

History of the Bereleigh Estate

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Introduction

Today, Bereleigh House could be mistaken for the manor house of East Meon and its owners are the modern equivalents of village squires. A thousand year ago, Bereleigh was part of the tithing of Bordean and the Bishops of Winchester were the lords of the manors of Eastmene and Mene Ecclesia, and owners of the Hundred of East Meon which constituted the largest of the Hampshire estates of the diocese. After the Black Death the Diocese was unable, for want of serfs, to farm Bereleigh and let the lands as a 'sub-manor'; it was subsequently let to a number of absentee landlords until, in the early 19th century, an East Meon family bought the estate and built the substantial house which stands to this day.

Field sports are an important strand of the history of Bereleigh: they are documented as far back as the twelfth century when the area now known as Park Farm was established as a deer park. As the estate has evolved and through many changes of ownership the land has been the location for sporting activities which continue to the present day. Linda Redpath has researched the History of Field Sports at Bereleigh.

The size of the Estate has varied over the centuries; today it comprises several neighbouring farms; one of which was originally the hunting park of the Bishops of Winchester. After the Restoration of the Monarchy in 1660, deer were no longer bred in East Meon Park and the parkers' lodge was converted to a farmstead. In the 21st century, the Estate has grown through the acquisition of neighbouring farms and woods and is larger than it has ever been.

Many of the sources from which this account is written have been transcribed and are included as appendices.

Medieval Bereleigh

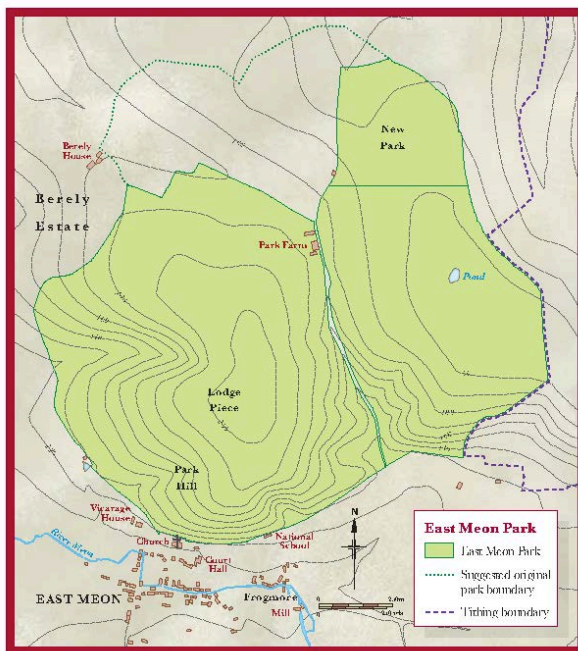
The name

'Bereleigh' appears in a variety of spellings over the centuries, including Berle, Burlee, Burle, Bure, Burley, Beerley, Berley, and Bralye. The name 'Bere' also appears in medieval records dating from the thirteenth century: 'bere' is an early version of 'barley'¹.

Eastmeon Park (13th century)

There is a report that King John when Earl of Mortain and Gloucester stayed in East Meon and spent time hunting there.ⁱ On his accession in 1199, King John granted a charter conveying the manor of East Meon once again to the Bishop of Winchester.ⁱⁱ (It had been confiscated by William the Conqueror in the 1070, restored in the 12th century by King Stephen, then confiscated again by Henry II to finance Portchester Castle.)

Eastmenepark' was established in the early thirteenth century as a deer park for the Bishops of Winchester. Bishop Peter des Roches established a deer park to the north of the Court House in 1224-25 for the purpose of hunting deerⁱⁱⁱ.



Eastmeon Park in the 13th century (21st century buildings in red)

This map shows its probable extent, stretching across both sides of the lane which today goes up to Park Farm.. On the commanding height of Lodge Piece there would have been a keeper's (or 'parker's') lodge; in 1367/8 this is listed as a simple hall house and stable; from it he could keep watch for the poachers who presented a constant threat to the bishop's deer. Entry 94 in the 1567 Rental lists a 'cot. and curt. vocat Parkers', red 1s²

¹ Appendix 1. Table of names including 'Bere' or equivalent in medieval documents.

² HRO 11M59/A1/3/6 *Rental and custumal for East Meon manor.1567.*

It has been calculated that in 1325/26 the deer park at East Meon was approximately 170 acres^{iv} The bishops' palace at East Meon (the predecessor of today's Court Hall) served as a hunting lodge for the bishop and his guests, for whom the deer park was a source of both pleasure and venison. venison was reserved for special occasions in wealthy households and in Hampshire it was usually eaten fresh rather than salted, therefore the bishop's parks were often situated close to an episcopal residence as was the case in East Meon.

The area would have been enclosed by banks (those at another park, at Merdon, were described as '*colossal*'). At nearby Bishop's Sutton, it took twenty carts sixteen days just to fetch wood to build the fence, and a further ten to build the fence. Five carpenters took twelve weeks making park gates and deer leaps. The bishop and his guests would either have shot arrows at driven deer or have chased them on horseback. In the absence of royalty, the hunt was conducted either by professional hunt servants or by knights from the bishop's household. '*Fewterers*' took charge of greyhounds and '*berners*' of brachet hounds.



19th century engraving of the embankment at Merdon Park

Three species of deer – the red, the roe and the fallow – were recorded in the pipe rolls, and their numbers were carefully managed by culling and, when it was necessary to cross-breed deer to improve stock, by interchange between episcopal parks Eastmeon Park probably kept fallow deer because they could be sheltered and fed oats during the winter^v. Other forms of hunting included falconry for the hunting of birds, hares and rabbits.^{vi}



Medieval hunting scene

Historian Edward Roberts refers to hawking in his history of William of Wykham, Bishop of Winchester: '*For those bishops who enjoyed the pleasures of hawking and hunting would not have overlooked the attractions of East Meon Park nor of Hambledon park and chase nearby. Mews for goshawks were made at East Meon in 1248/49 and Richard the goshawk-trainer was here in 1251/2*'^{vii}. According to Roberts '*Medieval piety frowned upon the clergy's enjoyment of hunting, but scruples were unlikely to have troubled worldly prelates like Bishop Peter des Roches*',³. Peter de Roches had also established fishponds in East Meon in the early thirteenth century: freshwater fish was another delicacy reserved for the aristocracy,

³ Roberts, Edward *The Bishop of Winchester's Deer Parks in Hampshire 1200 – 1400: their development, function and management*. Hampshire Field Club Archeol. Soc 42 1986

Edward Roberts suggests that the most common reason for the bishops of Winchester to visit East Meon was for his guests to hunt deer in the Park. *'The Court House was a pleasant rural retreat where, with a small 'riding household', the bishop could entertain chosen companions.'* Another attraction was hawking, and mews were built for goshawks at the Court Hall in 1248/9; it is recorded that Richard, the bishop's goshawk trainer, visited East Meon in 1251/2⁴. Rabbit warrens, or coney garths, were often situated within parks and, during the fourteenth century, rabbits seem to have become a significant part of the bishops' diet⁵. It is recorded in 1318 that sheep grazed in East Meon park; horses and cows were kept in most of the bishops' Hampshire parks and may well have done so here. Park woodland was fully exploited for charcoal, firewood and timber, while pigs grazed on the mast (acorns and other food of the forest floor).

The park became Park Farm in the seventeenth century when the current farmhouse was built. In the nineteenth century, as we shall see, part of Park Farm was acquired by the Bereleigh Estate.

Sub-manor (14th century)



The Black Death

What is now Bereleigh Estate was originally part of the tithing of Bordean, farmed *'in demesne'* by serfs and tenants who owed *'labour services'* to the Diocese. In the early Winchester pipe rolls it was accounted part of the manor of Mene Ecclesia. Soon after it first arrived in England, the Black Death struck Winchester and soon spread to the rest of Hampshire. In October 1348 Bishop Edington wrote: *'we report with anguish the serious news which has come to our ears, that this cruel plague has begun a savage attack ... we are struck by terror ...'* 48 per cent of his clergy perished, and Hampshire lost

⁴ Roberts, Edward *'William of Wykeham's House at East Meon, Hants'* Archaeological Journal 150, 1993 p478

⁵ Roberts, Edward *Ibid* P77

between a third and a half of its population.

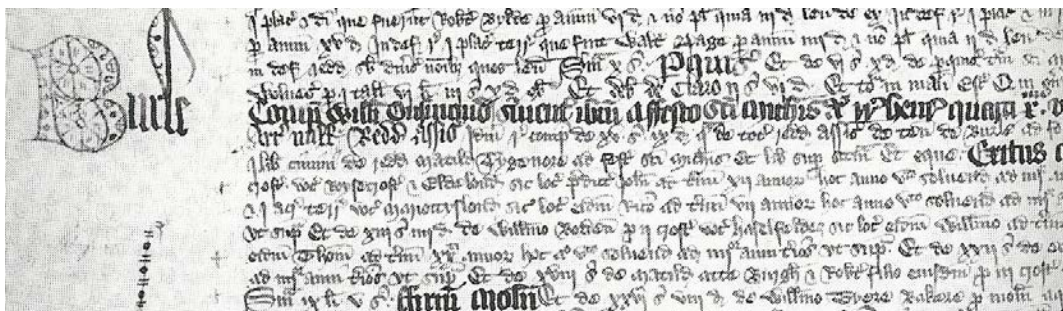
The result was a drastic labour shortage, and Edington, who was also Edward III's Treasurer of the Realm, attempted to limit the effect on wages by issuing a national '*ordinance of labourers and beggars*' which required employers to pay no more than had been customary ... to no avail.



Conjectural plan of the 14th century sub-manor, including Tigwell and Drayton Mills

Wages rose, rents slumped and the diocese found it impossible to find labour to work the demesne lands of the estate and let the land instead. This meant a profound change in the landholdings of East Meon and caused the birth of the new sub-manor of Bereleigh. In 1366 Bishop Edington died and was succeeded by William of Wykeham.

The first documentary evidence of Bereleigh's new status comes in 1369 when John de Burlee and Agatha his wife *quitclaimed* (released) their tenancy of 'Burlee' to 'William de Wykeham, bishop of Winchester, his heirs and assigns, the following tenements which they held of him as of his bishopric: 1 messuage, 1 mill, 205 acres of land, 10 acres of meadow, 60 acres of pasture, 50 acres of wood, and 40s. 6d. rent in East Meon and Drayton and the rents and services of Richard Tygenore, Richard Hethere, Reginald Tygall, John Southonore, and John Knollere for the tenements which they held of them'. From the surname Tygall (today named 'Tigwell' and the reference to a mill at Drayton we can conjecture the extent of the holding.



1409-10 pipe roll account for Burle. © Hampshire Record Office 11M59/B1/156

The right of the bishop to these tenements was confirmed in 1382 when Clarice wife of William Fisher and sister of Agatha gave up all her claims to them.⁶ In 1390 another quitclaim was made by John de Bereleigh and Agatha his wife of 'a messuage and a mill [Shutts mill at Drayton], 205 acres of land, 10 acres of meadow, 60 acres of pasture, 50 acres of wood and mill, 205 acres of land, 10 acres of meadow, 60 acres of pasture, 50 acres of wood and £2 6d of rent in East Meon, Bereleigh and Drayton'.⁷ Bereleigh now has its own entry in the Winchester Pipe Rolls⁸. A summary table of receipts from the Meon Manors recorded in the pipe rolls of 1301/2 and 1409/10 is shown here, now featuring Bereleigh as a separate sub-manor.

Sample receipts from Meon Manors in 1301/1 and 1409/10

<i>Meon Manor</i>	<i>1301</i>	<i>1409</i>
Rents of assize	£97 6s 5½d	£103 18s 2¾d
Remaining clear	£85 11s 11½d	£92 11s 2¼d
Issues of manor	£26 6s 9¾d	£19 14s 10½d
Sale of corn	£111 16s 4½d	£81 8s 6¾d
do corn, tithes	£38 3s 4d	£35. 9s 9 ½d
Total receipts	£270 1s 11½d	£276 14s 10½d
<i>Meon Church</i>		
Rents of assize	£5 3s ½d	£5 7s 7d
Remaining clear	£4 15s ½d	£4 19s 7½d
Issues of manor	£8.19s 2½d	£2 15s ½d
Sale of corn	£10.7s 4d	£8 16s 8 ½d
ditto corn tithes	£38 3s 4d	£35 9s 9½d
From other tithings	£40.1s	£35 13s 11d
Total receipts	£104.17s 8½d	£108 15s 11d
<i>Bereleigh</i>		
Rents of assize		£1 11s 6½d
Cash received		£1 1s
Issues of manor		£9 5s
Farm of the mill		£1 6s 8d
Total receipts		£12 3s ½d
Totals for year	£374. 19s 8d	£397.13.10d

⁶ VCH *ibid* p71

⁷ VCH *ibid*.

⁸ (HRO 11M59/B1/156 m.20)

In 1301, the figures for Meon Church/Ecclesia list produce from the lands farmed in demesne by the diocese, using serf labour; these were reduced in the 1409 account because Bereleigh had been subtracted. Overall, the value of money did not change during the century. The pipe roll was half a century after the Black Death and the effects had been diminished; overall, more was earned in rent in 1409 than in 1301 but less in 'issues of the grange/manor', i.e. farm produce, and from the sale of grain, reflecting the reduction in manpower and the letting out of lands which the diocese no longer had the manpower to farm directly.

Early Modern Bereleigh

The Victoria County History was unable to find records of other 'owners' of Burley 'manor' before 1569 when the 'manor' Burley was rented by Sir Thomas Sackville until 1582 when he sold it to John Baker, who was succeeded by his son Sir Richard Baker who took the lordship of 'Burley alias Beerley'. It appears even at this time to have been regarded as a sporting estate, stocked with deer, hares, rabbits and game birds⁹: Hunting continued to be the preserve of the wealthy land owner, mainly deer, hares and birds.^{viii} In 1620 Sir Richard obtained a licence to stock the estate with stags, does, hares, rabbits, pheasants and partridges^{ix}. The VCH states that Sir Richard sold Bereleigh in the mid 17th century to a William Coldham of Stedham in Sussex^x. This may have been part of the redistribution of lands which had been confiscated by Parliament.

Parliament.

In 1647 Parliament conducted survey of lands it had confiscated from the Diocese of Winchester: 'hereunto belonging to Bishop of Winton late in the occupation of Dr Walter Curle and now by ordnance of Parliament trustees ...'¹¹

'There is also belonging to the Llord of this Mannor two Mills under one roof called by name of Shutt mill¹² lying west of Eastmeon' whose resident, Joanne Hunt, aged 29 years, is required to pay to the Bishop's Palace at Wolvesey the annual rent of 10s 4d ... The surveyors decree that the previous tenant, Sir William Pepsall should pass ... *'all the aforesaid farm to Marmeduke James and to the wife of Nathaniel Hallows of Darby gent for and during the two quits aforesaid and under the Covenants aforesaid.'* Hallows was MP for Derby and had bought Court and South Farms and appears, through his wife, also to have acquired Shutt Mill, part of Berleigh sub-manor.

⁹ The theme of sport appears throughout the histories of both Bereleigh and Park. It would appear to be a subject for further research, preferably by someone familiar with it.

¹⁰ This is confusing, taken with the research by Robin Greenwood. Would repay checking

¹¹ HRO 11M59/A1/2/12 1647 Survey of the Manor of East Meon

¹² 'Shutt Mill' is another name given to Drayton Mill

The survey further states: *'There is also belonging to ye mannor of Eastmeon a Park situate near ye towne of Eastmeon known by ye name of Eastmeon Park ... belonging to Madgalen College in Oxford and the lands of Sir William Lewis Knight ... grounds belonging to ye Manor of Bewley.'*

Sir William Lewis

In the nineteenth century Park Farm was to become part of the Bereleigh Estate. During the tumultuous years of the Civil War and Restoration, the estates of the Diocese of Winchester were first confiscated, then restored; as we have seen, in 1645 Bishop Walter Curle was deposed as Bishop of Winchester and he died in 1647; in 1660 Brian Duppa was restored as Bishop and as Lord of the Manors of East Meon. Under both regimes, the estates were allocated to laymen who had supported one side or the other. In fact, Sir William Lewis of Bordean emerges as 'Keeper of East Meon Park' both in the Parliamentary Survey of 1647 and in Diocesan records of 1661¹³.



Fig 5. Sir William Lewis of Bordean.

Sir William was the grandson of a Brecon mercer who had inherited a Welsh estate of £600a year; he married a Hampshire widow and leased Bordean House from the bishop of Winchester, perhaps because the rent was not excessive. A 'ship-money sheriff' and a devout Presbyterian, he was returned for the borough at both elections of 1640, the first of his family to enter Parliament. When Portsmouth capitulated to the parliamentary forces in 1642 he was appointed governor of the port and served on the Hampshire committee during the first Civil War.

Charles I was at that time imprisoned in Carisbrooke Castle on the Isle of Wight; Lewis was one of the moderate Presbyterian 'grandees' who supported negotiations with the King. When the King escaped captivity in 1647, he was forced by the army to withdraw from Parliament and imprisoned. On 8th November, 1648 together with a further 270 MPs (out of 471 sitting Members) Lewis was treated with particular severity in Pride's Purge and was out of politics until the return of the secluded Members, when he was elected to the Council of State, and took a prominent part in preparing for the Restoration¹⁴.

On his return, Charles II restored the two Meon Manors to the diocese of Winchester and granted their estates to lay landlords; Indentures confirm Sir William's designation as 'Keeper of the Park' of both Hyden

¹³ HRO 11M39/A1/3/12 *A Survey of the Manor of East Meon, 1647*, HRO 11M59/D1/2 *Lease of the office of the keeper of the Park to Sir William Lewis, 1661*

¹⁴ Keeler, *Long Parliament*. pp250-1; Eg. 1048, f. 74; Underdown, *D Pride's Purge*, pp195, 346; Clarendon, *Rebellion*, p191.

Woods and and East Meon Park¹⁵; By this time Park Farm had replaced the hunting park and it is unlikely that deer were any longer bred for hunting; the title reflects that Lewis was now the tenant of Park [Farm] ¹⁶. The farmhouse was built at about this time.



Fig 6. Indenture of Heydon Woods to Sir William Lewis 1660. © Hampshire Record Office 11M59/D1/2

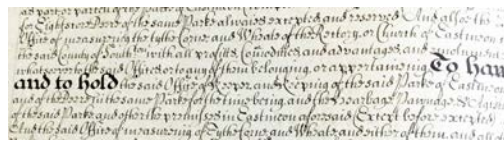


Fig 7. Lease of the office of the keeper of the Park to Sir William Lewis, 1661. © Hampshire Record Office 11M59/D1/2

Catholic owners of Bereleigh 1657 – 1773

The Restoration saw new owners of Bereleigh and, surprisingly, they were Roman Catholics. Robin Greenwood of Martyr Worthy has researched the early modern owners of Winchester Racecourse; which was located in Kings Worthy and Headbourne Worthy. In the 17th century, Bartholomew Smith (d 1638) owned the racecourse; he came from an old recusant family and lived in the Soke, Winchester; he was educated at Douai College, the outpost in the Savoy of the English Benedictines; despite his catholicism, he was Sherriff of Hampshire during the Commonwealth, from 1654 to 1655. Bartholomew's son (also Bartholomew) appears to have acquired either the lease or the freehold of Bereleigh before his death in 1670. His son James was one of four catholic bishops of England, under James II, in 1687. In the early 18th century the family name changed to Sheldon through marriage but the family remained catholic; it was also connected through marriage to the Arundels, the most powerful catholic family in England. In 1748 Edward Sheldon, in debt from heavy gambling, was married to Cicely Constable of Burton Constable near Hull who was a member of another well-known Catholic family. He took the name Constable on inheriting the Constable estates near Hull; it was from him that Robert Sharrock and then Richard Eyles, tenants of East Meon's Court Farm, also leased Bereleigh. Edward Constable died, in 1791 and at some stage after 1795, his brother Francis sold his lease (or the freehold, if he had acquired it too) of Bereleigh in East Meon to Richard Eyles ¹⁷.

