

The Boundary of the Parish of BETTESHANGER

Setting off in the centre of the road opposite to a Gate entering The Rabbit Close East of the Church which Close is in the Parish of Northbourne and going down the middle of the said road we proceed thereon till we come to the middle of a certain Gate called HUTCHIN's Gap by the road leading from Northbourne to Eastry thence straight on to the top of a list or green bank till we fall into the road from Northbourne Mill to Ham, then down the middle of that road by West Street Barn till we come right opposite the drain that parts The Cottage Gardens in West Street keeping down the middle of said drain between the Gardens. Down the West Street sewer and round the end of a small piece of Marsh land N.W. of said sewer, late the property of Mr HOILE, to the Bank of Upland towards Ham, thence along that Bank to the N.W. post of the Gate of the said Marsh, thence in a straight line to a Land Mark in the Bank standing at the S.W. side of the road leading from West Street to Ham, thence along the upper division from the Club One from Ham's land, to the Hedge of Spring Close, up along said Hedge to the North corner of the said Close and from that corner in a straight line across the road from Northbourne to Ham to the North corner of the lands of West Street Farm along the road from Ham to Updown thence along the said road dividing the Glebe of Ham from Mr FECTOR's Estate round to the road from Hay Lane to Updown, thence up the said road along the field called Painters in Eastry as far as a certain high Elm Tree in the Hedge dividing Eastry Court land from Mr FECTOR's, from the said Tree across Mr FECTOR's field in a line almost at right angles with the Hedge aforesaid following the mark of an old Hedge many years grubbed up in a direction thus $\leftarrow \uparrow \rightarrow$ till we come to a stone fixed in the ground where an Elm Tree formerly stood along the road between Mr FECTOR's lands – then back along the said road as the old road formerly went N.E. around the Hog Green of Mr FECTOR's Farm (formerly TURNERS) in the Parish of Ham – thence down the old foot way from Eastry to Northbourne & round the field of the said Farm till we come to the road leading from HUTCHIN's Gap aforesaid to Eastry, thence up the said road towards Updown till we come to a Gap in Mr FECTOR's Hedge which forms a line with the Chalk road from Betteshanger to Deal, going thence in a direction to the White Thorn Bush at the bottom of Betteshanger Down, till we come to the line of division between the Lands of the Eleven Acres that formerly belonged to Mr FORREST of Sandwich & Betteshanger Farm, thence up the said line of Division to Mr FECTOR's new Garden Wall, over the said Wall taking in about 4 to 5 feet of the S.W. side of the Garden, which is were (sic) a Hedge formerly stood, to the line where the road was heretofore that went from Updown House to Betteshanger Mill Hill- thence to Betteshanger White Gate, thence along the N.W. side of the Hedge that parts Bettshanger Estate from Mr FECTOR's Long Land, to the corner of North Gate Close called the 5 Acres- thence to the North Corner of Bettshanger 5 acres around that field to

the Bridle Gate going out of Tilmanstone Close, thence along the Private road to the Corner of Bettshanger 18 acres, thence to the North Corner of the 10 acres, and from the said Corner leaving Dr Nash D'AETH's, Land across the 18 acres till we fall into the road leading to Bettshanger, leaving 4 acres of the 18 in the Parish of Northbourne – on this line a Hedge formerly stood: thence down the middle of the Road to the point from which we set out.

J BOYS
Michel WHITEWOOD
John FRENDE

The names of ye Rectors of this parish from about ye year 1600.

John BOYS son of Thomas BOYS of Eythorne and nephew to Sr John BOYS [1] purchasor of ye mannor of Betteshanger Dr. of Divinity and Dean of Canterbury and rector of Great Mongeham was also Rector of this Parish died SEP 26 1625. He was immediately succeeded by:

John JACKET who being collated to ye Rectory of Mongeham made a cession of Betteshanger and was immediately succeeded by:

Moses Capel SEPTIM 1628 who was married to Mary one of the daughters of Edward BOYS Esq Lord of Mannor of Betteshanger October 16 1629, who also resigned this cure Jan 10 1643/4 and was succeeded by:

Nicholas BILLINGSLY who also resigned July 4 1651 and was succeeded immediately by:

Robert SCUDDER who died ye latter end of ye year 1660 and was immediately succeeded by:

John DOD who quitted it again at ye feast of St Bartholemew 1662 because he would not conform according to ye Act of Uniformity and was immediately succeeded by:

Thomas BRETT who was also Curate of Sutton. He died 1680 & was immediately succeeded both at Betteshanger & Sutton by:

