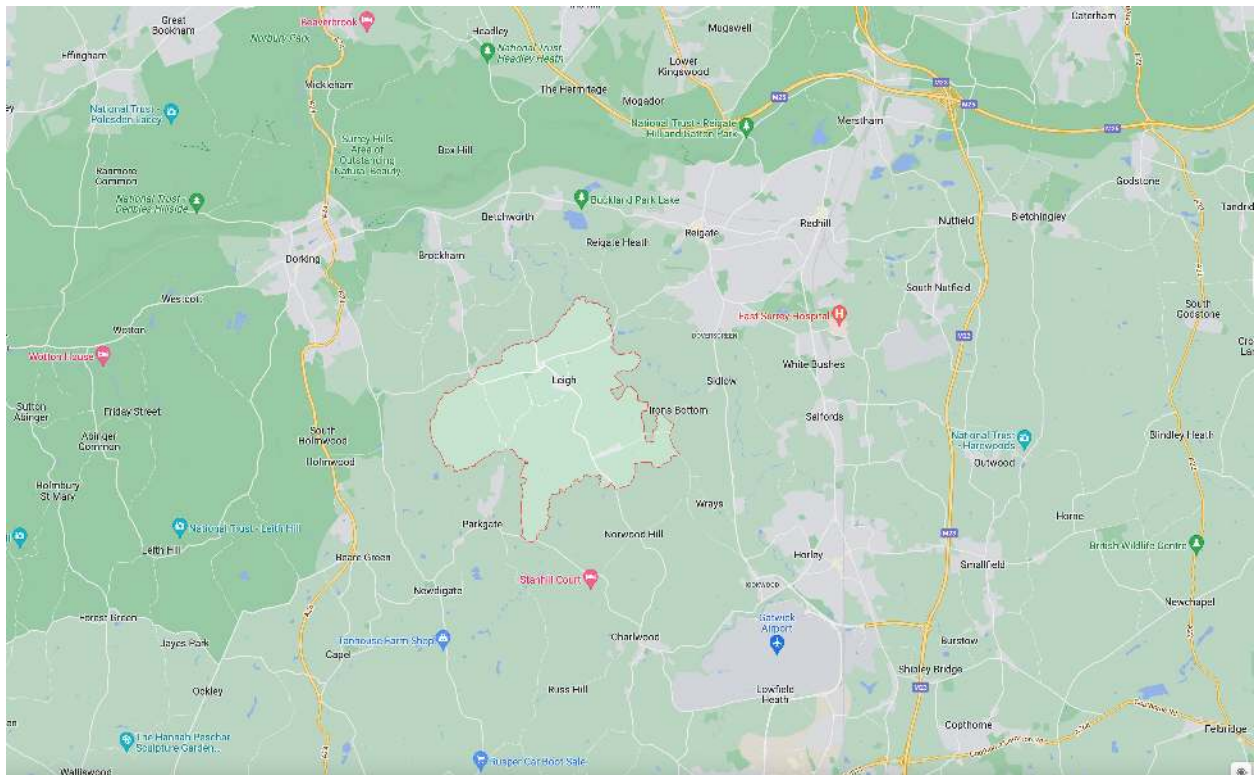
# **T**he LIFE & TIMES of WILLIAM MONK (1854-1923) Dairy Farmer of Sussex, England



■ WILLIAM MONK was born on October 30, 1854 in Charlwood, Surrey, England where the MONK FAMILY had settled and farmed for some 150 years. In modern times the CHARLWOOD area has become dominated by GATWICK AIRPORT, a major British air-transport hub, built on the ancient Manor of John De Gatwyck.

WILLIAM MONK was the son of Dairy Farmer & Landowner, GEORGE MONK (1816-1909) and his wife REBECCA BENNETT (1823-1899) of Charlwood, Surrey.

WILLIAM'S Grandfather, GEORGE MILFORD MONK (1773-1852) was also a successful farmer and landowner in Charlwood. The Monk Family were expert dairy farmers and WILLIAM MONK learned his trade well from his Father and Grandfather.



Charlwood, Leigh and Gatwick Airport, Surrey, England

■ In 1861 at age 8-years, WILLIAM MONK was living at FULBROOK FARM in Ifield Road, Charlwood, where he began to help his 45-year old father, GEORGE MONK (1816-1909) in working on the 32-acres dairy farm. Thus started William's long career as a Cowman on several large farms in Sussex and Surrey.



FULBROOK COTTAGE, Ifield Road, Charlwood, Surrey, England

By 1871 the unmarried 18-year old WILLIAM MONK had moved, along with his Parents and siblings, to the nearby PRESTWOOD FARM, Ifield Road, Charlwood, Surrey presumably to find work.

[\(Prestwood Farm is now permanently closed.\)](#)

■ On January 17, 1876 WILLIAM MONK married CHARLOTTE TURNER in Croydon, Surrey. Charlotte was the daughter of farm Bailiff, GEORGE RICHARD TURNER (1827-1916). The skills and knowledge of his Father-in-Law would be invaluable to the young William Monk over his career as a Dairy Farmer.

■ In 1881, the 27-year old WILLIAM MONK was farming 88-acres of land at COURTS FARM in Fernhurst, near Midhurst, West Sussex. His 28-year old wife, CHARLOTTE and 4-Children, EDITH REBECCA (4), GEORGE (3), NELLY (1) and JACK (4-months) made up his growing family. Living with him were his older brother, HENRY MONK (33) and Henry's wife, JANE MONK (31) who were both also working at Courts Farm.