¹⁵ HRO 11M59/D1/2 page 13 *Lease of Heydon Woods at East Meon part of the Winchester Bishopric Estate, to Sir William Lewis 20th Nov 1660*

¹⁶ HRO 11M59/D1/2 page 53 *Lease of the Office of the keeper of the park at East Meon, part of the Winchester Bishopric Estate, to Sir William Lewis, 11 Feb 1661*

¹⁷ Will of Edward Sheldon of Winchester proved 22.4.1775 TNA PRO 11/1007/143). ES2 1751 – 1804

Inventory of John Luff of 'Bralye' (1701)¹⁸

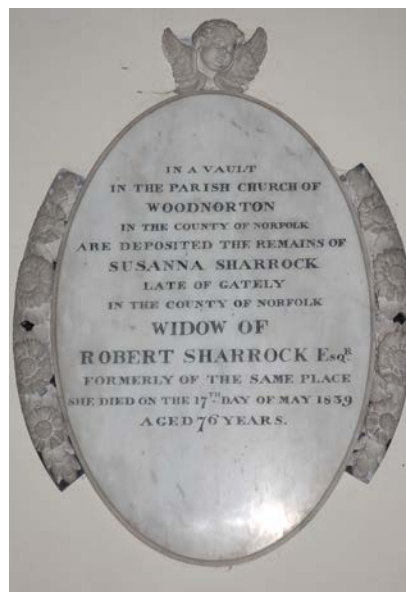
This inventory lists the furniture and equipment left by the yeoman farmer who rented Bereleigh from the Smiths in the seventeenth century. The building has the characteristics of a substantial yeoman's farmhouse built in that century (made possible by the availability of brick, from a factory in Stroud: built around a central chimney with fireplaces on each side, and had walls dividing chambers and service areas). Downstairs was a '*hall*', the farmer's living room, which accommodated a sizeable table and chairs, sideboard and arm chairs, an '*old chamber*' with a feather bed, in which the John Luff and his wife slept, and a '*low chamber*' with a truckle bed, perhaps for their children, and service areas comprising the kitchen in which the whole household, family and servants, prepared meals and ate them, and the servants may have slept, a dairy, a buttery ('*bouteillerie*', or drinks store and brewhouse), pantry ('*pain-trie*', or bake-house); there was a chamber above, in which grain may have been stored away from rodents, or servants may have slept there; there was also a barn for the unthreshed corn, oats and barley, and a '*gate*', or sty, for young hogs and pigs. This farmstead was the predecessor of the Georgian house built in the early 19th century by Richard Eyles, which stands today.

Luff's inventory lists the produce of the farm – wheat and oats in the barn, hogs & pigs, 140 sheep and 30 lambs, 5 cows, 3 bullocks, 6 horses, along with wagons, dung-carts, roller, and harrows. This suggests this was a sheep/arable farm, like most of East Meon at the time, with pigs and cows as a side-line. Its six horses had replaced oxen which had been used to draw ploughs and carts (though no plough is listed in the inventory)¹⁹.

¹⁸ HRO 21M/65/D3/427 Appendix 7.

¹⁹ Research into the crops and stock of the Bereleigh estate would be welcome – the next list is from the Tyrwhitt Drake ownership, though the sales particulars show field usage.

Robert Sharrock



Plaques in the Lady Chapel of All Saints commemorating Robert Sharrock and his widow Susanna

During the 18th century, the leading family of East Meon were the Sharrocks, whose family home was Norfolk. In 1783 and again in 1789, the Diocesan Lease Registers record that the 'the Site of the Manor and Capital Messuage or Mansion House of East Meon with the Appurtenances ... commonly called or known by the name of Courtfarm' was leased by 'Brownlow, Lord Bishop of Winchester' to 'Robert Sharrock of Gately in the County of Norfolk' Including 'the Houses, Edifices Buildings Bans Stables Dovehouses Orchards Gardens Arable Lands Meadows Pastures Feedings Woods Underwoods Profits Commodities and Appurtenances belonging thereto'. The Sharrocks were now the leading family of East Meon who are commemorated by plaques in the Lady Chapel of All Saints. They also leased lands at Bereleigh. Appendix 9 lists some of the 'Clough Papers' at the West Sussex Record Office; Clough was a Chichester solicitor, employed either by Edward Constable or by Robert Sharrock. These are copies of court rolls and fines recording agreements between John, Joseph and Robert Sharrock and a variety of occupants of properties at Bereleigh dated from 1721 to 1834. The Sharrocks continued to lease part of Bereleigh until well into the 19th century.

The Eyles family

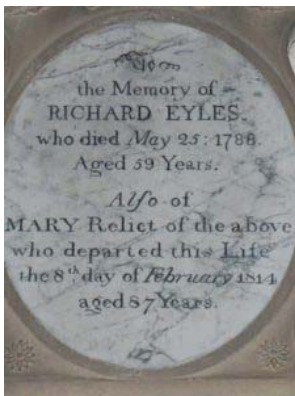
The Clough Papers also confirm that Richard Eyles bought the lease of Bereleigh in 1776. The Eyles followed the Sharrocks as the leading family in East Meon and the largest landholders in the village; he, too, managed Court Farm and was churchwarden of All Saints in 1756; he lived in Glenthorne House, the most handsome house in the village. His son, also named Richard, took over Bereleigh in the 1780s and then Court Farm when his father died in 1788. Richard Eyles II was a prosperous local businessman, mayor of Petersfield, and part-owner of the 'Petersfield and Hants Bank'. Both he and his brother Joseph, a naval captain, were Deputy Lieutenants of Hampshire. In a citation of 1802 they are described as each having lands in 'Burley', and Joseph in 'Tuggall'. Since 1796, Richard had purchased annually from the

Bishopric Estate the 'tythe of corn and grain in tythings of ... Tughall, Titiden, Siden and Barley lands in the parish of East Meon'. He also still managed Court Farm but appears to have moved to the new Georgian mansion he built at Bereleigh.



Bereleigh House, built by Richard Eyles II in the early 1800s.

The Hambledon Hunt had been formed in 1800 and had a long association with Bereleigh. Joseph Eyles, who inherited Bereleigh from his father Richard Eyles II when he died in 1814, was Master of the Hambledon Hunt, but only for a short time as he died in 1815 aged 29 years.^x Richard Eyles III then inherited Bereleigh.



Plaques in the Lady Chapel, All Saints church, East Meon commemorating the first Richard Eyles and his wife Mary; also, Henrietta, daughter of the second Richard.

Captain Samuel Pechell & the Tithing of Turnips Act, 1835

In 1824, the third Richard Eyles sold Bereleigh to Captain Samuel George Pechell RN; Pechell in turn leased from the diocese the 'rectorial', or greater, tithes of the lands²⁰. In 1826, a new vicar was inducted at All Saints, the Reverend Thomas Cooke Kemp, and there began an extraordinary tussle between the vicar and the 'squire'²¹. Kemp was entitled to the 'lesser', or vicarial, tithes and imposed on farmers an additional tithe on turnips grubbed up for feeding cattle.

²⁰ In general terms, 1/10th of produce of the land he 'owned', i.e. leased.

²¹ Although East Meon has never had a lay lord of the manor, nor squire, the owner of Bereleigh came in the 19th century to fill this role unofficially.

Pechell paid £19.9s.6d a year in tithes, though he claimed the true value was only £11.19s; although he could afford this sum he took it upon himself, on behalf of other farmers of East Meon, to refuse to pay the extra tithe.

The vicar took Pechell to the Court of Exchequer in 1833, and Pechell lost. However, his cousin Richard (also a retired naval officer) had been elected to Parliament and in June 1835 moved a motion '*for the amendment of the Law as to the Tithing of Turnips in certain cases*'; this was accepted and Kemp's extra tithe was rebutted; a year later the important Tithe Commutation Act was passed which led to the cash value of tithes being calculated so that the system could be regularised. A survey was conducted of every property in England and Wales whose result were '*Tithe Apportionment*' listings and maps; East Meon's were not completed until 1851; they have vastly added to our understanding of farm owners and activities in the Victorian era²².

Forbes to Gallup (1850 – 1905)

After centuries of absentee landlords, the nineteenth century owners of Bereleigh continued to live in the house built by Richard Eyles II. Pechell died in 1840 and his family moved to Alton. George Forbes, who was born in Bombay, and his wife Johanna took over Bereleigh; he describes himself in the 1851 census as a '*magistrate and landowner*'; the couple had no children but were looked after by a butler, footman, cook and three maids, with a coachman, gardeners, and grooms living in cottages and lodges on the estate; Tigwell and Drayton farms were let to tenants²³. The Tithe Apportionment shows that Forbes farmed 274 acres subject to tithes.



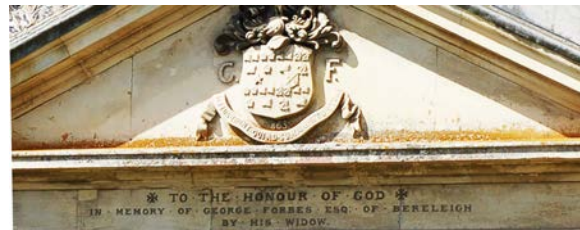
It was probably George Forbes who installed the icehouse (left) at Bereleigh – fashionable at a time before refrigerators were invented. Snow and ice were collected in the winter and packed with insulation, straw or sawdust, and stored in the icehouse, which would keep food cool through the summer. The icehouse at Bereleigh is still used as a game larder and is grade II listed.

²² Appendix 12 has notes and source materials concerning 'The Tithing of Turnips. <http://www.eastmeonhistory.net/tithes-and-turnips/> has a PDF of George Bartlett's paper.

²³ The mill at Drayton (in fact two mills, also named 'Shutts Mills') do not appear as part of the estate. They appear in the 14th century quitclaims as part of 'Burle' and are mentioned in the Parliamentary Survey of 1647.

The couple played the roles of honorary squire and wife in the village; they were subscribers to the local national school, founded in 1845, and an entry in the 1860 accounts notes: *'March 16th, G. Forbes Esq. Making waistcoat 5s.0d'*. Presumably the garment was made by pupils and was considered successful, for a few months later we find a similar entry: *'July 24th, Mrs Forbes for waistcoat, 5s 0d'*. The school log for February 1st 1872 notes that *'Mrs Forbes of Bereleigh gave 24 prizes to the children'*.

She was now a widow. George Forbes died in January 1863. In December that year, Joanna transferred to trustees a piece of land *'containing 19 perches with almshouse buildings thereon'* upon trust to be occupied by persons *'above 65 years of age and a parishioner of [East Meon] parish or irremovable from the same, of good character and reputation, but in indigent circumstances'*. She endowed the trust with £300, from which it could pay the *'inmates'* 5s a week, as well as maintain the buildings.



The Forbes Almshouses, left, with the inscription to George Forbes, above.

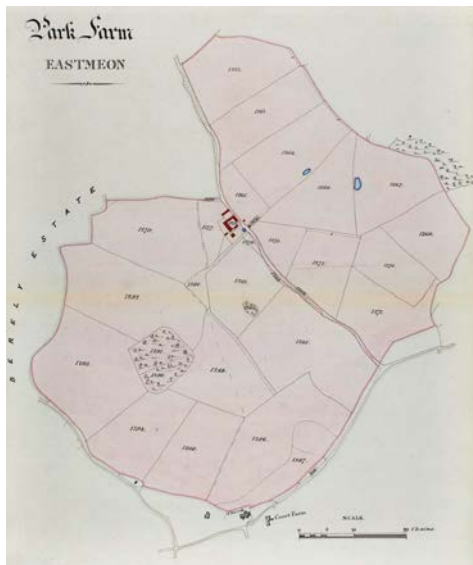
Joanna Forbes ran the estate for twenty five years, which was not without its tribulations; another of the Clough Papers gives details of a dispute between Mrs Forbes and the tenant of Tigwell Farm, Mrs Wing, whose husband had allowed the farm and fields to fall into a *'frail and neglected state'* *'a foul state'* ... &c. Tigwell had changed hands several times in the preceding twenty five years; Harriet Wing, 66 years old at the time of this dispute, had been the second wife of Charles Wing, who had died eight years earlier in Suffolk. Tigwell was then made over to Edward Cunningham, from Sussex, who was Mrs Forbes' farm bailiff



Joanna Forbes died in April 1898 and is commemorated by one of Ninian Comper's most successful stained-glass windows, in the Lady Chapel of All Saints, depicting the Annunciation. It carries the arms of Joanna Forbes and of her husband.

Park Farm

The ownership and occupancy of Park Farm in the nineteenth century is complex; although it was the closest farm to Bereleigh House, it was not part of the estate until the last quarter of the century. While the Forbes were the most prominent couple in the parish, Park Farm's Henry Barnard was a successful and colourful figure in his own right.



Map 3, 1858 Indenture map of Park Farm

The Tithe Apportionments list Park Farm as '*owned*' by James Barnard; an Indenture of 1858 records his being granted a lease by the Bishop of Winchester²⁴; it details the land, with an elegant map showing that the farm covered the same territory as East Meon deer park; it was however '*occupied*', i.e lived in and farmed, by Henry Barnard, described as a 'yeoman'. In 1851 Henry farmed 830 acres and by 1871 he had expanded it to 900 acres, employing 20 men and 4 boys²⁵.

Barnard was a prominent member of the village community and continued the sporting tradition of the Park; he was master of a pack of '*neat black and white harriers, about twenty inches high*' and hunted hares twice a week along the line of the hills from Petersfield to Meonstoke^{xi}. His funeral in 1887 was attended by both gentry (Colonel

²⁴ Appendix 18. See also Appendix 17 From 'In search of Anne, some fragments of a Family Genealogy' R.A.Parker

Jervoise, Admiral O'Callaghan, Colonel Briggs) and his fellow farmers²⁶. In 1899, a year after the death of Henry Barnard, Park Farm was put up for sale. It would appear that the land to the south-west of the lane was sold to Bereleigh, and the land to the north-east to W.G.Nicholson M.P. of Froxfield Park, whom we shall encounter later²⁷.

Bereleigh – Colonel Hudson

In the same year, following the death of Joanna Forbes, the Bereleigh Estate was put up for sale. It was marketed as '*a freehold manorial residential and sporting estate of 830 acres*', having '*first class mixed shooting, excellent coverts, and part of the estate being laid out as a rabbit warren ... The following may be considered a low estimate of the average game bag – 300 partridges, 200 wild pheasants, 200 hares, and 1,000 rabbits.*'^{xii} It was bought by Colonel Hudson, who only held the estate until 1905²⁸ He is mentioned as owner in the Victoria County History (written in the first decade of the 20th century) and a note by Thomas Heywood Masters, vicar in 1904, records his gratitude that Hudson, '*the new owner of Bereleigh*' had '*generously relinquished his right to use the well on one of the plots*', to enable enlargement of the church grounds. The Bereleigh furniture was sold in a separate auction, and included a billiard table, a mahogany Dining Room Suite and several mahogany bookcases, and a donkey and '*nearly-new*' cart.

The twentieth century

Henry Curtis Gallup

In 1905 the estate was bought by Henry Curtis Gallup. It is once again described as '*one of the prettiest and most attractive small Sporting, Residential & Agricultural Estates in the South of England*', with '**A succession of small coverts** making the shooting one of the most attractive in a celebrated sporting district. **Hunting**, with three packs of foxhounds; **Rabbit Warren** and excellent **Partridge Shooting**. The house is an '**Old Manor Residence**', Park Farm is '*All that Very Attractive Sporting Farm*' of, now, 290 acres; the sale included as separate lots Drayton House, and the Farm (not the Mill and Bereleigh Cottage. Gallup, according to his son Peter (a clerk in Holy Orders at Winchester) was a '*well-to-do man of leisure of no occupation*' and a former Master of the Wilton Hunt. He continued to hunt with the Hambledon foxhounds which regularly met at Bereleigh.

Peter related that his father created a 'water garden', to which were hauled a number of sarsen stones from War Hill, some weighing several tons – which may have come from a prehistoric site of worship²⁹. The

²⁶ Robert Mocatta has compiled listings of the occupants of Park Farm and Tigwell from the Tithe Apportionments, the Censuses from 1851 – 1891 and from trade directories which are attached as appendix 16.

²⁷ Appendix 20 Sale of Park Farm, 1889, catalogue.

²⁸ Appendix 19 Funeral of Mr H Barnard

²⁹ Appendix 19. Handwritten letter from Peter Gallup to F.G.Standfield, 1983

paving stones had been tombstones which were removed from Winchester Cathedral as part of a tidying-up operation.

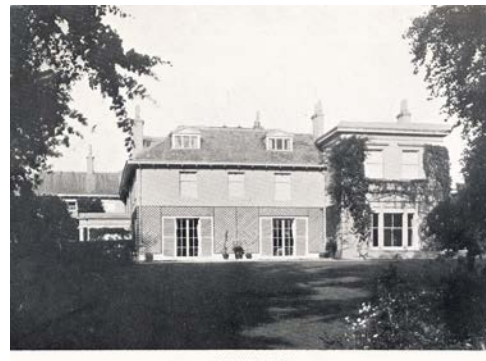
Peter Gallup also writes about the cultivation of rabbits at Bereleigh, noting that *'the rabbit warren helped with the meal in the winter. It took quite an important place in the economy of the shooting on the estate. It provided 'off days' with a ferret for one or two guests and days which were 'easy and cheaper to manage – rather than either walking up the stubbles for partridges or drawing the pheasants with the ancillary arrangements such as beaters & stops and food (and shelters in which to eat it)'*.

In 1908, an oak figure of St John, again designed by Ninian Comper, was donated to All Saints *'to celebrate the birthday of the daughter of Henry Curtis and May Margaret Gallup'*.³⁰

When war broke out in 1914, Henry Curtis Gallup, without previous military experience, volunteered for army service; he took his gardener, Mark Neil, and his chauffeur, George Knight with him to be trained as gunners. Since officers were mounted, he also took his favourite hunter. Along with another villager, blacksmith Walter Lambert, they were despatched overseas to join the British and Indian forces in Mesopotamia. In December 1915 they were besieged by the Turks in the town of Kut-al-Amara, on a loop of the River Tigris; it was reported in East Meon's parish magazine: *'We are sorry to hear that Mark Neil and George Knight have been wounded. It appears that they, with Mr. Gallup, are besieged in Kut-al-Amara, but we are told that all is well with the garrison'*.

After four-and-a-half months, the garrison was forced to capitulate; the Turks separated officers from men; officers were taken by boat up the Tigris, the half-starved other ranks set off on foot towards Turkey and hundreds died from lack of food. Nothing is known of Neil and Knight, and Gallup returned from two-and-a-half-years as a prisoner-of-war a changed man. England, too, had changed and few could now afford to maintain the establishments they had left behind. In 1918, Gallup put Bereleigh on the market once more.

