

CHARLWOOD FAMILIES – A NOTE

The Excel spreadsheet accompanying this note attempts to show all significant links within and between the families who were prominent at the Charlwood Chapel. Those who acted as Trustees are shown in bold in the spreadsheet. The numeration is an attempt to identify individuals and the generations of their families as represented.

The main source has been census, birth, death and marriages records on Ancestry, as well as some family trees (which are of varying reliability). The British Newspaper Archive has been useful in giving lists of mourners at some of the funerals of Trustees, although, particularly for the Cook family there are people shown as sisters, sisters-in-law, etc, who cannot be confidently linked with a sibling.

Some families, such as Buckland, Charman and Creasey did not have Trustees among their members and so feature fleetingly in the spreadsheet. However, further work on them would reveal a new set of interconnections. The Bucklands, Charmans and Flints all had several streams, of varying respectability, but presumably having a common ancestor many years back. One instance of the rural poverty attached to members of all three families is instanced in the following:

On 28 Mar 1853 at the Anglican Church in Charlwood, Abigail Charman, 47, a widow, married Nicholas Flint, 57, a widower and labourer. Abigail's father's name is given as John Buckland, and her first marriage had been at Nutfield in 1826 to Richard Charman, both being illiterate. Abigail had already had a daughter, Jane, baptised in 1825. They gave birth to a son, Richard, 1829-1904, who fathered 8 children with his wife Maria Maine. [However, the Charman family tree on Ancestry seems rather liberal in ascribing marriages and children to him]. Richard, senior, died in 1838, leaving Abigail with (in the 1841 census) Anne, 10, William, 8, Thomas, 5 and James 3. The family was living in Queen's Fields, listed right at the end of the Charlwood pages, and with them was Nicholas Flint, a lodger. Nicholas died in 1860 and Abigail was alone again until her death in 1871 at Charlwood.