

# OLD HAMSEY GRAVEYARD

## Obituaries [West]

**Sussex Agricultural Express,**

**Sussex Weekly Advertiser,**

**Mid Sussex Times,**

**Brighton Gazette**

W010 Curtis, Ernest Albert 1904 Mid-Sussex Times

W014 Horton, James 1915 Sussex Express

W047 Thomas, Henry & Jemima 1902 & 1912 Sussex Express

W058 Caplin, John 1840 Brighton Gazette

W098 Walker, William 1842 Sussex Express

#### **W010 Ernest Albert CURTIS 1904**

*Mid Sussex Times - Tuesday 15 March 1904*

THE FUNERAL OF P.C. CURTIS, who for eight years was stationed at Cuckfield and who died at Offham, near Lewes, at the age of 46, took place on Thursday, at Hamsey Church. The cortege was preceded by about fifty constables in uniform, the majority of whom came from the Lewes Division, but all the other divisions in the county of East Sussex were represented.

On arriving at the churchyard gates the constables formed up in line on either side of the path to the church door, and the coffin was borne between these lines by eight of deceased's comrades in the police force. The Chief Constable of East Sussex (Major Lang) was also present.

The chief mourners were the widow and son of deceased. The coffin bore the inscription: "Ernest Albert Curtis, died 6<sup>th</sup> March, 1904, aged 46 years." There was a number of floral tributes, including two from his comrades in the police force, one, a large artificial harp with a broken string, bearing the inscription, "A token of respect and esteem, from his comrades of the Lewes Division," and the other, a large wreath composed of choice flowers, bearing the inscription, "With deepest sympathy, from his comrades of the Lewes Division." Mr. and Mrs. Ladds (Cuckfield) also sent a wreath.

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#### **W014 James HORTON 1915**

*Sussex Agricultural Express - Friday 02 July 1915*

##### **SUB-POSTMASTER FOR 40 YEARS. DEATH OF MR. JAS. HORTON, OF OFFHAM.**

For over 70 years a resident in East Sussex, Mr. James Horton, of the Post Office, Offham, near Lewes was buried in the old Hamsey Churchyard on Monday afternoon.

The deceased, who was born in Southgate, Middlesex, passed away the previous Thursday the advanced age of 93. When about twelve years old he went to Barcombe, where his father was engaged in connection with the milling industry. The next removal was to Offham, where Mr. Horton was sub-postmaster for the long period of forty years out of the sixty-four spent in the parish. Deceased was one the original Directors of the Lewes Co-operative Benefit Building Society, a position which he held for thirty-five years until declining health compelled him to relinquish the post. In accepting his resignation the Board presented him with a certificate expressing regret at his severance with them, and recording appreciation for the services he had rendered the Society. At one time a member of the Offham Church, situated near the Post Office, Mr. Horton had been an invalid for the past ten or twelve years, during the major portion of which time he had been confined to the house.

The Rev. E. Shiffner Best, M.A. (Rector), officiated at the interment at the Old Hamsey Churchyard. The family mourners were Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Horton (son and daughter-in-law), Mr. A. Lisaman (Ascot), nephew, Mrs. H. A. Geering (Seaford), niece, Mr. A. King (Chailey), son-in-law; and Messrs. G. and J. Horton (grandsons).

Among the general mourners were Messrs. George Langridge, Alderman John Miles, C. Morrish, Edward Rusbridge, E. Russell and W. Wells (Directors), Councillor E. A. Rugg (Secretary), and Mr. Reginald Baxter (Solicitor), representing the Lewes Co-operative Benefit Building Society; Messrs. J. Aylwin and H. Harmer, Offham; and Mr J. Adams, Lewes.

Attached to the floral tributes were the inscriptions:—

“In loving memory, from Emily and Family”

“With sympathy, from the Directors the Lewes Co-operative Benefit Building Society.”

“In loving memory, from Lucy, Jim and Family,”

“With sympathy—Lady Shiffner.”

“In loving memory of a dear old patient— Nurse Martin.”

“In loving remembrance of Mr. Horton, from ————.”

“With kind remembrance —Rev. Edward S. Best.”

“With sincere sympathy—Mr. and Mrs. Norman Dalrymple.”

“The coffin bore the plate:— “James Horton, died 24<sup>th</sup> June, 1915, aged 93 years.”

Mr. H. Cruse, Lewes, carried out the undertaking arrangements.

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### **W047 Henry & Jemima THOMAS 1902 &1912**

*Sussex Agricultural Express - Saturday 19 April 1902*

#### **DEATHS**

THOMAS —On the 15<sup>th</sup> April, at Lower Tulley Wells Farm, Hamsey. Henry Thomas, aged 87 years.