³⁰ Note the name 'Curtis'; not is it only the middle name of Henry Gallup but in 1934 a Peter Curtis married Joan Nicholson, the daughter of Reginald Nicholson, the next owner of Bereleigh. Is there a connection?



SOUTH VIEW.



THE ROSE GARDEN.

Bereleigh House from the 1918 sales particulars.³¹

The Nicholsons

It was the MP's brother Reginald Nicholson who bought Bereleigh for £2,000, the equivalent of £111,680 in today's money

In 1928, Major Reginald Nicholson signed a conveyance making over the bulk of the Bereleigh Estate to his son Gerald³². He retained Bereleigh House with 97 acres of grounds. Drayton Farm was let to Ernest Noyce, who later occupied a handsome farmhouse, built in 1932, at Colchenna, close to the gates to Bereleigh House; Ernest Noyce, father and son, were Farm Managers to the Bereleigh Estate³³.

The Major played the role of squire to the full; in the Village, serving as church warden for many years and vice chairman of the management committee of the Village Institute (the vicar was the automatic chairman.) He managed the shooting range which had been built as part of the Institute during World War I³⁴: in 1929, when the committee wanted to store chairs in the range, Major Nicholson's permission was needed.

³¹ Appendix 20. Bereleigh Sale Particulars 1918.

³² Conveyance from Reginald Nicholson of Bereleigh and Gerald Hugh Nicholson of 31 Pont Street, 24th April 1928

³³ Appendix 27 Newspaper clippings. We have only partial information about Reginald Nicholson, and the press clipping describing his funeral is undated. Although the paper reports that the service was held at All Saints (where 'he had served for many years as Vicar's Warden') there is no entry in the register of burials. There is reference in the HRO catalogue to a photograph, to a meet of the Hambledon hounds at Bereleigh in the 1920s.

³⁴ It is said that the range was built with Nicholson money, but Reginald didn't buy Bereleigh until 1918.

The Hambleton foxhounds continued to meet at Bereleigh in the 1920s and in 1934 the cream of Hampshire society attended the wedding of Joan, the only daughter of Reginald and Lady Margaret Nicholson, and Peter Curtis, late of the 16th/5th Lancers; the ceremony had been postponed because the groom had been injured falling off a horse in the Military Cup race at Sandown. (The ceremony was conducted by the Reverend Thomas Heywood Masters, Provost of Portsmouth, who had been vicar of East Meon and who commissioned the restoration work done in the church by Sir Ninian Comper). In 1939, Major Nicholson was appointed Sherriff of Hampshire.



Lady Margaret Nicholson, photographed by Hay Wrightson



Major Reginald Nicholson leaves All Saints with visiting Bishop



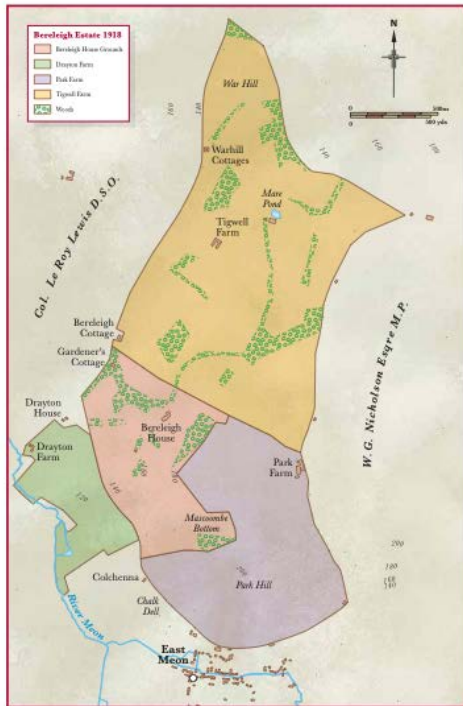
*Village Institute Managing Committee, 1949.
Lady Margaret second from left*



Ernest Noyce with cattle on Drayton Meadow

In 1947, possibly because her husband was ailing, Lady Margaret was elected to the committee of the Institute and was appointed a trustee in 1950. She was reported to be a very strong lady in her own right, and to have played a prominent role in the affairs of the Institute. Bereleigh House appears to have passed to Gerald, to complete his ownership of the estate. He now lived in Hertfordshire and in July 1958 the estate was once more auctioned, in Hanover Square, London³⁵

³⁵ Appendix 28. Sales particulars & conveyance, 1958 - 1959



The particulars state that the estate comprised 790 acres, including a 'Georgian House in beautifully timbered grounds of 22 acres' with entrance lodge, garages, stables and parkland, two dairy and stock farms of 313 (Tigwell) and 329 acres (Park Farm) along with numerous houses and cottages.



Bereleigh House, from 1958 sales particulars

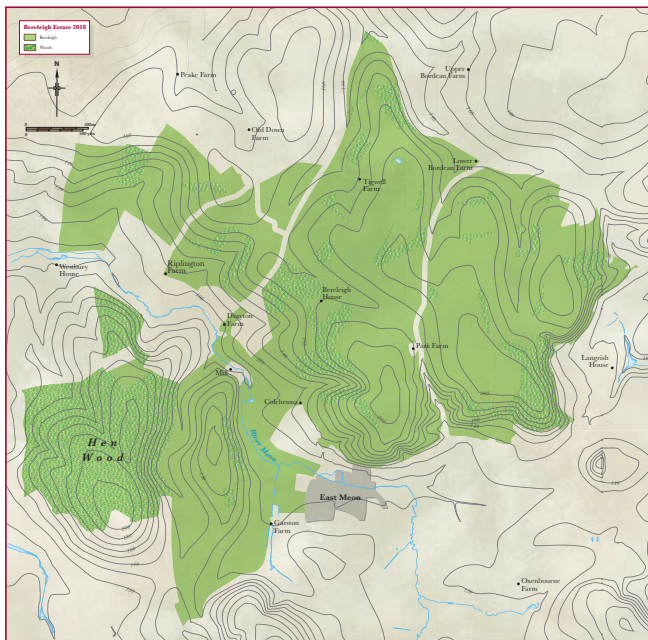
The Tyrwhitt Drakes

Bereleigh was now bought by Francis Tyrwhitt Drake, a distant relative of the descendants of Sir Francis Drake: he had unexpectedly inherited the magnificent family house, Shardeloes, in Amersham. He now sold Shardeloes and moved to Bereleigh. Until the 1970s the estate employed about ten full time farm workers including one gamekeeper. It was also a small private shoot: guns would travel to the first drive by horse drawn shooting brake or coach, then walk from drive to drive. They would bring their own picnic lunch and have it in a barn or in the fields. A typical day's bag in the 50's and 60's was 15 - 20 birds. The birds were hung in the game larder for a few days. The Grade II listed game larder, formerly an ice-house, now has a refrigeration unit. In the 1960's the game-shooting scene became more sociable and formal; Bereleigh provided lunch for invited guns whose bag was quite small.

During the shooting season the farm workers and local volunteers acted as beaters, for which they were given lunch of a piece of bread and a pint of beer. The first gamekeeper was employed in the late 60's and his job entailed husbandry of the pheasants; he collected the eggs from broody hens kept in chicken houses on wheels located in the fields. He trapped vermin to allow the game to prosper and was also responsible for deterring poachers not only of game birds but also of rabbits and hares. When Francis died in 1985, the estate was taken over by his son William.



Bill Tyrwhitt Drake has expanded Bereleigh Estate first by buying Lower Bordean Farm to the north, then Garston to the south, and Riplington to the south east. 46 acres of woodland on the original estate were supplemented by purchase of Hen Wood. In 2018 Frank Moffatt retired from farming Drayton and most of his land was bought. The Estate is now 2,700 acres and the largest in the parish of East Meon



Bereleigh no longer keeps sheep but combines arable and dairy farming, with nearly 500 cattle, of which 240 are milked at any one time³⁶. In winter they are brought in to barns at Park Farm, where they are fed on silage and crushed barley from the estate. Suckler calves are weaned by their own mothers for seven months, then grazed on plain forage and only produce enough milk to feed their calves; the cows and

bullocks are grown for their beef, similar to cattle in the wild. Bereleigh calves are sold at markets for further development.

The Bereleigh herd includes 63 Hereford cows and 2 Blonde Aquitaine bulls; they are frequently to be seen grazing on Park Hill, above the steeple of All Saints, where their zig-zag paths can be seen from the village or alternatively, when the hay has been taen, in Bereleigh Park to the south of the main house. In winter they are brought in to barns at Park Farm, where they are fed on silage and crushed barley from the estate. Suckler calves are weaned by their own mothers for seven months, then grazed on plain forage and only produce enough milk to feed their calves; the cows and bullocks are grown for their beef, similar to cattle in the wild.

³⁶ Figures need checking – taken from Meon Matters article



The Bereleigh suckler herd on Park Hill



Brian Boisclere, Estate Farm Foreman, and Chris Kingham with suckler cows

The Bereleigh herd is looked after primarily by Brian Boisclair and Chris Kingham, who was a milkman at Bereleigh's four dairy farms (Park, Lower Bordean, Tigwell and Garston) before he became a game keeper on the estate³⁷.



The Hambledon Hunt on Bereleigh estate in 1994

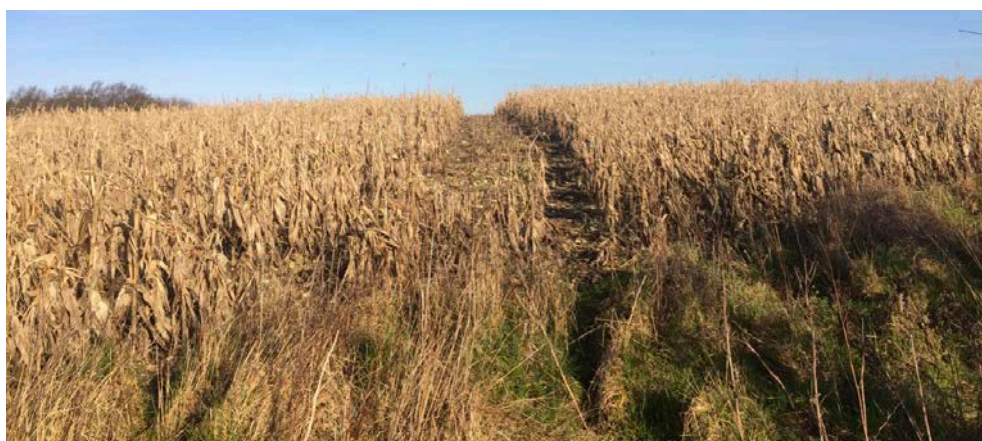


Clinkard beagles meet at Bereleigh in 2003

³⁷ Biggs, Brian, *The Bereleigh Suckler Herd Meon Matters* 2010. Text in Appendix 32



Field sports play a larger part than ever at Bereleigh. Even though foxes are no longer the quarry, the Hursley Hambledon Hunt holds its first meet of the season there on the first Saturday of November to follow a pre-set trail. The Clinkard ((formerly the Clinkard and Meon Valley Beagles) continue in the tradition of Henry Barnard at Park Farm and meet at Bereleigh five or six times a season. Breeding and shooting game birds, along with other non-farming activities, are now integral to the economy of the estate.



Maize on Park Hill cultivated to provide habitat for game birds

Changing methods of farming have had an effect on the nurture of game birds – in the past manual harvesting left winnowings at the edge of fields for them to eat but with increased mechanisation other food sources have had to be introduced. It has been discovered comparatively recently that partridge like to live on maize, so approximately 50 – 60 acres are now given over to game cover, mostly maize, on several different sites. Pheasants on the other hand prefer woodland, so the Estate acquired 350 acres at Henwood from the Forestry Commission both as an amenity for the public and as a habitat for pheasants: there are two large pens situated there for the young '*poults*' (pheasant chicks). The woodland is carefully managed and improved to provide a good habitat for pheasants. In the past few years fifteen new woodland areas have been planted.

The Estate now employs one full time head gamekeeper, an under gamekeeper and a student. Nick Canter has been Head Gamekeeper at Bereleigh for 19 years and has 34 years' experience as a gamekeeper. His duties include maintaining the various drives on the estate for the shooting season, rearing the birds, and protecting them from predators. On shoot days he has to make sure the birds are in the right place beforehand, give instructions to the beaters and the team of pickers up. There are usually 15 – 20 beaters, plus a team of five pickers up who each have a minimum of five dogs; they are all paid volunteers mainly from the local area; they are given lunch and it is considered an enjoyable day out. Letting individual days' shooting had started in the 60s and 70s; more and more people now take part either in corporate days or in paying for a day's shoot as private individuals.

As the acreage increased so did the potential for increased bags: today's average is 200 – 300 birds. Nowadays a day's shoot will often commence with guests staying overnight at Bereleigh and having a pre-shoot dinner the evening before. The day commences with breakfast, then the guns drive or are driven from drive to drive, lunch is served in the formal dining room followed by one or two afternoon drives, the day ends with tea back at the house. The guns may take home a brace or two of oven-ready prepared birds. On smaller shoots the guns may take home birds shot that day, which they have to hang and pluck themselves. The shooting season starts with partridge towards the end of September, the pheasant season starts at the end of October then both until the season ends on February 1st.

The rolling landscape of the estate is increasingly used for a variety of outdoor events both for the community and to generate revenues for the estate. In particular, Mascoombe Bottom, to the south of the main house, provides a natural amphitheatre for clay pigeon shoots, music concerts and large-scale picnics. One example was held on Midsummer night in 1990 – Hell's Bells Ball, held to raise funds for re-tuning and re-hanging the eight bells of All Saints church. This followed a number of 'Midsummer Madness' events organised by the estate; it was master-minded by Denys Ryder in conjunction with the commander of HMS Mercury, Captain John Morrow, who helped with logistics and provided a naval band. Half the money went to the King George V fund and £5,000 went to All Saints³⁸.

³⁸ Appendix 33. Transcript of interview with Denys Ryder



Two views of the main stage of Meonfest in Mascombe Bottom in June 2015, with Frank Turner performing



While commercial shoot days and farming play an important role in the economy of the estate, but in the 21st century other revenue streams have to be developed including, in recent years, 'Rough Runner', a cross country event with obstacles placed at strategic points on the course. 'Meonfest', a music festival held in the grounds of Bereleigh House, which has been succeeded by 'Berefest' held in the summer, again in the grounds of Bereleigh House.

Bill Tyrwhitt-Drake's three sons are involved in developing other activities on the estate: *The Sporting Agency* run by Tom Tyrwhitt-Drake who organises exclusive sporting days for private clients which includes shooting and fishing. *Cedar Valley Glamping* has luxury furnished safari tents with all mod cons and a separate camping site and is run by Jack Tyrwhitt-Drake. *Bereleigh Sporting*, run by Edward Tyrwhitt-Drake offers simulated clay pigeon shoots and is run as if it were a game day.^{xiii}

Apart from these activities the estate also holds the annual 'Lobster Shoot', which is a day of clay shooting followed by a lobster dinner, and the Hampshire Country Sports Day both of which are charity events held to raise funds for the Countryside Alliance. Another not-for-profit event is the Countryside Day for Schools in which children visit the estate for a day, this aims to give them an insight into farming and the countryside.^{xiv}

Noise abatement

In 2017, the livelihood of the estate was threatened when new neighbours living at Colchenna brought a noise abatement case against Bereleigh, complaining that the sounds of game shooting were obtrusive. As Bill Tyrwhitt Drake said, *“A successful prosecution would have “ripped the heart” out of the shoot and threatened its viability as well as some local employment.”* The wider sporting community observed the case with trepidation since, had Bereleigh lost, other estates would be vulnerable to similar litigation.

In February 2019, after several months of hearings at East Hampshire Magistrates Court and hundreds of thousands of pounds in legal costs, District Judge Anthony Callaway dismissed the order, questioning the unreasonable conduct of the plaintiff whom he suggested had *“lost perspective”*. As Bill Tyrwhitt Drake remarked, *“It was vital for us, as a matter of principle, to defend our livelihood robustly, as we have run the Bereleigh shoot for over 60 years, and also the interests and reputation of the wider shooting community and industry”*.

Appendices

Appendix 1. The names

'Bereleigh' appears in a variety of spellings over the centuries, including Berle, Burlee, Burle, Burley, Beerley, Berley, and Bralye. The name 'Bere' also appears in medieval records, dating from the thirteenth century especially but 'bere' is an early version of 'barley' and it cannot be assumed that this relates to the place Bereleigh. 'Bure' also appears. Table 1 lists some early appearances of variations of spellings in medieval records. (The Magdalen deeds relate to land in Oxenbourne, later made over to Magdalen College, Oxford.)

Table 1 Names recorded in medieval documents

Magdalen 1250 - 1409	Pipe Roll 1301	Hants Tax 1327	Notes
	John le Beel		1350, fine asserting his right to land in Oxenburne, Rammesdone, Langrish &c
	Alice de la Bere		1352 'of Homwode', held tenement in Rammesdone
		Nicholas atte Bere	1327 Coombe tax 3s
	David de la Bere		1270, Witness
	Pavia de Bere		1240 Grant for all her land in Oxenbourne and Ebechute
	Lewis de Bere		1240 Father of Pavia & Isabella de Bere
	Adam de la Bere		1250 Husband of Pavia, grants his share of land to John de Menes
William atte Bere			1301 Paid in cumin
	John de Berle		1315 Release of land to Richard le Midlington
	Christina ate Bure		1301 Was wife of John Crispyn
	Peter ate Bure		1301 Fine

The Park was also used for pasture: for horses at Bitterne Park in 1256 -7, cows at Bishop's Sutton Park in the same year, and for sheep in East Meon Park in 1318. Park woodland was fully exploited for charcoal, firewood and timber, while and pigs grazed on the mast (acorns and other food of the forest floor).

An essential part of the landscape of the bishop's parks was the keeper's – or parker's – lodge. The parker was a minor manorial

official whose lodge was a humble dwelling. In 1376-7 the lodge in East Meon Park was a simple hall with a single chamber and stable, set in the centre of the park; it was set on a commanding height so that the parker could keep watch against poachers who probably presented a constant threat to the bishop's deer. Rabbit warrens, or coney garths, were often situated within parks and, during the fourteenth century, rabbits seem to have become a significant part of the bishop's diet³⁹.

Three species of deer – the red, the roe and the fallow – were recorded in the bishopric pipe rolls, and their numbers were carefully managed, by culling and, when it was necessary to cross-breed deer to improve stock, by interchange between episcopal parks. East Meon Park was re-stocked in 1332-33 using two carts with wickerwork cages. In 1357 – 8, twenty fallow deer were taken from East Meon. It is recorded that in the 16th century the 500 acre park at East Meon sustained 160 deer.

Appendix 2. The Black Death and the founding of Bereleigh sub-manor

As Page wrote a study of the effects of the plague: 'the appearance of one or two newly created manors was the result of substantial amounts of land falling into the bishop's possession on account of the mortality caused by successive outbreaks of plague'⁴⁰. This resulted in the creation of a new sub-manor at Bereleigh which had until then been part of the tithing of Bordean.

³⁹ Roberts, Edward *Ibid* P77

⁴⁰ Page, Mark *The Pipe Roll of the Bishopric of Winchester 1409 – 10*. Hampshire Record Series Vol 16 p.xviii. Page, Mark, 'A note on the manor of Ilmerstone, Isle of Wight' Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society Newsletter 29, 1998 pp25 - 7.