Courts Farm Cottage

WILLIAM MONK and CHARLOTTE TURNER had 13 Children (8 sons and 5 daughters):

1. EDITH REBECCA MILLS (born Monk) (1876-1965); born in Leigh, Surrey.
  - In 1881 age-5 years lived at COURTS FARM in Fernhurst, Sussex;
  - In 1891 age-15 lived at #2 COCKBUSH COTTAGE, Woodberry Lane, Emsworth, Hampshire;
  - In 1891 age-15 worked at LORDINGTON ESTATE FARM, Racton, Sussex;
  - In 1901 age-24 lived at #2 COCKBUSH COTTAGE, Woodberry Lane, Emsworth, Hampshire;
  - In 1904 Married WALTER MILLS (Blacksmith) in Westbourne, Sussex;
  - In 1905 Birth of Daughter, NORA MILLS in Stoughton, Sussex; Married Mr. Mackenzie;
  - In 1909 Birth of Daughter, RUTH MILLS in Stoughton, Sussex;
  - In 1939 Living in Chichester, Sussex;
  - In 1953 Death of Husband WALTER MILLS (Blacksmith);
  - In 1965 EDITH REBECCA died in Nuneaton, Warwickshire;
  
2. GEORGE MONK (1878-1967)); born in Charlwood, Surrey;
  - In 1881 living in Fernhurst, Sussex.
  - In 1891 age-12 living at Lordington Farm, Racton, Sussex;
  - In 1901 age-22 living in Warblington, Hampshire.
  - In 1902 age-23 Married IRENE BLANCHE CHASE (1881-1969);
  - In July 30, 1902 Birth of Daughter IRENE GEORGINA MONK (1902-1994);
  - In March 16, 1904 Birth of Son WILLIAM GEORGE MONK (1904-1988);
  - In December 10, 1907 Birth of Son WALTER JAMES MONK in Emsworth, Hampshire;
  - In 1909, Birth of Son, DONALD ROY MONK in Emsworth, Hampshire;
  - In 1911, living in Warblington, Emsworth, Hampshire;
  - In April 1911 living at REDMANS FARM, Emsworth, Hampshire;
  - In July 20, 1911 Birth of Son SYDNEY JOHN MONK (1911-1970) in Warblington, Hampshire;
  - In 1915, Birth of Son, PERCY EDWARD JOHN MONK (1915-2015) in Warblington, Hampshire;
  - In September 1939, GEORGE was living at #40 Juniper Avenue, Havant, Hampshire;
  - In 1967, GEORGE MONK died at in Gosport, Hampshire.

3. **NELLY MONK (1879-xxxx); Born 1879 in Fernhurst, Sussex;**
- Nelly recalls her Grandfather made excellent apple cider and the locals came by for a “medicinal draught of his brew.” Nelly became a School Teacher and emigrated to South Africa in 1910 to marry her childhood sweetheart who had joined the British Army fighting the Boers.
  - From 1885-1889, NELLY was living with her Parents at LORDINGTON FARM, Racton, West Sussex
  - From 1890-1910, due to overcrowding at #2 Cockbush Cottages, the 11-year old Nelly was living with her Grandparents, GEORGE & REBECCA MONK at ELM HOUSE, Ifield Road, Charlwood.
  - In 1910, the 31-year old NELLY MONK emigrated to South Africa to marry her childhood sweetheart who had joined the British Army fighting the Boers.
4. **JACK MONK (1881-1918); Born in Fernhurst, Sussex;**
- In 1891 at age 10-years was living at LORDINGTON FARM, Racton, Sussex;
  - In 1895-1914 Jack worked as a DAIRY WORKER, then was conscripted at age 33-years into the BRITISH ARMY (ROYAL FUSILIERS) in WWI in France on the Western Front;
  - In 1911 at age 30-years was living at #4, COMMONSIDE, WESTBOURNE, Sussex;
  - In March 1918, Jack was KILLED IN ACTION in Pas-de-Calais, France. He is buried in Bancourt British Cemetery in Calais, France.



**BANCOURT BRITISH CEMETERY** is a Commonwealth War Graves Commission burial ground for the dead of the First World War located in the Pas de Calais region of France, on the Western Front.

5. **LYDIA MONK** (1882-xxxx); Born in 1882 in Fernhurst, Sussex,
- In 1891, at age 9-years old Lydia was a scholar living at LORDINGTON FARM, Racton, Sussex with William, Charlotte & Family;
  - In 1901, the 19-year old Lydia worked as a Housemaid (Domestic) at EASTLEIGH HOUSE, Havant, Hampshire,
  - This 5-Bedroomed house on 1.8 acres was formerly the Residence in 1834 of JOHN BARTON (1789-1852) the famous English Economist and latterly his son, Missionary REVEREND JOSEPH BARTON who lived there until his death in 1905;



Eastleigh House, Bartons Road, Havant, Hampshire, England.

