Cissy Macfarlane-Grieve Sketch Book three commentary - work in progress!

Roger Lilley

Looking at the first twelve pages of drawings in this book, it is possible to track down several of the children in the 1901 census. Several of them are girls that Cissy must have known from church, lived locally to her and appear frequently in her drawings, often sketched from behind.

The mysterious characters are the Courtenays. We seem to know quite a bit about them but a family answering to their description cannot be found in the 1901 census, neither in Impington nor indeed anywhere. Were they fictitious? There seems to be no evidence for a Hugh Courtenay who died in 1483.

At the beginning of this volume Cissy states that all the characters are real!

Page 1.

This book belongs to Cissy Macfarlane Grieve age 14-15-16. These drawings are my own work. The children depicted are quite real and are living at the present time,

Page 2.

1900. Horse and carriage for hire

Summer 1900 [In church]:

Mabel Elsom, Vicky Waters, May Dawson, Mary Smith, Emily Cornell, Sarah Wakefield

Ethel 4, Benny, Felicity, Lottie 12, Dolly 10, Hilda 6,Kathleen 4, Nan

Census Data:

1901 Impington, The Chequers, Mabel Elsom, 10, b Durham

1901 Impington, ?? Close, Victoria Waters, 13, general servant, b Impington

1901 Great Wilbraham, Frog End, May Dawson, grand daughter, 9, b Histon

1901 Impington, ?? Close, May Smith, 15, domestic servant, b Histon

1901 Impington, Chequers Lane, Emily Cornell, 12, b Impington

1901 Impington, Love Lane and Dog kennel Lane, Sarah Wakefield, 12, b Impington

Page 3.

Dec 1900 [In Church]

Emily Cornell, Mabel Elsom, May Dawson, Sarah Wakefield, Daisy Dawson, Mabel Hill, Florrie Hill, Lil Carter

Hilda 6, Kathleen 4, Dolly 10, May Smith

Nov 1900. Mrs Courtenay came up the road with Hilda 6 and Kathleen 4.

Page 4.

Autumn 1900: Lottie, Dolly and Kathie, three of the widow Courtenay’s children, were talking together as Mrs Brown, Dorothy and George came up.

Page 5.

Winter 1901 [in church] Zillah Meneer, Emily Cornell, Cornel, Mabel Elsom,

The widow and Lottie 13 Dolly 11 and Hilda 7 were at church that afternoon.

Autumn 1900 [in a wood] Benjy, Kathie 4, Lottie 12, Dolly 10, Hilda, 6, Nan 7, and Ethel 14.

Page 6.

Autumn 1900 [In church] Emily Cornell, Sarah Wakefield,

Hilda 6, Kathleen 4, Mrs Courtenay, Lottie 12 and Dolly 10.

Here lieth Hugh Courtenay Kt who departed this life in the year of our Lord 1483. Requiescat in Pace.

Nancy walked up the aisle to her husband’s pew.

Page 7.

Fen 1902 [in church] May Dawson, Lil Carter, This morning, Kitty 6, Dolly 12, Hilda 8, and Lottie were at church.

June 1901. Ethel 15 looked after little Harry and wheeled the mail cart.

Page 8.

Winter 1900. Kathy 4, Dolly 10 and Hilda 6 walked slowly home.

1900: Sarah and Phoebe Peacock, Nan, Benjy, Dolly, Kathie, Hilda

As Dorothy went to post her letters met the school children coming home from school. Autumn.

Census data:

1901 Impington, Milton Road, Sarah Elizabeth Peacock, 12 and Phoebe Peacock, 7, b Impington

Page 9.

“Which way?” 1893.

Page 10.

Spring 1902 [in church] Lilly Dawson, Dora Carter, Florrie Hill, Alice Dawson, Elsie Barker, Mabel Hill, Lil Carter, May Dawson, Rose Barker

Hilda, Kitty, Lottie, Dotty.

Spring 1902 [in church] Lil Carter, Kitty, Florrie Hill, Lilly Dawson, Daisy Dawson, Hilda

Page 11.

April 25 1900. Ethel and Lottie Courtenay stood outside Kimpton’s shop waiting for Dolly and their little cousin Ena.

Census Data:

1901 Impington, Chequers Lane, Matthew Kimpton 31, baker and grocer, b Cottenham

Page 12.

Feb 6th 1902. Dolly 12, Hilda 8 and Kathleen 6 walked home through the wind and rain.

Feb 1902. Kitty ran home from school through the snow.

Winter 1900 [in church] Dolly 11 Courtenay came into church late.

Page 13.

Ready for Church Sept 1899. Lottie Dolly and Kitty.

Page 14.

[Bath time] Autumn 1899

Page 15.

Mrs Courtenay in church. Summer 1900

Page 16.

Mrs Courtenay read the ill-news. Summer 1899

Page 17.

Bruce jumped up to Angus. Bruce jumped up to Willy. Summer 1899.

Page 18.

Dolly mounted the bicycle. June 20th 1901.