In 1369, John de Burlee and Agatha his wife 'quitclaimed (released) to William de Wykeham, bishop of Winchester, his heirs and assigns, the following tenements which they held of him as of his bishopric: 1 messuage, 1 mill, 205 acres of land, 10 acres of meadow, 60 acres of pasture, 50 acres of wood, and 40s. 6d. rent in East Meon and Drayton and the rents and services of Richard Tygenore, Richard Hethere, Reginald Tygall, John Southonore, and John Knollere for the tenements which they held of them'⁴¹. IN 1382, Clarice wife of William Fisher and sister of Agatha lodged a similar quitclaim.

Among their tenants was one with the surname Tygall, while reference to the mill at Drayton helps us conjecture the probable extent of the sub-manor, as shown in Map 2, above. A third was made in 1390 by John de Bereleigh and Agatha his wife for a 'messuage' (building with land) and a mill and over 700 acres of land, yielding £2 6d of rent, in East Meon, Bereleigh and Drayton.

⁴¹ *VCH Hants* iii. P71; *CCR 1381-5*, p 246; *CPR 1388-92* p256

Appendix 3 Parliamentary Survey of the Manor of East Meon (1647)

Excerpts from *HRO 11M59/A1/2/12 1647*. There is also belonging to this Mannor a Parke situate and lyinge near the town of Eastmeon and known by the name of Eastmeon Parke lyinge' north east of the church and south of 'the Mannor of Berley'.

Borden Tithing. John Smith, Thomas Corps (4) Richard Corps, William Baker, Thomas Upsdale (3), John Westbrooke, *Sir William Lewis (divers coppiehold lands)*, Nicholas Andrews, Thomas Corps the younger.

... hereunto belonging to Bishop of Winton late in the occupation of Dr Walter Curle and now by ordnance of Parliament trustees ...

Demesnes in Lease

The Manor House called ye Courthouse being strongly built ... Belonging to ye said house is a large barn & yar don ye northern most of Eastmeon's streets. West and southernmost from ye manor and towne of Eastmeon lieth all the land belonging to this ffarm, two meadows lying on ye brookside called Nutbury & Gallon Meadow ... fifteen acres

All this is or was in the possession of Sir William Pepsall Knight who claims to hold by Indenture 3rd Nov 1614 ... 300 muttons 300 ewes

The lands belonging to the said ffarme are as follows;

- Two meadows called Hurthmoad & Hookemeade, one pasture called Berrygarden
- Arable called Nutbury
- Arable called Sheephouse
- Do called Goodesfield, Gasson, Lakefield, little Lakefield, Dornborrow, Horthamfield, Forty
- Acres, Hillycroft, Duncomborrow

There is also belonging to the Llord of this Mannor two Mills under one roof called by name of Shutt mill lying west of Eastmeon ... Johanna Hunt of Pophams in County of Southampton ... indenture in year 9 of King Charles ... Johanna Hunt aged 29 years.... Yearly rent of 10s 4d.

We find that William Pepsall be liable ... all the aforesaid farm to Marmeduke James and to the wife of Nathaniel Hallowes of Darby gent for and during the two quits aforesaid and under the Covenants aforesaid.

There is one other farmyard .. called Church Ffarm lying in the Parish

of Easmeon.../ one barn and cowhouse having Court Farm to ye north ... on ye west Is a barn belonging to Court Farm and to the east a pasture called Berrygarden.

There is also belonging to ye manor of Eastmeon a Park situate near ye towne of Eastmeon known by ye name of Eastmeon Park ... belonging to Madgalen College in Oxford and the lands of Sir William Lewis Knight ... grounds belonging to ye Manor of Bewley

Freeholders include:

Anthony Langrish

Sir John Compton

Sir William Lewis

President and Fellows of Magdalen College Oxford

William Heycroft

The Parson of Hambledon

Appendix 4 Sir William Lewis

The rise, fall, and rise of Sir William Lewis, by David Hopkins. Postscript

Bordean House was built by the Langrishes and then leased to SWL who married into the Neales of Warnford. SWL's daughter was married in EM Church. SWL was buried in Froxfield with very definite requirements in his will. "Sir William's Hill" (by Langrish) implies he was actively involved in its planting. There are records of gifts to other local BIG families (like the Knight's of Chawton House...a jet ring). He raised a local regiment and became Governor of Portsmouth. Obviously, Parliamentary duties kept him London based....but on balance I think Bordean was his base and main dwelling.

Appendix 5 Lease of office of keeper of the Park to Sir William Lewis.

HRO 11M59/D1/2 page 53 (part of the Winchester Bishopric Estate) Not transcribed, but it records the assignment to Sir William Lewis of Bordean in 1661, the 'Office of Keeper and Keeping of the said Park in East Meon'.





Appendix 6. Catholic Owners of Bereleigh

Note from Robin Greenwood of Marty Worthy, 12th December 2016: 'I am putting together some research notes on who owned Winchester Racecourse and part of them cover the Smiths and the Sheldons who owned Kings Worthy between 1657 and 1773 ... they also owned 'the manor at Bereleigh' between some time in mid 1657 to some time after 1795.'

Bartholomew Smith the first [BS1] died in 1638 aged 78 ...BS2's estate was sequestrated by 1650 on suspicion of recusancy He was a member of an old Recusant family ... 'nephew' of Bartholomew Smith 1 of the Soke in Winchester. ... Hampshire Registers, Vol 1 the Registers and Records of Winchester, Catholic Record Society, Record Series, Vol 42 1948 p.xii. ... suggests that a Bartholomew Smith and a William Smith both went to France under false names to be educated at Douay College in 1598 ... a Catholic Seminary which was established in 1561 in the Spanish Low Country and now in France and was associated with the University of Douay (first Chancellor Richard Smith from Worcester) ... applied in 1650 to have recusancy lifted. In 1652, his estate in Sherfield sequestered for the recusancy of his tenant, the widow of Michael Titchborne. However, he was Sheriff of Hampshire in 1654-5 ... BS2 acquired the Manor of Bereleigh in the Parish of East Meon sometime in the mid 17th century. (He may have acquired a lease of it from the Bishop of Winchester rather than a leasehold). How he acquired his money to buy these estates (Exton & Sherfield English as well) requires further research ... may have used his inheritance to dispose of some of the properties outside Hampshire. BS2 died in 1670 ... left a will made on 20.1.1665 proved 18.6.1670 (Will of Bartholomew Smith of Soke near Winchester *TNA PROB 11/333/179.*)

5 children: William (d 1685), James (1645 – 1711), Bartholomew [BS3], Mary and Margaret. "The fact that neither James nor BS3 inherited any manors in my view confirms my view that BS2 had passed on the bulk of his estate by the time of his death ... and that the VCH is wrong in stating that James Smith inherited the manors of Kings Worthy, Sherfield English and East Meon ... and that William Smith had already been given them by his father.

James Smith was under 30 in 1665. He became a Roman Catholic prelate and president of Douai College in 1682. In 1687 he was one of the four Catholic Bishops of England, with the title of Vicars Apostolic, nominated by James II with its vicariate and given the title Bishop of Calliopolis. On the flight of James II, he left York and sought refuge in France where he died in 1711. In any case, BS3 inherited his brother James's estates 'on his joining a religious order'. He also inherited his brother William's estates in 1685.

Bartholomew Smith [BS4] was listed as a papist living in Winchester in 1717. His estate included ... a messuage in East Tytherly which we know from a 1723 document was called 'Pullins'; Manor of Bereleigh ... on his death he left 'all my freehold estates to William Smith (Will of Bartholomew Smith made 8.2.16 and proved 24.2.1720 PRO 11/572/489). ... (brother) William Smith died of smallpox in 1724.... Estate inherited by three of four surviving sisters, Anastasia, Elizabeth and Frances Smith (Isabella got nothing because she was a nun.) in 1724 William Sheldon Esq (c1655 - 1748) of Winchester, husband of Anastasia Smith, and Elizabeth and Frances is listed as owning the same properties as William Smith in 1721 (HRO Q25/3/10). In time the estate passed to William Sheldon as Elizabeth died unmarried and Frances had no children. William Sheldon died in 1748.

MBB note ... the Smiths were also connected through marriage to the Dukes of Arundel, the most powerful catholic family in England.

[HRO 4M53/23/23 *Agreement for the reconveyance of mortgage dated 22 Dec 1697 of the manor of West Boarhunt and other property. iii) Henry, Lord Arundell, John Webb of Odstock, Wilts and Bartholomew Smith of Winchester.*]

[HRO 4M53/23/22 *Copy will of Edmund Perkins of Winckton, Christchurch, made 4 Dec 1701, with a codicil dated 6 Dec 1701 and proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury 19 Dec 1701. Refers to his children: James, Edmund, Elizabeth, Lucy and Mary; to his sisters Mary and Hester; and to a deed of trust between himself and his wife Elizabeth and Henry Arundell, son and heir of Thomas, Lord Arundell of Wardour, Sir John Webb of Canford, Dorset and Smith, dated 7 Jan 1698, giving Perkins power to dispose of £6400. Includes an annuity to his life of £200. Names Arundell, Webb and Richard Perkins of New Inn, Middlesex, as his executors and guardians of his children*]

The Bishop's Visitation of 1725 listed 'six papists but of no consequence or estate' in Kings Worthy ... in the parish of St Thomas there were

'papists or reputed papists, about 40 or 50, the chief of whom are William Sheldon Esq Mrs Smith. These have considerable estates, but not in this parish.' (Catholic Record Society, Vol 41, Hampshire Registers 1, 1948, p127; W R Ward. Parson and Parish in Eighteenth Century Hampshire: Replies to Bishops' Visitations, Hampshire Record Series Vol 13 (1995) pp 78, 84. Mrs Smith was presumably BS3s widow Frances.

[HRO Q5/3/1Enrolment book containing the names and estates of papists registered under the Act of 1 George I, St 2, c 55 (1715), Easter 1717- Michaelmas 1746
p120 *William Sheldon, esq, and Elizabeth and Frances Smith, spinsters, of Winchester: each entitled to one third part of farm and lands called Wellhouse in Eversley 3 Apr 1733*]

Edward Sheldon was married in 1748 to Cicely Constable of Burton Constable near Hull who was a member of a well-known Catholic family. He died in or by 1775 and left a will was a profligate gambler and took the name Constable on inheriting the Constable estates near Hull in 1791⁴².

At some stage after 1795, Edward Constable or his brother Francis sold his lease (or the freehold, if he had acquired it too) of Bereleigh in East Meon to Richard Eyles).

⁴² Will of Edward Sheldon of Winchester proved 22.4.1775 TNA PRO 11/1007/143). ES2 1751 – 1804

Appendix 7. 1701 Inventory of John Luff (Luffe) of Bereleigh.

HRO 21M65/D3/427 Inventory of John Luff (Luffe) of Bereleigh ('Bralye'), East Meon, Hampshire, yeoman. 1701

<i>In hall</i> one table and forme six joynd stools one sidebord three old chairs and other small items praised at	01.00.00
<i>In the low chambre</i> One bed and bedstead bolster and blankets thereunto belonging	01.00.00
<i>In the hall chambre</i> one feather bed &c	01.10.00
<i>In the chamber over the butrey</i> one feather bed &c	01.18.00
<i>In the old chamber</i> one truckle bed one malt mill &c	01.15.00
<i>In the chamber over the kitchen</i> two old beds &c	01.05.00
<i>In the butreys</i> four hogsheads, six small barrells &c	02.15.00
<i>In the milkhouse</i> one and a half dozen of hogsheads	00.12.00
<i>In the kitchen</i> , one table and forms and iron firepan and tongs and other old lumber sixteen small dishes of pewter one flaggon three candlesticks four kettles two brewpots four skillets and other small things	02.10.00
Barron and cheese	01.06.00
<i>In the barn</i> wheat and oats	07.10.00
<i>In the gate</i> seven young hogs, nine pigs	04.00.00
Five cows three bullocks three weaning sheep	18.00.00
Six horses and the harness	30.00.00
Two wagons two dungcarts one rowler nine harrowes and other small implements of husbandry	13.00.00
One hundred and forty sheeps and thirty lambs.	98.00.00

Appendix 8. 1789 Lease to Robert Sharrock of manor or mansion house known as Court Farm

HRO 11M59/D1/6 p124

Rt Rev Father in God Brownlow, Lord Bishop of Winchester ... and Robert Sharrock of Gately in the County of Norfolk. ... that the Site of the Manor and Capital Messuage or Mansion House of East Meon with the Appurtenances ... commonly called or known by the name of Courtfarm and all 1789 1789 ... and all the works and services of the tenants there and all Messuages, Lands Tenements and Hereditaments of the said Bishop which were heretofore by Indenture date 3rd November 1614. ... granted to Sir John Pepsall Knight for the lives of William John and Robert Pepsall Lord of the said Sir John and the life of the longest liver of them ... the said Robert Sharrock promises to ...

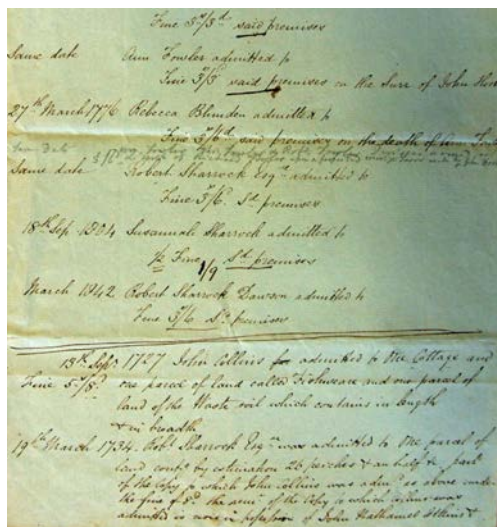
yield up unto the said Bishop and his Successors the sum of Fifty Pounds of lawful Money (Sharrock aged about 62 years, Susannah his wife ditto, Robert Sharrock aged 28 years, nephew Revd George Marshall, aged 34) ... pay yearly Rent for the Site ... ten pounds and ten shillings ... assign to General Woodward convenient and necessary rough Timber for reparations and for Fireboot, Cartboot Rods to make Hurdles an all other Boots ... allow the Steward of the Bishop and his and their Officers and Servants sufficient Meat Drink and Lodging and Entertainment and Hay and Litter and four Bushels of Oats at the least for their Horses when they shall come to keep any Court or Courts for the said Manor. And the Bishop appoints Stephen Woodman and Richard Eyles of EM his Attornies

Appendix 9. Clough Papers

Legal documents relating to properties on the Bereleigh Estate, 1721 - 1842

West Sussex Record Office Clough/98/99.

'Clough' was probably the name of the lawyer working for the Sharrocks or the Eyles, located in West Sussex. This is a packet of documents, including copies of court rolls and fines, all relating to a) a cottage with curtilage called the Wayhouse (earlier 'Fishweare and waste' 1727) or b) 'twenty six perches and one half' of land including an orchard'. Various, the names which appear include John, Joseph and Robert Sharrock, Susannah Sharrock (widow of Robert), of Gately in the County of Norfolk¹, who were the landowners, and Richard Eyles, older and younger, who were buying the estate. A number of occupants are listed, including Edward Gibbon, William Norwood, John Hooker, Ann Fowler, Rebecca Blunden, Margaret Marshall Butler Clough, spinster. John Collins (the orchard) and a final note states that the copy is 'in possession of John Nathaniel Atkins'.



Wayhouse Cottage

Sept 1721 Edward Gibbons admitted to One Cottage with a Curtilage called Weyhouse in the Tithing of Meon Manor. Fine 3s/6d

March 1730. Inrolment of Conveyance of said premises to Wm Horwood Same date. John Hooker admitted to said premises. 3s/3d

March 1768. John Hooker oldest Son and Heir of John Hooker admitted to said premises. Fine 3s/3d

Same date. Ann Fowler admitted to said premises on the Surr[ender] of John Hooker. Fine 3s/3d

March 1776 Rebecca Blunden admitted to said premises on the death of Ann Fowler Fine 3s/3d

(Pencil: Mrs Fowler & Robt Fowler illegible upon the death of Richard Fowler

*(illegible mortgage surrender by John Hooker) 3s/6d
Same Date, Robert Sharrock Esq admitted to said premises. 3s/6d*

Sept 1804 Susannah Sharrock admitted to Sd premises. ½ fine 1s/9d March 1842 Robert Sharrock. Dowson civil servant admitted to Sd Premises, Fine 3s/6d

Fishweare Cottage and land

Sept 1727 John Collins admitted to the cottage and the parcel of land called Fishweare (?) and one parcel of Waste soil which contains in length and in breadth ... Fine 5s/8d

March 1834 Robt Sharrock Esq was admitted to the parcel of land counting by estimation 26 perches and a half part of the copy to which John Collins was adm'd as above under the fine of 8d the illegible of the copy to which Collins was admitted and is now in possession of John Nathaniel Atkins.

Appendix 10. The Eyles family

From A History of East Meon by F.G. Standfield

pp 59 – 60. (1775). By this time the Eyles family of East Meon, who were destined to become owners of Bereleigh, were acquiring local prominence and prosperity. Richard Eyle, appointed churchwarden in 1756, was already rated as occupier of Court Farm, and 10 years later became the parish's biggest land occupier when also rated in respect of 'Beerly Farm'. In 1775, Eyles, again churchwarden, had still further increased his land occupancy, but by 1780, Richard Eyles II (1754 – 1814) began taking over his father's land, starting with Bereleigh and adjacent Tigwell; he also took over Court Farm in 1784, four years before his father's death.

The date when ownership, as distinct from occupation of Bereleigh, was acquired by the Eyles family is unknown, though it must have been between 1775 and the beginning of the 19th century⁴³; he was responsible for replacing the old house, which had probably fallen into decay, with a grand Regency building; in addition to spacious reception rooms the accommodation comprised no fewer than 20 bedrooms. Richard II was a prosperous and locally important man; he was elected mayor of Petersfield in 1800, presumably owner or part-owner of Patrick Eyles and Co, the 'Petersfield and Hants Bank'. In 1809, though he continued as churchwarden and still occupied Court Farm and other property, he had either sold or leased Bereleigh to Jacob Fitt, who was then rated as occupier.

From www.eastmeonhistory.net, on Glenthorne House

⁴³ Richard II bought the rectorial tithes from the Diocese in 1786; HRO 11M59/D1/7, P169 1796, *Lease by Winchester Bishopric Estate to Richard Eyles of the tythe of all corn and grain within the tything of Langrish, Riplington, Tugall, Titiden, Sliden and Barley lands, within the parish of East Meon, in the county of Southampton Also, 1800, 1808, 1813 & 1817.*

Two of his (Richard Eyles I) sons were Deputy Lieutenants of Hampshire. One, Captain Sir Joseph Eyles RN, was described in the 1802 citation as 'of East Meon, with lands in that parish at Ramsdean, Tuggall, Burley'. The other was the second Richard, 'with lands in that parish within the tythes of Riplington, Froxfield and also lands called Burley in the Parish of East Meon.' Joseph died in 1804, when Richard II inherited Glenthorne. This Richard Eyles occupied Bereleigh house and rebuilt it 'on the grand scale'. He purchased the rectorial tithes in 1800^{xv}. He in turn died in 1814, leaving it to the next Joseph, who died in 1815, passing the house on to the third Richard Eyles.

Appendix 11 Pechell purchases the rectorial tithes.

