

THE DIDDAMS FAMILY OF BARTON STACEY, HAMPSHIRE, FROM 17thC to 1870s

This file was last updated
23 December 2020. LM.

by Linda Moffatt © 2018
for the Barton Stacey History Group

*If you are able to amend or add any more information to this account, please contact the
Barton Stacey History Group at bartonstaceyhistory@gmail.com
www.bartonstaceyhistory.co.uk*

THOMAS DIDDUMS senior, a shoemaker of Barton Stacey, left a will which was proved at Winchester in 1700¹. Until this will is read, we might assume that this man had at least one child.

- i. [perhaps] **THOMAS junior**, who was resident in the parish (but who could be a nephew). Mary 'wife of Thomas Diddums' was buried at Barton Stacey on 6 April 1719, Thomas Diddums himself on 15 December 1728.

Possible children of Thomas and Mary Diddums,

- i. Mary. Mary Diddums of Barton Stacey married George Tollfree of Micheldever on 26 November 1713.
Children, baptised at Micheldever - George 1714, John 1715.
- ii. Elizabeth. She had a daughter by John Johnson out of wedlock - Anna Maria, baptised 15 June 1718 at Barton Stacey.
- iii. Susanna. Susanna Diddums married John Lawrence, both of Barton Stacey, on 11 August 1724. John Lawrence died in Barton Stacey and was buried on 29 November 1729.
Children, baptised at Barton Stacey - Susanna 1725-1727.

The name Diddams then disappears from the parish registers of Barton Stacey until the 1770s, when members of the family from the adjacent parish of Bullington moved into Barton Stacey. I have so far been unable to find a link between the Bullington family and the Thomas Diddams, senior and junior, described above.

The Diddams men in both parishes were, in the main, shoemakers. John Diddams, who heads the following pedigree, was a freeholder in Bullington. Here I have expanded only on those of his sons

¹ Hampshire Record Office, Ref. no. 1700A/15, Will and inventory of Thomas Diddams (Diddums), sen, of Barton Stacey, Hampshire, shoemaker (cordwainer).

who moved into Barton Stacey but interested readers can find a fuller pedigree posted at Ancestry.com by Linda Elliott². The photographs used in this account were found at Ancestry.com.

JOHN DIDDAMS of Bullington married Mary Rolfe of Bullington on 20 September 1720 at Wherwell, Hampshire.

Children of John and Mary (Rolfe) Diddams, baptised at Bullington,

- i. **JOHN**, born about 1721. He was a freeholder in Bullington³ and probably churchwarden there since his name appears in the parish register as a 'clark of Bullington'. He married Sarah Poor (born about 1743) at Bullington on 13 November 1762.

He died of fever at the age of 67 and was buried on 8 December 1788 at Bullington, before the South Door. Sarah Diddams was buried at Bullington on 10 March 1814, aged 71.

Children of John and Sarah (Poor) Diddams, baptised at Bullington,

- i. Sarah, baptised 12 January 1766. She died aged 22 and was buried at Bullington on 10 August 1789.
- ii. Lucy, baptised 11 July 1769, died 1859 aged 89. She married Joseph Sillcock (1766-1837) at Bullington on 29 October 1792.
Children, born in Bullington - Sophia, Charles, John, Sarah, Charity.
- iii. Mary, baptised 17 December 1772.

- iv. **DANIEL**, baptised 16 July 1775 at Bullington. A carrier and higgler (dealer), he married Mary Bye at All Saints', Barton Stacey on 11 April 1803. He died at the age of 61 and was buried at Barton Stacey on 13 May 1837. Mary Diddams was living in a cottage north of the church at the time of the 1841 census, together with her widowed daughter-in-law Eliza Diddams and Eliza's children.

It is possible that she was the Mary Diddams, a 70-year old almswoman at St John's Hospital, Winchester at the time of the 1851 census ('formerly baker'). The death of a Mary Diddams, aged 78, was registered at Winchester in 1857.

A son of Daniel and Mary (Bye) Diddams, baptised at Barton Stacey,

- i. **JOHN**, baptised 5 November 1807. He married Eliza Poore (born about 1809 in St Mary Bourne) on 2 November 1829 at St Mary Bourne.

John Diddams, a carpenter, owned two houses in Barton Stacey; the house now called Yew Tree Cottage and the house now called Street Farm Cottage. At the time of the 1841 census his family were living in Street Farm Cottage, most probably where they raised their family through the 1830s and where John Diddams died untimely at the age of 32. He was buried at

² Her web site is www.madaboutgenealogy.com.

