

UNIDENTIFIED SANDES

Lt Thomas Sandys. The Bath Evening Chronicle reported on 6 July 1993 the re-enactment of the Battle of Lansdown in 1643. After the battle, “the inns and lodging houses of Bath were packed with (Royalist) prisoners. It was while Sir William Waller (the Parliamentarian general) was interviewing some of these that he came upon an officer named Lt Thomas Sandys. The man had apparently been shot in cold blood, after he had surrendered, by a Scotsman in the Roundhead army. According to an eyewitness, Waller seemed exceedingly angry at the inhumane action that befell him, sent for his own surgeon immediately, and saw his wounds dressed before he went away; he gave the innkeeper charge that he should have whatever he called for, and lent him ten broad pieces of silver for his own private expense”. It seems possible that this lucky prisoner might have been Sir Thomas Sandys Kt, of Northbourne, Kent, living 1686, (Family of Sandys Ped D, or Thomas Sandys of Miserden Ped E), or Thomas Sandes of Little Padesham (Ped G2).

Captain Edward Sandys. Mervyn Sandys reported in 1993 having seen a monument in the church at Waterloo, Belgium, to him and other officers and men of the 12th Light Dragoons who were killed in the battle in 1815. He could find no mention of him in the FOS.

Frederick Sandys. A well known Victorian painter, not mentioned in Family of Sandys, but alleged by Mrs Angela Crane, of Coombe Down, to have changed his name from Sands.

Charles Sandes. He is named in a group photograph of officers of the 10th Royal Hussars taken at the Delhi Durbar of 1875-6, simply as Sandes. The photo was published in a book titled ‘Chances of Sport of Sorts’ by a Col St Quinton (?) in 1912, and is held in the NPG archives; it shows a dark haired man with a heavy moustache. Harty’s Army List 1876 includes in the officers of the 10th Hussars ‘Riding Master Charles Sandes, 6 September 1873’ along with the Paymaster, Quartermaster, Medical Officer and Veterinary Officer, who were not given ranks and listed below those who were. The only person who might fit this description is Lancelot Charles Sandes (C0101).

Hilda Sandys. A manuscript note in Ped H of FOS, probably by Mervyn Sandys, records that a branch of the family was living at Co Wicklow, and that Miss Hilda Sandys RRC was at Dargle Hill, Enniskerry, in 1955. On 5 November 1993, Lt Col MR Gwynne Howell gave me notes showing Hilda as the unmarried elder daughter of Mona Jeffreys and Mervyn (?) Sandys. She was born about 1890, was a VAD in World War I and a WAAF in World War II, served in Germany after the war, retired around 1950, and was great company with a wicked Irish sense of humour.

William Sandys, listed on a wall chart in a house in Rock, Cornwall in 1993, as Vicar of St Menefreda's Church, near Rock, on 23 July 1766, also of St Enodoc, Treberetherick and St Michael's, Porthilly, (now Damer Bay). He seems likely to be The Rev William Sandys, Vicar of St Minver, dsp 1816, mentioned in FOS Ped J.

Francis Percival Sandes MD Ch.M BSc filled many medical and surgical posts in Sydney from 1914, living in Macquarie St, Sydney – see Who's Who 1944. Might he be descended from John Sandes (C 0211)?

Capt Robert Sandes is far the most interesting unidentified Sandes. The Trinity House, London, say that he was an Elder Brother 1709 to 1721, when many lighthouses were built; Deputy Master, effectively Chairman, until 1721; might have been born about 1660; died in 1721; was a friend of Samuel Pepys; bequeathed a 500 acre estate at Goxhill in Lincolnshire to The House, known as 'The Sandes Charity'; was said by Mrs Finch, Sandes Farmhouse, Goxhill, Lincs, to be buried in the village graveyard.; and is commemorated by a large almost unique lead statue by Scheemakers, dated 1746, which was originally in the grounds of Trinity Almshouses in Mile End Road and now has pride of place in the hall of The Trinity House. (Goxhill is a hamlet some 3 miles south of the Humber, opposite Kingston-upon-Hull and 6 miles from Immingham).

Samuel Pepys (1633 - 1703) was a brother of Trinity House from 1662, graduating to Master in 1676 and resigning in 1689. The famous Pepys Diaries mention a Capt Sanders (Vol 4) and a Mr Sands (Vol 7), but do not identify them as Robert, so to have known Pepys well he may have been born much earlier than 1660.