Bishop of Winchester's Lease Registers HRO 11/M59/D1/13 page 325 19th Nov 1828. *Lease by the Winchester Bishopric Estate to Samuel George Pechell of the tythe of all corn and grain within the tything of Langrish, Riplington, Tygall, Titaden, Hiden and Barley lands within the county of East Meon in the county of Southampton*⁴⁴.

*This Indenture ... between the Right Reverend Father in God Charles Richard by divine permission Lord Bishop of Winchester of the one part and Samuel George Pechell of Stone Dean in the Parish of Chalfont Saint Giles..... witnesseth that the said Lord Bishop for and in consideration of the Surrender of a former Indenture of Lease and of the tithes thereby granted made by George late Lord Bishop of Winchester to the said Samuel George Pechell bearing date the tenth of January ... 1825... doth demise grant and to farm let unto the said Samuel George Pechell **The Tythe** of all the corn and grain growing arising accruing and renewing and increasing yearly within the tithings of Langrish, Riplington Tygall, Hiden and Barley lands within the Parish of East Meon... with all other profits, emoluments and appurtenances belonging or appertaining to the said Parsonage or Rectory there except and always reserved unto the said Lord Bishop his Successors &c the tithe of Riplington aforesaid and of Smithfield in Borden exclusive of sixty three acres and thirty one perches of land in Riplington in possession of Michael Hoy Esquire and fifty acres three roods and one perch there in possession of James Barnard Gentleman the excepted tithes being hereditaments granted by the said Lord Bishop to Henry Hall Lord Viscount Gage..... **Yielding and paying** therefore yearly and every year during the said term unto the aforesaid Charles Richard Lord*

⁴⁴ HRO 11M59/D1/9, P123, 123 Lease by Winchester Bishopric Estate to Richard Eyles of the tythe of corn and grain in tythings of Langrish, Riplington, Tughall, Titiden, Sliden and Barley land in the parish of East Meon. Also 1805, 1808kn1813, 1816 1780

Bishop of Winchester ... the rent or sum of Five Pounds Four Shillings ... and also yielding and paying the further yearly sum Two pounds eleven shillings and six pence half yearly ... being the land tax charged and chargeable upon the part of the tithes of Borden by this indenture demised and redeemed by Brownlow heretofore Lord Bishop for the use and benefit of the said Lord Bishop and his successors...

Appendix 12. Tithing of turnips

From 'The Tithing of Turnips' by Michael Blakstad

Captain Samuel George Pechell bought the Bereleigh estate in 1824, two years before Kemp's induction.... In 1828, the Bishop leased the same tithes to Captain Pechell. In 1827, Pechell had become a magistrate.⁴⁵ The Tithe Apportionments of 1852 show that Bereleigh then paid £59.6s in tithes. Pechell's liability to pay tithes, unlike the other major landowners of East Meon, was to prove crucial when the Reverend Kemp arrived in East Meon in 1826.

Rev Thomas Cook Kemp and Captain Pechell of Bereleigh

Research notes by George Bartlett and David Hopkins

GB. Thomas Cook Kemp, born 1787, was appointed vicar of East Meon in 1826 in, his late 20s or early 30s. He died here in 1867. I have researched the interesting case of Kemp v Pechell in 1833 and the Tithes of Turnips Act 1835 that was passed in consequence of it. The personalities involved, judge, defendant, the Parliamentary participants, all have their interest and the same goes for the subject---matter and the law.

DH. Captain Samuel George Pechell originated from Chalfont St. Giles. He bought Bereleigh in 1824 and died in 1840. He had four sons and one daughter and most of the family moved in 1865 to Alton House (now the Alton House Hotel). The sale of Bereleigh was directed in his will and the funds left in trust I think that two of his brothers were Admirals, whilst one of his sons (Sir George Samuel Pechell) was Colonel of the Hampshire Volunteers and inherited baronetcy on decease of his cousin who died without issue. There is an interesting "Certificate of Sacrament" relating to Samuel George Pechell, Capt. RN, East Meon in the UCL "Huguenot" Archives dated 1827.

⁴⁵ HRO [Q27/3/257](#) 1827 Justice's certificate of qualification: Samuel George Pechell esq

The Tithes of Turnips Act

From Hansard, 19th June 1835.

Captain Pechell, MP, rose pursuant to present a Petition from (his brother) Capt Samuel G Pechell Esq who farmed land in the county of Hants. Stressing that 'he did not intend any censure on the clergy generally, but to show the necessity of altering the present law of Tithes' ... he pointed out that 'in 1826, the Rev Thomas Kemp entered on the vicarage, and immediately gave notice that all compositions for tithes should cease ...' and gave the example of his brother's 'composition' at the time, which stood at £9.9s 6d, (though only valued at £11.9s). He had therefore been paying £11.10s.6d more than the value.' 'The reverend Gentleman however refused the old composition and actually proposed an increase of 20%, which was of course refused by the whole parish. The vicar then commenced a series of vexatious proceedings in tithing hay and grass ...' and somehow the case evolves into a discussion of turnips. 'A claim was set up for the tenth acre of all turnips grown on the farm, which being for the depasturing of the sheep, could not be tithed.' And it gets more complicated, with the Vicar offering to go to arbitration, but nominating his own solicitor ... The vicar was claiming a tenth of all turnips grown, rebutted by the argument that turnips should be exempt from tithes since turnips are 'pecked up' to prevent the greens being harmful to sheep. The vicar had claimed tithes on turnips pecked up before shearing, on the grounds that they were used for feeding. The 'Chief Baron' of the Exchequer, arguing from rulings made 120 years previously, had 'confounded' the case, and Captain Pechell asked for the Petition to be supported. (The Act, entitled 'Tithing of Turnips Severed from the Ground' was subsequently passed.)

Appendix 12. Bereleigh - Forbes

Standfield on Forbes

p66 (School) The name of George Forbes of Bereleigh figures among the subscribers from 1852 onwards, and his name occurs a second time in the 1860 Treasurer's accounts" "March 16th, G. Forbes Esq. Making waistcoat 5s.0d. Presumably the garment was made by pupils and was considered successful, for a few months later we find 'July 24th, Mrs Forbes for waistcoat, 5s 0d'.

p90. In January 1863, the squire of Bereleigh, George Forbes, died, aged fifty--- seven. His widow, Johanna Agnes Forbes, whose benevolence towards local children has been noticed, wasted no time in perpetuating her husband's memory in a practical way. Before the year was out, she had purchased a cottage and land in Church Street, demolished the cottage, erected five almshouses on the site and executed a trust deed creating 'The Forbes Almshouses Charity' ... Mrs Forbes survived till 1898.

*Appendix 14. Dispute at Tigwell - Mrs Wing and Mrs Forbes,
West Sussex Record Office MS 15308 B & G: Valuation of tillages and
hay in Tigwell Farm in the parish of East Meon in Hampshire from Mrs
Wing to Mrs Forbes, 27th September 1876*

b) We nominate & appoint Mr Rich Pink of Hambledon as our
umpire in all matters of difference between us in their valuation.
27th November 1876

(List, faint pencil, made while the surveyor was walking around?)

Total value estimated, £556.8.0d. Agreed £551.18.7d

We nominate & appoint Mr Rich Pink of Hambledon as our umpire in
all matters of difference between us in their valuation. 27th
November 1876

(List, faint pencil, made while the surveyor was walking around?)

Total value estimated, £556.8.0d. Agreed £551.18.7d

*g) A valuation of the loss sustained ... over the turnip season on tigwell
Farm, East Meon, 5th November 1876*

Fields listed: War Hill, Stable Field, Dale field, Horse Croft, Hanger,
Pately Croft, Bereleigh

'In May 1876, a notice was given that the Farm was in a frail and
neglected state, and the Gates and fences out of order, the drains in
the water meadow being also much out of order...'

'On the 13th and 27th July Notice was given Mr Wing that he would
be held responsible for loss occasioned by his neglect ...

(Horsecroft ... the whole field was left in a foul state, consequently
the cost of turnip hoeing was above the usual and very expensive ...
Stable Field intended for mangle wurzels was not ready until the
first week in June, too late to be sown with mangel.

... War Hill ... I complain that War Hill is Layer instead of Roots all 2
of which was mown for aforesaid ...)

Appendix 15. Farms and farmers 1851 - 1891

This section comes from a comprehensive survey which Robert Mocatta has conducted, based on census data and the Tithe Apportionment survey, both conducted in 1851.

Tegwell (Tigwell) Farm

1851 William Lipscombe was a 31 year old farmer of 423 acres employing 13 men. He shared the house with a 38 year old housekeeper and a 17 year old house servant. The tithe map showed that the farm house was owned by George Forbes of Bereleigh, and farmed by Charles Elderfield. The tithe map showed this holding was 540 acres, virtually the entire Bereleigh estate. There were 427 arable acres, 56 acres of pasture and 51 acres of woods. These were very large fields by East Meon standards, almost 20 acres per field. The 1855 Harrod's directory showed Elderfield as a farmer based at Bordean.

1861, Tigwell was farmed by 51 year old William Mellersh, from Rogate, who lived with his wife and 8 children in the house. He farmed 430 acres, employing 11 men and 3 boys. The two older sons, aged 22 and 19 were described as "farmer's sons". They had a 21 year old female relative visiting in 1861. There were also four carters living in the same dwelling, one of whom, 17 year old John Kinshott was from the village. The others were from Priors Dean, Selborne and Binderton, Sussex. Mellersh was listed in the 1865 Harrod's directory as farming at Tigwell Farm.

1871, Tigwell was occupied by 59 year old farmer's widow Harriet Wing from Mildenhall in Suffolk. She was described as a farmer of 315 acres employing 4 men and 2 boys. Her two sons, both in their twenties, and three daughters lived with her, along with a 5 year old grandson. The elder son, Frederick, was listed in the 1875 Harrod's directory as farming at Tigwell. She had been the second wife of her husband Charles Wing, who had died aged 76 in Suffolk in 1868.

1881, Tigwell was occupied by 45 year old Edward Cunningham, from Houghton in Sussex, He was farm bailiff to Mrs Forbes, farming 328 acres and employing 7 men and 5 boys. He lived with his wife and four children under two. The last two, aged 3 and 1 had been born in East Meon. They had 14 year old Clara Dennis from the village as a general servant. There were two farm cottages at Tigwell in 1881, occupied by labourers James Blackman and Robert Edwards and their families.

1891, there were three dwellings at Tigwell. The census did not

detail which was the farmhouse. James Blackman, 37 year old farm servant, lived in one with his family of 7, so this was probably the farmhouse. The others were occupied by 74 year old yard man Edward Tribe along with two widows in their 70s and a grandchild. The first two were from the village. The other was occupied by 26 year old carter James Willis and his wife, both from East Meon.

Park Farm

1851 36 year old Henry Barnard farmed 830 acres, employing 18 labourers and 8 boys. He had been born in Kilmeston, and his 38 year old wife Ann had been born in West Meon. They lived with two children (Ellen 6, Henry 1), a third child, Silvester was to die in infancy in 1855. They had three staff: 21 year old Louisa Lunn from West Dean was the governess, 14 year old Miriam Lunn was Nursery assistant and 18 year old Mary Bance from East Meon was the house maid. There were 7 in the household. An elder daughter (Fanny) was baptised in the church in 1842, and married in 1859 giving Henry Barnard as her father. She never appeared on the census. The 1855 O'Kelly directory listed Henry Barnard as farming Park Farm, and James Barnard as farming Upper Bordean. The acreage farmed included the tithe-free land of Park Farm, and the land at Bordean where the Tithe map listed James Barnard as the owner and Henry Barnard as the occupier.

1861 The address was given as Bordean Road, Park House. The farm was 830 acres, and employed 17 labourers and 7 boys. Three further children Jane, 18, Lasham, 8, and Anna Maria, 5 also lived in the house. Jane was baptised in East Meon in 1842, at which point her father was described as "yeoman". When her younger siblings were born, he was described as "farmer". Louise Lunn was still the governess. 20 year old Mary Ford from Silchester and 18 year old Amelia Norman from East Meon completed the household of 9. The 1865 Harrod's directory listed Henry Barnard as farming at Park Farm and Upper Bordean. The addition of James Barnard's Upper Bordean 60 acres (and three boys) may explain the increase in acreage from 1861 to 1871.

1871 The farm had expanded to 900 acres, employing 20 labourers and 7 boys. Four of the five children lived at home, the only absentee being 21 year old Henry. They had two servants, 24 Martha Withers from West Tisted and 17-year-old Ann Sims from West Meon. The household was 8 people. The 1875 Harrod's directory showed Henry Barnard at Park Farm amongst the gentry (and it is noted he kept a pack of harriers) whereas previous directories had shown him as a farmer.



1881 Henry Barnard was 66 and his wife 62. He only farmed 600 acres employing 3 men and 5 boys. They had three servants: 22 year old Charlotte Gaiger from Terrington in Norfolk was the housekeeper, 19 year old Annie Beckingham from East Meon was the cook, and 14 year old Annie Mosely from Steadham was the

129	Park House	1	Henry Barnard	Head	Mar	66	Farmer of 600 acres Emp ³ & Boys	"
			Annie Maria	Wife	Mar	62	Wife	Head Woodlands Westmeon
			Charlotte Gaiger	Housekeeper	Widow	22	Housekeeper	Norfolk Terrington, St. Olmar
			Annie Beckingham	Servant	Widow	19	Cook (Domestic)	Hants Eastmeon
			Annie Mosely	Servant	Widow	14	Housemaid (Domestic)	Worcester, Steadham

No. of House	Rank, Name, Age, and Sex of Head of House	Name and Address of each Person	Relation to Head of Family	Qualifications	Age of Person	Rank, Profession, or Occupation	Where Born	When Born
111	William Barnard	William Barnard	Head	66	Farmer	St. Olmar, Norfolk	1815	
112	William Barnard	William Barnard	Head	52	Farmer	St. Olmar, Norfolk	1830	
113	William Barnard	William Barnard	Head	42	Farmer	St. Olmar, Norfolk	1845	
114	William Barnard	William Barnard	Head	32	Farmer	St. Olmar, Norfolk	1855	
115	William Barnard	William Barnard	Head	22	Farmer	St. Olmar, Norfolk	1865	
116	William Barnard	William Barnard	Head	12	Farmer	St. Olmar, Norfolk	1875	

domestic housemaid.

Henry Barnard died in 1887 and his wife in 1888. Neither of their sons took on the farm. Lasham Barnard was a steam tractor proprietor in Froxfield, and by 1898 was listed in the Harrod's directory as a steam plough proprietor in Bordean. Henry, the elder son, was a brewer near Newbury. Two of his daughters had married brothers originally from Haslemere. The elder one had died soon after her marriage, and the younger daughter was living in Southampton, her husband having become a commercial traveller.

1891 Park Farm was occupied by 40-year-old bailiff Edward Goodwin from Penshurst, Kent. He lived with his wife and five children. The four youngest had been born in Rotherfield, Sussex, suggesting that they had only recently moved to East Meon.

147	Park Farm	1	↗	Edwin H Goodwin	Head	70	100	100	100	100	100	X	100
				Harriet Helen	Wife	70	100	100	100	100	100		100
				Mildred	Daughter	12	100	100	100	100	100		100
				George	Son	12	100	100	100	100	100		100
				Marjorie	Daughter	10	100	100	100	100	100		100

Appendix 16. Notes on Henry Barnard (1814 - 1887)

From 'In search of Anne, some fragments of a Family Genealogy'

Henry, the third son of James the Elder, was baptized at Kilmiston in 1814, farmed the extensive holding of Park farm, East Meon, and died there in 1887, and his obituarist describes him as belonging to a class then fast dying out, namely the British Yeoman. He was a good sportsman, neighbor and man of business, we are told, and as an excellent master would be much missed in the neighbourhood. There are two references to him in Aesop's Sporting Reminiscences, and in the Victoria County History for Hampshire, firstly, while MR Long was Master of the Hambledon Hounds, there is a reference to 8 foxes being discovered in one small covert of Henry's farm in Easat meon, all of which afforded good runs; secondly, during the 1850s and part of the 1860s, "Mr Henry Barnard of Park Farm kept a pack of neat black and white harriers, about 20 inches high and hunted twice a week along the line of the hills from Petersfield to Meonstoke. In November 1861 there was an extraordinary run of one hour and 50 minutes without check, with a hare found on Mr. Foster;' farm at Meonstoke. County directories for the period mention the keeping on these hounds (e.g. see Kelly 1867)

When Henry Barnard died in 1887 it was natural that the funeral would be attended by followers of the hunt Even today, the Barnard name still remains since the cottages by the village bridge which face the road leading to the Church are named Barnards.

Appendix 17. Lease of Park Farm 1858

*HRO 11M59/D1/19) Bishopric Estate to James Barnard (pp222 - 228). Indenture 1858 Bish Winch. Rt Hon Henry Thomas Earl of Chichester, Rt Hon Charles Viscount Eversley & William Deedes (Church Estates)*⁴⁶

... in pursuance of an Act passed in the Session of Parliament held in 13th & 14th years of the Reign of Queen Victoria ... and James Barnard late of Kilmeston but now of Steep, yeoman, by an Indenture of Lease by Bish. Brownlow 1819 ... all that Park or Park Grounds then most arable or pasture commonly called

⁴⁶ HRO 43M76/E/T1 1858-1892 (Not examined) Abstract of the title of the trustees under the will of William Sanford Hodgson to Eastmeon Park Farm in the parishes of East Meon and Froxfield, and to three cottages in the tithing of Meon Church, citing from 1819-1870 for the farm and 1846-1890 for the cottages, 1892

Eastmeon Park and all houses, outhouses buildings fish ponds park walls paths ways easements profits &c ... unto the said James Barnard his heirs & assigns then aged 38 or thereabouts, James Barnard the son of the said JB then aged eleven or thereabouts ... annual rent of Thirty Pounds and the further annual sum of Seventeen Pounds three shillings for redeemed land tax and the observance and performance ... said Indenture ... covenant of the part of the said JB to repair the buildings and fences ... and the said hereditaments are also subject to a customary acquittance fee of four shillings and four pence ... And whereas the Lord Bishop ... hath agreed with the said JB for the sale to him of the reversion estate and interest of the said Lord Bishop ... in consideration of the sum of three thousand six hundred and twenty three pounds and of the surrender by the said JB of his claim for timber for repairing the premises ... he the said Charles Richard Bish of Winch ... confirm unto the said JB party hereto his heirs and assigns on the reversion of the estate ... those several pieces or parcels of land situate lying in and being in the Parish of East Meon ... known by the name of Eastmeon Park containing together four hundred and thirty seven acres one rood and three perches Together with a messuage or tenement farm house and cottage thereon standing and being described ... in the Plan annexed to these presents are particularly described in the Schedule hereunder written ... and also in the Map annexed to the Apportionment of the Tithe Commutation Rent Charge for the said Parish of East Meon ... and also of all Timber and other Trees ... rough timber Except as before excepted unto and to the use of the said JB, heirs &c, for ever Subject nevertheless and charged for ever hereafter with the payment to the Rector for the time being of the Rectory of Morestead ... the annual sum of Fifteen pounds.

... one moiety of the said annual rent of Thirty Pounds reserved by the said recited Indenture of Lease ... granted to the said William Jones and his successor Clerk Rector of Morestead and his successors but freed and absolutely discharged from the payment of the annual sum of Fifteen pounds the residue of that amount.

Appendix 18. Report on funeral of Mr H Barnard, 1887

Note the reference to the pack of harriers ('currant jelly dogs') of which he was master.

