

ST HILARY COMMUNITY WEBSITE

because the community matters

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Ackland-Allen and Giles family of the Manor House and Manor Piece



Here is some information about the Ackland-Allen family, former residents of the Manor House. The Ackland-Allens were related to Elizabeth Giles, formerly of Manor Piece. And there's a connection to the broadcaster, David Dimbleby.

Photo above: Left: Dorothy Florence Ackland Allen, spinster (1887 – June 1963), right: Elgiva Mary Ackland Allen (1890 -1970)

They were the children of Charles and Gertrude Ackland Allen

Elgiva married FLN Giles and Elizabeth Giles (formerly of Manor Piece) was their daughter

Dorothy Ackland Allen was President of the St Hilary WI. Below is a photo of her at a Garden Fete in the Manor House grounds.



[Diary of Dorothy Ackland Allen \(found at a jumble sale\)](#)^[1]

In the notes on the transcription it states that additional information was given by Jeannie Griffiths of Little Hall Cottage, St Hilary.

There seem to have been 3 children; Dorothy, Elgiva and Tommy. Dorothy never married and died at St Hilary Manor house in the 1960s.

There is a plaque inside St Hilary Church commemorating Hugh Thomas Ackland-Allen who died at Ypres on 23 October 1914 aged 21. Tommy?

Elgiva Mary Ackland-Allen (1890 – 1970) married Col Frank Lucas Nettam Giles O.B.E (d. 1930) in 1916 in the bride's home parish of St. Hilary in the Vale of Glamorgan. The Ackland-Allen family of St. Hilary Manor and Elgiva's maternal ancestors, the Bearcrofts, are well documented in The Longcrofts: 500 Years of a British Family by James Phillips-Evans (2012).

[7 July 1916 Glamorgan Gazette](#)

[Interesting wedding at St. Hilary. Marriage of Miss Elgiva Ackland-Allen and Major F. L. N. Giles, D.S.O., R.E](#)

The beautiful Parish Church of St. Hilary was the scene of an interesting wedding, which took place on Thursday last week, between Major F. L. N. Giles, D.S.O., Royal Engineers, son of Mr. Frank Giles (late T.C.S.) and the late Mrs. Giles, and Elgiva, younger daughter of Captain and Mrs. Ackland-Allen, of St. Hilary Manor, Cowbridge. The route to the church was tastefully decorated by the villagers, who evinced the greatest interest in the proceedings of the day. The ceremony, which took place at 2.30 p.m., was performed by the Ven. Archdeacon Edmondson (late of Llandaff), assisted by the Rev. L. S. Crockett, Rector of the parish. The service, which was fully choral, was beautifully rendered by the Llandaff Parish Choir, under the direction of Mr. Beale, organist of

Llandaff Cathedral. The bride, who was given away by her father, looked charming in a gown of white satin, veiled in ninon, in addition to which she wore a magnificent court train chiefly composed of old Limerick lace (lent by the bride's grandmother, Mrs. Thomas Allen). Her veil was of white tulle, over which was worn an empire wreath of green leaves; and her only ornament was a diamond water-lily brooch, the gift of the bridegroom. She was attended by three bridesmaids-Miss Dorothy Ackland-Allen (sister of the bride), Miss Edith Read, and Miss Olive Nicholl-and Master David Lindsay (in full Highland costume), youngest son of Colonel and Mrs. Morgan Lindsay, Ystrad Mynach. The bridegroom was supported by Lt.-Colonel J. Brough, C.M.G. and M.V.O., as best man. The bridesmaids were attired in picturesque dresses of pink and white flowered chine silk, made in Romney style, and wore large black picture hats, with pink streamers. They carried shower bouquets of pink roses, which, with brooches of the Regimental Badge of the Royal Engineers in gold and enamel, were the gifts of the bridegroom. The bride's mother was gowned in white charmeuse, veiled in black lace, and wore a black hat. She carried a bouquet of mauve sweet peas. A small reception was held after the ceremony at St. Hilary Manor, where the numerous and costly presents were on view. Later in the afternoon, the bride and bridegroom left for London, en route for the New Forest, where the honeymoon will be spent. The bride's going away dress was of beige-coloured cloth, faced with pale pink silk, and a small black hat. Amongst those present at the ceremony were: Mr. F. Giles (father of the bridegroom) the Misses Robertson (aunts of bridegroom); Mrs. Thomas Allen (grandmother of bride) Mr. and Mrs. T. Mansel Franklen; Mrs. Morgan Lindsay, Ystrad Mynach; General and Mrs. Tyler, Llantrithyd; Mrs. Arthur Bearcroft, Worcestershire; Miss Vernon, Worcestershire; Mrs. F. J. Wood; Colonel and Mrs. Edwardes-Vaughan; Major and Mrs. Stewart, Carmarthenshire; Mrs. Powell-Rees, Monmouthshire; Colonel and Mrs. Nicholl, Merthyr-mawr; Mrs. Williams, Miskin; Colonel and Mrs. Prichard; Mrs. Jenner, Wenvoe; Mr. Peter Powlett, Monmouthshire; Captain Lionel Lindsay; and many others. A full list of presents will appear next week. [\[Click hereⁱⁱ\]](#) to read about the list of presents]

