

Patronage has changed over the years. Originally it was the lord of the manor building a church and then selecting someone to be the priest. Today it is merely a title with very little actual power. Every effort has been made to ensure the information is accurate, and I apologise for any errors or omissions.
Mrs Elisabeth Sinclair 2012.

What is a PATRON?

Advowson (or "Patronage") is the right in English law of a patron (avowee) to present to the Diocesan Bishop a nominee for appointment to a vacant ecclesiastical benefice or church living, a process known as presentation (*jus praesentandi*, Latin: "the right of presenting"). The word derives, via French, from the Latin *advocare*, from *vocare* "to call" plus *ad*, "to, towards", thus a "summoning". In effect an advowson is the right to nominate a person to be parish priest (subject to episcopal approval), and such right was often originally held by the lord of the manor of the principal manor within the parish.

The creation of an advowson was a necessary part of creating a parish. The right to advowson originated in the rights of a feudal lord to control the churches on his estates. The process was performed in conjunction with the bishop of the diocese in which the manor was situated. The lord of a manor, at his own expense, built a church within the boundary of his manor and then transferred proprietary rights of certain individual named fields, mills or messuages (houses on the manor which earned rents) to establish a glebe. A benefice generally included use of a house, (a vicarage, parsonage or rectory) as well as the income from the glebe and tithes, which would provide for the living expenses of the incumbent. The value of the advowson would thus vary according to how richly endowed the glebe had been out of the lord of the manor's manorial lands. Having suffered a loss of income due to his donation of property to the glebe and the expense of building the church, the lord of the manor quite reasonably insisted on the right to select the individual who would act as parish priest. (The priest could not be ejected by the lord from the office which was a job for life.) The bishop was needed to consecrate the new church and so he demanded the right to approve the appointment. Advowsons were frequently exercised by lords as a means of providing a career and income for a younger son who, due to the custom of primogeniture (the right of the firstborn to inherit the entire estate, to the exclusion of younger siblings) would not inherit any of the paternal lands. If the father did not already own a suitable advowson, he might buy one for this purpose. An appointment could also be used as a reward for past services rendered to the patron by the appointee. An advowson was regarded as property and could be bought, sold, or bequeathed (Although following reforms of parish administration in the late 19th century it had little commercial value.)

Advowsons were a means for the patron to exert moral influence on the parishioners who were mostly tenants of his manor, through the teaching and sermons of the parish priest. The success of the manor depended on everyone living and working for a common purpose and tenants obeying the law of the land and of the manorial court. This law-abiding attitude could be fostered by a suitable parish priest. The disposal of (alienation) of an advowson or a manor by sale or gift of the lord of the manor required a special license from the overlord who was usually an earl or the crown.

Where a manor was split into moieties due to inheritance by co-heiresses, the advowson was also split. For example if a lord of a manor died without male issue but with two daughters the manorial lands would be split into 2 moieties, still however within the original undivided parish, controlled by the husbands of each daughter, and the advowson would be held by each daughter's husband in turn. The husband of the elder daughter would have the right to appoint a new priest to the first vacancy, whilst the husband of the second daughter, (or more usually due to the life tenure of priests, their descendant) would hold the right to the second presentation.

In the Reformation in the 16th century, the Dissolution of the Monasteries led to the transfer of much monastic property to laymen, and with the properties passed the advowsons which the monasteries had held. This created a large group of lay patrons. (At this time there were also lords of manors and patrons

who remained Roman Catholics and refused to adopt the new Protestant religion. Such patrons were disbarred from making presentations and the right was transferred to the Universities of Oxford or Cambridge according to the geographical location of the parish. The university was allowed to assign this right to a third party adherent to the new religion. The advowsons were often later returned to the manors.)

With the abolition of manorial courts in the 19th century the powers of the lord of the manor, were largely eliminated, yet owners of former manorial estates still held the historic advowsons appurtenant to their lands. In the 20th century many bishops acquired the advowsons to the parish churches within their ecclesiastical jurisdictions to give the bishop total control over the selection of parish priests. Advowsons had lost any value to their private holders, since few landowners any longer wished to exert a proxy influence over the morals of their neighbours and few wished their younger sons to be parish priest, which carries a lower status than formerly. It is however still a sign of a great aristocratic past for an individual to hold one or more advowsons.