6. **HARRY MONK** (1884-xxxx) Born in Fernhurst, Sussex;
- In 1891 living at LORDINGTON FARM, Racton, Sussex;
  - In 1901 living at #2 COCKBUSH COTTAGES, Woodberry Lane, Emsworth, Hampshire;
  - In 1909, 25-year old Harry married ALICE (1886-xxxx) in Ombersley, Worcestershire;
  - In 1911 living in Hadley, Droitwich, Worcestershire;  
[Hadley is located in the county of Worcestershire, West Midlands, three miles west of the town of Droitwich Spa, six miles north of the major city of Worcester, 69 miles north-east of Cardiff, and 103 miles north-west of London.](#)
  - In 1939, the 55-year old Harry Monk was living at #2 Rose Cottages, Church Lane, Esher, Surrey;

7. **WILLIAM HENRY MONK** (1885-1968); Born in Racton with Lordington, Sussex;
- In 1891 at age 6-years living at LORDINGTON FARM, Racton, Sussex;
  - In 1901 living at #2 COCKBUSH COTTAGES, Woodberry Lane, Emsworth, Hampshire;
  - In 1901 at age 15-years working at LORDINGTON FARM as a Gardener / Labourer;
  - On February 1913, married ELLEN GRACE MILES in Havant, Hampshire;
  - In 1914 birth of son HARVEY WILLIAM MONK in Havant, Hampshire;
  - In 1954 death of son HARVEY WILLIAM MONK at age 40-years in Portsmouth, Hampshire;
  - In December 1967 death of wife ELLEN GRACE (born Miles) at age 75-years in Portsmouth, Hampshire;
  - In 1968, WILLIAM HENRY MONK died at age 83-years in Petersfield, Hampshire;
8. **PHILLIP MONK** (1886-1958); Born in Racton with Lordington, Sussex;
- In 1891 at age 5-years living at LORDINGTON FARM, Racton, Sussex;
  - In 1901 at age 15-years living at #2 COCKBUSH COTTAGES, Woodberry Lane, Emsworth;
  - In 1901 at age 15-years Phillip was a "Worker on the Farm" probably at LORDINGTON;
  - In 1911 at age 25-years was living at #4, COMMONSIDE, WESTBOURNE, Sussex;
  - In 1911 Phillip Monk was a HOTEL LICENSEE;
  - In 1911 the 24-year old PHILLIP MONK married EDITH GRIFFIN (1880-xxxx);
  - In 1939 at age 52-years was a LICENSED VICTUALLER at #12, High St., Alton, Hampshire possibly at the "THE SWAN HOTEL"?



- In 1958, PHILLIP MONK died at age 71-years in Alton, Hampshire.

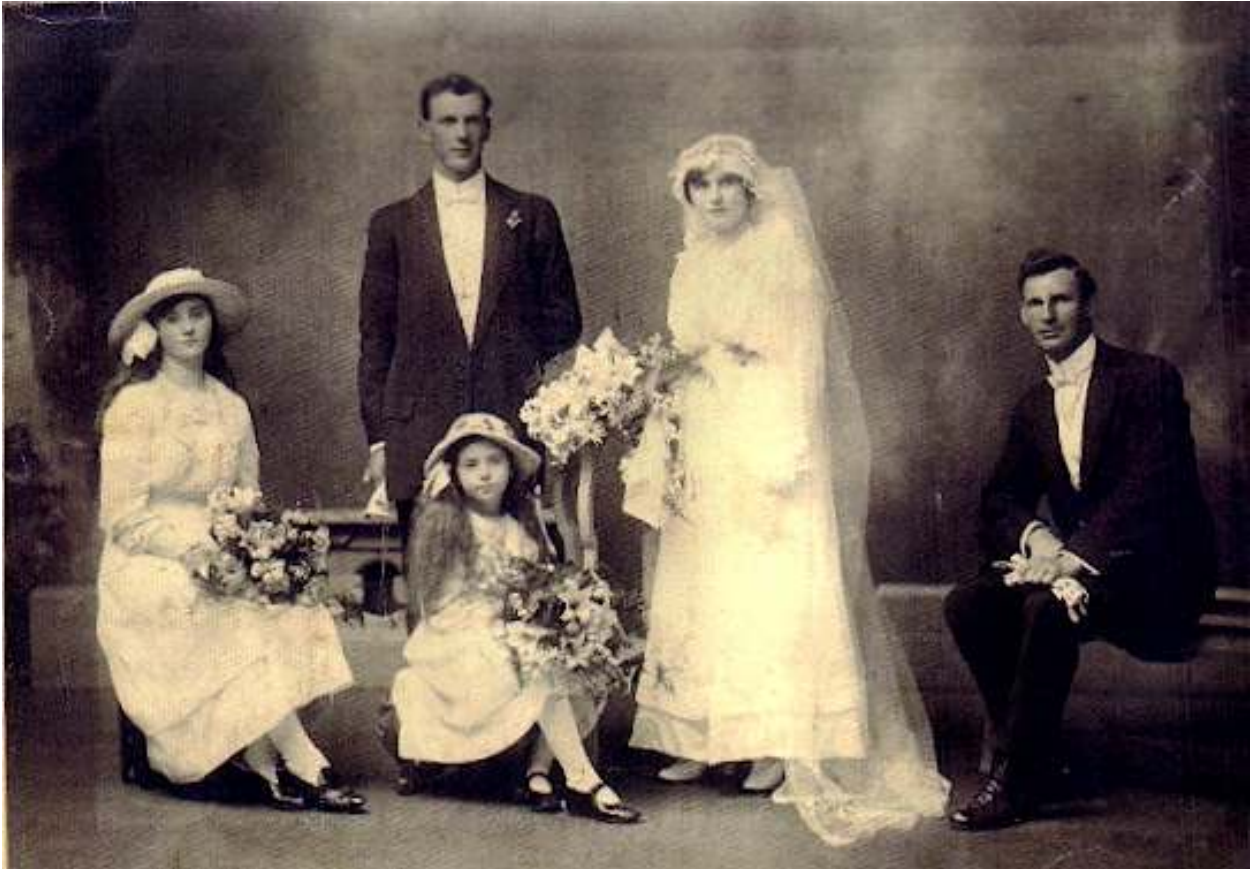
9. **ESTHER MERCY MONK** (1888-1984); Born in Racton, Sussex;
- In 1891 at age 3-years was living at LORDINGTON FARM, Racton, Sussex;
  - In 1901 at age 13-years was living at LORDINGTON FARM, Racton, Sussex;
  - In 1911 at age 21-years was living at #4, Commonsides, Westbourne, Sussex;
  - In 1911 was working as a Cook (Domestic);
  - In 1914 was married in Westbourne, Sussex to **ROBERT (BOB) COURTNEY WEBBER** (Clerk @ Royal Navy Ammunitions Depot, [RNAD] Gosport);
  - In 1915 birth of daughter MARJORIE WEBBER in Alverstoke, Hampshire;
  - In 1917 birth of daughter JOYCE ELIZABETH WEBBER in Gosport, Hampshire;
  - In December 1938 Marriage of daughter JOYCE ELIZABETH WEBBER to HORACE CHARLES RANDALL;
  - On December 7, 1955, ROBERT COURTNEY WEBBER died at age 71-years in Wickham, Hampshire;
  - In May 1984, ESTHER MERCY WEBBER (born MONK) died at age 96-years in Gosport, Hampshire.