All Saints Church, Goxhill has no record of the burial of Robert Sandes, but has a memorial stone reading 'Here lyeth the bodyes of John and Robert Sandes sonnes of M Robert Sandes and Anne his wife 1669', so Robert might have been born early enough to have married there and lost two children by that year; and the date of his statue might indicate his centenary. The IGI for Lincolnshire records many Sands/Sandes/Sandys births and marriages, but none seem to relate to the Goxhill area and the dates of interest., and The Lincolnshire History Society has not reported any connection.

His will, made in Feb 1720 and proved in Apr 1722, asked that he be buried in 'the Minister's vault at Rotherhithe', just across the Thames from The Trinity House. The vicar of St Mary's, the oldest church there, has no burial record, but there seems no reason why it did not happen..

The will names his wife as Rebecca nee Lovibond, and her two brothers and sister Mrs Ingoldsby, but the final beneficiary is The House, and no children are mentioned; further search for his wedding in IGI for Kent, Middx and Surrey has proved negative. But Lovibonds lived in London, and many in Somerset, and the ship Lady Lovibond sank on the Goodwins. So Robert was probably a ship's captain, connected with the Lovibonds as seafarers, and Rebecca may have been his second wife.

On 13 June 1665, a British fleet under James, Duke of York, fought a Dutch fleet at the Battle of Lowestoft. The British fleet included the John & Abigail (40), Capt Joseph Sanders, the Constant Catherine (40) Capt Francis Sanders, and the Loyal Merchant (44) Capt Robert Sanders. The latter was a hired vessel of about 600 tons, crew 210, commanded by Robert

between Feb and Dec 1665. So Capt Robert Sandes/Sanders seems likely to have been a merchant ship's master, enlisted temporarily into the navy with his ship, and to have known the Duke of York.

This is confirmed by an archive.org monograph on the Sandes statue, 'Robert was a man of note, as well as a benefactor, like most of the Trinity Brethren a staunch loyalist, and seemed to have been entrusted with important letters by both the Duke of York and King Charles II. When Pepys was sent to the Tower in 1679 on a charge of Popery, Capt Sandes with whom he was intimate did him a good turn and was committed with an open letter from the Duke in Brussels to the King. We have the record of the various journeys of Capt Sandes and his ship. His principal work subsequently was that of naval organisation, he appears with Pepys in the Guild's Charter of Incorporation and was associated with Evelyn (the famous diarist, who lived near Rotherhithe) and Sir Christopher Wren in 1695 in the Greenwich Survey'.

Finally, the will of James Begbie (2A0512) dated 1815 mentions a bequest of 'Capt Sandes' Madeira' suggesting a link with the wine trade, as madeira can last a century or more.

Until more information can be found, it seems probable that Robert was an important and wealthy sea captain (perhaps involved in wine trade), strongly connected with London, the Thames, Trinity House, the Royal Navy, and royalty, who was probably born in the 1640s (perhaps 1646?) at Goxhill, married twice but left no children, and was buried at Rotherhithe.

TRG Sandes living at 75 Spitalfield Lane, Chichester, in 1996.

IS Sandes living at 75 Camden Gardens, New Milton, in 1996.

IE Sandes, living at 3 Abbeyfield House, Herbert Road, New Milton, in 1998.

Patrick Sandes, 11 Portal Road, Totton & Ealing, Southampton, a tattooed man with an accent, delivered a package for Liz S in August 2001. His wife has the same name, and his family came from Cumberland.

New Zealand

From Burke's Peerage World Book of Sandes, 1995.

Kerryn M Sandes, 3/43 Brockworth Place, Riccarton, Christchurch 8004.

Alma M Sandes, 73 Marshall Street, Woolston, 8006.

Noeline P Sandes, 341 Riccarton Road, Upper Riccarton, Christchurch, 8004.

Anthony R Sandes, 30 Crofton Road, Harewood, Christchurch 8005.

Richard J Sandes, 6 Bathurst Street, Ashburton 8300.

From addresses in 1998 phone books by Howard Erson.

DK & JI Sandes, 18A Jones Road, Templeton, Christchurch.

M & M Sandes, 48 Milton Street, Spreydon, Christchurch.