*Sussex Agricultural Express - Friday 26 January 1912*

#### **HAMSEY**

##### **THE LATE MRS. J. THOMAS**

The funeral of the late Mrs. Jemima Thomas, whose death occurred at Seaford the previous Sunday, took place on Thursday afternoon at Hamsey Churchyard. Deceased was 91 years of age, and the widow of the late Mr. Henry Thomas, who for over 50 years tenanted Lower Tulleys Wells Farm, Hamsey. Two sisters and a brother survive the deceased lady, Mrs. Dicker, aged 86, and Mrs. Cowdy, aged 80, both of Ringmer, and Mr. James French, aged 76, of Novington-lane, Plumpton. Mrs. Thomas' descendants include 23 grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren. Deceased was a native of Streat, being a daughter of the late Mr. James French. The latter days of her life she had spent with a daughter at Seaford. The first portion of the funeral service took place at Offham Church, the Rev. E. Shiffner Best officiating. As the cortege entered the church the organist played “Oh, rest in the Lord,” and Largo in G (Handel), while the “Dead March” in Saul was played at the conclusion of the service. The hymns sung were “For ever with the Lord,” and “On the resurrection morning.” The Nunc Dimittis was also sung.

The chief mourners were: Mr. and Mrs. W. Thomas (son and daughter-in-law), Mr. and Miss F. Thomas (son and granddaughter), Mr. and Mrs. Andrews, Slough (son-in-law and daughter), Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Anscombe, Lewes (son-in-law and daughter), Mr. F. Anscombe, Lewes (grandson), Mrs. Lea, Seaford (daughter), Mrs. Foster, Seaford (granddaughter), Mr. C. Lea, London, and Mr. L. Lea, Seaford (grandsons), Mr. J. French, Westmeston (brother), Mr. J. French, Streat (nephew), and Mr. A. French, Seaford (nephew).

The inscription on the coffin read : "Jemima Thomas, died 14<sup>th</sup> January, 1912, aged 91 years." Floral tributes were sent by the following: Hartie and Frank and children, Lower Tulleys Wells Farm; Willie and Fannie and all at Hendall; Willie and Elsie (Thornton Heath); Rosa and Archie (Brockley); Lily and Jim (Slough); Marian and Arthur, and Arthur, Charlie, and Frank (grandsons); Lily, Will, and Jack (Seaford); Sidney and Ethel (Seaford); Nancy (Seaford); Bessie (daughter), Bessie and Leslie (grandchildren), Seaford; Beatrice (Seaford); Gillam, Willie, Harry, Clair (grandsons); all at Mill-laine; Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Merricks (Worthing); Bessie (Worthing); Frank and Carrie.

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#### **W058 John CAPLIN 1840**

*Brighton Gazette – Thursday 26 November 1840*

#### **HAMSEY**

A Coroner's Inquest was held on Friday last, in this parish, before F.H.Gell, Esq., on the body of John Caplin [Caplen], aged 56, a carpenter, who died suddenly the morning before. – Verdict accordingly.

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#### **W098 William WALKER 1842**

*Sussex Express, February 1842*

#### **LAMENTABLE DEATH. – LEWES**

The following melancholy case is submitted to the kind consideration of a charitable and humane public, earnestly entreating their pecuniary assistance on behalf of the widow and twelve children of WILLIAM WALKER, miller, late in the employ of Mr John Sicklemore, of St. Anne's, Lewes, who was accidentally killed at the Northern Kingston Mill, while engaged in his usual occupation. (For particulars see Inquest in this week's Express)

This appeal is made to the public for the benefit of the bereaved widow (with an infant under a month old and large family) of one who during a long and severe struggle with the world maintained an honest, upright, industrious and praiseworthy character: and it is confidently hoped that it will not be made in vain.

George Shiffner (Rector of Hamsey)  
James Aylwin  
Mrs Partington  
Mrs Trollope  
The Misses Partington  
The servants of Mrs Partington  
Henry Shiffner  
Lady Shiffner  
Misses Shiffner  
Mr Thomas Shiffner  
The servants of Lady Shiffner  
William Hollingdale  
Mrs Tucker

Mr & Mrs Dowey  
R.H. Faulkner  
John Sicklemore  
Sussex Express

Subscriptions received by Charles Verrall, H. Jeffrey sen. & Henry Jeffrey jun., St Anne's, Lewes and by the Sussex Express.

*Sussex Express, February 1842*

LEWES – DREADFUL AND FATAL ACCIDENT

**CORONERS INQUEST –**

On Thursday last an inquest was held at the Black Horse Inn in this town, before F.H. Gell Esq., on view of the body of William Walker, a married man, aged about 45 years, who met his death under the dreadful circumstances described in the following evidence.