In 1870-72, John Marius Wilson's *Imperial Gazetteer of England and Wales* described Danbury like this:

DANBURY, a village and a parish in Chelmsford district, Essex. The village stands on high ground, 4½ miles E by S of Chelmsford railway station; and has a post office under Chelmsford, and a fair on Shrove Tuesday. Its name is a contraction of Danesbury, signifying the town or castle of the Danes. The parish includes also Runsell hamlet and part of Bicknacre. Acres: 2, 950. Real property, with the rest of Bicknacre: £4,243. Population: 1, 113. Houses: 236. The manor was held, at Domesday, by Geoffrey de Mandeville and passed to the St. Cleres, the Veres, the Greys, the Darceys, and the Mildmays and belongs now to Sir B. W. Bridges, Bart. Danbury Place, now called Danbury Palace, was the seat of the Rounds and is now the residence of the bishop of Rochester, having been purchased by the ecclesiastical commissioners, in 1851, for £24,700. Danbury Hill, at the village, is 700 feet high; and has vestiges of an ancient camp, 680 yards in circuit. The parish is a meet for the Essex Union hounds. The living is a rectory in the diocese of Rochester. Value: £435. Patron, Sir B. W. Bridges, Bart. The church has a stone tower and a lofty wooden spire; and contains effigies of the St. Cleres. There are national schools, and charities £44.

PATRONS AND OVERLORDS OF DANBURY

In an extract from Richard Newcourt's Repertorium(1710), Volume II (Essex), found in the DANBURY RECORDS book written by Sir Thomas Pym Bridges Bart, rector from 1855 – 1895:

'The church here, dedicated to St John the Baptist, is a Rectory but in ancient times, by reason of the plenty of the fruits, the fertility of the fields, the largeness of the parish and the multitude of the parishioners, it was divided into two moieties and two Rectors were instituted and inducted into them as into two District Benefices; one moiety whereof was given by Earl William de Mandeville, who died 2 Ric i (1191) to the Prior and Convent of St Bartholomew in West Smithfield, London: the other moiety was in the gift of Lay Patrons and to each moiety the respective Patrons continued to present as they became void, till the year 1440.

Rectores unius medietatis (The Moiety of Manor of Heyrons)

Patron: The Pri(ory) and Conv(ent) S(aint) Barthol(omew) in West Smithfield Lond(on)

Rectores alterius medietatis(The Moiety of Manor of St Cleres) Lay Patrons the St.Cleres, the Veres, the Greys, the Darceys

The moieties were then joined into one Rectory and Benefice in 1440 (The Rectory is the Parish, not the building.)

And then, to wit on the last of May 1440, Robert (Gilbert) Bishop of London, after an Inquisition made and certify'd in the Form of Law of the value of each moiety and of other things requisite on that behalf, and particularly that Robert Darcy Esq was Patron of one of them; out of the other of wh(ich) he paid a pension of XXs yearly to the Priory of St Bartholomew aforesaid and that the moiety wh: did belong to the said Priory was void then by the death of Richard Smith, the late Rector and that the Rector of the other John Bell was consenting, did at the earnest desire of the said Rob: Darcy, unite, consolidate and reintegrate these two moieties into one Rectory and Benefice and ordained the Cure to be served for the future by one Rector only and decreed it to continue so forever, reserving a Pension of iii s to the B: of London and his successors, and xviii d to the Archdeacon of Essex and his successors, to be paid to them respectively for their indemnity, at the Feast of S Michael the Archangel yearly by the Rector here for the time being for ever. (Gilbert 169 Mon Angl vol ii 171 Consolidatio medietatum Psusimes)'

Rectores post Consolidatiam

After this consolidation, the right of Patronage of this church continued with the Darcys until the year 1504 inclusive: after that in some time in Windham, in right of his wife; and then in the Mildmays as will hereafter appear.'

Patrons listed in the Danbury Records

1321 - 1331 Hugo de Vere and his wife Dyonisis

1331 - 1334 Hugo de Vere, son of Simon de Vere

1362 Edward FitzSimon

1397 Robert and Gerald Braybroke

1440 Sir Robert Darcy

Sir Robert Darcy (1417 – 02/11/1469)

Elizabeth Tyrell his widow (1440 – 24/1/1505)

Richard Haute (Hawte) (1434 – 08/04/1487) second husband of Elizabeth

Sir Roger Darcy (1478 – 30/09/1508),

Elizabeth Wentworth his widow

1509 Vice Admiral Thomas Wyndham second husband of Elizabeth (in right of his wife Elizabeth, the widow of Sir Roger Darcy)

The Advowson of the parish of Danbury went with the Manor of St Cleres and Heyrons.