THE LATE MR H BARNARD – A few days since, there was a considerable gathering of friends, neighbours, and villagers to pay the last marks of respect to an old and respected inhabitant, the late Mr Henry Barnard, of Park Farm, by following his remains to their last resting-place in the church-yard. He belonged to a class fast dying out in this country, the British yeoman. He was a good sportsman, neighbour, and man of business, and as an excellent master will be much missed in the neighbourhood.

AMONG those who followed were - his two sons, Lasham and Henry, also the Rev, Payne, Colonel Jervoise, Admiral O'Callaghan, CB, Colonel Briggs, Mr Whalley Tooker, Captain Barnes, Messrs, Henry Woolridge, Richard Earwaker, S. Seward, Robert Earwaker, William Thorp, Matthew Arnold, George Gale, T. Stubbington, Harrison, William Weeks, Aylwin, John Stubbs, Charles Clare, Dennett, Ayling, Thorp, Weeks, Singleton, N. Beagley and many others. The deceased was master of and hunted a pack of harriers in the neighbourhood for many years, and a large percentage of those around the grave had often joined him in many a merry spin over the downs with his currant-jelly dogs, and the old master of the Hambledon, the late Mr Thomas Smith, used to call them.

Appendix 19. Sale of Park farm 1889.

The farm was sold two years after the death of Henry Barnard. Was it then that it was bought by Bereleigh?

We have a PDF of the complete sales catalogue: Park Farm is described as a 'particularly desirable Old Manorial Property ... having been in the possession and occupation of the late Mr Henry Barnard in a good state of cultivation... It comprises the substantially built

FARM HOUSE Brick and Flint, with Slate and Tile Roof, containing Dining and Drawing Rooms, Office, Kitchen, fitted with Kitchener and Dresser, Scullery with soft Water Pump, Oven and Copper, Large Dairy, Pantry, 6 bedrooms, 2 Attics and underground Cellars and Dairy; near this is a large Warehouse or Brew-house, Flint-built and Slated, fitted with 2 coppers and Soft Water'

Also ... THE FARM HOMESTEAD consists of Three well-arranged Yards and THE BUILDINGS include a large double Barn with 2

floors and 3 Mews, with 4 capital lean-to Pig-Styes, a Stable containing 2 Loose Boxes with loft over, adjoining. Another range of Piggeries and capital open Shed adjoining having been recently built, and Loft over all.

A Granary on stones, Cow Pen and Fowl Houses, Carpenter's shop and Woodhouse, and a large Dog Kennel and Loose Box, re all near the above. In the Back Yard is a capital 9 Bay Wagon Lodge, adjoining which is Stable with standing for 2 Horses, and ornamental shed

Also ... there are SIX COTTAGES on the Estate including a very pretty ORNAMENTAL LODGE with 6 rooms, No 451 on Plan

THE LAND is principally a Loam on Chalk Subsoil, comprises 408 Acres of Arable, 154 of Pasture and 18 of wood. It is a capital sheep Farm and Grows good Quality of Corn. (There is a schedule of fields ...)

Appendix 20. Bereleigh in 19th century Trade Directories

Whites Directory

1859 Forbes, George, Esq, Bereleigh House (rest not copied)

Mercer & Crocker

1871 Forbes Mrs J., Bereleigh House

Kelly's Country Directory

1875 Five almshouses for poor women have been erected by Mrs Forbes, Bereleigh, in the centre of the village "To the Honour of God and in Memory of George Forbes esq." Henry Barnard, esq, keeps a pack of harriers ... Bereleigh House, ther residence of Mrs Forbes ... are also much admired

Kelly's Directory

1867 Five almshouses have recently been erected by Mrs Forbes, Bereleigh

Bereleigh House is the residence of Mrs Forbes.

Forbes, Mrs. Johanna Agnes. Bereleigh ho

1889 Five almshouses were erected in 1863 by Mrs Forbes, BereleighBereleigh House is the residence of Mrs Forbes.

Forbes, Mrs. Bereleigh house

1899 (not copied) Forbes, Mrs. Bereleigh house

Appendix 21. Bereleigh Estate Sale 1899

Sale of Estate 1899

Name of the owner not given; includes Park farm. Mentions neighbouring landowners W. NICHOLSON Esq (Basing Park), H.LE ROY LEWIS (Westbury House) J.BONHAM CARTER, Esq., and Colonel Bibby.

PARK FARM HOUSE is included as one of two farms, 'with Homesteads and Farm Buildings'. Refers to FIRST-CLASS MIXED SHOOTING ... natural resort If Partridges and hares.... Coverts are excellent ... A part of the Estate is laid out as a Rabbit Warren.

Appendix 22. Standfield on early 20th century

pp 92 – 93. (1904 consecration of church enlargement, following purchases of land to the south.) ... whilst Colonel Hudson, 'the new owner of Bereleigh', generously relinquished his right to use the well on one of the plots'.

In 1905 ownership of the Bereleigh Estate passed to Henry Curtis Gallup, a 'well-to-do man of leisure' and former Master of the Wilton Hunt. An improvement carried out to his newly-acquired property was creation of a 'water garden', whose striking feature was, and still is, a number of sarsen stones, some weighting several tons. They were hauled by a steam traction engine from War Hill, Tigwell, a part of the Bereleigh estate – their original use was possibly related to an ancient pagan site of worship. Paving of the water garden consisted of tombstones removed from the graveyard of Winchester Cathedral as part of a tidying-up operation.

p112. (1914 – Great War) Squire Gallup, without previous military experience and no longer in the first flush of youth, knew where is duty lay. Volunteering for army service, and persuading his gardener, Mark Neil, and his chauffeur, George Knight, to do likewise, they headed for Larkhill on Salisbury Plain, to be trained as gunners. Gallup also took his favourite hunter, for those were the days when gentlemen were officers (and vice versa), and officers were mounted. Only later was it realized that officers, especially subalterns, were 'first over the top' in trench warfare, and least likely to survive for long.

... Major Reginald Nicholson, who was later to succeed Gallup as owner of Bereleigh, spent the war as an officer in the Hants Caribineers ... After their training at Larkhill, Gallup, Neil and Knight (still with the hunter) and another villager, blacksmith Walter Lambert, were despatched overseas to join the British and Indian forces in Mesopotamia who were protecting the Royal Navy's oil supplies. By December 1915, these East Meon men other than Lambert, who was sick with dysentery) were with many others besieged by the Turks in the town of Kut-al-Amara, situated in a loop of the River Tigris, a fact noted in East Meon's magazine the following March:

We are sorry to hear that Mark Neil and George Knight have been wounded. It appears that they, with Mr. Gallup, are besieged

in Kut---al---Amara, but we are told that all is well with the garrison.

It was a blessing that those at home were spared knowledge of the garrison's true predicament, for, weakened by disease and malnutrition, and having even eaten their own horses, they were forced to capitulate after four and a half months. They numbered over 200 British and a few less Indian officers, together with just under 13,000 rank and file. Of the latter, 2,592 were British, over 1,700 of whom were destined to die in Mesopotamia or Turkey. One of the first acts of the Turks after the capitulation was to separate officers from men, and as Gallup with other officers headed up the Tigris for prisoner-of-war captivity on board a river boat, he caught a last glimpse of his gardener and chauffeur, part of a huge, pathetic, sick and half---starved rabble of men shambling on foot toward Turkey, hundreds of miles across barren and inhospitable country. They died in their hundreds from lack of food and from ill---treatment; that any survived at all is almost a miracle Nothing is known of the ultimate fate of Neil and Knight. Though the officers faced great hardships, their treatment was less severe, and Gallup survived, though, after two and a half years in a Turkish prisoner-of-war camp, he was a changed man.

Pp 114 – 115. Even before the war ended, it was widely realized that the old order had changed irrevocably, and few families could keep up the large, well-staffed establishments that were part of the Victorian and Edwardian scene. Thus it was not entirely coincidental that both Bereleigh and Westbury estates were offered for sale by auction in July 1918.

p131. (post WWI) ... cars were now increasing. Their new owners now included not only Colonel Le Roy Lewis, but also Dr Jones and Major Reginald Nicholson, the new owner of Bereleigh, who owned a Napier.

Appendix 23. 1919 Indenture Henry Curtis Gallup to Reginald Nicholson

... (of Pont Street, London). *Eleventh day of April, one thousand nine hundred and nineteen. Includes a) Bereleigh House and grounds, b) Park Farm and c) Pumping station.*

Indenture details, including schedule of land and properties. 'Tenth day of November one thousand eight hundred and twenty five and made between William Edward Gilbert Arthur Thomas King and William Frederick Sandford Hodgson of the

first part, William Nicholson of the second part and George Stewart Forbes of the third part.' Including map showing land held, to west, by Col Le Roy Lewis DSO and to east W.G.Nicholson Esq M.P.

'In consideration of the sum of Twenty Thousand Pounds ... all that Manor and capital messuage called Bereleigh House and farm called Bereleigh House Farm ... all that messuage and hereditaments and premises ... known as Park Farm and thirdly the Pumping Station in the water meadow numbered 296 on the Ordnance Map ... pipes leading therefrom under the meadow numbered 282 ... and the right of access thereto ... the Vendor of the one part and Ernest Noyce of the other part ... coloured pink and green in the plan drawn hereon To Hold the same unto and to the use of the Purchaser in fee simple Subject as to the hereditaments numbered 287 288 289 290 291 292 311 312 313 314 315 316 317 327 329 330 340 & 341 in the schedule hereto to the payment of the yearly sum of eight pounds four shillings and eight pence charged thereon by an Indenture of Conveyance.'

Appendix 24 Letters by Peter Gallup to F.G.Standfield

16 St Swithun's St, Winchester, Clerk in Holy Orders

My father, Henry Curtis Gallup, was a well-to-do man of no occupation, who had been master of the Wilton Hunt before he purchased Bereleigh House, East Meon, and took up residence there in 1906. He continued to hunt.

At, or soon after, the outbreak of World war I my father volunteered for the Army and went off to Larkhill to train as a Gunner, taking with him Mark Neil his gardener, George Knight his chauffeur and his hunter.

As far as I know, none of them had any military experience. After their training was completed, the three went overseas together to fight the Turks.

In 1916 the East Meon Parish Magazine said: "We are very sorry to hear that Mark Neil and George Knight have been wounded. It appears that they, with Mr. Gallup, are besieged in Kut-el-Amra, but we are told that all is well with the garrison."

In fact, Kut-el-Amara fell to the Turks, who took the surviving garrison prisoners. They immediately separated officers from men with a view to marching them to P.O.W. camps a considerable distance away in Turkey. My father, who survived great hardship as a prisoner, did not see Mark Neil or George Knight again after

their initial separation and it presumed that they both succumbed to disease, which was rampant in the camps. My father returned to England at the end of the war, but was never the same man. The effect of his experiences made his nerves very bad, and he became extremely impatient. He sold Bereleigh in 1919.

I was born in 1906, and therefore was only 13 years old when my family left East Meon. I therefore have only limited recollections of the village in those days, especially as Bereleigh House was situated a mile from the village centre.

However, a few points that occur to me are:-

- 1. The Old Pest House, dated 1703, lies almost 3 miles (in a straight line) to the Northeast of East Meon, near the Seven Stars public house at Stroud. It was the normal practice for pest houses to be built as far away as possible from village centres, and to the North, East or Notheast so that the germs of infectious people would not be carried back on prevailing south-westerly winds. The Pest House at Stroud, subsequently re---named 'Mount Pleasant Farm', is now the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Wright.*
- 2. There were a number of sarsen stones in East Meon , certainly one opposite the blacksmith's forge, one at the former entrance to the old village hall, and several at Bereleigh¹. Their original purpose was probably in connection with an ancient pagan site of worship, such as the well known stone circles of Wessex.*
- 3. The "old font" removed from East Meon to Buriton in about 1922 maybe of Saxon origin, or it may be of Norman origin.*
- 4. An East Meon man, Nicholas Wright, contributed to the Armada fund on 8th May 1588, according to 'Hampshire Notes and Queries Vol II 1884'.*
- 5. According to Mr Gilbert Hobbs of Petersfield there is still a lot of Jutish blood in the veins of East Meon people, including those named Christmas, Kille, Blackman, Silk and Hobbs. He says they all tended to be skilled artisans, never becoming gentry, and never ending up in the Poor House.*
- 6. There is a ghost of a Franciscan friar seen from time to time at various times in the road between East Meon and Buriton.*
- 7. A halberd head was dragged out of the bed of the River Meon when the river was deepened & c in 1955, and subsequently found its way to a Petersfield antique shop, from which it was exported to Italy.*
- 8. Country people, who when they say dark storm clouds approaching*

say: "It's dark over Will's mother's" are probably unwittingly echoing a reference to the old pagan mother god who lives on the hill.

Letter from Peter Gallup, 6th February 1983

Dear Mr Standfield

It was nice to see you when you were over here recently, and I am glad to know that the work is progressing.

On consideration after you had been here, there were two points, quite small, which I thought I would pass on.

Firstly, the land down in the valley which was included in the sale. I do remember something about being told that down there was now my father's land. So I think he must have bought those fields some short time before the Great War.

Secondly, talking of the Rabbit Warren, you rightly remarked that this helped with the meal in the winter. But of course it took quite an important place in the economy of the shooting on the estate. It provided "off days" with a ferret for one or two guests and days which were easy and cheaper to manage – rather than either walking up the stubbles for partridges or drawing the pheasants with the ancillary arrangements such as beaters & stops and food (and shelters in which to eat it).

The Bonham Carters at Buriton kept Wardown (?) for rabbits and made a considerable point of this by selling wholesale to Portsmouth. I cannot now remember the number but it was thousands of rabbits. We at Bereleigh however were not on that scale. But my father enjoyed a morning's ferreting and when I was first allowed to hold a gun this was the safer sort of target for a beginner.

With kind regards Yours sincerely Peter Gallup.

Appendix 25 Bereleigh Sales particulars

i) 1918

This sale was by instruction of Henry Curtis Gallup and included Park Farm. The purchaser was Reginald Nicholson of Pont Street, London, and we have the Indenture.



Park Farm is Lot 3 of this estate sale, described as '*All That Very Attractive Sporting Farm known as PARKFARM 290 acres in extent ... excellent Farm House occupying one of the finest possible residential sites ... 3 sitting Rooms, Kitchen, Scullery, Five Bedrooms and W.C*

The farm is let to Mr Stephen Challen, with other lands, at rent of £155 per annum. Tithe Rent charge £18.4s.3d

ii) 1928 Conveyance from Reginald Nicholson of Bereleigh and Gerald Hugh Nicholson of 31 Pont Street, 24th April 1928

... Reginald Nicholson or Bereleigh, East Meon ... (hereinafter called the Grantor) and Gerald Hugh Nicholson of 31 Pont Street ... London (... the Grantee) ... Whereas the Grantor is seised in fee simple in possession free from encumbrances &c is desirous of conveying the said property for a like estate in his son the Grantee ... **Firstly** All that piece or parcel of land containing half an acre or thereabouts ... bounded on or towards the West by the road leading from East Meon to Winchester ... numbered 181 on the Ordnance Survey Maps ... together with the cottage known as **Bereleigh Cottage** standing thereon ... delineated in a plan ... and thereon coloured Brown. **Secondly** all those pieces &c containing 337.965 acres more or less Together with the farmhouse farm buildings and five cottages and homestead ... known as **Tigwell Farm** ... described in the First Schedule and are for purposes ... and therein coloured blue. **Thirdly**, All that messuage lands &c known as **Park Farm** And **Fourthly** the **Pumping Station** numbered 296 and all the pipes leading therefrom ... access &c &c ... **Fifthly** all those pieces or parcels of land ... containing seventy two acres more or less together with the Farmhouse Barn Stables and other Farm Buildings known as **Drayton Farm** ...and made between Ernest Noyce on the one part and the grantor on the other and thereon coloured yellow ... Together with the full and free right and liberty for the Grantee his heirs &c to pass and repass with or without horses carts motor lorries or traction engines along over and upon the portion of the field numbered 296 ...retained by the said Ernest Noyce and coloured Blue on the said plan for the purpose of transporting a new engine to the pumping station ... repair &c ... the Grantee his heirs &c making good any drainage done by him to the field over which the right of way is hereby granted including

any growing crops thereon and all arches over the river and water carriers therein ... **Sixthly**, the parcel of land ... Number 499 on the Ordnance Map ... containing an area of one acre one rood and seventy five poles ... delineated and described in the plan drawn on an Indenture of Conveyance dated one thousand nine hundred and twenty two and made between the Portsea Island Mutual Cooperative Society Limited of one part and the Grantor of the other and thereon coloured Pink Together with the message &c known as **Sunnyside** and now in the occupation of Alexander Milroy Stafford Except nevertheless and reserving to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners &c ... all mines minerals and mineral substrates lying ... under the said hereditaments.... Situate at a greater depth than two hundred feet from the surface thereof Together with the full power to win work and get and carry away the same by any method of mining ... **Seventhly** All those pieces or parcels of land ... containing 30.379 acres more or less ... described in the Fourth Schedule ... to Hold all the premises Firstly, Secondly, Thirdly, Fifthly, Sixthly and Seventhly hereinbefore described unto the Grantee in fee simple ... with the benefit of an Indenture dated 9th June 1922 and made between The Reverend Albert Edmund Briggs of the first part ...the Right Reverent Father in God Edward ... Bishop of Winchester of the second part, the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England of the third part William Graham Nicholson of the fourth part and the Grantor of the fifth part ...subject to the hereditaments sixthly hereinbefore described in a lease dated 1st November 1926 and made between the Grantor ... and the said Alexander Milroy Stafford of the other part whereby the said hereditaments sixthly described were demised to the said Alexander Milroy Stafford for the term of five years from ... 1926 at the rent and subject to the covenants in this said lease mentioned ...

Appendix 26. Bereleigh in 20th century Trade Directories

1907 Bereleigh House is the residence of Henry Curtis Gallup esq and has grounds of about 79 acres. (Other sections not copied)

1911 (All Saints) There is a memorial window to Mrs Forbes, of Bereleigh ...Five almshouses for poor people were erected in 1863 in the centre of the village by Mrs Forbes, then owner of Bereleigh, as a memorial to the late George Forbes Esq ... Bereleigh House is the residence of Henry Curtis Gallup Esq and has grounds of about 79 acres.

1915 (All Saints) There is a memorial window to Mrs Forbes, of Bereleigh ...Five almshouses for poor people were erected in 1863 in the centre of the village by Mrs Forbes, then owner of Bereleigh, as a memorial to the late George Forbes Esq ... Bereleigh House is the residence of Henry Curtis Gallup Esq and has grounds of about 79 acres.
Gallup Henry Curtis. Bereleigh ho.

1923 (All Saints) There is a memorial window to Mrs Forbes, of

Bereleigh ... Five almshouses for poor people were erected in 1863 in the centre of the village by Mrs Forbes, then owner of Bereleigh, as a memorial to the late George Forbes Esq ... Bereleigh House is the residence of Major Reginald Nicholson and has grounds of about 79 acres.

1929 Bereleigh House is the residence of Major Reginald Nicholson, and has grounds of about 79 acres.

1939 There is a memorial window to Mrs Forbes, of Bereleigh ... Five almshouses for poor people were erected in 1863 in the centre of the village by Mrs Forbes, then owner of Bereleigh, as a memorial to the late George Forbes Esq. Bereleigh House is the residence of Major Reginald Nicholson J.P.