Page 19.

Ethel got off her bicycle and stopped to talk to Dolly. May 3rd 1901.

Page 20.

[In Church] Mabel Elsom, Alice Dawson, Lil Carter, May Dawson, Clarice Carter, Daisy Dawson, Dora Carter

Hilda 7, Ethel 15, Kitty, 5, Dolly 11, Spring 1901.

Page 21.

Ethel 14 decorated the parlour with holly. Winter 1900.

Page 22.

Ethel 15, Hilda, 7 and Kathie walked deep down the track. Oct 1st 1901.

Page 23.

Mrs Courtenay stood sewing outside the cottage door with Kitty beside her. Winter 1898.

Page 24.

[In church] Cornel. Mabel Elsom, Sarah Wakefield, May Smith, Lucy Wakefield, Emily Cornel, Alice Dawson

Clarice Carter, Kitty 5, Dolly, 11, Dora Carter, May Dawson, Hilda 7. The Courtenays and carters sat together that Sunday. Summer 1901.

Page 25.

July 1901. Lottie and Dolly wheeled their mail carts side by side.

Page 26.

Ethel, Dolly and Hilda stood by while Kitty kissed her little cousin. June 1901.

Page 27.

Dolly and Hilda walked to church. Sept 1901.

Page 28.

Willy and Kitty. 1899

Page 29.

Dolly 11 and Kitty 5 were taking the hamper home when Hilda 7 began to eat the green gooseberries. June 13 1901.

Page 30.

Nan sat on the floor before school telling a story to Hilda and Kathleen.

Page 31.

[In church] Daisy Dawson, Vickey Waters, Mabel Elsom

Hilda 5, Kitty 3, Lottie 11, Dolly Drawn July 1901

Page 32.

[In church] Izzy, edie, Ethel, Benny, nan 6, Jack, Mary Smith, Lottie 11, Vicky water. Summer 1899.

Page 33.

Jack Smith gave Dolly a ride while Ethel and Lottie walked in front. July 1900

Page 34

[in church]

May Dawson, Clarice Carter, May Smith, Mabel Elsom, Sarah Wakefield, Gil Carter, Aggie, Daisy Dawson, Lottie, Lucy Wakefield, Daisy Dawson.

Dolly Hilda 7 and Kitty 5 walked up the aisle Sept 1901.

Page 35.

Lady Alison was knitting. Sept 1900.

Page 36.

Ethel 14, Lottie 12 and Kathie 4 stopped to talk. 1900.

Page 37.

Ethel 15, Dolly 11 and Kathie 5 walked home from church. April 1901

Page 38.

Nan

Page 39.

Dolly rode the bicycle. Sept 2nd 1901.

Page 40.

Hilda and Kathy danced together. 1901.

Page 41.

Dolly and Nancy 1900.

Page 42.

Willy Courtenay and William Carter fought Winter 1900.

Lottie carried baby and Mary wheeled the perambulator. Summer 1900

Page 43.

Baby 4, Hilda 6, Bendy 5. 1900

[In church] Vickey Waters, Mabel ElsomEmily Cornel, Ida Elsom, Lydia Peacock, Phoebe Peacock

Hilda 6, Lottie 12, Kitty 4, Dolly 10, Nan 7 Summer 1900

Page 44.

The Widow cam to church that morning with Dolly, Hilda and Kathie. March 1901

Page 45.

The two little Courtenay’s paused irresolutely before the already too full pew.

Page 46.

Ethel 15 Courtenay got off her bicycle and walked beside her sister Lottie 13. Saturday June 29th 1901.

Page 47.

Dolly, Hilda, Lottie 1899

Page 48.

Dorothy 11, Hilda 7 and Kitty walk home together March 1901

Page 49.

Lottie and Kitty went to post a letter March 1902

Page 50.

[two families meeting in the street]

Ruth Palmer, Hilda, Mary Smith, Sarah Wakefield, Johnnie, Vicky Waters

Page 51.

????, Aggie, Lottie 11, Mary Smith 1899

Page 52.

Hilda 7, Dolly, 11, Kitty 5, Sept 1901

Page 53.

Vicky, Hilda, Kitty, Nan, Dolly, Ethel, Lottie, Phoebe

The children stood under the walnut tree taking.

Page 54.

Ethel 15 rode her bicycle and Dolly 11 and Kitty 5 wheeled the gooseberries. July 1901

Page 55.

Lottie walked along pushing the mail cart. July 1901.

Page 56.

Ethel 15, Lottie 13 and and Hilda 7 walked out of Cambridge on Sunday afternoon. July 1901.

Page 57.

Lottie 13 walked slowly along the London street. July 1901.

Lottie 13 was sitting in the railway carriage. July 1901

Page 58.

Mrs Mowbray stopped to speak to Widow Courtenay. 1899.

Page 59.

Dorothy Mowbray reviewed the Sunday School. 1900

Lottie Kathleen Katty Victoria Sarah

Page 60.

Page 61.