

Grange Women: Philanthropic Females

Background to reason for article and how research has been carried out.

Women were unable to serve in public office or vote until the 20th century. However many women had a profound impact on the development of Grange. At the beginning of the 20th century several women began to serve on committees. The Grange nurse was Nurse Sleigh and the committee responsible for her were all women. I have carried out initial research on names that I have come across but if you have further information please contact me. This is on-going research and will be expanded as information is found.

Sources: Grange Red Books; online Census and births marriages and death records; W. E. Swale Grange-over-Sands. The Story of a Gentle Township (1972);
www.grangepcc.homecall.co.uk/arkwright.htm
http://www.mwwf.co.uk/history-of-the-festival/page_2.html

Pat Rowland
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Update

Eliza Horrocks information supplied by John Beckett. Penny Ward and John Beckett have researched the Arkwright sisters and an article appeared in January 2013 CPLHS newsletter about them.

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Misses Sophia M and Henrietta B Arkwright - in 1907, in memory of her sister, Sophia gave a generous gift to enable the Fell Church Room to be built as it had been Henrietta's wish for a room to be built. See www.grangepcc.homecall.co.uk/arkwright.htm for further details. In 1901 Miss Arkwright was vice president of Grange Working Mens Institute.

Mrs Percival Blythe - Emily was the proprietress of the draper and milliner shop at London House, Main Street in 1901. By 1905 she had 2 shops. The 1891 census recorded Percival as the draper and Emily and the children all living over the shop. He died in 1899 aged 42. The 1901 census recorded the widowed Emily Blyth and her 5 children aged between 15 and 4 living over the shop.

Misses Brindle – Annie, Sarah and Mary ran a school at Kents Bank House from about 1901. They were temporarily running the school at the Crown Hotel between 1909 and 1911 according to adverts but Bulmers 1910 directory record them at Kents Bank House. The school was re-established at Selwyn on Kents Bank Road.

Miss Butler – ran Moorhurst Girls School Kents Bank between 1905 and 1910.

Miss Carter – ran Hill Foot School, Kents Bank Road in 1901, 1903, 1905, 1906

Miss Sarah Anne Clarke - an early visitor to the newly established resort of Grange, from Liverpool, who saw the need for a church in Grange and set about raising the money to enable it to be built. St Paul's was consecrated on 13 October 1853.

Mrs A W Collins - She was a committee member of North Lonsdale Lawn Tennis Club in 1901.

Miss Collville - She was a committee member of North Lonsdale Lawn Tennis Club in 1901. Lived at Andifield.

Miss M Cooper – Mary or Margaret Cooper, daughter of Cannon Cooper(qv). Mary was born in about 1863 and appears in census 1871, 1881 and 1891 at the Vicarage, Eden Mount Road, Grange. Margaret Ann was born in 1865 but only appears in the 1871 and 1901 census at the Vicarage. Grange and District Choral Society secretary 1901, committee member 1906

Mrs Sophia Dearden – Born Sophia Kimber in Abingdon, Berks in 1839 she married John Dearden in 1862. They lived in Church, Accrington where John was a doctor. She moved to Grange from Accrington at the beginning of the 20th century following the death of her husband. She lived at Lyndhurst on Fernleigh Road. She provided money for the building of a clock tower which was completed in 1912. She also purchased woodland at Yewbarrow and presented it to the people of Grange.

Miss Leonora Dearden – only daughter of Sophia and John Dearden(qv) born in 1865 in Accrington. Married William Kellaway in 1915, shortly after her mother's death but he died at the end of 1916. Leonora died in 1937 aged 72. She donated the brass lectern at St Paul's Church in memory of her mother. She played the organ at St Paul's Church.

Miss Mary Ann Dunkley – ran Moorhurst School at Kents Bank from 1877 to about 1905 when Miss Butler had taken over.

Miss Emily Gilkes – Born in 1849 in Middlesborough, the 1891 and 1901 census record her as principal of Sunny Brae School, Fernleigh Road in 1901. She was one of three Guardian in Grange in 1905, 1906. Her mother and sister lived at West Holme, Fernleigh Road, Grange in 1901 and by 1911 they all lived together at Clare House Park Road.

Miss Gwatkin – possibly Jane who was the eldest daughter of Dr Owen Gwatkin. They lived at Winterholme, Esplanade, Grange. She was born in 1880 and is shown, aged 30, living at home with her mother and father in the 1911 census. Committee member Grange Natural History Society (1901)

Eliza Horrocks - the second owner of Merlewood on Windermere Road, having bought the property when it was put up for sale in 1857 following the death of Alfred Binyon (*q.v.*). Mrs Horrocks was the widow of Samuel Horrocks, of the Preston cotton manufacturers Horrockses, Miller & Co., and sister of Thomas Miller who had become the sole proprietor of the firm. She was very much involved with activities in both Grange and Lindale. In 1862 she laid the foundation stone of the Lindale Reading Room, which was built by public subscription, and in 1864 she subscribed £50.0.0 towards a new chancel for the church at Lindale, which had been built in 1828. Also in 1864 she gave the Parish of Grange-over-Sands a silver chalice as one of the vessels for the sacrament. Both she and her gardener regularly exhibited at the shows of the Grange Floral and Horticultural Society. Mrs Horrocks died at Merlewood on Wednesday 12th June 1872, aged 68. In her will she appointed her friends William Henry Wakefield (*q.v.*) and John Henry Ransome, vicar of Lindale, to act as executors.