Colonel Frank Lucas Netlam Giles, DSO 1916; OBE 1925 was born on 25 June 1879, the son of the Hon. Frank Giles ICS. He was educated at Marlborough and at the Royal Military Academy at Woolwich. In 1916 he married Elgiva, daughter of Captain Ackland-Allen JP. Giles fought in the South African War, was part of the Cameroons Expeditionary Force between 1914 and 1917, and was made Lieutenant-Colonel while serving in France in 1917. He was promoted to Colonel on 30 May 1925 and served as military attaché to Belgrade, Athens and Prague from 1925 to 1929. Colonel Giles served on the Yugoslav-Bulgarian International Frontier Commission between 1920 and 1922 and the Yugoslav-Albanian International Frontier Commission (Albanian Frontier Commission) between 1922 and 1925.

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The above photograph was obtained following an enquiry (March 2018) through the St Hilary village website. It is thought to be Colonel Giles.

Children

Elgiva and Frank Nettam Giles had two children – Elgiva Elizabeth and Frank Thomas Robertson.

Elizabeth never married. She lived at Manor Piece, St Hilary. She died on 11 September 2005 and is buried in St Hilary Churchyard.

Frank Thomas Robertson Giles^[iv] (born 31 July 1919) started his career (after attending Oxford University) as an aide-de-camp (ADC) to a newly appointed Colonial Governor. As ADC he had close encounters with the Duke & Duchess of Windsor, and Lord Louis Mountbatten. After service in the War Office he became a temporary member of the Foreign Office. As a small cog in the Foreign Office there were erratic stimulants of being in Ernest Bevan's entourage and involvement in an odd Moscow affair. He then changed career to become a foreign correspondent for the Times and in the early 60s he moved to the Sunday Times. When Rupert Murdoch took over Times newspapers in 1981 Frank was appointed editor of the Sunday Times. He held the post from 1981 -1983 and stood down in the wake of the Hitler Diaries scandal^[v].

In Frank's autobiography (1986) gives an account of his early life. He says that 'e grew up a sickly child. My father, a regular Sapper Officer who died when I was ten, was abroad most of the time mapping out the post-war frontiers of Albania or being Military Attache in various Balkan capitals"

"My mother was the youngest daughter of Anglo Welsh parents living in Glamorganshire. I remember my maternal grandparents and their setting extremely well. Grandfather could hardly be considered a squire, even though his enlarged and beautified ex farm house was called the Manor House; its fields and gardens amounted to no more than 20 acres". He recalls that his grandfather was not particularly well off and had no profession. Apart from being a magistrate on the local bench he spent most of his time in his study, smoking and reading the newspaper. Despite this life at the Manor House was lavish – with four servants inside and two outside. There were 4 course dinners every evening. A dressing gong sounded half an hour beforehand and a second gong announced the meal itself.

