

CROCKENHILL SCHOOLS

There were 2 mixed elementary schools taking children up to school leaving age of 14. One school had formerly been behind the Baptist Chapel, and the children there moved over to a new Council or Board School in 1906. The other school was managed as a Church of England School, on the site of the present Harnett's Close.

Crockenhill
Council School,
newly opened in
1906



CROCKENHILL COUNCIL SCHOOL

Head: Thomas Wilson (former head of the school behind the Baptist Chapel)
Salary in 1915 just over £133 a year

Staff: Head, 1 certified, 1 uncertified, 1 supplementary

Accommodation: 230 pupils - 1914-1915 roll 168 pupils = 87 boys, 77 girls

Average attendance 83%, the lowest of any elementary school in Dartford area

Managers (serving all or some of the War Years): W.A. Everest, Rev. Dixon (later Rev. Miller Brown), E.P. Jones, Sydney Lee, H. Wise



Thomas Wilson and his wife, Dora (nee Smith) both taught at the School at Crockenhill Baptist Church, until it transferred to become the core of the new Council School. Mr Wilson delayed retirement during the war, leaving in 1920, aged 65, after 39 years of teaching in the village. Dorcas was a local girl. Both are buried at St. Mary's, Swanley

CROCKENHILL COUNCIL SCHOOL



Crockenhill Council School group, 1913, Standard II. See name sheet

CROCKENHILL COUNCIL SCHOOL

Names for Crockenhill Council School Group, 1913

Back row boys, l>r: Ron Pontin (b.1905), William Everest, Lex Everest, Stan Pierce, Tom Broad, George - , Harry Peck, Ron Pontin, Herbert Pontin.

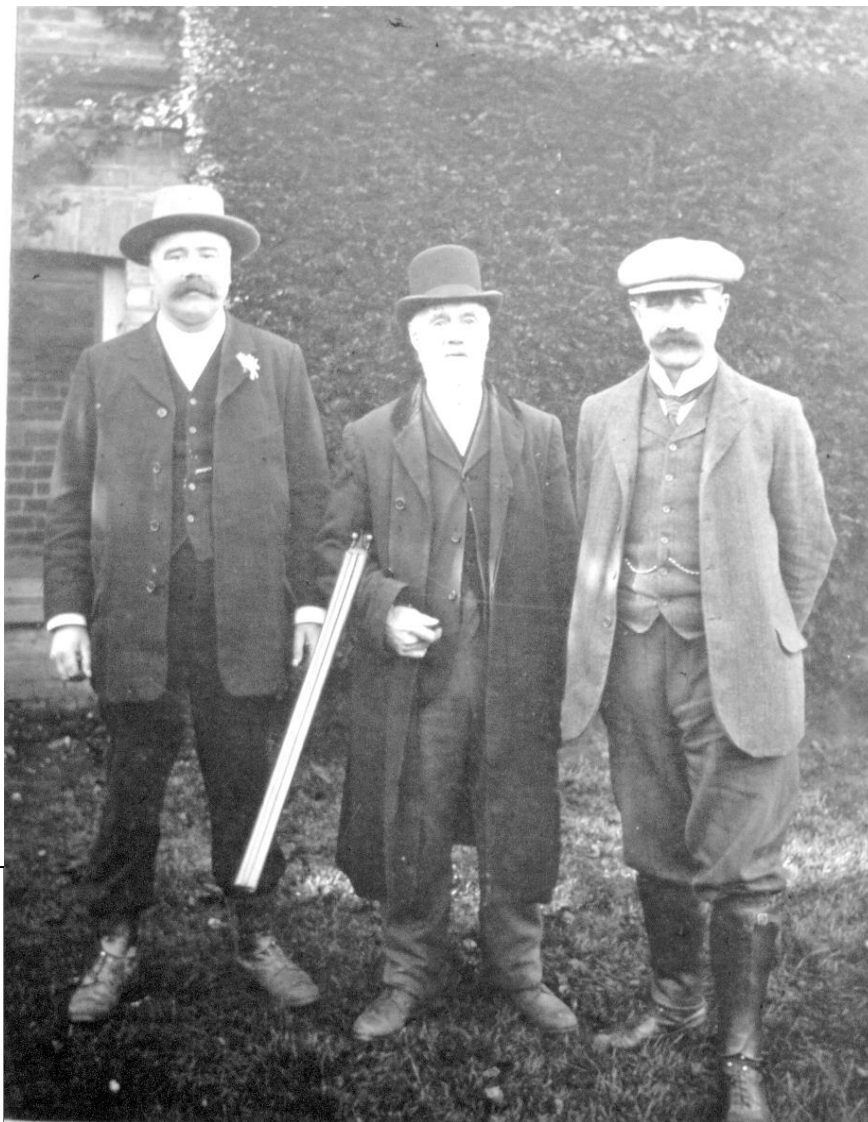
Standing row: Alice Richens, ? , ?Ada Drury, ? , Kathleen or ?Evelyn King (m. Jack Whitehead), Mary Drury, ?Ada Drury, Mabel Drury

Teacher: Mrs Harry Jackson (born Dora Wilson, daughter of the Head)

Seated mixed row: Alice Drew, Kathleen Everest, Cecil Pontin, - Joy, Lex Clements, ? , Sammy Osbourne, Gladys Pontin, Elsie Drury