Women Workers in a British Munitions Factory in World War I.

10. **JAMES MONK** (1889-1959); Born in Racton, Sussex;

- In 1911 at age 22-years was living at #4, COMMONSIDE, WESTBOURNE, Sussex;
- In 1911 was working as a Gardener (Domestic);
- Emigrated to Brisbane, Queensland, Australia in 1913 with his younger brother, ERNEST MONK (1894-1984);
- On November 15, 1959 JAMES died at age-70 years in Brisbane, Queensland, Australia



**The Groom,** Ernest Monk (standing) with the Bride, Angelia Healy and the Best Man, James Monk (seated) and the Bride's Maids, Katherine Healy and Josephine Healy.

- JAMES MONK in Brisbane, Australia was able to build his new house after receiving his inheritance from his mother, Charlotte Monk in 1943 and called it "LORDINGTON".
- ERNEST MONK was able to buy the house he was renting in Ashgrove, Brisbane, Queensland after receiving his inheritance from his mother, Charlotte Monk in 1943.



**ERNEST MONK'S House in Ashgrove, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia.**

Ashgrove is an inner suburb of the City of Brisbane in Queensland, Australia. It is located approximately 4 kilometres north-west of the Brisbane CBD. Ashgrove is an upmarket, leafy residential suburb characterized by its hilly terrain and characteristic Ashgrovian houses built in the early 20th. Century.

11. **ERNEST MONK** (1894-1984) Born in Racton, Sussex;
- In 1901 at age 7-years, was living at #2 Cockbush Cottages, Woodberry Lane, Emsworth;
  - In 1911 at age 17-years was living at #4, Commonsides, Westbourne, Sussex;
  - In 1911 was working as a Cowman on the Farm at Redmans Farm, Emsworth;
  - In 1913, Ernest Monk and his brother, James emigrated to Queensland, Australia; ERNEST became a **POLICE SERGEANT** in GYMPIE, Queensland.
  - In 1917, Ernest Monk married 18-year old **MARY ANGELIA HEALY** in Brisbane, Queensland, Australia;

**Granddad ERNEST MONK** used to tell his **Grandchildren** in Queensland how poor he and his brothers and sisters were, growing up in England; and that they all lived in a small room; and that he was always hungry. (We can appreciate how hungry they would have been with limited food as in the early 1900s in Sussex, England.)



**Ernest Monk, Police Sergeant (1894-1984)**

He often recounted that his brothers and sisters got only one “lolly” (a sugary sweet treat) a year, and that was at Christmas. They would sometimes pull up a **raw turnip** from a garden and eat it, as they were so hungry. Their tough life gave them no love for the aristocracy in Britain. Yet Grandad was **very fair** and he believed in **Justice** and **Kindness**.

**He was a good role model and a gentle person. Some would say, “A Good Cop”.**

■ **ERNEST MONK died on December 20, 1984 in Brisbane, Queensland, Australia at the age of 90-years. He was buried in Pinnaroo Lawn Cemetery & Crematorium, Bridgeman Downs, Queensland, Australia.**

12. **THOMAS MONK** (1890-1946); Born in Racton, Sussex;
- In 1891 at age 7-months lived at LORDINGTON FARM, Racton, West Sussex;
  - In 1901 at age 11-years was living at #2 Cockbush Cottages, Woodberry Lane, Emsworth, Hampshire;
  - In 1911 at age 21-years was living at #4, Commonsides, Westbourne, Sussex;
  - In 1911 was working as a Stables (Domestic), i.e. Groom;
  - In 1927 married 27-year old FLORENCE EDITH CARTER (1900-1986);
  - In 1939 at age 49-years was living in School Lane, Battle, Hastings, Sussex with wife FLORENCE EDITH MONK and no children;
  - In February 1946, THOMAS MONK died at age 56-years in Battle, Hastings, Sussex;
  - In 1986, FLORENCE EDITH died at age 86-years in HASTINGS, Sussex, England.
13. **ETHEL MONK** (1893-xxxx); Born in Lordington, Racton, Sussex;
- In 1901 age 9-years living at LORDINGTON FARM Estate;
  - In 1911 age 18-years ETHEL MONK was the "Between Maid" at THE MANOR HOUSE at Bedhampton, in the employ of Rear Admiral Hugh Pigot Williams..