John Marius Wilson's *Imperial Gazetteer of England and Wales* 1870-72: *'The manor was held, at Domesday, by Geoffrey de Mandeville and passed to the St.Cleres, the Veres, the Greys, the Darceys, and the Mildmays and belongs now to Sir B. W. Bridges, Bart.'*

Extract from Beauties of England and Wales Vol V (1803)

Danbury is pleasantly situated within and near the area of ancient encampment about 600 yards in circumference. On the South side the glaces is still nearly 30 feet deep and the lines may be traced to a considerable distance on the other sides. Danbury in the time of Edward the Confessor was held by Arling, a Saxon but at the compilation of the Domesday Book, it was the property of Geoffrey de Mandeville. Soon afterwards the chief portion came to the family of De Sancto Clero or St Clere who retained it at least to the reign of Edward I in whose time William de St Clere was Sheriff of Essex and had a park at Danbury. The estate held by this family is still called St Cleres Manor. From them it passed successively to the Veres, Earls of Oxford, to the Greys of Wilton from whom for a few years it went to Sir Gerard Braybrooke who married one of the daughters of Lord Reginald de Grey and to the Lord D'Arcies. Afterwards reverting to the crown, it was granted by Edward vi to William Parr, Marquis of Northampton who alienated it to Sir Walter Mildmay Knight by whom the manor house called Danbury Place, now the seat of L D Fytche Esq, was erected about half a mile from the church.

From 1066, the lands of Essex were held for the monarch by overlords chosen by William the Conqueror and subsequent monarchs. From 1144 they held the title of Earl of Essex and it passed from father to son and from one family to the next by marriage when the male line failed. Exceptions to this were when the Earl was attainted for some act of treason and his lands forfeited. This happened at times such as in the 12th Century when Stephen and Matilda were fighting for the throne, the Wars of the Roses of the 14th Century, the religious differences of the Tudors in the 16th Century, and in particular in Essex, the attempt to put Lady Jane Grey on the throne instead of Mary I, and the Civil War in the 17th Century. At these times, or when a line of succession failed, the lands were returned to the crown who gave them to another family, usually when a new Earl of Essex was appointed. An exception was when the lands were given to the Darcy family by Henry V in 1419.

From the Norman Kings to the Plantagenets (William I, William II, Henry I, Stephen, Henry II, Richard I and John I 1066 – 1216), the lands of Essex were held by the **de Mandevilles** (1066 – 1227) and the **de Bohuns** 1227 – 1373).

Under the Plantagenets (Henry III, Edward I, Edward II, Edward III, Richard II 1216 – 1399) the lands of Essex were held by the **de Bohuns** up to 1373. During the Lancaster/York Wars of the Roses (Henry IV, Henry V, Henry VI, Edward VI, Edward V, Richard III 1399 – 1485) the lands of Essex were held by **Thomas of Woodstock** and the **Bourchier** family.

Under the Tudors (Henry VII, Henry VIII, Edward VI, Mary I, Elizabeth I 1485 – 1603) the lands of Essex were held for the monarch by **Thomas Cromwell**, **William Parr** and then the **Devereux** family.

Under the Stuarts (James I, Charles I, Charles II, James II 1603 – 1688) the lands were held by the **Capell** family.

Each of the king's vassals was also an overlord with vassals of his own. Sometimes there were many levels of lords who had vassals under them. The Earls of Essex often held lands in several parts of the country and so they alienated the lands in one area to an important local family such as the de Greys, Mildmays or the junior branches of the de Veres. The Earls of Essex often held lands in several parts of the country and so they alienated the lands in one area to an important local family such as the de Greys, Mildmays or the junior branches of the de Veres. The Danbury area was held for the Earl of Essex from 1142 – 1419 by the de Greys. They alienated manors to other families. The overlord's fief was divided up into manors ruled over by a knight. The lands were worked by serfs who had to swear loyalty to their Lord. About 90% of the people were serfs who worked the land for a noble. The serf was bound to the land and if the noble sold the land the serf went with it. There were also some freemen who were usually in a trade. They paid a fixed rent to the lord and were not bound to it but free to move. Individual manors or groups of manors were in their turn alienated to families such as the Heyrons, St Cleres and Braybrokes.

Patrons of Danbury 1086 – 1547: Mandevilles, St Cleres, Greys, Braybrokes, Darcys.

