

## St CLAIRE : 93 Quex View Road

Names of owners are underlined and dates of transfers are in **bold**.

Joseph Tharpe sold South End Farm and its 99 acres and 40 perches to Roger Taddy in **1763**. Part of it, known as the Four Acres, was occupied by Ann Kirby at the time and the land lay in the parishes of Birchington and St Nicholas-at-Wade. It was then handed down through Roger Taddy's family till it reached George Taddy Friend, who died in December **1840**. It then passed to his only son and heir the Rev. Henry Friend, who died intestate.

[The Four Acres plot had at one time been Five Acres, but one acre was sold to Thomas Sidders in 1821. He then went bankrupt in 1832.]

The land then passed through a number of hands, sometimes bequeathed and sometimes purchased, till it was sold to George Frederic Ramuz of 68 Cheapside, in the City of London in **1908**. George Ramuz sold three plots (340, 341 and 342) to Mrs Emma Clara Gavin on 23<sup>rd</sup> October **1922**. Mrs Gavin came from Crofton Park, Finchley and had a bungalow built on the plots. She called it "**St Claire**" and it was eventually numbered '**93**' in 1947. She does not appear to have lived in it (perhaps she used it as a holiday retreat) because when she sold it in **1926**, her address was still in Crofton Park.

The purchaser was Miss Jessie Violet Hyde. The property was next owned by Thomas George Hyde, who bought it in **1939**. He was already living in it by then and is listed as a County Engineer, retired. When he died on 28<sup>th</sup> January **1959** he vested the bungalow in his wife, Jane Kedzlie Hyde (also spelt Kedrylie), who died in **1962**.

St Claire was then taken over by Dorothy Elizabeth Best ('spinster') and Jeanne Best ('single woman'). They appear to have been friends (or even relatives) of Jane Hyde as the property was 'vested' in them both on 30<sup>th</sup> October **1962**. Dorothy lived in the bungalow alone and became a well known and greatly loved member of her little community in Quex View Road.

The present owners, David and Valerie Stevens, bought St Claire in **1999**