The "Between Maids" were roughly equivalent to Scullery Maids (dishwashers, floor scrubbers, oven minders, etc.). The term "Hall Girl" came from her chief duty, which was waitressing in the Servants' Hall.

The term "Between Maid" came from the fact that her duties were split "between" the area of responsibilities of the Housekeeper, Butler and Cook; if these individuals did not like one another, the job of the Between Maid was a very difficult one. She was required to set the table and remove the dishes, as well as waiting at table. She may also have carried meals up to the Head Housekeeper, if that Head of Staff had breakfast or afternoon tea in her room(s).

A "Between Maid" should not be confused with a "Parlour Maid", though both maids had similar household duties. The Parlour Maids cleaned and tidied reception rooms and living areas in the mornings and often served refreshments at afternoon tea and sometimes also served dinner. They tidied studies and libraries and (with Footmen) answered bells calling for service.



The MANOR HOUSE at BEDHAMPTON, Hampshire, England

**ADMIRAL HUGH PIGOT WILLIAMS (1 September 1858 – 28 June 1934)** was a British officer of the Royal Navy who in 1910-1912, while a Rear Admiral in the British Navy served briefly as Fleet Commander of the Ottoman Navy, at the rank of 'Liva Admiral'.

In his early Royal Navy career, **HUGH PIGOT WILLIAMS** was promoted to **CAPTAIN** on July 30, 1898. He was appointed in command of the Third Class Protected Cruiser **HMS PHOEBE** on October 9, 1900, while the ship was in the Naval Reserve. One year later, on October 1, 1901, he was appointed in command of the Cruiser **HMS BRILLIANT**, serving in the Cruiser squadron.

After his work with the Ottomans, he was promoted to **VICE-ADMIRAL** in 1913 and Retired in 1915. His rank was advanced to full **ADMIRAL** in 1917 while on the retired list.

# **M**ONK FAMILY BURIALS at PROVIDENT CHAPEL, Charlwood, Surrey, England

- On January 4, 1923, WILLIAM MONK died in ELM HOUSE, Ifield Road, Charlwood at the age of 69-years and was buried in the PROVIDENCE CHAPEL, Charlwood, Surrey, England.
- On June 22, 1943, CHARLOTTE MONK (born TURNER) died in ELM HOUSE, Ifield Road, Charlwood at the age of 90-years and was buried in PROVIDENCE CHAPEL, Charlwood, Surrey, England.
- When William died in ELM HOUSE in 1923, he left his “worldly estate” to Charlotte. Probate records show the inheritance was worth £2,311-4s-11d at that time. In current (2022) GBP (Pounds Sterling) that is worth £148,898.
- When CHARLOTTE died in 1943, the remaining assets of her estate were shared between all the surviving children. This allowed Charlotte’s two sons in Australia, ERNEST MONK and JAMES MONK to invest their inheritance in their residences in Gympie and Brisbane respectively. Ernest was able to buy the home he was renting and James was able to build a new home he called “Lordington”...
- The MONK FAMILY in Charlwood, Surrey in the lifetime of Great Grandfather WILLIAM MONK and Great Grandmother CHARLOTTE MONK were closely connected with the PROVIDENT CHAPEL.

WILLIAM and CHARLOTTE were both buried in graves in the forecourt graveyard at the Provident Chapel in 1923 and 1943, while William’s Uncle, ABRAHAM MONK (1832-1915) had spent his final years as a widower living in one of the small apartments in PROVIDENT CHAPEL and he was buried in the graveyard in front of the Chapel in 1915.

There are at least 3-members of the MONK FAMILY buried in this small simple graveyard. The only other Church in Charlwood in the early 1900s was the ANGLICAN CHURCH OF ST, NICHOLAS. However, the Monk Family chose the Non-Conformist and Non-Denominational graveyard at the PROVIDENT UNION CHAPEL.

# **C**HARLWOOD UNION CHAPEL, Chapel Road, Charlwood, Surrey.

## ■ PREPARATIONS FOR WAR WITH FRANCE

The preparations against an expected French invasion were largely focussed in the South-East of England, although in the event, the only ineffectual attempts made by France were in Ireland and Wales in 1798. Sussex became quite heavily militarized, not just by Barracks, but by Storehouses and Armouries and Depots for Munitions.

In common with Arundel, Bognor, Chichester, Petworth, Shoreham, Steyning, Aldwick, Worthing, Playden, Rye, Seaford, Littlehampton, Pevensey, Hastings, Winchelsea, Hailsham, Lewes, Brighton, Eastbourne, East Grinstead and other places (twenty-three in total) in Sussex, HORSHAM became home to BARRACKED SOLDIERS.



(See the two Graves in the left foreground in front of the Verandah)

This building was originally built in HORSHAM, West Sussex, England as a Barracks to house BRITISH ARMY TROOPS assembled to repel an anticipated Napoleonic invasion of England in the period 1799-1815. However, the invasion did not occur and the building was moved to CHARLWOOD in 1816 for use as a non-denominational, non-conformist CHAPEL.