³ Poll Book for election of 1 Knight 1779. Candidates Sir Richard Worsley Bart. & Jervoise Clarke Jervoise Esq. John Diddams of Bullington, Freeholder of Bullington. Voted for Sir Richard Worsley.

Barton Stacey on 29 April 1840. His widow Eliza and children remained in the house, presumably until her death in 1854 aged 44.

Children of John and Eliza (Poore) Diddams, baptised at Barton Stacey,

- i. **HENRY**, baptised 19 September 1830. He was a tailor in Barton Stacey before, at the age of 19, joining the Royal Marines at Chatham, Kent. He married Harriet Hart, who was born in Aylestone, Kent, and the early years of their marriage were spent in Chatham. They moved in the late 1850s to Southsea, Hampshire and were living in 1861 at Charlotte's Court, Gosport, where Henry was a journeyman tailor. He died in the late 1860s.

Children of Henry and Harriet Diddams,

- i. Rosabella G. (Rose), born about 1857 in Aylestone.
 - ii. Henry William, born 13 November 1858 in Aylestone.
 - iii. Albert Poore, born 1860 in Southsea. He died the following year.
 - iv. William Poore, born 28 July 1862.
 - v. Louisa Harriet, born 6 August 1864, baptised with Henry William and William on 29 November 1870 at Christ Church, Alverstoke.
- ii. Eliza, baptised 3 June 1832. She died aged 18 in 1851.
- iii. **DENIS JOHN**, baptised 20 April 1834. He did his apprenticeship in carpentry with James Neale in Stoke Charity. He married Mary Bulpitt in 1855 and lived in St Mary Bourne. He died there aged only 25 and was buried on 19 July 1858. Mary Diddams married secondly William Crouch, a farm worker.
A son,
 - i. Harry, baptised 28 February 1858.
- iv. Mary Elizabeth, baptised 6 December 1835.
 - v. Louisa Harriet, baptised December 1837. She seems to have died in 1858 aged 21.
 - vi. Matilda Ann, baptised 13 March 1840 at Andover.
- v. Sophia, baptised 25 October 1777. She married William Davis on 18 October 1797 at Barton Stacey.

Children, as known, baptised at Barton Stacey - James?, William, Charles, George, Daniel, Sarah.

vi. Charles, baptised 4 June 1780. He died aged 20 and was buried at Bullington on 30 July 1800.

vii. **JOSEPH**, baptised 23 December 1784. He married Charlotte Paice at Bullington on 5 November 1807.

Children of Joseph and Charlotte (Paice) Diddams, all baptised at Bullington except Joseph.

i. Charles, baptised at 12 weeks old on 13 November 1808.

ii. Elizabeth, baptised at 22 weeks on 18 November 1810.

iii. John, baptised 8 March 1812.

iv. George, baptised 10 March 1814.

v. Sarah, baptised 17 March 1816.

vi. Daniel, baptised 28 June 1818.

vii. Mary Jane, baptised 7 January 1821.

viii. Sophia, baptised 19 May 1822.

ix. William, baptised 6 December 1824.

x. Joseph, baptised 3 June 1827 at Barton Stacey.

xi. David, baptised 13 June 1830.

ii?. [perhaps] William. William son of John Diddams was apprenticed on 29 April 1747 to John Beck of Sutton Scotney, blacksmith. William was in business as a blacksmith in Crawley, Hampshire, where he in his turn took on James Fielder as his apprentice on 29 March 1758. He is perhaps the William Diddums who died at Crawley in 1801 and was buried there on 23 August aged 78.

iii. Thomas, born 10 October 1725.

iv. Elizabeth, born 24 December 1725. She died in 1731.

v. Nicholas, baptised 10 September 1732.

vi. Mary, born 1734. She died on 16 January 1769.

vii. Sarah, baptised 20 February 1725 or 1726. She married William Cooper on 11 February 1759 at Wonston. She died in 1794.

viii. Hannah, baptised 13 November 1737. She married firstly Francis Ray on 13 June 1756 and secondly George Munk on 15 January 1765, both marriages at Bullington. She had eight children by her second husband and died in Bullington in 1782.

ix. Ann, born 6 July 1741. She married William Marshman on 27 June 1762 at Bullington.

x. **ISAAC DIDDAMS**, baptised 19 May 1744. He married Mary Self at Bullington on 20 February 1776. He was a shoemaker in Bullington and apprenticeship indenture records show that he took on at least three apprentices over the years⁴.

Mary Diddams was buried at Bullington on 13 April 1807 aged 60, Isaac on 23 April 1814 aged 69.

