

FEMALE CHARACTERS**MOTHER LUDLAM'S CAVE**

Many sites on Google – most detailed re folklore is:

www.leyhunt.fsnet.co.uk/lhunt87.htm

"The legends of Mother Ludlam and the Frensham Cauldron" by Chris Hall

Source: 'Aspects of the History of Brightwell House' by John Price

Florence Nightingale

(Page 235) "Florence Nightingale.....had visited Farnham as a child and had made periodic visits to Waverley until a rift developed after her rejection of an offer of marriage from Henry, the son of her aunt Anne and rich husband George Nicholson who owned Waverley Abbey House. She developed a friendship with Florence Paget's parents and the Rev Garth was probably the godfather to the baby Florence. Florence Paget recalled 'the illustrious lady making frequent visits to her parents at (Lowlands) Brightwell, and the great interest she took in the welfare of the poor in the neighbourhood of Waverley. Another son, Major L. Nicholson was stationed in the Crimea at the time Nightingale was 'earning her immortal fame' there. In later years Florence Nightingale took great interest in the building of Farnham's first purpose-built hospital – Trimmers Cottage Hospital, opened in 1895 in East Street, only a short distance from Lowlands." [see R(5) and (8)]

Florence Paget

(Page 234)

"Mrs. Paget lived to be 79she was well regarded and a 'well-loved local figure' . In 1919, her daughter, Florence who had not married, let the building [Brightwell House] to Mrs. E. O. Jupp.

Florence had been running an antique business at 17 East Street [see R(5)] but moved eventually, after the building was reconstructed, to 'The Spinning Wheel' in the Borough. She was regarded as being an 'expert bookbinder and decorator' and had bound service books used by Edward VII and Queen Alexandra at their Coronation in 1902. Knowing the Bishop of Winchester when he lived in Farnham, she accompanied him in 1907, now as the Archbishop of Canterbury, to present King Edward with a large bible which she had supervised being bound and decorated and which was destined for the Parish church of Bruton, Williamsburg, USA as part of their 300th anniversary. Ewbank-Smith recalls Princess Mary and her children shopping and calling in at the 'Spinning Wheel' in August 1907.

Times change and in 1919 Florence Paget (and presumably, members of the family) offered the estate [Brightwells] to Farnham Urban District Council....." [see R8]

Source: 'Edwardian Farnham' by Ewbank Smith

1905

(Page 95) "Miss Paget of Lowlands was thanked for an offer to pay for the erection of a drinking trough and fountain somewhere in the town. The Council suggested a site in Castle Street, subject to the Town Hall Company's consent....."

1906

(Page 111) "Miss Paget's long awaited trough and drinking fountain had been unveiled in Castle Street. Of solid English Oak, with wrought-iron ties, the fountain stood six feet high. A beaten lead panel was inscribed '*As cold waters to a thirsty soul, so is good news from a far country*'. It had been constructed by Sturt and Goatcher, and bore the signature of Harold Falkner. It attracted wide-spread attention. To Farnham souls, it was not good news and they clamoured for its banishment as far away as possible. The Council realised they had another minor battle on their hands." [History repeated in 2008 with local architect Max Lyons design of 3 'cabins' in Castle Street to replace the market stalls – not wholly popular with the public, but for different reasons].

1907

(Page 116) "Since March 1906, Mr. H. Ridge, trustee for the late Charles Hearn, and his solicitors, Messrs Matthews and Co., morally supported by the entire population of the town, had been trying to get rid of Miss Paget's drinking fountain outside the Old Bell and Crown in Castle Street. The Council were beginning to show signs of yielding to superior forces. Mr Figg proposed that the fountain should be moved elsewhere; no horses to speak of ever used it anyway. Mr. Mardon said the only horse he'd seen using it had been a traction engine.

The levity aroused the Fountain's architect, Harold Falkner, into writing to the *Herald* in which he deplored the frivolity and pointed out that the argument was about the fountain having been illegally erected on private land and had nothing to do with its design. Miss Paget, he said, was a respected resident in Farnham and her generous gesture was being treated with ignominy; her views on an alternative site should be sought.

The fountain had become a play object for the kids, a repository for litter and had been known to smell on occasions. One councillor suggested to moving it to the top of Folly Hill, where nobody lived; another thought outside Windsor's Almshouses, but the inmates there didn't want it either. In the end, it was decided to remove it to the Council yard until a suitable spot could be found."

1908

(Page 133) "At last they thought they had found a spot for Miss Paget's drinking fountain near the recreation ground at Bourne Mill. Mr. Simmonds thought otherwise..."

1910

(Page 163) "The landscaping of Gostrey Meadow was proceeding apace, and they were now looking forward to a lavish opening ceremonygifts were pouring in from well-wishers. Mr Patterson had promised a sum of £21 to be spent on a drinking fountain to the design of Harold FalknerMiss Paget presented roses..."