**CHARLWOOD UNION CHAPEL** was later re-named **PROVIDENT CHAPEL**.



Photo taken in May 2010

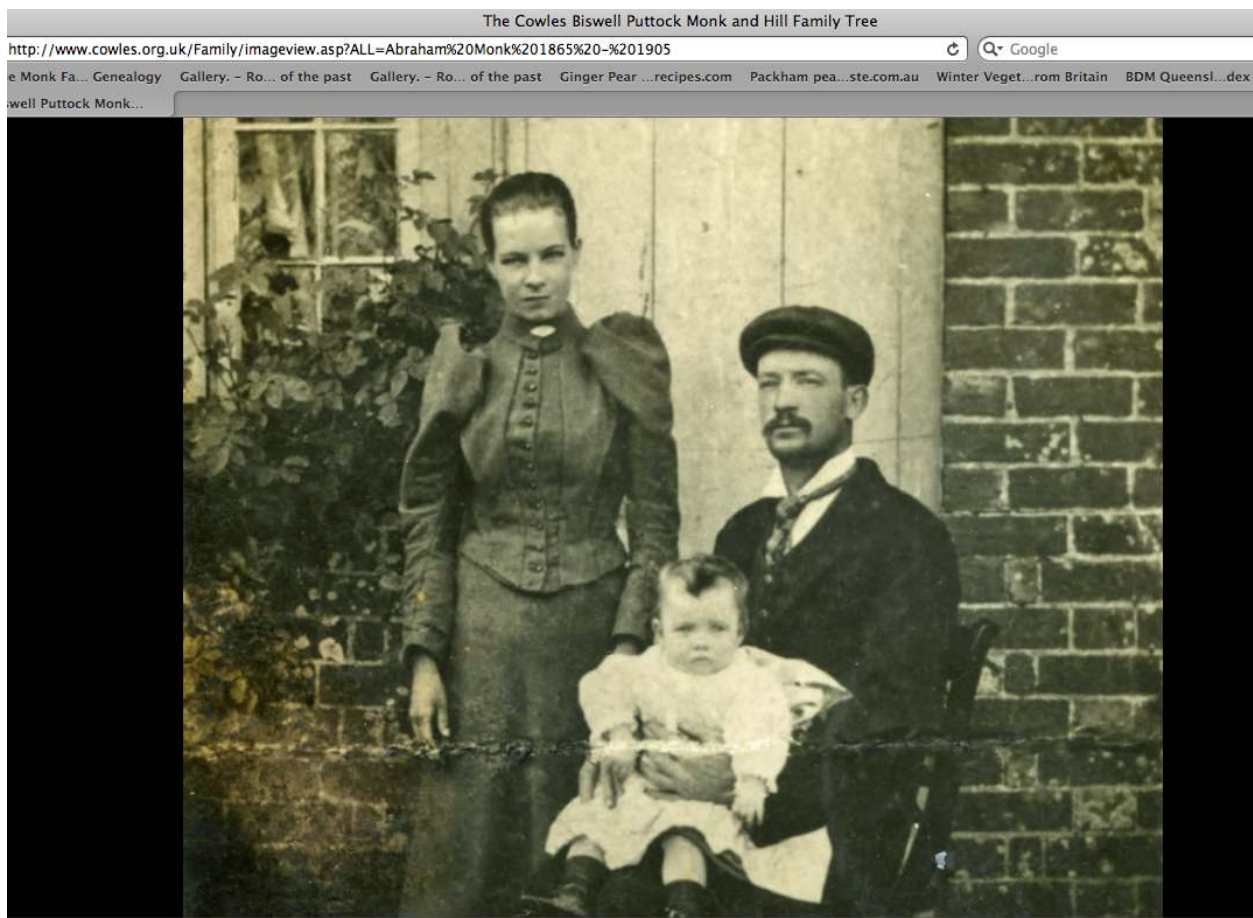
This gravestone of Great Grandfather WILLIAM & Great Grandmother CHARLOTTE MONK was discovered in 1962 by then 28-year old DAVID GEORGE LILLYWHITE (shown in the photo above). DAVID is the son of WILLIAM MONK'S Granddaughter, IRENE GEORGINA LILLYWHITE (born MONK) (1902-1994) who married Arthur Ernest Lillywhite (1901-1955) of West Grinstead, West Sussex in 1926.

■ **ABRAHAM MONK** (born August 22, 1832) was the youngest son of **GEORGE MILFORD MONK 1773-1852**. He was also **UNCLE** to **WILLIAM MONK**

■ **ABRAHAM MONK** died on June 9, 1917 at age 84-years in a Charlwood Residence recorded as **#2 PROVIDENT COTTAGE** and is assumed to be buried in the Non-Conformist and Non-Denominational Graveyard only a few feet from his home. He would be followed in a few years by his nephew **WILLIAM** and wife **CHARLOTTE**.

This suggests the Monk Family were not practising Anglicans or Catholics.

(See the grave in the left foreground of the photo of the Provident Chapel Graveyard on Page 17).



Abraham Monk, Eliza Monk (born Homewood) and Abraham Jnr.

## **P**ROVIDENT CHAPEL GRAVEYARD, CHARLWOOD, SURREY, ENGLAND

**ABRAHAM MONK (1832-1917)** is thought to be buried in the grave visible in the left foreground of the photo below.

**Great Grandfather WILLIAM MONK (1853-1923)** was ABRAHAM'S MONK'S Nephew and is buried in the grave seen in the right foreground of the photo below.