The jury having viewed the body, Mr Murrell, surgeon, expressed a desire to see the machinery by which the deceased was killed, and the jury then proceeded to the mill. After which they returned to the above Inn when the subjoined testimony was taken:-  
Samuel Hollingdale, grinder to Mr Charles Davey, of Southover, deposed that he worked at the Kingston Mill opposite to the one in which the deceased worked, it belonging to Mr Sicklemore. Witness saw the deceased yesterday morning at about a quarter past 8 o'clock putting out the sails of the mill, when he asked him if he had been at work all night, and replied that he had not. About 5 o'clock witness went out and asked a man who was working a garden close by the mill, if he had seen deceased, and he said that he had not. Witness thinking this was strange went in search of deceased and after a short time he found him in the mill, on the second floor, lying on his left side under the break wheel, quite dead and nearly cold. The mill was still when witness went in; but it went round at a pretty good pace in the fore part of the day. Deceased wore a long white frock, which was very much torn, and all his clothes were torn off his right breast. It appeared to witness that he had been caught by the wheel, the break being up. Deceased arm was very much torn. Witness observed very little blood near the spot. Having obtained assistance he conveyed deceased to Black Horse Inn. David Richardson, labourer, corroborated the last witnesses evidence, as to the finding of the body.

Samuel Medhurst, millwright, deposed that he accompanied Mr Sicklemore to the mill this morning. They searched and supposed that deceased had got behind the break wheel, from the fact of a knife being found there which deceased used to grease the wheel with. They found fragments of deceased's clothing on the cogs of the wheel, and some on the ends of the bolts, and the cap of the deceased was lying behind the wheel. It was the witnesses opinion that while the deceased was scraping the grease off behind the wheel, the mill started, in consequence of the break being up, and he was caught by the wheel.  
Mr William Henry Murrell, surgeon, deposed that he had that morning examined the body of the deceased when he found the muscles in the inner part of the right arm torn asunder and the ribs on the right side were broken and driven into the chest. The right arm was broken and there were several bruises on the body. The injuries were of such a frightful nature that they must have caused instantaneous death. From the evidence that had been adduced, witness should say that the injuries were caused by a wheel in motion.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.

The deceased has left a wife and 12 children, who were entirely dependent on him for support, and in whose behalf we are happy to say a subscription has been opened.

*Sussex Advertiser - Monday 14 February 1842*

### **Shocking Accident**

An inquest was held on Thursday, before F. H. Gell, Esq., on view of the body of William Walker, aged 41, (a miller in the employment of Mr Sicklemore, of Lewes) who came by his death under the circumstances mentioned in the following evidence.

Samuel Hollingdale, grinder to Mr. Charles Davey, Southover, deposed that he worked at the Kingston mill, opposite to the one in which deceased worked it belonging to Mr. Sicklemore. Witness saw deceased yesterday morning about a quarter past eight o'clock putting out the sails of the mill, when he asked him if he had been at work all night, and he replied that he had not. About five o'clock witness went out and asked a man who was working in a garden close by the mill, if he had seen deceased, and he said that he had not. Witness thinking this very strange went in search of deceased, and after a short time found him in the mill, on the second floor, lying on his left side under the break wheel, quite dead and nearly cold. The mill was still when witness went in; but it went round at a pretty good pace in the fore part of the day. Deceased wore a long white frock, which was very much torn off his right breast. It appeared to witness that he had been caught by the wheel, the break being up. Deceased's arm was much torn. Witness observed very little blood near the spot. Having obtained assistance he conveyed deceased the Black Horse Inn.

David Richardson, labourer, corroborated the last witness's evidence, as to the finding of the body.

Samuel Medhurst, millwright, deposed that he accompanied Mr. Sicklemore to the mill this morning. They searched, and supposed that deceased had got behind the break wheel, from the fact of a knife being found there, which deceased used to grease wheel with. They found fragments deceased's clothing on the cogs of the wheel, and some on the ends of the bolts, and the cap of deceased was lying behind the wheel. It was witness's opinion that while deceased was scraping the grease off behind the wheel, the mill started, in consequence of the break being up, and he was caught by the wheel.

Mr. Wm. Henry Murrell, surgeon, deposed that he had that morning examined the body the deceased, when he found the muscles and the inner part the right arm torn asunder, and the ribs on the right side were broken and driven into the chest. The right arm was broken, and there were several bruises on the body. The injuries were of such a frightful nature that they must have caused instantaneous death. From the evidence which had been adduced, witness should say that the injuries were caused by wheel motion. The Jury returned a verdict of Accidental death.

We beg most earnestly to call the attention the benevolent to an advertisement in another column, soliciting subscriptions for the widow and children of the poor man who met with so dreadful a death at Mr. Sicklemore's mill, Wednesday last.