This gives an idea of the Patrons and is as accurate as has been possible from the sources used.

Geoffrey de Mandeville held the Manor of Danbury at the time of the Domesday Book in 1086. There were several manors in Danbury which included St Cleres, Heyrons, Bretton and Runsell or Gay Bowers. Part of parish was in the manor of Gibcracks (Giberake), now Bicknacre. Patronage or advowson of a Parish usually went with a manor but could be sold off separately. Danbury was divided into the two moieties of St Clere and Heyron sometime early in the 12th Century.

When John Heyron died in 1142 he held 20 acres of Danbury (Manor of Heyrons) from Reginald de Grey and was tenant to 40 acres of Danbury from the Prior of Canterbury which was the Manor of Runsell.

In 1165 Richard and Ralph de Heyron held Heyrons manor. One report states in 1233 Ralph de Heyron gave the advowson of church of Heyrons to the Priory of St Bartholomew, Smithfield. However Richard Newcourt's Repertorium(1710) says '*one moiety whereof was given by Earl William de Mandevil(le), who died 2 Ric i(1191) to the Prior and Convent of St Bartholomew in West Smithfield, London*'. John de Heyron had the manor in 1254. In 1307 John de Heyron he sold it to John de Grey (1258 – 1323), 2nd Baron Grey of Wilton who merged the manor with the manor of St Clere which was alienated to the St Clere family. From 1307 the two manors were merged but the two moieties and churches continued until they became one in 1440. Rectores unius medetatis (The Moiety of Manor of Heyrons)

Patron: The Pri(ory) and Conv(ent) S(aint) Barthol(omew) in West Smithfield Lond(on)

Rectores alterius medetatis(The Moiety of Manor of St Cleres) Lay Patrons the St.Cleres, the Veres, the Greys, the Darceys

The family of S Clere or de Sancto Claro originated in France and the Lord of S Cler came to England with William the Conqueror. Hamo de St Clere is supposed to have had a mansion near Chelmsford called St Clere's Manor and his lands passed to his brother Hugh de Sancto Claro.

?-1165 **Hugh de Sancto Claro** He was one of the witnesses to the charter of Stephen in 1136 and cup bearer to Henry II.

1165 -1246 **William de Sancto Claro** He was the son of Hugh. He was given the St Clere Manor when he was about 2 years old. (It is suggested that Ralph de Heyrons was his brother but I have found no evidence for this.) He also held the manors of Aeslingham in Kent and East Tilbury in Essex.He paid scutago (A tax paid in lieu of military service in feudal times) for the redemption of Richard I in the 6th year of his reign (1195).

1246 – 1264 **William de St Clere** He was the son of William. In 1255 he held 20 acres in Danbury. He was Governor of Rochester Castle in Kent and defended it for the Henry III against Simon de Montfort and his rebel barons in 1264.

1264 – 1267 **William de St Clere** He was the son of William and lived at Danbury. In 1255 he and Ralph de Heyrons were indicted at Chelmsford court for collecting a knight's fee from the local people without being knights of the realm. Unlike his father he fought on the side of the barons against Henry III and after their defeat at the battle of Evesham in 1265 some of his lands were confiscated. He managed to regain these but died in 1267 and was succeeded by his son William.

1267 - 1290 **William de St Clere** By 1279 he had a park in Danbury (now Danbury Park). He was Sheriff of Essex in 1279. He may be one of the knights represented by the wooden effigies in the church. He lived in Danbury and is thought to have rebuilt and enlarged the Parish church of St John the Baptist, keeping the original chapel (now the North aisle) as a family chapel. He died in 1290 and left one third of the manor to his widow Felicia for life and the rest went to his heirs Robert his son and Sir John FitzSimon de Vere his son in law.

1290 - c1310 **Robert de St Clere and Sir John FitzSimon de Vere** They may be the other two knights represented by the wooden effigies in the church.

c1310 - 1321 **Sir Hugh de Vere** 1258 – c1321, 2nd son of Robert 5th Earl of Oxford and Alice de Sanford and his wife **Dionysia** held the advowson. His wife was Denise (Dionysia) de Munchensy (Montchensi), daughter and heiress of Sir William Fitzwarin of Munchensy. (He was made Baron Vere in 1299). They had no children.