**Great Grandmother CHARLOTTE MONK (born 1853)** died in 1943 and is buried in the same grave. The inscriptions on the gravestone are now very hard to read.



# CHARLWOOD'S NON-CONFORMISTS

**JOSEPH FLINT** was an early 19th-century farmer and shopkeeper in the Village of Charlwood on the Surrey/Sussex border.

He was a **PROTESTANT NON-CONFORMIST** and worshipped in local cottages with a group of like-minded people rather than at **St Nicholas' Church**, the Anglican Parish Church. Joseph lived at what is now called **CHAPEL FARM**.

During the Napoleonic Wars, a Barracks existed in the Sussex market town of Horsham. A wooden guardroom was erected there in about 1797. After the war the barracks was decommissioned, and the timber guardroom was dismantled and transported on wagons to Charlwood. There the "**strange and quaint**" structure was re-erected in a field on a dirt track north of the Village, and on **15 November 1816** it opened as an **Independent Calvinistic Chapel** for **JOSEPH FLINT** and his fellow worshippers.

The opening sermons at **CHARLWOOD UNION CHAPEL**, were preached by Ministers from chapels at Epsom and Dorking. Epsom had an **Independent Calvinistic Chapel** of its own—the denomination was "closely associated with Surrey" in the 18th and 19th centuries.

The Chapel had only one permanent Pastor: **C. T. Smith**, who served from 1816 until 1834. Since then, it was served mostly by **Strict Baptist** ministers, and although it was nominally an **Independent Calvinistic** place of worship it adopted the character of a **Strict Baptist Chapel**. Smith regularly preached in the village of Horley, 2 miles (3.2 km) away and in 1846 a **Strict Baptist Chapel** was built there with assistance from the Charlwood cause.

**Charlwood Union Chapel** was renamed **PROVIDENT CHAPEL** and services were latterly held on Sunday afternoons and Wednesday evenings. At its peak in the mid 1800s the Chapel had a congregation of around 150, rivalling that of the Parish church.

Under the name **CHARLWOOD UNION CHAPEL**, the Chapel was registered for marriages on **7 December 1844**. It was also registered with this name as a place of worship under the Places of Worship Registration Act 1855. The congregation, however, gradually declined. **In 2012 the last remaining member, Jane Eade, became disabled.**

**The Chapel Trustees, successors of those appointed in 1816 by Joseph Flint, put the Chapel up for sale (as required in the deed drawn up by Joseph Flint).**

With help from **English Heritage** and **Mole Valley Council**, a sale was prevented. A new Trust was formed and named "**The Provident Chapel Charlwood Trust**" and in **March 2013** purchased the Chapel for £1. A legal obligation was accepted to allow occasional services and burials and to preserve the graveyard. The Trust undertook emergency repairs, registered as a Charity and as a Company limited by guarantee.

**A distinguished Architect, Paul Sharrock of Thomas Ford & Partners, was appointed, and plans were drawn up for the repair and restoration of the Chapel, and for its use by the nearby Village School.**

## LORDINGTON MANOR HAS AN INTERESTING PAST:

Lordington appears in the Domesday Survey under the guise of 'Harditone'. Before the Conquest the Saxon Ulstan held it as allodial tenure (**freehold**) from King Edward the Confessor. In 1086 King William the Conqueror held it of Earl Roger. It was assessed at 4 hides and had a Mill; later it appears as 1 knight's fee.

Lordington may have been granted (circa 1120 AD) by King Henry I to Hugh de Falaise, who held 5 Knights fees of the honor of Arundel.

The overlordship of the manor descended with the honor of Arundel until 1244, when it formed part of the portion of Roger de Somery and Nichola, one of the four co-heirs of Hugh de Aubigny. It came to Robert de Tateshale before his death in 1303, and then to his niece and co-heir Alice and her husband William Bernak, Alice, as a widow, holding in 1341.

During the 13th Century a mesne lordship seems to have been established in the family of Beauchamp.

*A mesne lord was a lord in the feudal system who had vassals who held land from him, but who was himself the vassal of a higher lord. Owing to Quia Emptores, the concept of a mesne lordship technically still exists today: the partitioning of the Lord of the Manor's estate among co-heirs creating the "mesne lordships".*

*A mesne lord did not hold land directly of the King, that is to say he was not a tenant-in-chief. His subinfeudated estate was called a "mesne estate" or Afterlehen in the Holy Roman Empire. Traditionally, he is a lord of the manor who holds land from a superior lord and who usually lets some of the land to a tenant. He was thus an intermediate or "middle" tenant, which status is reflected in the Old French word "mesne" and in the modern French language "moyen".*

In 1214 Eudes de Beauchamp, who was a member of the Beauchamp's of Eaton Socon (Bedfordshire), claimed the advowson of the Church of Lordington, and in 1226 he was sued for the manor by Hugh de Neville, who seems to have had some claim to the estates of Hugh de Gundeville, the Lord in Fee (see below), through his wife Joan.

*Advowson or patronage is the right in English law of a patron to present to the diocesan Bishop a nominee for appointment to a vacant ecclesiastical benefice or church living, a process known as presentation.*

In 1242 Robert de Beauchamp held a Knight's Fee in Lordington, and the manor was held of Ralf de Beauchamp in 1288. Roger de Beauchamp, who held the fee in 1303, seems to have got into debt and to have disposed of all his property to Sir John Engayne, of whom, as 'Lord Ingayne' the manor was held in 1369, after which date no more is heard of this mesne lordship.