Appendix 27. Newspaper clippings

1934 Hampshire Chronicle

BRIDE IN PEARL SATIN

Miss Joan Nicholson MARRIED AT EAST MEON Army Officer
bridegroom

Postponed from April, owing to an injury to the bridegroom, who fell off a horse when riding at the Grand Military Cup Steeplechase at Sandown, the wedding of Mr Peter Curtis, 16th/5th Lancers, and Miss Joan Nicholson took place on Saturday at All Saints Church East Meon. The bridegroom is the elder son of Mr. and Mrs. E. V. B. C. Curtis of Caynham Court, Ludlow, and the bride is the only daughter of Major Reginald and Lady Nicholson, of Bereleigh, East Meon. A guard of honour drawn from the bridegroom's regiment attended.

The Provost of Portsmouth (the Very Rev. T.H.Masters) assisted by the Rev C Mylne (Vicar) and the Rev J. S. D. Rider (Vicar of Langham) officiated ... There was a large and fashionable congregation and the ushers were Messrs W.G. H. Nicholson, David Nicholson (brothers of the bride) and W. H. Nicholson (Cousin of the bride), Walter Curtis and R Taylor and Viscount Curtis ...

&c All presents listed in detail ..''''''''''''''''

(Article not identified or dated)

Peer and ploughman were there to pay homage.

The ancient church of All Saints, East Meon, was crowded to capacity and extra seats were placed in the aisles when the funeral was conducted on Thursday of Major Reginald Nicholson of Bereleigh House, East Meon, who died the previous Monday after a long illness.

So, in the church which he had served for many years as Vicar's Warden, the last observances were made. Peer and ploughman were there to pay their respects, for representatives of the great families of Hampshire and elsewhere attended as well as villagers.

The Rev. A.H.Watkins, former vicar of East Meon, came from Fareham to conduct the service and he was assisted by the present Vicar, the Rev W.F.Garrod. Family mourners were: Lady Margaret Nicholson (widow), Lt Col and Mrs Gerald Nicholson, Mr and Mrs David Nicholson ... (partly illegible)

Appendix 28. Sales particulars, 1958 - 1959

1958 Sales particulars and plan. Sale, by Lt Col Gerald H Nicholson to Francis Tyrwhitt Drake.

1958 Conveyance 28th September 1958. Lt Col Gerald Hugh Nicholson of the Round House, Bayford, Hertford, and Francis John Tyrwhitt Drake of Shardeloes, Amersham and Michael Francis Buller, of 117 Old Broad Street, stockbroker.

1959, 20th July, Deed of Appointment between Francis John Tyrwhitt Drake and Michael Francis Buller, with Edmund Blyth, solicitor and trustee.

1959 1st September, Agreement letting Park Farm to Edmund Kell Blyth

Appendix 29. Standfield on the TDs

p83. The greater part of the Bereleigh estate (790 acres) was bought by Francis Tyrwhitt Drake (formerly of Amersham, Bucks) from the Gerald Nicholson executors in 1958 and has been augmented by his son, William, acquiring Lower Bordean Farm (670 acres) from Edgar Wren's executors, Garston Farm (300 acres) from Brian Blacker (Lady Peel's grandson) and Riplington Farm (400 acres) from the Marks brothers, The total estate, now well over 2,000 acres (a small part in Langrish parish) carries a stock of nearly 500 cattle of which about 240 Friesians are milked at any one time, and 1,350 acres of cereals are grown, the balance being oilseed rape, grass and woodland. The farming labour force, excluding the manager, numbers nine, as against 67 on the same land as recently as 1958!

Appendix 30. Ralph Baxter of Park Farm

Notes in folder of F.G.Standfield at HRO 58M99/25

Baxter was Farm Manager for W.T.P Tyrwhitt Drake, first employed by Capt F.J T-D when he bought the estate from Lt Col Gerald H Nicholson in 1958. 'I understand the earliest part of Park Farm dates to 1667.'

W.F.T-D extended the estate by buying:

- 1965 Lower Bordean Farm (670 acres) from executors of Edgar Wren
- 1966 Garston Farm (300 acres) from Brian Blacker
- 1980 Riplington Farm (400 acres) from Marks Brothers, and part of Lower Bordean (100 acres north of 272)

Total size of estate 2060. Mixed, dairy and arable, nearly 500 cattle, of which 240 milked at any one time. Cereal acreage (wheat, barley, oats) 1350 acres. 140 acres oilseed rape, balance woodland and grass. Workforce 9 + RB. In 1958, 67! 1958, 34 men employed on 900 acres, original estate plus Drayton Farm, bought from Ernest Noyce.

Appendix 31 Frank Mofatt, Champion Showman

by Annie Bone from Meon Matters

An interest in showing cattle seems to start young in Frank's family. He first became involved when he was 16 years old, inspired by an uncle who bred and showed Dairy Shorthorns. This uncle was the only man to have won Supreme All Breeds at both the London and Scottish Dairy shows in the same year, with two different animals. Frank's grandson, David, also became interested when he was 16 and his other grandson Thomas, now 14, shares the same enthusiasm.

Today, together with son-in-law Simon and grandsons David and

Thomas, Frank breeds and successfully shows Texel sheep and Beef Shorthorn cattle.

Texel sheep are bred for good eating quality and Frank raises them to sell on. The rams (150 this year) are sold for breeding at 18 months old - generally to other farmers to use on their commercial ewes. However the rams are sometimes sold to other pedigree breeders. This is "the icing on the cake" Frank says, as these sales realise a higher value. The ewe lambs are mostly kept for breeding, with the surplus sold on to other flocks. Any animal not considered to be of a sufficiently high standard is culled and sold to the butcher. Wool, once a staple of our economy, is now virtually worthless. 15 years ago fleeces could fetch between £5-6, today a fleece is worth about a Pound - less than the cost of shearing the sheep. (However, fleece is now beginning to be used as an efficient method of house insulation - so maybe there is hope for the future of this product.)

The quality and size of the flock is increased by the use of Artificial Insemination (AI) and by the purchase of new pedigree animals, often from the Lanark or Carlisle sales - the best source for Texels. Thanks to AI, the timing of the February lambing can be synchronised so Frank and his family get some time to relax before everything kicks off. This is essential according to Frank: "When lambing starts it is very full-on. It's a case of ALL hands on deck, night and day. I am always amazed how little sleep Simon seems to manage on - it must be the adrenaline that comes with the arrival of a new crop of lambs".

The sheep selected for showing are shorn after the 1st May. Before they go into the ring the animals are given an extra special wash and brush-up. This includes a "pearl dip" to enhance the colour of their fleece and a "blue rinse" shampoo for their heads and legs. Amongst the points the judges will be looking for are a good 'bright' head with white hair and contrasting dark points (eyes and nostrils) as well as good conformation. The sheep needs to be long and well-muscled with a large gigot (hind quarters) as this is where the best meat comes from. Shows usually have six classes for which the sheep can be entered: senior ram, shearling ram, ram lamb, senior ewe, shearling ewe and ewe lamb. The Drayton Texel rams are named alphabetically and started with A in 1994, followed by Balmoral (who won the Royal Show in 1995) through to Okey Dokey in 2008 and Performer in 2009. This year's letter is R and no names have been chosen yet - Frank wonders if our readers have any suggestions.

As well as Texels, Frank's other great enthusiasm is for Beef Shorthorn cattle. These come from two herds: his own, the Meonside herd, kept at Drayton Farm and the Meonhill herd from a neighbouring farm, Little West End, belonging to Syd and Mary Chaplin.

As with the sheep, preparation for the shows starts many months

earlier. When the calves are weaned off in the Autumn (at six to eight months) it is time to start working with them to get them used to being handled and being led in a head collar. From February onwards they learn to walk when asked and, importantly, when to stand still, all to show off their best points. They also have to get used to be washed by a pressure hose. Before a show they are given various 'beauty treatments' - a shampoo with special soap followed by a blow-dry, then an application of soft soap to 'lift' the coat and a spray to make it shine even more! Their tails are combed and fluffed out and the leather and brass head collars are cleaned and polished. Again, there are several judging classes for beef animals: senior bull, yearling bull, cow and calf, heifer in calf and often a class for a group of three animals from the same herd. The County and Specialist Shows are a vital component of the pedigree breeding calendar as they provide a 'shop window' for the stock. Breeders congregate to display their animals to the best advantage and the consequent buying and selling assures a successful future for the various breeds. Frank and Simon clock up a huge mileage travelling to shows and sales around the country. This year these included the Surrey County Show, the Bath and West, the Highland Show, the South of England Show, the New Forest Show as well as the Edenbridge, Alresford and Newbury Shows.

Happily, all this hard work pays off ... Frank, Simon, David and Thomas have enjoyed a great deal of success with both sheep and cattle in 2010. Meonhill Charlie Chaplin won Super Bull at the South of England Show and also at Edenbridge; Meonhill Highland Chief won Best Junior Bull (All Breeds) at the Bath and West; a Texel Ram called Madras won Breed Champion at the New Forest Show and Meonside cattle won Firsts in the Heifer class at the Highland Show and at the Alresford Show. Also at Alresford, a young Meonhill bull, Centurion, won Native Champion and Thomas showed the Texel ram, Performer, who won a trophy for Best Ram in Show. And finally, at the Royal Berkshire Show at Newbury, a young Meonside heifer, Waterloo Bryony won Champion Native and two Meonhill bulls, Charlie Chapman and Centurion were judged the Best Pair of Native Bulls.

If all this wasn't enough to be going on with, Frank is also a noted judge. This year he judged the Texel Classes at the Honiton One Day Show and the All Breed Beef classes at the Ellingham and Ringwood Show. Both Frank and Simon are Breed Society judges for Beef Shorthorns and Texel sheep.

Appendix 32. Bereleigh Suckler Herd

By Brian Biggs, from Meon Matters 2010

During late spring, summer and early autumn evenings you often

hear a noisy ritual taking place on Park Hill. These evocative honking sounds come from the cows of the suckler herd calling their calves to follow them to whichever special spot they have decided to spend the night. Why they pick a particular spot is not known, but the trails they make as they cross the hill, are clearly visible as they move from one such spot to another.

The cows do not graze on Park Hill all the time, they are sometimes moved to Bordean Down, the hilly pastures to the east of Park Hill. They also graze in Bereleigh Park to the south of Bereleigh House after the hay crops have been taken. There is not enough nutritious grass to feed them outside all year round, so from early November till late April/early May, the timing depending on the weather, they are housed in barns at Park Farm. Here they are fed on silage and crushed barley from the Bereleigh Estate.

You may be wondering what a suckler herd is? It is a way of producing cows and bullocks for beef similar to that occurring naturally in the wild. Each calf is suckled by its own mother, until it is weaned at about seven months old. Cows kept on plain forage, like grass, produce a limited amount of milk, only enough to feed their own calves. This is different to dairy cows, which get supplemented with high energy food and so produce lots more milk. To keep the grass in good condition it is fertilized twice a year, all but the steepest parts, like the sides of Vineyard Hollow are covered. Not a job for the faint hearted!

The herd is looked after primarily by two of the Bereleigh Estate staff, Brian Boisclair, who is the Estate Farm Foreman and Chris Kingham, a Gamekeeper on the Estate. Barry Clavey and Ryan Boisclair also assist with feeding and calving. Their work with the herd is part-time on top of their day jobs. This is not as bad as it seems, as the herd is really semi wild and mostly looks after itself on the hill.

Brian has worked on the Estate farm for 31 years starting at the age of 15. He worked for 4 years, then youthful wanderlust got the better of him and he went off to Tripoli in Libya for 9 months digging holes with a JCB for Colonel Gaddafi. I think it must have been the call of the green hills after all that sand and heat that brought him back to East Meon and he resumed his work at Bereleigh gradually working up to his current role as Estate Farm Foreman.

Chris has worked on the Estate for 29 years. He originally moved into farming working on a pig unit in Sheet, and then moved to a farm near Oxford. Returning to East Meon, he started work at Bereleigh doing relief milking. Bereleigh had four dairies at this time: Park Farm, Lower Bordean Farm, Tigwell Farm and Garston Farm. When the economics of dairy farming got problematic in 1991 the Estate decided to stop this activity. Chris then transferred to game keeping on the Estate.

With the cessation of the dairy side, something still had to be done with the steep hill pastures to keep them from reverting to scrub. The choice was to put sheep on them, which can be quite labour intensive, or a suckler herd of cows. The suckler herd won out! The current herd consists of 63 cows (Hereford crosses) and 2 bulls (Blonde Aquitaines). Fresh cows are bought in as required to supplement the herd as the female calves cannot be retained due to interbreeding imperatives. The bulls eventually become too big to do their work on the very steep hills and are returned to the supplier farm and younger, lither and slimmer versions substituted. Brian and Chris must be doing something right in looking after the herd won 'Best Beef Enterprise 2009' at the Petersfield Autumn Show.

The bulls are put with the cows in June, and calving starts in the barns at Park Farm in March and early April, cows having a gestation period of around 9 months. Brian and Chris take turns in keeping an eye on the cows every day when they are calving and lend a hand if necessary. There were a total of 56 calves born to the herd in 2009.

Once born, the calves are given individual ear tag numbers. These numbers are given to Fiona Hearn in the Estate office, who runs the administrative side of the herd. She registers each birth, via the Internet, with the British Cattle Movement. Each animal is then issued with its own passport, which tracks the animal's movement history every time it is sold to another farm, until it dies.

After 10 to 11 months the calves are sold at a cattle market for further development and conditioning. Getting them to market has become more problematical recently as so many of the local cattle markets such as Guildford and Winchester have shut down. Brian has been taking them to Frome market.

The herd is usually quite healthy and the vet very rarely called out, though there are some problems from time to time. Liquid magnesium is placed in the drinking troughs everyday to prevent them suffering from 'grass staggers' (hypomagnesemic tetany) and a mineral supplement in the form of a salt lick is left on the hill for them to help themselves. The herd is brought back to the barns for their 'blue tongue' vaccinations twice a year. Sometimes one of the herd needs treatment for an illness, 'New Forest Eye' is the most common. This presents a dilemma, as the herd is semi wild. It is difficult to catch an individual animal outside, so the safest thing to do is to bring the whole herd back to the barns and then separate the required individual. This is a lot of hard work and very disruptive to all. To make things easier Brian and Chris have perfected a technique straight out of the Wild West. They have created a lasso device on the end of a long pole to catch the required animal. They use it from a four-wheel buggy, one will drive and the other sitting and working the lasso. So if you see any strange 'goings on' on the hill you know

what is happening. They say they are very successful with this technique and mostly catch the target, which is then treated on the hillside. Maybe it should be made into a new sport for County Shows?

Many local villagers walk on Park Hill regularly, especially those with dogs. Brian asks that if you have a dog, please keep it on the lead if you are amongst the herd as the calves especially can be very nervy, jumpy and curious all at the same time. In the unlikely event you are approached by threatening looking cattle, they are probably only curious about your dog, please just let go of the lead. Your dog will be able to run faster than the cattle. Another problem for the herd is rubbish left on the hill, tin cans, sandwich wrappers etc. which the animals may eat out of curiosity and make themselves ill. Please take any rubbish back home with you, and if you see any when you are walking please take this back home or put it in the village rubbish bins. During the recent snow a lot of people tobogganed in the valley to the north west of the Church called Core Bottom and many plastic bottles, cans and broken bits of plastic were left behind, which was very disappointing, and had to be collected by the Estate workers.

The herd shares these hills with many wild creatures including badgers, roe deer, rabbits, hares, foxes, stoats, weasels and many different bird species. We are very lucky to have such a wonderful place to walk and to enjoy the beautiful views over the Meon Valley and beyond. Please respect the cattle and make the jobs of Brian and Chris easier.

Appendix 32 Denys Ryder's account of Hell's Bells Ball

Very good friends in the village were John & Hazel Rendle. They lived down at Drayton Mill on the road towards West Meon. John was retired and a staunch supporter of the Church; in point of fact he was Treasurer. The Parochial Church Council had decided that the 8 bells within the Bell Tower of the Norman Church needed to be retuned and then re-hung after nearly a century up in the bell tower. At the same time Bill Cope and Bill Harris, two long standing bell ringers, wanted to have installed two further bells in memory of their wives. John took on the task of getting interested parties together so as to raise some £50,000 to do the whole job of removing, retuning, adding two more bells and then rehangng all 10 in new frames. Quite a job! The village put their heads together and various fundraising events were planned. John approached me as to whether I could arrange an event.

52. Some few years before I had been a participant in an out side event arranged by Bill Tyrwhitt-Drake, the owner of Bereleigh called Midnight Madness. It entailed a large Marquee with smaller tents around the outside in which parties of friends would bring a picnic and enjoy a small circus specially hired for the occasion. Various other events would go on all evening. Bill raised a lot of money for charities in which he was interested. At the time the Reverend Peter

Wadsworth was our vicar and when

I went to see him and told him what the plans were for the event and that we were thinking of calling it 'Hells Bells Ball', and did he have any objection? He roared with laughter at the proposed name for the event, and was pleased to agree. He was a man who could take a joke, and in fairness to Bill Tyrwhitt-Drake, he had suggested the name.

53. This gave me an idea, why not do a similar thing in Mascombe Bottom, a beautiful natural valley on the Bereleigh Estate renowned for its very fine shooting stands. I went to see Bill to get permission, which he graciously gave and then back to John to plan how to get events and discuss what we might need. We would have a large marquee in which we would have dancing, we would.....? Then the penny dropped, why not get HMS Mercury, the naval station on the top of the hill at Leydene, and still an operational naval station at the time, to help us with a marquee and perhaps they would like to put on a display of naval traditional gun handling, as seen, in those days, at 'The Royal Tournament' at Olympia in London. A trip by John and myself to the Captain of HMS Mercury brought a very positive reply. Captain Tony Morrow was in his last year of two at Mercury and wanted to go out with a bang. Yes he would help and provide what he could and would we consider sharing the proceeds from the event with the naval charity called King George the Vth Fund for Sailors in exchange for the Navy providing this and that? A quick discussion with John and we agreed. Obviously the Navy had many more resources that we could provide, than we could get as a village, and more importantly, free of charge

54. The evening of Midsummer's day June 23rd 1990 was to be the chosen date. Some 1200 people bought tickets and with the valley decked out with lots of small tents, a large marquee that could hold 1000 people, a meat barbecue provided by Robinson of Stockbridge, security provided by Duncan Branch, my partner in the sheep enterprise, with some 20 New Zealand and English sheep shearers shearing a bunch of sheep in a competition all under flood lights, the event got under way. We had a marching band provided by the Navy, sky divers dropping in out of the dark, sheep shearing competition between East Meon and the New Zealanders, a 30 minute fire work display provided free of charge by the Navy, and various other attractions, culminating with dancing to a currently very 'with it' Group from London which had been recommended to us. It was a great success and we made some £5000 towards the Re hanging of the Bells.

ⁱ Trinder, H.W., *The Meon Valley*, Hampshire Field Club Archaeology Society, p.73.

ⁱⁱShore, T.W., *The Meon Country*, Hampshire Field Club Archaeology Society, p. 240.