1321 – 1360 **Hugh FitzSimon de Vere** (FitzSimon means son of Simon) held the manor of Danbury under Edmund of Woodstock, Earl of Kent for the de Vere family. He (or a son of the same name) still held it in 1360 under Roger Mortimer Earl of March. He was sheriff of Essex in 1354-5. The senior branch of the

Fitzsymond (FitzSimon) family held the manors of Danbury and Langridge, as well as Waterend in Sandridge in Hertfordshire.

1360 – 1362 **Edward Fitzsimon de Vere** who died in 1375 was the nephew of Hugh and was Patron in 1362. He was sheriff of Essex in the year of his death, 1375.

The FitzSimon de Veres held it until 1362 when it reverted to de Grey overlords. (Sir John Fitzsymond (1342 - 1392) had land in Essex but does not seem to have held Danbury. His father and Sir Edward were cousins. The father died in 1355 in possession of a third of the manor of North Shoebury and marshland on the Thames estuary, as a tenant of the honour of Rayleigh. The honour was then held by William de Bohun, earl of Northampton, by grant of Queen Philippa, and the earl accordingly held the wardship of young John until his death in 1360, when it pertained to the queen. Fitzsymond had not yet reached his majority by November 1362. He subsequently also held the manor of Barling and property in Great Wakering, In the summer of 1378 Fitzsymond, already a knight, served in the retinue of Sir Aubrey de Vere. His connexion with de Vere was to continue until his death. He was appointed sheriff of Essex and Hertfordshire in 1379. He was granted a royal pardon at de Vere's request for causing the death of one Andrew Bole. Fitzsymond's interests seem to have been confined to the area around the Thames estuary where he had his home. Fitzsymond was closely associated with Joan de Bohun, countess of Hereford. In 1387 he assisted Sir Aubrey in the mortgage or purchase of certain lands in Essex, but he had no known connection with de Vere's nephew Robert, earl of Oxford, the King's favourite.)

1362 – 1370 **Reginald Grey of Wilton** (1311 – 1370) 4th Baron Grey of Wilton held the lands for Humphrey de Bohun (1342 – 1373), 7th Earl of Hereford, 6th Earl of Essex (3rd creation), 2nd Earl of Northampton

1370 – 1396 **Henry Grey of Wilton** (1338 – 1396) 5th Baron Grey of Wilton held the lands for Humphrey de Bohun (1342 – 1373) until his death and then for his widow Joan, Dowager Countess of Hereford. They then passed to his sister Petronella (Perne) and her husband Sir Gerard de Braybroke.

1396 - 1419 **Sir Gerard de Braybroke** (1354-1422) **and his wife Perne** (1342 - 1414), daughter of Reginald de Grey, Earl of Wilton. He was the son of Sir Gerard de Braybroke and grandson of the Sir Gerard de Braybroke who died in 1359. Both his father and grandfather were MP for Bedfordshire. He held manors in Colmworth Beds, Horsenden Bucks and Danbury Essex. He was Constable of Pleshey castle 1399-1400 by appointment to Joan de Bohun, Dowager Countess of Hereford. He was MP for Bedfordshire. In 1442 Robert Darcy and Sir William Babington founded a chantry at Danbury church in his memory. They were buried in Danbury church in the North aisle (See MEMORIALS). They held the lands for Joan, Dowager Countess of Hereford until her death in 1419. Richard Braybroke his brother was Bishop of London.

1419 - 1449 **Sir Robert Darcy** (1391 – 1449) In 1419 Henry V granted him lands belonging to the Earl of Essex.

1449 - 1469 **Robert Darcy** (1417-1469)

1469 - 1487 **Richard Haute** (Hawte) (1434 – 08/04/1487, second husband of Elizabeth Tyrell (d 24/11/1505), widow of Sir Robert Darcy

1487 - 1500 **Elizabeth Haute**, widow of Richard Haute.

She was Patron until her grandson Sir Roger Darcy (1478 - 1508) came of age or until her death in 1505. (Her son Thomas died in 1485.)

1500 - 1508 **Sir Roger Darcy** (1478 – 30/09/1508)

1508 - 1522 **Vice Admiral Sir Thomas Wyndham** (d 1522) of Felbrigg Norfolk, second husband of Elizabeth Wentworth (died 22/09/1545), widow of Sir Roger.

1522 - 1539 **John Bouchier** (1470-1539) third husband of Elizabeth Wentworth

1539 - 1545 **Elizabeth Wentworth**

Reverted to crown until 1547.

Patrons of Danbury 1547 – Present Day: Mildmays, Bridges and Plumptres.