Thomas BOYS A.M. of Catherine Hall in Cambridge, being ye youngest son of John BOYS Esq, Lord of ye Mannor of Betteshanger. He was buried in ye chancel of ye parish church of Betteshanger December 8 1702 and was immediately succeeded by his sisters son:

Thomas BRETT LL.D of Queens College in Cambridge To whom also ye Mannor of Betteshanger descended on ye death of Edward Grotius BOYS gent July 1706. [*Resigned the cure 1714 per Tomb at Wye*] But so encumbered with mortgages & other Debts that he was forced to part with it & therefore sold it to Salmon MORRIS Esq – ye present possessor. It having continued in the family of BOYS under ye persons following [*see Boys family notes [1]*]

Ano 1715

About the Latter end of January Tho: BRETT Dr of Laws and Rector of Betteshanger was ejected out of this Rectory for Reason of his refusing Allegiance to King George, and was succeeded by From tomb on floor of Nave at Wye near Ashford.

Thos BRETT of Spring Grove b 1667 Dr of Laws 1697 became Rector of Betteshanger 1703 and of Rucking 1705. He resigned both in 1714 because he could not comply with the terms then imposed with a safe conscience. He died 1714

Edward LLOYD M.A. formerly of Christchurch in Oxford , who was inducted into the Rectory of Betteshanger July 17th 1716 presented thereunto by Salmon MORRIS Esq who before possessed of the Rectory of Ripple and quitted the Curacy of Mongeham , for to discharge his care of the two Rectories.

The Rev. Lloyd died about Lady day [25 Mar] 1741 and was succeeded at the Presentation of William MORRICE Esq., by James LA VAURE A.M. Who died in November 1743. And was immediately succeeded by:

The Rev John JAMES formerly of Oriel in Oxford who was inducted into the said Rectory on the seventh day of January 1743/4 He died in November 1775 And was succeeded by :

The Revd J KENRICK

The Revd James MORRICE A. M. [The Rector also of Flower in Northamptonshire]
died Jan 1815 Atat 76

The Revd Andrew Ducarel MORRICE A.M. Died in [..... 186.]

The Revd John Worthington BLISS B.A.

The Family of BOYS & the MANOR OF BETTESHANGER

[1] S^r John BOYS ye first purchaser, who was ye youngest son of William B OYS of Fredville Esq. He was an eminent lawyer, steward to ye Archbishop & ye Dean and Chapters courts and raised a considerable estate which having no children of his own he divided between his Brother's sons, Thomas eldest son of Thomas BOYS of Eythorne before mentioned and brother of Dean BOYS to whom he left ye Lease of Hoth Court and other Lands & Edward son of Vincent BOYS, whom he settled at Betteshanger several years before his own death which happened in ye year 1612 & he was buried in ye Body of ye great church at Canterbury where is a handsome monument erected for him. Edward BOYS to whom this estate was given lived in ye Mansion House here about 50 years and was buried Octob. 28 1649 leaving this Manor & estate to his only son.

John BOYS Esq who being a Member of that infamous Parliament which began Nov 1640 siding zealously with ye faction against ye church and King (as far as ye presbyteriary were concerned, for he refused to joyn which ye independents who barbarously murdered ye King) and seeking to enrich himself by ye purchase of the Bishops Lands., may be reasonably supposed to have entailed a canker on his Large estate and a curse on his name for posterity. For soon after his Death his family and estate sank till his name in his own Line was quite extinguished. He died and was buried Octob 25 1678.

Edward BOYS his eldest son succeeded to this Mannor & best part of ye estate. But he lived but a little time at Betteshanger & was then forced to sell it and retire to board in ye neighbourhood to pay his Debts, which he honestly and honourably did and then died and was buried Apr 7 1691 leaving the Manner & estate to his next Brother.

John BOYS who enjoyed it but lived not here, except sometimes for about a month, ye Mansion House being from this time for ye most part wholly uninhabited still ye alienation made to Capt. Morris. John BOYS dying in London unmarried Nov. 1698. Left the mannor & clear estate to ye next brother:

Jefferay BOYS Esq , a bencher of Grays Inns who before this estate fell to him had run himself so in Debt that he mortgaged ye whole to clear his Fortunes but it was scarce sufficient. He died and was buried with his ancestors in ye chancel of this church Apr 21 1703 leaving his broken mortgaged estate to his only child.