ⁱⁱⁱRoberts, Edward *The Deer Parks of the Bishops of Winchester*, Hampshire Field Club Archaeology Society, 1988, p.69

^{iv} Roberts, Edward, *Notes on The Bishop of Winchester's Fishponds and Deer Parks*, HFCAS 49 1993 p230

^v Roberts, *ibid.*, p73, also Appendix One

^{vi} Mortimer, Ian. *The Time Traveller's Guide to Medieval England*, p259

^{vii}Roberts, Edward, 'William of Wykeham's House at East Meon, Hants' *Archaeological Journal* 150, 1993, p 478

^{viii} *Ibid.*

^{ix} Victoria County History

^x History of the Hursley and Hambledon Hunt. F.G Standfield, *A History of East Meon*. Appendix

^{xi} (from 'In Search of Anne, some fragments of a family genealogy' R. A. Parker)

^{xii} Particulars of 1899 Sale of the Bereleigh Estate. Appendix Three

^{xiii} www.bereleigh.co.uk

^{xiv} Interview with William Tyrwhitt Drake, April, 1918.

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Appendices

Appendix One

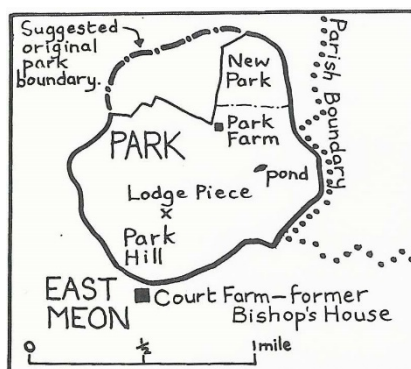


Fig 3.

THE BISHOP'S RESIDENCES AND DEER PARKS (Derived mainly from the relevant

tithe maps in the HRO

Residences were seldom in a park (Fig 4), but they commonly and conveniently lay at the park edge, as at Bishop's Waltham and East Meon.

Roberts, Edwards, Roberts, Edward *The Bishop of Winchester's Deer Parks in Hampshire 1200 - 1400: their development, function and management.* Hampshire Field Club Archeol. Soc 42 1986

Fallow deer were imported from Mediterranean countries and suffered in hard English winters, when it was necessary to provide them with food as well as shelter (Markham 1616,670; Shirley 1867, 6). The pipe rolls contain a few references to winter-feeding of fallow deer on bishopric estates in the thirteenth century, but during the fourteenth century oats were frequently fed to deer, as at East Meon in the winter of 1357-58 (HRO Eccl 159368). It was also important for deer to have constant access to water (Markham 1616, 668; Figs 3 & 4), and where there was no natural stream, parks were provided with a man-made water supply from at least the mid-thirteenth century. There were ponds for deer at Merdon and East Meon in 1262-63. Roberts, Edwards, p79.

Appendix Two Park Farm Tenancy Agreement 1959
Showing Lot 287 – Rabbit Warren

Lot 1.

Ordinance No.	Description	Pasture.	House, Park, Woods, etc.
104	Lodge and Wood	...	...
227a	Wood	...	10-300
318c	Ditto	...	1-354
318b	Ditto	...	-351
318 Pt	Ditto	...	-732
233	Pasture	...	3-427
235	Ditto	4-119	...
232	Wood	5-356	-202
234	Ditto	...	9-995
230a	Ditto	...	1-842
230b	Park	...	6-985
231	Wood	...	801
244	Park	...	-164
240	Ditto	...	8-708
240a	Grounds	...	3-295
243	House and Grounds	...	5-246
245	Grounds	...	1-004
241	Ditto	...	3-009

Lot 2.

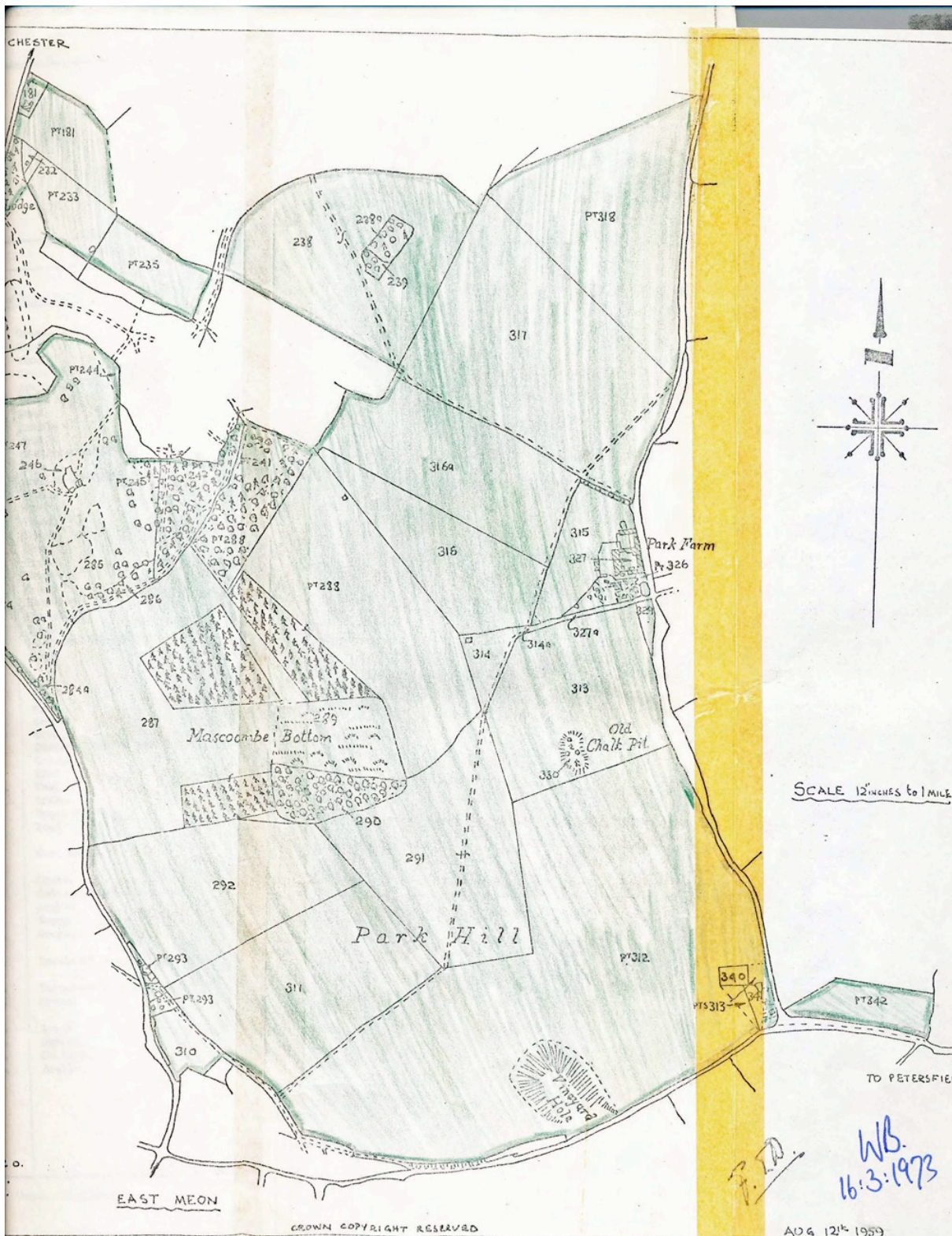
Ordinance No.	Description	Arable.	Pasture.	House, Buildings, Woods, etc.
50	Wood	...	33-074	2 011
116	Pasture	...	...	...
113	Wood	...	...	8-535
114	Arable	27-236	...	...
147b	Pasture	...	1-093	...
148	Wood	...	...	1-862
149	Wood	...	...	-754
113	Cottages	...	17-599	...
113	Pasture	...	...	1-450
160	Wood	...	10-788	...
158	Pasture	...	...	6-039
150	Wood	...	...	...
157	Pasture	...	4-656	...
161	Wood	...	...	-388
154	Road	...	...	1-589
155	Buildings, Yards, etc.	...	...	-923
156	Ditto	...	...	-830
153	Ditto	...	15-861	...
151	Pasture	...	...	-376
152	Road	...	...	-548
107	Cottage and Yard	...	...	1-219
108	Arable	17-459	...	...
109	Pasture	...	...	8-56
110	Pond	...	...	-406
110a	Ditto	...	...	-164
111	Pasture	...	4-361	...
112	Ditto	...	8-780	...
82	Wood	...	...	-74

SCHEDULE.

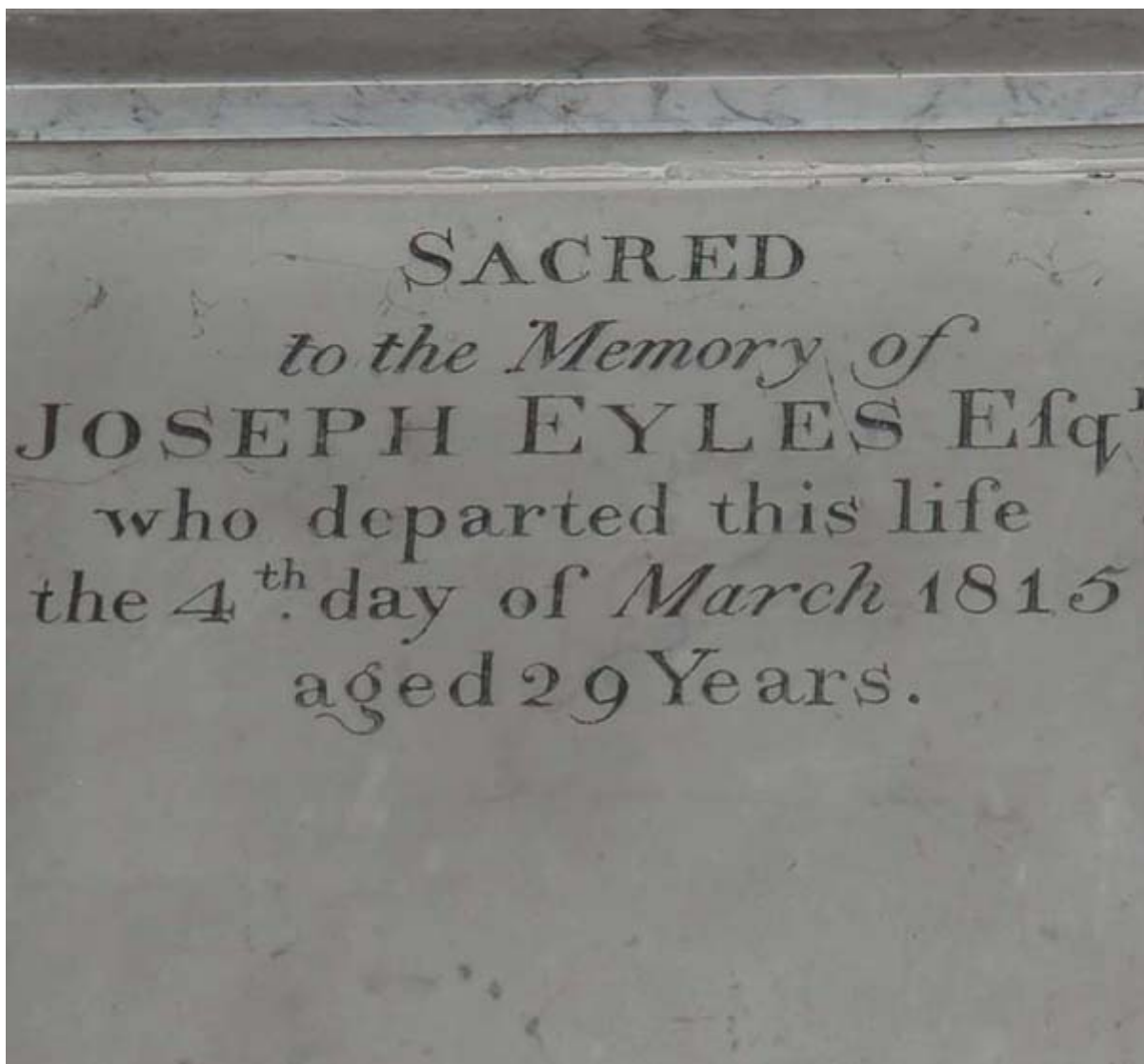
Ordinance No.	Description	Pasture.	House, Park, Woods, etc.
242	Ditto	...	5-358
248	Wood	...	842
249	Ditto	...	-736
247	Park	...	33-427
246	Wood	...	1-135
285	Ditto	...	1-096
286	Ditto	...	1-415
284	Park	...	-436
283	Ditto	...	-388
284a	Ditto	...	431
287	Ditto	...	3 000
289	Rabbit Warren	...	34-285
290	Ditto	...	5-976
		9 475	3 583
			151-770

Ordinance No.	Description	Arable.	Pasture.	House, Buildings, Woods, etc.
83	Ditto	...	...	1-358
84	Road	...	...	061
91	Pasture	...	20-075	...
92	Ditto	...	2-005	...
89	Chalk Pits	...	...	-795
86	Pasture	...	1-817	...
85	Ditto	...	10-179	...
103	Wood	...	...	2-000
105	Arable	14-148	...	...
106	Ditto	21-114	...	-907
106	Wood	...	12-849	...
162	Pasture	...	...	1-853
175	Wood	...	...	967
176	Ditto	...	...	-531
177	Cottages	...	16-121	...
178	Pasture	...	...	-891
179	Road	...	...	...
180	Pasture	...	13-097	...
181 Pt.	Ditto	...	18-158	...
182	Ditto	...	24 134	...
181a	Wood	...	...	3-658
236	Ditto	...	...	1-832
237	Road	...	...	284
		79-957	215-503	42-505

X



Appendix Three



Memorial to Joseph Eyles in East Meon Church

Appendix Four - 1899 Sale

Appendix Five - 1918 Sales Particulars

SOUTH HANTS.
IN THE PETERSFIELD DISTRICT.

600ft. above sea level; 5 miles from Petersfield station, L. & S.W.R. (main line); 2½ from Westmeon station (Meon Valley line); 1½ hours from London; 13 miles from Southsea; and 15 from Goodwood.

... ONE OF THE PRETTIEST AND MOST ATTRACTIVE SMALL ...

Supporting, Residential & Agricultural Estates in the South of England,

KNOWN AS

"BERELEIGH," PETERSFIELD,

INCLUDING

MOST CONVENIENT AND COMFORTABLE **OLD MANOR RESIDENCE**

Re-fitted and decorated throughout with every modern convenience;

THREE FERTILE FARMS,

Ideal paddocks for horse breeding;

The whole producing **£775 per annum.**

A SUCCESSION OF SMALL COVERTS, making the shooting one of the most attractive in a celebrated sporting district. **Hunting**, with three packs of foxhounds; **Rabbit Warren** and excellent **Partridge Shooting**.

Possession of the House, Park Land, Rabbit Warren may be had in May, 1919.

The Farms are held on the usual yearly agreements, and possession could be given September, 1919, if required.

HALL, PAIN & GOLDSMITH

Are instructed to offer the whole Estate for Sale by Auction (unless previously sold by Private Treaty),

On WEDNESDAY, July 24th, 1918, at 3 p.m., at the "Red Lion" Hotel, Petersfield.

The Estate will first be offered as a whole, and if not so sold, then in 6 Lots as hereinafter described.

Illustrated Particulars, Conditions of Sale and Plan may be obtained of

Messrs. Jennings, Chater & Richards, Solicitors, Lincoln's Inn Chambers, 40, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.;

Or of the Auctioneers, PETERSFIELD, PORTSMOUTH and FAREHAM.

By Direction of Lt.-Col. Gerald H. Nicholson

HAMPSHIRE

Between Petersfield (5 miles) and Winchester (15 miles)

Illustrated Particulars, Plan and Conditions of Sale

The Freehold Residential and Agricultural

BERELEIGH ESTATE

comprising

A GEORGIAN HOUSE

in Beautifully Timbered Grounds of about 22 acres

Entrance Lodges. Garages and Stabling. Parkland.

TWO DAIRY AND STOCK FARMS of 313 and 329 Acres

each with a Farmhouse, Range of Buildings, and Cottages

NUMEROUS HOUSES AND COTTAGES

SMALL HOLDING. AGRICULTURAL AND ACCOMMODATION FIELDS

Several Woodland Areas with valuable Timber

Total 790 Acres

NEARLY ALL WITH VACANT POSSESSION

To be offered for Sale by Auction as a whole or in numerous Lots by Messrs.

KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

AT THE RED LION HOTEL, PETERSFIELD

On WEDNESDAY, the 23rd day of JULY, 1958

At 2.30 p.m. (unless previously sold)

Solicitors : Messrs. MACKARNES & LUNT, 16 High Street, Petersfield, Hants. (Telephone : Petersfield 417)

Land Agents : Messrs. HILLARY & CO., 32 Lavant Street, Petersfield, Hants. (Telephone : Petersfield 239)
and at Maidenhead

Auctioneers : Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20 Hanover Square, London, W.1. (Telephone : MAYfair 3771)
and at Hereford



Grade II listed Game Larder at Bereleigh dates from approx mid 1800's.

Appendix Eight

Interview with Nick Canter, Head Gamekeeper - Bereleigh

Nick Canter has been Head Gamekeeper at Bereleigh since 2000, he has thirty four years' experience as a gamekeeper. Nick describes what a year in the life of a gamekeeper on a large shooting estate

entails.

Before The Season Starts

The estate rears its own birds, they have a flock of laying pheasants in laying pens, the eggs are collected once a day every day from March to May. The eggs are washed, packed and stored. They are then placed in incubators and take 24 days to hatch.

Partridge eggs are bought in they take 23 days to hatch in the incubator.

The chicks then go into large heated sheds, pheasants until they are six weeks old. and partridge until they are twelve weeks old. From there they go out into release pens which are situated around the estate. They spend 2-3 weeks in the release pens but they can move in and out of them into the wider estate. Hoppers of wheat grown on the estate are placed close to the drives and amongst the game crop. Pens have an electrified fence to protect the birds from predators like foxes.

Day of Shoot

The day starts at 8:30 when Nick and Bill Tyrwhitt -Drake meet to make a plan for the day – they choose which drives will be shot depending on the wind direction, this can change if the wind changes during the day. The number of drives is weather and light dependent, but is usually four in the morning and one or two in the afternoon.

Nick organises anything from 15 – 20 beaters, who are mainly from the local area, some have been involved with Bereleigh for quite some time and are mostly retired, they are paid for the day and given lunch. There is also a team of five pickers up who have a minimum of two dogs each.

Bill T-D assigns the guns (clients who have paid for a day's shooting) to their shooting position (peg) on each drive. The Flank Man radios Nick when the guns are on their pegs, then Nick gives the beaters the signal to start moving forward driving the birds in front of them. The game crop has wide strips which are left bare this creates a natural stopping place for the beaters, and allows Nick to control the progress of the beaters and in turn the number of birds flying over.

When Nick blows his horn, the guns unload, then the pickers up send their dogs into find and bring back the downed birds.

After each drive the birds are taken back to the game larder, where ten brace of birds are hung on each rail.

At the end of the day the guns take home pre-packed birds.

At The End of The Shooting Season

When the shooting season ends at the end of February, the gamekeeper and the estate workers start getting the estate ready for the next season, this involves forestry work and planting the game crop. All of this has to be done before the nesting season begins in the

spring.

Apart from the above, there are of course year-round tasks that the gamekeeper has to deal with. Poaching is still an issue today as it has been throughout history. The Bereleigh Estate have had to install gates at various points in the estate to prevent poachers in vehicles driving over crops chasing and bringing down deer and hares. Theft of farm equipment is also a modern-day problem.

I asked Nick if gamekeeping had changed in any way in the thirty four years he has been a gamekeeper, Nick says 'that probably the main changes are in the amount and type of equipment used today, for example the use of incubators, and solar panelled electric fences to protect the pens'.