Mrs Charlotte Hudson – wife of the headmaster of Grange National School, William Hudson, she was born in Baildon Yorkshire in 1846. She was treasurer of Grange Band of Hope 1901.

Mrs Leonora Kellaway – see **Miss Leonora Dearden**

Mrs Elizabeth Maude - she helped establish a Sunday school in her home Blawith Cottage in Grange in 1811. See separate article on schools on the Peninsula.

Mrs Sarah M R Michaelson – 1901 census describe her as a widow living at Yewbarrow with her daughter Blanche who was born in Hong Kong in 1882, son Victor born in Ireland in 1888, daughter Beatrice also born in Ireland in 1891 and son Richard born in Grange in 1895. Sarah was born in Ireland in 1858. Committee member Grange and District Choral Society 1901. Committee member Grange Lecture association 1905, 1906

Miss Michaelson – Probably Blanche who was 19 in 1901 (see previous entry). Captain of Grange Hockey Team 1901.

Susanna Newby - she owned land and buildings in Grange and she gave part of her garden for St Paul's church to be built. It was completed in 1853. Her house was north of the site now occupied by the church. She was born in 1766 in Borwick, Lancashire and was married to John. The 1851 census shows her living at Cark Villa with her daughter, also Susanna, born in 1806. She died in 1852, her husband predeceasing her.

Mrs Matilda Podmore – wife of the headmaster of Charney Hall Preparatory School (qv). She was born in 1859 and they married on 10 August 1882 at St James Piccadilly. She was the fourth daughter of Edmund Heale who worked for Queen Victoria as clerk of the kitchens. She was a committee member of North Lonsdale Lawn Tennis Club in 1901. She died in 1928.

Miss Hilda M Ransome – Born in Lindale in 1867 she was a daughter of the perpetual curate John Henry Ransome. In 1901 she was assistant mistress at a school in Southampton. She ran Sunny Brae School 1903, 1905. By 1911 census she was joint principal of a girls school for training crippled girls for needlework in Chailey, Sussex.

Miss Rose Riley – Rose was the eldest daughter of James Rostron Riley(qv) and was born in 1868 and died in 1947 having lived in Grange most of her life. She lived at Underwood until her mother died in 1899. She was secretary of Grange Church Band of Hope in 1901.

Miss Robson – Treasurer of Grange Natural History Society in 1901. Unable to identify.

Miss Alice Sleigh - born in 1859 in Aldridge, Staffs she was District Nurse in Grange at the start of the twentieth century. The 1901 census record her as lodger at Plumtree Bank Fernleigh Road. She was a lodger at St Cuthberts Home, formerly Craig Ella, Grange (between Eden Mount Road and the Vicarage on Grange Fell Road)in the 1911 census

Miss Beatrice Smith – eldest daughter of Rev Henry Smith(qv); born 1863 in Grange. In 1901 she was living with her brother Henry Eden Smith(qv) at Lea on the Esplanade, Grange. Vice president of Grange Working Mens Institute 1901. A Miss Smith was a committee member of Grange and District Choral Society also in 1901 but I cannot verify if it was this lady. Grange Lecture Association had a Miss Smith on the committee 1905, 1906 also.

Misses Mary and Anne Taylor - friends of Mrs Maude (qv) they helped to turn the Sunday School into a mixed day school run by Miss Dormer. When it outgrew the building the national school was built, opening in 1864.

Miss E K Taylor – Treasurer of Grange and District Choral Society in 1901, committee member 1906

Miss Augusta Mary Wakefield - known as Mary she lived at Nutwood and in 1885 founded the Westmorland Music Festival. She moved to Grange in 1891 and she died there in September 1910 aged 58. She was the daughter of William Henry Wakefield (qv) of Sedgwick, Kendal who was a banker, magistrate and farmer. She wrote several books including Cartmel Priory and Sketches of North Lonsdale in 1909.

More details can be found at http://www.mwwf.co.uk/history-of-the-festival/page_2.html

Mrs Mary Elizabeth Williams - born in 1840, only daughter of John and Elizabeth Barrow of Meathop Hall, she married twice and lived away from the area for some years. She owned Yewbarrow Estate and purchased Holme Island in 1890 and provided money and land for the building of Yewbarrow Terrace overlooking the Ornamental Gardens in 1892. She was involved in the establishment of the Northern Counties Convalescent Home in 1897 at Meathop before its move to Lindale Road and subsequently Meathop Sanatorium was established on her land in the building. On her death in 1915 she left money to establish a trust to provide a convalescent home for poor widows which was established at Abbotsford on Kentsford Road, Kents Bank in 1929. See separate article for details.