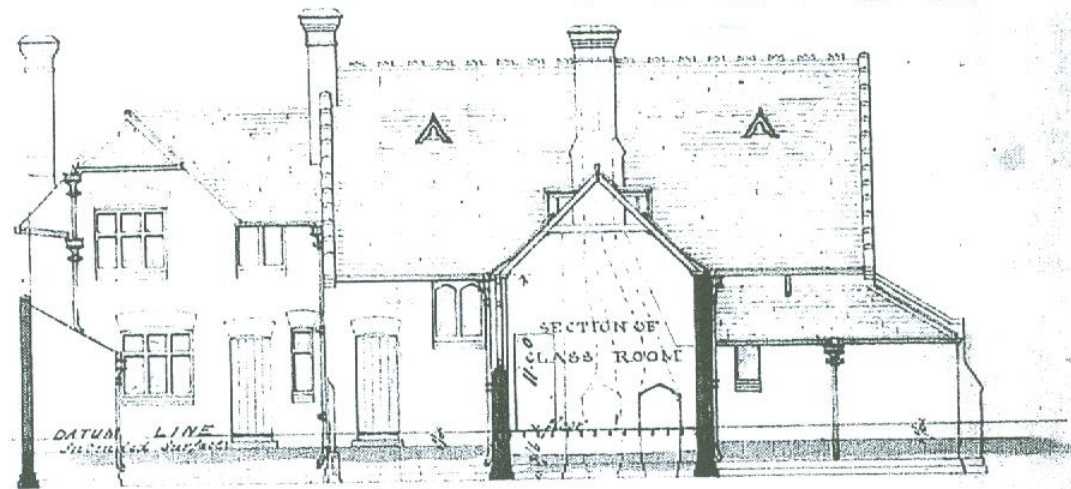
3 front girls on ground: Violet King, ? , Mary Pierce

Caleb Lee, important local farmer, died in 1918 (centre). Sons, Archibald (l), who stayed out of public life, & Sydney (r), Chairman of Managers of Crockenhill Council School, & active in public life

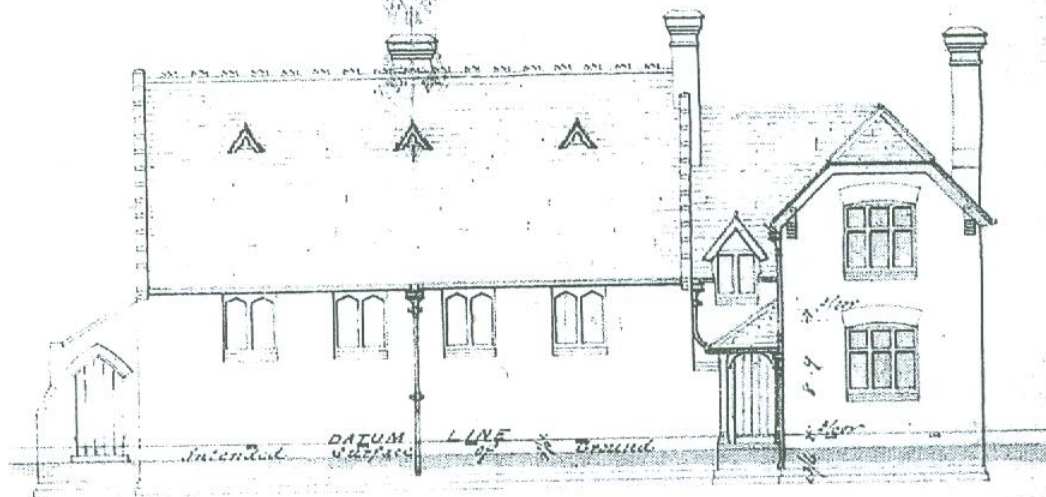


CROCKENHILL CHURCH SCHOOL

Built 1857, with extensions in 1882+1911



- BACK ELEVATION &c -



- FRONT ELEVATION -

Plans for Crockenhill Church of England School, 1857, in Church Road

(Permission of Diocese of
Canterbury)

Now Harnett's Close, but
lime trees in front, and
Edwardian railings still
there along landway. MM
on pillar cap for Maria
Mosyer, who funded the
building

18 February 1916 the
Ecclesiastical Insurance
Company came to see
what terms to give for
insuring school against air
raids – consultation as to
the value of the school site

CROCKENHILL CHURCH SCHOOL



Head of Crockenhill Church School: Henry Harvey Harnett

Staff: Head, 2 uncertified teachers

Accommodation: 112 pupils, 1914-15 roll = 106.
Average attendance over 90%, much higher than Crockenhill Council School

Managers (serving all or some of the War Years):

Mr F. Batey, Rev. Dixon (later Rev. Miller Brown), Rev. Canon W.H. Marshall, Mr F. Pestifield, Mr Scott, Mr E.J. Skinner, Mr Wise

Henry Harvey Harnett, appointed in 1893, supported by his teacher wife, Harriet Jane (nee Kidd), taken in front of the school house, alongside the school. He was in his 20s when he took over, and stayed in the post for 30 years, retiring in 1927. Date of photo unknown so assistant teacher behind the Head cannot be identified

CROCKENHILL CHURCH SCHOOL



Crockenhill Church School infant group with Mrs 'Bonsie' Turner. c.1918

CROCKENHILL CHURCH SCHOOL

Names for Crockenhill Church School group with Mrs 'Bonsie' Turner. c.1918

l>r, back row:

? , ? , Leslie Spice, Ethel Howling (from Petham Court), Thomas Harris, John Hills, ? , Madeleine Peacock, Ernest Albury, Mrs Turner.

Next to back row, standing:

Doris Smith, Hilda Shepherd, ? , ? , Charlotte Spice, James Reynolds, ? , Rose Pressling, Alice Waller, Kathleen Waller.

Behind front row, seated:

George Spiller, Leslie Harris, Emily Reynolds, Fred Harris, Bobby Owen, Charles Covill, Joseph Reynolds, Nora Harber, George Harber, ? kneeling.

Front row on ground:

Dick Reynolds, Frank Smith, ? , George Pressling, Ivy Perren, ? , Rena Rhodes.