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Cake and Cockhorse

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In November 1977 Dr Margaret Spufford spoke to our Society on 'Seventeenth Century Literature and Popular Print'. We were going through a crisis of finding a place to meet, and bizaarely but in fact very appropriately her talk took place in the cramped back bar of the Unicorn Inn on the west side of the Market Place. Appropriately because it was in just that building that John Cheney established his printing press in 1767. Now Professor Spufford, when we asked her to review Leo De Freitas' *The Banbury Chapbooks*, she responded that her knowledge was of the seventeenth century, and she didn't review books any longer. Over forty years of a very precious friendship allowed us to pressure her into our very privileged contribution (incidentally when we asked Leo who he would like to review his book, hers was the only name he suggested). You can judge for yourselves how limited her post-seventeenth century knowledge is!

Cover: An early Cheney chapbook illustration, and an early 'misprint'. Adam and Eve are shown with navels!

BUSINESS AND TREASON: THE BROUGHTON PLOTTERS,

(The Providence[1] Island Company and Saybrook)

Nicholas J. Allen

'My deare wife, I am verylye persuaded God will bring some heavye affliction upon this lande, and that speedylye ... if the Lord seeth it will be good for us, he will provide shelter and a hiding place for us and others.' John Winthrop, Governor of Saybrook, 1635 (in a letter to his wife dated 1629).

Introduction

Visitors to Broughton Castle, after viewing the rooms used by generations of the Fiennes family for living and socialising, make their way to, or if guided are shewn, the Council Chamber which is at the back and very top of the house. There they will very likely be told, or read in the guide book, that this room is where William Fiennes, eighth Lord Saye and Sele, his son Nathaniel and a group of like-minded men such as Lord Brooke, John Hampden, John Pym, Oliver St John, Lord Warwick and Sir Harry Vane planned their opposition to King Charles' government. The visitor will, very likely, be also told that they used a business venture in the Caribbean, namely the Providence Island Company, as a cover for these political meetings.

So why did a group of powerful peers, landed gentry, politicians and businessmen meet, over what seems to be many years, plotting some form of opposition to the King's government – an exceedingly dangerous pastime. The number of men involved and the many meeting places used must have created some major problems of security, and not necessarily stemming from just the participants. Their families and servants must all have been very discreet and loyal, for there is no record of any of the participants being caught at what would have been considered traitorous activities.

[1] '... that very worthy deeds are done unto this nation by thy providence.' *Acts 24 v.2.*

Political Background

During the reign of King James I (1603-25) William Fiennes, 8th Baron Saye and Sele and 1st Viscount, was a politically active peer, deeply involved in all the important opposition movements of the period.[2] James I, the great exponent of the Divine Right of Kings, was apt to prorogue Parliament for long periods when he wished to raise taxes and could not get his own way. Lord Saye was imprisoned in 1622 in the Fleet Prison for nearly eight months for opposing King James' Palatinate Benevolence;[3] just one of his many illegal money raising activities.

However, early on in King James's reign, relations between Richard Fiennes (7th Baron), William's father, and his king must have been good as James, with his Danish Queen, Anne, stayed at Broughton Castle in 1604. Despite William's strong opposition to the King's illegal tax raising James nevertheless thought sufficiently highly of him, with some prodding from the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Buckingham, to elevate him to viscount in 1624. James died in the following year and his son Charles ascended the throne. Like his father he was prone to dissolving Parliament if he could not get his own way.

Early Beginnings

The years when William Fiennes was not at Westminster were not wasted. He devoted his considerable energies and wealth to financing schemes of colonisation of the New World. His motives, and those of his compatriots also involved in these colonial enterprises, were not only to make money but also to found colonies run on sound Puritan lines. This was a reflection of their strong disapproval of the way the King was conducting affairs of state and the way that the established Church was edging towards Catholicism. In fact Lord Saye was regarded in Westminster as probably the most intractable opponent of arbitrary government in church and state. Both the Earl of Clarendon and Anthony Wood, writing in the later seventeenth century, treated him as the acknowledged leader of the party that provoked the Civil War.

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[2] Schwarz, M.A. 'Lord Saye and Sele's Objections to the Palatinate Benevolence of 1622: Some New Evidence and its Significance' (a paper presented at the annual meeting of the Pacific Northwest Section of the Conference, Calgary, Alberta, March, 1972).

[3] See page 173.

The Providence Island Company

On 28th September 1629 letters of marque were issued for an expedition to be mounted to St Catalina, an island in the Caribbean (later to be renamed Providence Island). Subscriptions were invited from Lord Saye's circle of powerful political and business friends, who were opposed to the arbitrary rule of the king, for twenty shares at £200 per head.

In the summer of 1630 the first meeting of shareholders was held in Brooke House, Holborn, London (held there to avoid the plague in the country). On 4th December a patent was sealed granting the formal incorporation of the splendidly named company of 'The Governor and Company of Adventurers of the City of Westminster for the Plantation of the Islands of Providence, Henrietta and adjacent islands laying upon the coast of America'; known as 'The Providence Island Company'. The total cost of the Patent and fees was £60.

The name Providence had great significance at that time; the Adventurers (men who advanced venture capital) believed they were responding to divine will in founding the settlement. They were casting themselves on God's providence. The project could only succeed with God's approval.[4]

St Catalina, as the Spanish called the island, was situated in the south-west corner of the Caribbean, off the coast of Nicaragua; it is six miles long by four wide and was considered, in the seventeenth century, to be the choicest of the Caribbean islands. It had an equable climate, was fertile and salubrious; with plenty of water. It was easily fortified and there were no venomous creatures. Henrietta (the Spanish island of St Andreas) was sixty miles south-west of Providence; it is the larger of the two at sixteen miles by four. The company planned to grow and sell sugar and tobacco.