#### **NOTE: A KNIGHT'S FEE**

In Feudal Anglo-Norman England and Ireland, a **KNIGHT'S FEE** was a unit measure of land deemed sufficient to support a **KNIGHT**. Of necessity, it would not only provide sustenance for himself, his family, Esquires and servants, but also the means to furnish himself and his retinue with horses and armour to fight for his overlord in battle. It was effectively the size of a **FEE** (or "**FIEF**" which is synonymous with "**fee**") sufficient to support one knight in the ongoing performance of his feudal duties (knight-service).

**A knight's fee cannot be stated as a standard number of acres of land** as the required acreage to produce a given crop or revenue would vary depending on many factors, including its location, the richness of its soil and the local climate, as well as the presence of other exploitable resources such as fish-weirs, quarries of rock or mines of minerals.

If a **KNIGHT'S FEE** is deemed co-terminous with a **MANOR**, an average size would be between **1,000** and **5,000 acres**, of which much in early times was still "waste" forest and uncultivated moorland.

**About 1156 his son-in-law Hugh de Gundevill succeeded to the estate, but on his death in 1181 it came into the hands of the King, Henry II who in 1185 gave to Peter Saracen Hugh's lands of Lordington, then accounted for under the honor of Petworth. Peter held it until the middle of 1196, at which date it was part of the honor of Arundel.**

**It seems likely that the manor next came to the Beauchamps, as already noted, and that one of them sub- infeudated it to William de Tracy, who appears with his wife Joan in a suit concerning land and mills in Lordington in 1268. Seven years later William de Tracy was reported to have obstructed a road within the manor to the injury of the neighbourhood.**

**Joan survived her husband and was twice remarried, claiming one-third of the manor in dower in 1276, when wife of James de Hampton, and in 1292, being then the wife of John de Thumok. The widow of John de Tracy, son of William, made a similar claim in 1297. This John had in 1282 sold the manor to Maud Estur and her son Walter de l'Isle and the heirs of his body, with contingent remainder to his brothers John and Godfrey.**

**Walter De L'Isle died sole prole (without issue) and in 1288 Maud Estur and John de l'Isle established their right to hold Lordington of Ralph Beauchamp, as a Knight's Fee. Joan, widow of a later John de l'Isle, married Henry Romayn and died in 1349, leaving a grandson John, aged 6. His mother, Joan de Bohun, received a grant of the Manor for his sustenance during his nonage (ie. Age before maturity at 21-years).**

**The grandson John died in 1369 (aged 26-years), leaving as heir his sister Elizabeth, who married John Bramshott. In 1428 the manor was held by William Bramshott, and in 1449 by his son and heir John, whose younger daughter and coheir Margaret married John Pakenham. Their son Sir Edward Pakenham died in 1528, leaving two daughters, Constance wife of Geoffrey Pole and Elizabeth wife of Edmund Mervyn, who in November 1528 divided their inheritance, Geoffrey Pole and Constance his wife receiving the manors of Lordington and Whiteway.**

## Lordington House, Racton, West Sussex, England



Lordington House was built around 1500. It was acquired by Hugh Speke in 1609 and then by Sir John Fenner in 1623. Phillip Jermyn purchased the property in 1630, and sold to Richard Peckham in around 1689 and it passed to Richard Peckham (his great nephew) in 1718. After Peckham's death in 1734 it passed to his sister, Sarah, who married Thomas Phipps in 1742. It was passed down the Phipps family, the Peckham Phipps family and then the Phipps Hornby family.

The house was modified and extended by Admiral of the Fleet, Sir Geoffrey Hornby who died there in March 1895.

It then passed to his heir, ADMIRAL OF THE FLEET, ROBERT STEWART PHIPPS HORNBY who died in 1956.

Lordington House was sold to Sir Michael Hamilton in 1960 and now operates as a "Bed and Breakfast" vacation rental facility under the management of the Hamilton family.



**Admiral Robert Stewart Phipps Hornby (1866-1956)**

# LORDINGTON LAVENDER

Since 2002, LORDINGTON FARM has become world-famous and the only Lavender Farm in West Sussex producing a variety of essential oils, soaps and gifts, plus being a haven for wildlife.

**Editor's Note:** LORDINGTON is a "feudal estate" mentioned in the DOMESDAY BOOK prepared by King William the Conqueror in 1086. It passed from nobleman to nobleman until 1734, when Thomas Peckham Phipps inherited the property and later willed it to Admiral Sir Phipps Hornby. The property then passed to his son, Admiral of the Fleet Sir Geoffrey Hornby, who died there in 1895.

## OUR HERITAGE - LORDINGTON LAVENDER

Nestled in the South Downs, Lordington Lavender was established in 2002 by local farmer Andrew Elms.

After selling his dairy herd he was looking for a new way to diversify and decided that Lavender would be a unique and exciting alternative. The crop is grown with conservation of habitat and the environment very much in mind. No fertilizers or pesticides are used and it has become haven for wildlife with at least 12 red listed species of birds including skylarks and barn owls found on the farm.

Now, 4 acres of Mailette lavender, a French Provençal variety famed for its high quality oil is harvested once a year to produce a wonderful essential oil and the business has become a family affair. From originally just selling an essential oil a whole range has developed but all with one aim to produce simple, pure and honest products using only the highest quality ingredients.

Every summer the lavender field is full of bumble bees and butterflies and when the sun shines you can imagine being in Provence!