Children of Isaac and Mary (Self) Diddams, baptised at Bullington,

i. **GEORGE**, baptised 2 October 1776. He married Lydia Ann Kent on 2 April

⁴ England, Register of Duties Paid for Apprentices' Indentures, 1710-1811.

1815 at Alverstoke, Hampshire and they had, as known, three daughters in Soberton, Hampshire.

- ii. Hannah, baptised 25 October 1778.
- iii. **ENOS**, born 10 December 1780. He married Eliza Monk on 28 June 1804 at Wonston, Hampshire and they had, as known, four children in Sutton Scotney, where he was a shoemaker.
He was leader of the Radical and Musical Society, with members in the villages of Wonston, Sutton Scotney, Bullington, Micheldever and Barton Stacey. This Society drew together craftsmen, small farmers and labourers in the cause of radical reform. Enos Diddams, a shoemaker, was a correspondent of William Cobbett and appears in Cobbett's Two-Penny Trash his 'newspaper for the poor'. The Dever Valley villages were bound up in the Swing Riots of 1831-32.
He died aged 52 and was buried at Bullington on 22 February 1833.
- iv. Rebecca, baptised 25 May 1783.
- v. **JAMES**, baptised 1 May 1785, OF WHOM MORE FOLLOWS.
- xi. Henrietta, baptised 25 July 1748. She died aged 59 unmarried and was buried at Bullington on 5 April 1808.

JAMES DIDDAMS, baptised 1 May 1785 at Bullington, was a son of Isaac and Mary (Self) Diddams. He married Ann Dicker (born about 1786 in Alton, Hampshire) on 3 January 1811 at Wonston. He was a shoemaker who moved from Bullington into Barton Stacey village. He owned a house and premises on the east side of The Street through the village, opposite Wade's Farm⁵. James Diddams died in 1846 aged 61. He was found on the floor of his workshop and the coroner recorded a verdict of 'Death by the Visitation of God'.⁶ Ann Diddams died in 1852 aged 65.

His son George Diddams took over the business but left the village in the 1850s.

Children of James and Ann (Dicker) Diddams, baptised at Bullington,

- i. **HENRY**, baptised 9 February 1812. A teacher, he married Sarah Ann Pearce on 17 June 1845 St George's, Walton on the Hill, Lancashire. They had two daughters and lived in Liverpool.
- ii. **ISAAC**, baptised 21 July 1816. He married Sophia Farley on 21 January 1847 at Barton Stacey. She was born about 1824 in Chilbolton, daughter of John and Charlotte (Rile) Farley. She had been a servant at Forton Farm, Longparish before her marriage. Isaac Diddams was a boot and shoe maker in Barton Stacey and also a constable. It is highly likely that he took over the family home and premises opposite Wade's Farm after his mother's death in 1852.
This family moved during the 1870s to Sutton Scotney, though Isaac's son Edwin Diddams remained until his marriage in 1904.

⁵ Barton Stacey 1840 Tithe Assessment, map reference 231.

⁶ Hampshire Telegraph 04 July 1846. Inquest at Barton Stacey on the body of James Diddams.

Children of Isaac and Sophia (Farley) Diddams, baptised at Barton Stacey,

- i. Henry John, baptised 23 April 1848. He was buried on 12 October 1849.
- ii. **GILBERT**, baptised 25 December 1850. He was at first a grocer's assistant in Andover. He married firstly Leah Rogers in 1876 in London, who died in 1878. He married secondly Mary Ann Pearce in 1881.



Gilbert Diddams was a carrier to Winchester and a coal merchant. He died at Holly Tree House, Sutton Scotney on 22 November 1943 aged 93.

*Albert and Gilbert Diddams in Gilbert's garden in Sutton Scotney 1920s.
Photographs from a pedigree posted online at Ancestry.com.*

Children of Gilbert and Mary Ann (Pearce) Diddams,

- i. Florence May, 1883-1974.
 - ii. Ernest Gilbert, 1884-1960.
 - iii. Reginald Henry, 1887-1948.
 - iv. Clement Harold, 1889-1967.
 - v. Frederick George, 1890-1916. He died in France, serving with the 17th Bn Royal Fusiliers.
- iii. **ALBERT**, baptised 23 October 1853. He became a carpenter in Littlemore, Oxfordshire, where he married Martha Priscilla Humphries on 27 November 1877. He died in Oxford on 17 May 1939.



Albert and Martha Priscilla Diddams 1920s.