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Frank married Lady Katherine Sackville ('Kitty') on 29 June 1946^[vi]. They had three children – Sarah, Sebastian and Belinda.

Belinda Susan Mary Giles was born on 9 June 1958. She married, firstly, Christopher Simon Andrew Sykes, son of Sir Mark Tatton Richard Tatton-Sykes, 7th Bt. and Virginia Gilliat, on 25 September 1982 at Church of St. Michael and All Angels, Withyham, Sussex, England^{G.1.3} She and Christopher Simon Andrew Sykes were divorced in 1997.⁴ She married, secondly, David Dimbleby, son of Frederick Richard Dimbleby and Dilys Violet Constance Thomas, in 2000.

Belinda was educated at Girton College, Cambridge University, Cambridge. She is the a granddaughter of Herbrand Sackville, 9th Earl De La Warr^[vii]

Lady Katherine was accomplished at playing host to the great and the good. But, although she had been brought up with all the comforts of the privileged elite, she was almost equally at home among the inmates and warders of Brixton Prison, where she was a regular visitor^{[viii][ix]}.

Bench on St Hilary Downs

A bench has recently been uncovered on the path up to St Hilary Downs.



The inscription on the seat reads:

"This seat was given by Mrs Thomas Allen of 42 Connaught Square London in commemoration of the coronation of King George V 1911. Mrs Thomas Allen, aka Emily Winifred Ackland, married, September 1849, Thomas Allen of Freestone, co. Pembroke, (Welsh circuit barrister).

Emily Winifred Ackland was the daughter of Robert Innes Ackland of Boulston, Pembroke, (died 1851), by Caroline Tyler (died 1864) 2nd daughter of Admiral Sir Charles Tyler, KCH, (1760-1835) [x].

According to the history we have documented on the St Hilary website Mrs Thomas Allen was the grandmother of Elgiva Ackland Allen.

Interesting artefacts

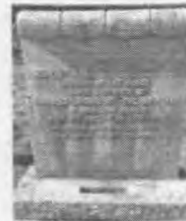


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Some of the headed notepaper contains the address 42 Connaught Square which is the same as that mentioned on the bench on St Hilary Downs – see above *

Ackland Allen and Giles family members are buried in a corner of St Hilary graveyard facing the south porch.

* 42 Connaught Square was the address of Hugh Ackland Allen's grandfather, Thomas Allen, who died there in 1892.



In memory of Dorothy-Florence Ackland Allen
Justice of the Peace
Eldest daughter of Charles and Gertrude
Ackland Allen
of St Hilary Manor
May 2nd 1867 – February 14th 1963
"She did much good for the benefit of others"



In memory of Charles Ackland Allen
Of St Hilary Manor
Much loved husband of
Gertrude Ackland Allen
June 29th 1854 – December 12th 1933
"In God's keeping"



In grateful memory of
Frank Lucas Nettam Giles D.S.O. O.B.E.
Colonel (Late Corps of Royal Engineers)
June 25th 1879 – July 16th 1930
dear husband of Elgiva (formerly) Ackland Allen
"Time to Remember"

and of the above
Elgiva Mary
of Manor Piece, St Hilary
July 29th 1800 – March 4th 1970
Fortitude

and the daughter
Elgiva Elizabeth Giles
26th April 1917 – 11 September 2005
Loved and loving

[i] A copy of a diary of Dorothy Florence Ackland Allen (1909) can be found in the history room at the Old Hall, Cowbridge. Monica Dennis also has a copy. It was sent from the Radyr & Morganstown Local History Society, 54 Pentwyn, Radyr, Cardiff, CF15 8RE 029 2084 3176cookatradyr@fastmail.fm (Alan Cook)

[ii] <http://cymru1914.org/en/view/newspaper/3886640/5> (accessed 9 March 2018)

[iii] <http://www.ssees.ucl.ac.uk/archives/gil.htm> UCL Library services (accessed 6 March 2018)

