

OC CGS REFERENCE ONLY  
SOME EXMOUTH FAMILIES

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Having over the years collected a large amount of information about Exmouth and its people, I was struck by the repetition of certain surnames over the centuries. In fact I have built up a rather large file of Exmouth people and I can quote names from the 13th century onwards. Obviously some are much more common than others. I am giving some examples A-D with their activities &c. I have, of course, many other names and references. The Church referred to is Littleham and the Chapel is Holy Trinity or Glenorchy.

**ADAMS**

- 1603 Jone, wife of Charles buried.
- 1603 Charles is a reader at Chapel.
- 1628 John is the Landwarden.
- 1643 Philip was paid for Gaile money 6s9p.
- 1861 On 1st May Col. H. C. presided at the Banquet celebrating the opening of the Exeter to Exmouth Railway. He was the Public Notary.
- 1924 Commander - owned the pleasure steamer called "*Black Joke*".

**BRUTTON**

- 1599 William, granted Tithe of Fishing at Littleham by the Dean & Chapter of Exeter. His daughters were Elizabeth, Susanna, Ursula and his son was William.
- 1867 Henry was drowned off Dawlish on 3rd August.
- 1902 Mrs. opened a Refreshment House on the Warren during the summer months.

**BLACKMORE**

- 1730 Sam was paid 2/6 for viewing the Bell to see if it was cracked.
- 1734 Sam was paid £52-5-0 for leading the Church roof.
- 1746 Sam - paid his Bill for leading the Tower £16-18-9. 2 men and a boy; 8 oxen and a horse; 2 days drawing the lead to Exmouth and up again and timber.
- 1771 Wm. Clerk's salary £1-0-0.
- 1811 J. Clerk to Exmouth Chapel 1804-1809 £10; a year's salary as Clerk £1. One year washing linen &c. £3.
- 1815 James (Blacksmith) His child died inhaling steam from a Kettle.
- 1820 George - Superintendent of Littleham Village School (Sundays) for a number of years.
- 1831 George - Appointed Parish Clerk - held it for 50 years. His father and grandfather before him.
- 1842 George the first Secretary of the Gas Company.
- 1856 Samuel - purchased the lead roof of Littleham Church for £93. It was replaced by slate.
- 1868 George - a Conservative whose house was attacked.



## CROSS(E)

- 1295 Roger atta Crosse - a shipmaster at Hamelin.  
1619 George, a sailor born in 1591.  
1626 Captain John captured 3 Dutch ships and brought them to Exmouth.  
1634 Bennet - Drowned on 5 Jan. 1634 off France from the wreck of the *Dieu Grace*.  
1634 George - received of his Exor 10/- gift and 6/8 burial Fee.  
1657 John, paid him for the Causeway 3/4.  
1667 Andrew; Churchwarden for the year.  
1700 Richard with others signed the Warden's accounts.

## DRAKE

- 1536 John, the son & heir of John of Exmouth-granted the Rectory of Budleigh and Withycombe Raleigh by Margaret Trave, Prioress of Polsloe.  
1604 Katherine, buried on 5th March - a virtuous maiden.  
1628 Robert died 30th Sept. Born at Spratshayes, 3rd son of Gilbert & Elizabeth Drake,  
c.1620 Jane, sister-in-law of Robert and pre-deceased him.  
" " Joan, sister of Gilbert Drake and first wife of Sir Walter Raleigh's father.  
" " Gilbert - first cousin to Sir Bernard Drake, favourite of Queen Elizabeth.  
1640 Mr. John- gift of 10/- to the Church.  
1664 Mr John - paid John Drake of Bystock for writing the decree and will of Mr Robert Drake d/d 5/-.  
1665 Geo. gent -buried 1st March.  
1674 Mr John - Paid him for killing Kites. 10/-  
1700 Philip - signed the Warden's Accounts with others.  
1712 Philip - To Joan Sheppard's house for the relieving of Elizabeth Holwell for the setting up of the Brewery 5/-.  
1731 John- A/cs inspected for the year in the presence of 5 others.  
1760, 1777 and 1780 - Rev. Edward, Churchwarden.  
1850 Francis, a Lacemaker on the Strand.  
1891 A.J. A Director of the new Docks Company.

All the above persons appear to have been Exmouth people except perhaps the Roger Crosse of Hamelin, who as any schoolboy would know was of Brunswick!

~~1891-1892-1893-1894-1895-1896-1897-1898-1899-1900~~  
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I have been cross referencing early IPMs and visitations of many of the old Devon families as part of my research on the early Yeo family. One of the interesting facts I have found is on the Crocker visitations. According to *Vivian's Devon Visitations* dated 1620, Elizabeth Yeo, daughter of Robert Yeo married Sir John Crocker, who died in 1508. When he died their son John, age 50 years old was the heir to his estates. The IPM for Sir John states that he was seised in fee of the manors of Hemerdon and Bykford and that by charter dated 14 August 22 Henry VII (1507) he enfeoffed thereof to John Basset knight, Thomas Hacche, Roger Greyfield, William Walrond, Edmund Yeo and Edward Yeo, to hold during the life of Isobel daughter of Robert Yeo, for her sole use, as her jointure and whole dower pertaining to her by or after the death of the said John Crocker, knight.

Elizabeth (or Isobel) Yeo could only have been in her early twenties, because the IPM on her grandfather, William, in 1481, names her father Robert as his heir and he was only 26 years old at this time. She could not have been the mother of John Crocker. His mother must have been the daughter of Sir Richard Fortescue.

The feoffees can be identified, Sir John Bassett was married to Honor Greyfield and she was second cousin to Elizabeth Yeo. William Yeo, Elizabeth's grandfather married Ellen Greyfield. Roger Greyfield was Honor's brother. William Walrond was Elizabeth's uncle, his sister Alice married Elizabeth's father Robert Yeo. Edmund Yeo was her uncle and Edward Yeo her brother. Sir John Basset's sister Alice was married to Thomas Hacche.

Sir John Crocker's son John had married an heiress, although he may not have known this at the time of the marriage. Anne Arundell, daughter of Renfrew Arundell (not Jane daughter of Humphrey Arundell as re *Vivian's Visitations*) inherited many Cornish manors, including the manors of Byename, Stratton, St Mary Wke, St Cleer Colehill, Leskerd Coleshill. She also inherited the manors of Huish, Stowford by Lifton, and Bowerland in Devon. All these manors were passed on by hereditary rights and can be traced through the IPMs of:-

1. John Coleshill who married Emma Hiwis. She was the cousin of Sir John de Blanchminster, and daughter and heir of Sir Richard Hiwis who married Alice daughter of Sir Ralph de Blanchminster and aunt to Sir John.
2. Joan Coleshill, granddaughter of John and Emma, and heiress of all their estates, married Renfrew Arundell. She then married John Nanffan and finally William Houghton. She died in 1497.
3. Sir Edmond Arundell, born 1468, and the heir to his mother's estate. He married Joan daughter of Sir Thomas Walgrave, but died in 1503 when the reversion fell to Anne wife of John Crocker.

However Anne died without issue on the 25th August 1507 and the reversion of the estates fell to Anne Danvers, daughter of John Stradyng, son of Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Joan and Renfrew Arundell, to John Whittington, son of Elizabeth second daughter of Joan and Renfrew and to Richard Bolles son of Isobel third daughter of Joan by John Nanffan, her second husband.

What is significant is that Anne died eleven days after the charter was agreed for Elizabeth Yeo's dower and jointure. Did Anne die in childbirth? If this was the case then the feoffees would have had access to many lands if she had