Edward Grotius BOYS, who having considerably errased ye Debt of ye estate died and was buried July 22 1706 leaving ye Mannor of Betteshanger & ye rest of his miserably encumbered estate to Thomas ye son of Loetitia BRETT his father's only surviving sister which:

Thomas BRETT being also Rector of this Parish as before has been solvent was very desirous to have kept ye mannor and estate if it had been possible but knowing it altogether impractical he at last sold [....] to Capt Salmon MORRIS captain of one of [....]

OTHER MEMORANDA.

The Register Book of the
Parish of Betteshanger In the County of Kent

On ye 20th day of September 1653 Richard BOTELER of the Parish above said in ye said County was by the Major part of the parishioners of the said parish then present and chargeable to the Releef of the Poor elected to be Regisitor of Betteshanger aforesaid. For the Register, all marriages, publication of marriages, Births of children & burials of all persons within the said p'ish according to the Act of Parliament in that case made and provided.

Witness our hands

John Boys
R Scudder

I doe approve of the said Richard Boteler to be Registor of the parish of Betteshanger above and the said Richard Boteler hath taken his oath before me according to ye act of parliament in that case ,made and provided.

Witness my hand hereunto subscribed

John Boys

.....

That the chancel Pews belong to the Rector of Betteshanger so that no Usurpation of these Pews by the Patron, Mr Morrice can give him any just Right thereto. Precedent Rectors having repair'd the Chancel and thence deriv'd a Right both to themselves and Successors therein; and the Law of the Land having determined the Chancel to be the Rector's Freehold.

N.B. Mr Tho^s Boys in the year 1601 granted leave to Mr Ed^w Boys to build a Pew in the Chancel, and his Successor, Mr Brett afterwards erected another; both which Pews are now owned by the Patron, Capt Morrice. Tis to be hop'd he will repair the Chancel or quit those Pews

E. Lloyd

On the death of Mrs Bright a Vault was built on the North side of the Church when Admiral Morris enlarg'd his Pew by joining the Tenant's Pew to that which he used in part of the Chancel.

That in the memory of Mr Brett late Incumbent of Betteshanger now alive there were no Pews in the Chancel but only (?) or norm at a little desk before (?) it, so that no Presumption can give a claim against the Rector's Right to Pew, where the present Tenant, Will. BOYS sits. Belong'd to the inhabitants of the Great House and who there did constantly sit till Tho. BOYS Rector complimented his Patron with Leave to erect a Pew in the Chancel for the use of him and (?) man only in the year 1681 and in the year 1706 when Dr BRETT became Patron of the Church and Lord of the Manor of Betteshanger, he erected the Pew on the South side of the Chancel and then permitted the Tenant to sit in the uppermost Pew on the North side within the body of the Church. It may be for the advantage of succeeding Rectors to permit the Patron's present use of these Pews in the Chancel to grow into Prescription on condition that he does but attend to the repairs of the Chancel, which as yet there is no opportunity to prove.

E Lloyd

[This would not alter any Property.]

Mr BOYS will be very thankful for any Sight of the preceding and succeeding Parts of the Register of Betteshanger.

.....

30 Mar 1717

A perambulation made around the bounds of the Parish by
Salmon MORRICE Esq – Patron
Edward Lloyd - Rector
Willm. BOYS – Churchwarden of Betteshanger

1723

New Register Book Begun then at the request of Salmon MORRICE Esq.
Patron of Betteshanger to preach every Sunday at Betteshanger
Before it was simply but one a fortnight

E. Lloyd

On Monday 4th February 1765 Barbara the wife of James Langford NIBBS was delivered of two sons in the Parish of Great Betteshanger in the county of Kent and baptized on Wednesday 19th of the said Month & Year by the Rev J JAMES, Rector of the said Parish. Happens very clearly from the Testimony of the Parents and Nurse SOLLERS there present, that George the eldest was born at a quarter of an hour before ten o'clock and Thomas the youngest at a quarter of an hour after eleven. In testimony whereof we have set our hands this 13th day of April 1765.

[John JAMES – Rector of Betteshanger
[James Langford NIBBS

On Ascension Day, 1789 a Perambulation round this parish was made by the Rev^d John KENRICK, Rector and John BOYS, Church Warden together with the undermentioned inhabitants & others viz:- Edw BURCH sen^r: Benj PITTOCK: Joshua REDMAN: Stephen GOODBURN: Daniel FAG: John FRIEND: John ELGAR: John BOYS Jun^r: (aged 7): George SPAIN (aged 9): Richard BURCH (aged 1) & John Spain (aged 12)
Michael WHITEWOOD & James LADD

J KENNRICK – Rector
J BOYS - Church Warden.