[iv] http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frank_Giles

[v] <http://www.theguardian.com/media/greenslade/2010/jul/26/rupe-murdoch->

[vi] <http://thepeerage.com/p19622.htm#i196218> British Newspaper archive (accessed 6 March 2018)

[vii] http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Herbrand_Sackville,_9th_Earl_De_La_Warr

[viii] <http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/opinion/obituaries/article2676976.ece>

[ix] <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!topic/peerage-news/PR5RqWNJlY8>

[x] Rodolph de Salis email communication 9 March 2018

[i] <http://cymru1914.org/en/view/newspaper/3886640/5> (accessed 9 March 2018)

Hugh Thomas Ackland-Allen Died 23rd October 1914 1st Battalion (23rd Foot) The Royal Welsh Fusiliers

Hugh was born in Plymouth, Devon on 17th September 1893. His parents were Captain Charles Ackland-Allen JP from Tenby, Pembrokeshire and Gertrude Elizabeth Ackland-Allen (nee Bearcroft) from Hanbury, Worcestershire. He was the second of two sons and two daughters, his brother Thomas dying when only 3 days old.

At the time of the 1901 census the family were living at The Cross, St Hilary. Although living in St Hilary in 1911 the actual address of the family residence is uncertain. They were however living at St Hilary Manor at the time Hugh died and continued in residence there at least until the time his father passed away in 1934.

Hugh was educated at Wellington College, Berkshire and the Royal Military College, Sandhurst; and was gazetted 2nd Lieutenant Royal Welsh Fusiliers on 3rd September 1913. He went to Malta with his regiment in January 1914, and returned to England in the September that year. He served with the British Expeditionary Force in France and Flanders from 4th October 1914. He was killed in action near Zonnebeke, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium on 23rd October 1914. He was only 21 years old. He is commemorated at the Ypres, Menin Gate Memorial.

Hugh was awarded, posthumously, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal, and the 1914/5 Star.



Miss Auckland. Allen.

St. Hilary Manor
Cambridge
Gloucester:

ACKLAND – ALLEN/GILES FAMILY

MANOR HOUSE & MANOR PIECE – ST HILARY

Gertrude Ackland Allen

There is a plaque inside St Hilary Church commemorating Hugh Thomas Ackland-Allen who died at Ypres on 23 October 1914 1st Battalion (23rd Foot) The Royal Welsh Fusiliers, aged 21.

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Widespread and heartfelt sympathy is expressed throughout the town and district with Mr. C. Ackland Allan and Mrs. Allan, of Manor House, St. Hilary, whose only son, Second-Lieutenant Hugh Thomas Ackland Allan was killed in action on 23 October. The deceased gentleman was educated at Wellington College and Sandhurst, and was gazetted to the 1st Battalion Royal Welsh Fusiliers in September 1913. The battalion was stationed at Malta, and was brought home and sent to the front with the 7th Division about three weeks ago. Lieut. Ackland Allan was 21 years of age in September last. At Ramoth Baptist Church, Cowbridge, on Sunday evening the pastor, Rev. B. T. Roberts, referred in feeling terms to the sad event, 'and a vote of sympathy was passed, the congregation standing in silence.

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The above were daughters of Charles and Gertrude Ackland Allen

Left: Dorothy Florence Ackland Allen, spinster (1887 – June 1963)

Right: Elgiva Mary Ackland Allen (1890 -1970)



Dorothy Florence Ackland Allen never married and died at St Hilary Manor house in the 1960s. She was President of the St Hilary WI. Above is a photo of her at a Garden Fete in the Manor House grounds.

Elgiva Mary Ackland-Allen (1890 – 1970) married Col Frank Lucas Netlam Giles O.B.E (d. 1930) in 1916 in the bride's home parish of St. Hilary in the Vale of Glamorgan. The Ackland-Allen family of St. Hilary Manor and Elgiva's maternal ancestors, the Bearcrofts, are well documented in *The Longcrofts: 500 Years of a British Family* by James Phillips-Evans (2012).