Children of Albert and Martha Priscilla (Humphries) Diddams,

- i. Albert Frank, 1878-1915.
- ii. Dorothy Rose, 1881-1966.
- iii. Gilbert Humphrey, 1885-1971.
- iv. Olive Elizabeth Sophia, 1892-1892.
- iv. Edwin, born 1856. A farm worker, he lodged in the home of his maternal aunt Roselina Davis, widow of George Davis, until at least 1901. She lived at the northern end of Barton Stacey village. This house, previously called Kings Cottage or Terrace Cottage, is now called Wheat Cottage. In 1904 he married Ellen Maria Newman (born about 1855 in Enham, the widow of Thomas Newman of Barton Stacey) and they moved to Wonston with her son Thomas Newman, a postman. Edwin was a threshing machine worker on a local farm and his wife was a nurse locally.
- v. Emma, baptised 26 December 1858. She died unmarried in 1949 aged 90.



*Emma Diddams, Daniel Whatley, Rose Whatley,
Golden Wedding of Daniel & Rose Whatley 1947.*

- vi. **CLEMENT**, baptised 17 November 1861. He became a railway porter in Kennington, London. On 26 April 1896 at St Ann's, Lambeth, he married Fanny Woodward.

Children of Clement and Fanny (Woodward) Diddams,

- i. Albert William, 1893-1949.
 - ii. Florence Beatrice, 1899-1970.
 - vii. Harriet, baptised 17 December 1865. She married Frederick Calcutt from Witney, Oxfordshire, in 1896. He became bailiff at Baynards Farm, Ewhurst, Surrey. A son Harold Frederick and a daughter Lillian May.
 - viii. Rose, baptised 16 August 1868. On 28 June 1897 she married Daniel Whatley from Barford St Martin, Wiltshire and lived in Clapham, London. Sons Frederick Cecil and Ernest Frank.
 - iii. Mary, baptised with her brother Isaac.
- and baptised at Barton Stacey,**
- iv. William, baptised 13 June 1819. He was working at the time of the 1841 census in Longparish as a shoemaker. He married Ann Maria Ball of Longparish in 1844 and remained in that parish until at least 1851. He died early in 1853, aged only 33, and his widow perhaps married secondly Thomas Smith later that year.

- v. Charles, baptised 7 October 1821. Like his older brother Isaac, he was a journeyman shoemaker, both of whom presumably trained and worked with their father James. He died aged only 22 and was buried at Barton Stacey on 17 July 1844.
- vi. Ann, baptised 3 October 1824.
- vii. Jane, baptised 6 May 1827. She went into service in St Pancras, London. She married William Gunn, a tailor from Edinburgh on 25 December 1853 at St George the Martyr, Camden, London. Sons Fergus George (1857-1862) and Arthur. I have yet to find this family after the census of 1861, when they were at 26 Gresse Street, St Pancras.
- viii. **GEORGE**, baptised 9 August 1829. He and his sister Ellen were living at the time of the 1851 with their widowed mother in his father's Barton Stacey home. However, he moved - probably after his mother's death in 1852 - to London. He was a publican at the time of his marriage to Harriet Griffin (born Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire) on 24 September 1855 at St Pancras Church. William Loader and Jane Gunn (his sister) were witnesses.

He was a boot and shoe manufacturer in Hoxton, London, moving in the 1870s to Bristol. Harriet Diddams died in Bristol in 1891 aged 66, her husband in 1894 aged 65.

Children of George and Harriet (Griffin) Diddams, born in London,

- i. Mary Ann Louisa, born 1857. She married firstly John Arthur Gordon, a commercial traveller. They went to Canada, where she married secondly, on 19 March 1936 in Toronto, Richard Lovegrove Canning.
Four children, as known - Violet May, Frank William, Rose Florence.
- ii. Laura Georgina, born 1858. She married William Henry Owen, a purveyor in Bristol. She died in 1918 aged 60.
Three children - as known, William Henry and Herbert George.
- iii. Florence Sarah, born 1860. She married George James Pearce, a fine art dealer and picture frame maker from London, in Bristol in 1884. She died in Cardiff in 1917 aged 56.
Daughters Ethel and Amy.
- iv. Beatrice Alice, born 1862. She married Robert Alfred Walton, a shoemaker from Clifton, Bristol, on 5 March 1883 at St Andrew's, Bristol. During the 1890s he set up his own shoe making shop in Salisbury Road, Cardiff.
Four daughters - Beatrice Sarah Blanche, Hetty Gertrude, Alice Valerie, Grace May.
- ix. Ellen, baptised 16 September 1832.