There seems plenty of evidence to verify these later Patrons.

The barony of Fitzwalter granted in 1295, is the third oldest surviving title in the English peerage. The title was created by writ, which means that it can descend through both male and female lines. It started with the Fitzwalter family and then in 1431 it passed by the marriage of Elizabeth Fitzwalter, 8th Baroness, into the Radcliffe family until it became dormant in 1629 on the death of the 14th Baron Robert Radcliffe. The title passed to the Mildmay family by way of the descendants of the marriage of Lady Frances Radcliffe, (half sister of the 12th and 13th Barons), to Sir Thomas Mildmay of Moulsham up until the death of the 19th Baron, Benjamin Mildmay, in 1756. Mary Mildmay, sister of the 16th and 17th Barons, married Henry Mildmay of Little Baddow who bought the demesnes of St Cleres and the advowson of Danbury church from his distant cousin John Mildmay in 1673. Their great grand daughter Fanny Fowler was therefore heiress to the estates in Danbury and Little Baddow and to the title Baron Fitzwalter. She married Sir Brook William Bridges and the title and advowson remained with the Bridges family until the marriage of Eleanor Bridges to Revd Henry Western Plumptre when it passed to the Plumptre family where it remains today.

In 1547 the manors of Danbury, Little Baddow, Sandon and Thundersley had come to the crown. In 1547 King Edward VI granted the manors to William Parr Marquis of Northampton, Earl of Essex who alienated it to Sir Walter Mildmay. He thus acquired the demesnes of St Cleres and the advowson of Danbury church.

1547 - 1589 Sir Walter Mildmay of Apethorpe (1520 – 1589)

1589 - 1613 Sir Humphrey Mildmay of Apethorpe (1550 – 1613)

1613 - 1652 Sir Humphrey Mildmay of Apethorpe

1652 - 1673 John Mildmay of Apethorpe

James Masters is listed as presenting Robert Cory in 1665, presumably on behalf of John Mildmay. He was the cousin of Mary Bancroft, who was the wife of John Mildmay and who married Robert Cory after her husband's death in 1673. Henry Mildmay bought the demesnes of St Cleres and the advowson of Danbury church from John Mildmay in 1673.

1673 - 1692 Henry Mildmay of Little Baddow

1692 – 1746 Elizabeth Waterson nee Mildmay of Little Baddow

Elizabeth was the 3rd daughter of Henry Mildmay and Mary Mildmay. She married Edmund Waterson on 17/09/1696 and bought out her three sisters' shares in their father's estate. She died childless and left her estates to her nephew Edmund Fowler, son of her sister Frances. In 1704 when Thomas Pocock was presented as Rector, Patrons are listed as Ellen Waterson, widow, Sir George Piers (1670-1720), 3rd Baronet of Stonepit in Kent, Thomas Lake and Pocock's brother in law, Strensham Masters (d 1724) of Wingham in Kent (mentioned in his mother's memorial in the chancel of the church.) Elizabeth is also listed as presenting William Petvin in 1746 shortly before she died.

1746 – 1751 Edmund Fowler

1751 - 1765 Frances (Fanny) Fowler

Fanny Fowler was heiress to the estates in Danbury and Little Baddow and to the title Baron Fitzwalter through her great aunt Elizabeth. She married Sir Brook William Bridges, 3rd Baronet on 11/06/1765.

1765 - 1791 Sir Brook William Bridges, 3rd Baronet Bridges (17/09/1733 – 04/09/1791)

1791- 1829 Sir Brook William Bridges, 4th Baronet Bridges (22/06/1767 – 21/04/1829)

1829 – 1875 Brook William Bridges, 5th Baronet Bridges (02/06/1801 – 06/12/1875)

1875 – 1890 Revd Sir Brook George Bridges, 6th Baronet Bridges (1802–1890)

1890 - 1892 Eleanor Plumptre (13/11/1805 – 25/1/1892) (sister of 5th and 6th Baronets Bridges)

1892 - 1932 Henry Fitzwalter Plumptre 20th Baron FitzWalter (12/12/1860– 12/09/1932)

1932 - 1934 George Beresford Plumptre (21/03/1869 – 23/04/1934)

1934 – 2004 Fitzwalter Brook Plumptre, 21st Baron FitzWalter (15/01/1914–14/10/2004)

2004 – Present Julian Brook Plumptre, 22nd Baron FitzWalter (b.18/10/ 1952)