7 July 1916 Glamorgan Gazette

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Elgiva and Frank Netlam Giles had two children – Elgiva Elizabeth and Frank Thomas Robertson.

Elizabeth never married. She lived at Manor Piece, St Hilary. She died on 11 September 2005 and is buried in St Hilary Churchyard.

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Bench on St Hilary Downs



A bench has recently been uncovered on the path up to St Hilary Downs.

The inscription on the seat reads:

“This seat was given by Mrs Thomas Allen of 42 Connaught Square London (?the address of Hugh's grandfather, Thomas Allen, when he died in 1892) in commemoration of the coronation of King George V 1911. Mrs Thomas Allen, aka Emily Winifred Ackland, married, September 1849, Thomas Allen of Freestone, co. Pembroke, (Welsh circuit barrister).

Emily Winifred Ackland was the daughter of Robert Innes Ackland of Boulston, Pembroke, (died 1851), by Caroline Tyler (died 1864) 2nd daughter of Admiral Sir Charles Tyler, KCH, (1760-1835)^{ix}.

According to the history we have documented on the St Hilary website Mrs Thomas Allen was the grandmother of Elgiva Ackland Allen.

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ⁱ <http://cymru1914.org/en/view/newspaper/3886640/5> (accessed 9 March 2018)

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^{vii} <http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/opinion/obituaries/article2676976.ece>

^{viii} <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!topic/peerage-news/PR5RqWNJIY8>

^{ix} Rodolph de Salis email communication 9 March 2018

15 articles on this page

BRIDGEND POLICE COURT

A SERIOUS TALK ON A SERIOUS SUBJECT

VALE NOTES w

CONCERT TO WOUNDED SOLDIERS I

Advertising

MARRIAGE OF MISS ACKLANDALLEN

MARRIAGE OF MISS ACKLAND- ALLEN. LIST OF PRESENTS. The following is list of wedding presents, of which through want of space was unavoidably left out — I Bridegroom to Bride: Diamond water-lily brooch. Bride to Bridegroom Miniature. Captain Ackland-Allen: Gold wrist-Watch. Mrs. Ackland-Allen: Diamond cluster ring and silver and glass match stands. Mr. Giles: Silver Queen Anne tea set. Mr. and Mrs. St. George Caulfield: Silver salver. Miss Robertson box. Mr. and Mrs. T. M. Franklen: Silver fitted dressing case and silver matchbox. Miss Ackland-Allen: Silver cigarette case on chain and silver cigarette lighter. General and Mrs. Tyler: Porcelain coat. The Mackintosh and Mrs. Mackintosh: Pearl and enamel brooch. Colonel and Mrs. "Walwyrri Pair of silver sauce boats. Col. Brough: Case of silver liqueur plate candlesticks. Lady Georgina Vernon: Case of silver buttons and buckle. Sir Harry Vernon: Silver cream jug. Miss Vernon: Seed-pearl necklace and bracelet. Miss Talbot: Diamond pendant. Colonel and Mrs. Nicholl: Rosewood work table. Mrs. and Misses Rhodes: Silver chafing dish. Mr. and stone amethyst necklace and ear-rings. Mrs. and Miss George Bearcroft: Pair of silver candlesticks. Mrs. F. J. Wood: Pearl horse-shoe brooch. The Staff at St. Hilary Manor: Silver egg- poacher and breakfast dish. Old Servants at The Cottage, St. Hilary, and 42 Connaught Square, London: Silver glass jam jar. Colonel and Mrs. Jerome Case of silver Salis- bury spoons. Captain A. B. Clough: Silver sugar basin. Lady Carey Brass hot-water cans. Miss Maud Ward: Bronze photo, frame. Mrs. and Misses Booker: Muffin dish. General and Mrs. Rice Nicholl: Silver tea- caddy. Miss Charlotte Tyler: Old rings and pendant. Miss Alma Tyler: Sheffield-plate sugar basin. Servants at 29 Kensington Gate: Silver bon- bon dish. Mrs. Dobey: Silver salt cellars. Miss A. T. Dobie: Silver salt cellars. Mrs. Inglefield: Amethyst Vaughan: Cheque. Mr. John Bain: Cut-glass wine glasses and relic from Field of Balacava. Mrs. and Miss Mackenzie: Keats' poems. Miss Franklen: Silver pepper pots. Miss Franklen and Miss S. Franklen glass salt cellars. Colonel and Mrs. Prichard: Set of old glass goblets. Mr. and Mrs. Percy Hill: Lace handkerchief. Miss Campkin: Longfellow's poems. Mrs. Robert K mounted butter dish. Mr. and Misses Husey: Pair of oak candle- sticks. Miss E. Llewellyn: Water colour sketches. Miss L. Llewellyn: Enamel powder box. Miss M. Ll morning tea set. Mrs. Cook: Book. Miss Gladys Gwynne: Essays of Elia. Mrs. Henry Ward: Leather blotter. Mrs. Stanley Clay Old pastel drawing. Captain and Mrs. K Rice: Pair of silver ons. Miss Norah Lloyd Old brass candlesticks. Rev. T. and Mrs. Cartwright: Old brass hob. Miss Jessie Allen: Set of coffee cups. Tatters, Hamish a mounted cigar- ette holder. Major and Mrs. Wellman: Pair of silver candlesticks. Major Stacey: Silver pot. Miss Dorothy Bearcroft: Antique silver spoons. Mr. W. W. C mounted inkpot. Mr. Seymour Allen: Cheque. Miss O. T. Nicholl: Japanese sketches. Mrs. and Miss Read Old Sheffield-plate wine coolers. Mrs. Moody (Aburthin): Set of lustre jugs. Major and Mrs. Herbert Watson: Pearl and diamond brooch. Mrs. and Misses Bruce: Sheffield-plate tea caddy. Mr. and Mrs. Vyvyan Cheque. Sir Charles and Lady Fox: Silver sauce boat. Mrs. T. Byng Morris: Lace handkerchiefs. Mrs. Nicholl-Carne: Silver inkstand. Miss Nicholl-Carne: Silver pen-tray. Miss Mollie Byass: Silver mustard-pot. Mrs. Charles Edmondes: Cheque. Mr. and Mrs. Thuestan Basset: Antique Dutch spoon. Colonel and Mrs. Homfray Silver tea caddy. Miss Marie Nicholl: Sheffield plate tray. Lady Pryce-Fothergill: Silver cream jug. Miss Alinson: Set of dessert d'oyleys. Mrs. Horsburgh: Silver ash tray. Miss Duke: Rose-letter frame. Colonel and Mrs. Frederick Allen: Silver tea strainer. Dr. and Mrs. Hastings Torney: Travelling clock. Mrs. H. C. R. Homfray: Silver cigarette case. Color Browne: Silver-mounted magnifying glass. Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Waldron: Stamped Morocco address book. Mrs. Blandy Jenkins: Silver Georgian teapot. Mrs. C. Williams (Llanrum) glass jugs. Rev. I. and Mrs. Roberts: Gold-mounted Prayer Book. Mrs. Hewson: Silver inkstand. Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Evans: Silver sauce boat. Mrs. J. H. Brain: Silver sauce boat. The Misses Tovey Cut-glass pickle jar. Miss Joyce: Embroidered pin cushion. Mr. Barrett: Silver muffineer. Miss J. Llewellyn: Table cloth. Mrs. Drage: Tray cloth. Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Jones pin stands. Captain and Mrs. Claud Lindsay: Silver sauce boat. Mrs. and Miss Davies (Eastdown Farm): Silver-mounted butter dish. Mrs. Rees (St. Hilary): Old willow cream jug and sugar basin. Mrs. Shepherd: Silver trinket box. Rev. W. Evans, Cowbridge School: Ebony and silver plate candlesticks. Mr. and Mrs. and Miss Lloyd Thomas: Silver stand. Mrs. and Miss M. Bruca: Silver butter dish. Mr. and Mrs. Mordecai (Cot Farm, Beaupre) Painte