Of the original twenty Charter Members (subscribers) listed, the most active players were, throughout, the Earl of Warwick, Viscount Saye and Sele and Lord Brooke. The Company's first officers were: governor, the Earl of Holland; deputy governor, John Dyke; treasurer, John Pym; legal adviser, Oliver St John; secretary, William Jessop (not a share holder). Other members were Gabriel Barber, Gregory Carswell (Gawsell?), Sir Gilbert Gerrard, John Gurdon, Sir Edward Harwood, Richard Knightley, Sir Edmond Moundeford, Sir Nathaniel Rich, John Robartes, Sir Benjamin Rudyerd and Christopher Sherland. A late joiner, Sir Thomas Barrington, was admitted 31st January 1631; he made up the twenty subscribers.

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[4] Kupperman, K.O., *Providence Island 1630-1641*, C.U.P., 1993.

Saybrook Settlement

On 19th March 1631/2, Lords Saye and Brooke with ten others including the Hon. Charles Fiennes, John Hampden, John Humphris, Richard Knightley, Herbert Pelham, John Pym, Henry Rich, Earl of Holland, Sir Nathaniel Rich, Sir Richard Saltonstall and Sir Harry Vane, obtained from Lord Warwick and his New England Company a patent to buy a tract of land stretching forty leagues (about 140 miles) from the Narragasett River in Massachusetts.

They appointed, as governor, John Winthrop, a member of a wealthy wool family, and, if possible, even more opposed to the established church than was Lord Saye. Winthrop, an experienced colonist, was bidden to establish a settlement and fort at the mouth of the river, to be known as Saybrook. Several shiploads of new colonists were sent over from England. In 1633 both Saye and Brooke purchased more land to create a plantation at Dover, New Hampshire. The Saybrook settlement was to be the insurance policy/bolt hole for Lords Saye and Brooke should things go, politically, badly wrong in the future.

Lord Saye insisted that the colony should have an aristocracy with himself at the head and the others to be selected by himself; the Massachusetts government would have none of it. In the meantime the political situation in England was rapidly deteriorating. The Lords Saye and Brooke lost interest in the venture and after much wrangling the land was sold and became a part of Connecticut. Lord Saye turned his interests south-westward and concentrated his efforts and finances on the Providence Island Company.

The Plotters and their Plotting

In 1625, within months of his accession to the throne, Charles I was experiencing opposition from Parliament to his money raising ventures. He quarrelled with three Parliaments in succession, dissolving the third in 1629, and then continuing to govern without them. The Puritan William Fiennes and his like-minded compatriots were not the only people deeply unhappy with the King's illegal tax raising activities,[5] many monarchists were too. The Puritans were also much concerned about the way that the fledgling Church of England was edging towards Catholicism. These dissatisfactions and many others, some very minor, such as being fined if caught eating meat during Lent, all contributed to an unstoppable momentum that was gathering way, that would only end in a civil war.

By 1640, war clouds were beginning to gather over England. Political and potential military leaders representing both sides would almost certainly

[5] See page 173.

have discussed military plans to secure the armouries established in each county before the opposing party got to them. The supply and security of weapons and powder in the county armouries was the responsibility of county lords lieutenant. Lords Saye and Brooke as lords lieutenant of their respective counties would most certainly have laid their plans accordingly. No doubt plotters on both sides also discussed other important issues such as the raising and equipping of foot regiments, cavalry troops, obtaining guns and ammunition and making provision to obtain any other necessary supplies. They would also have needed to sound out men known to have served as mercenaries (it must be remembered that there was no standing army to call upon) and to have done this discreetly must have posed all sorts of problems.

According to the Broughton Castle brochure the political plotters who used the Council Chamber included John Hampden and Sir Harry Vane; it also states that they used the Providence Island Company venture as a cover for their plotting. Providence Island Company records, held in The National Archives, show that no business meetings were recorded as being held at Broughton. They do, however, show meetings being held at Richard Knightley's place at Fawsley in Northamptonshire and Lord Brooke's town house in London. It is, however, much more likely that it was the business connected with the creation of the Saybrook settlement in Connecticut that was used as the cover for their other activities, as neither Hampden nor Vane were involved in the Providence Island Company venture. Lord Saye's second and favourite son Nathaniel is also recorded as one of the plotters; he is, however, not listed as either a share holder of the Providence Island Company or a patentee of the Saybrook settlement; James, the elder son, on the other hand did hold a quarter share in the Providence Island Company in 1633.

It is perfectly feasible that Lord Saye did call meetings, in the name of the Providence Island Company, of those patentees who were political plotters, discussing treasonable politics in the Council Chamber at Broughton with no minutes recorded. No one, of course, can prove or disprove such a postulation. Perhaps that is how we should leave the story. William Fiennes, 1st Viscount Saye and Sele was, of course, not dubbed 'Old Subtlety' for nothing!

On the Sunday morning of 23rd October, 1642, completely unplanned, the two opposing sides met in fields between Kineton and Edgehill in Warwickshire: the first major battle of the English Civil War, forever to change the face of England. John Winthrop's prescient letter to his wife that 'God will bring some heavye affliction upon this lande' became all too horribly true.

Appendix I

A List of the original members of The Providence Island Company as at 19th November, 1630 (with details of their background and connections).

FIENNES, William, 8th Baron, 1st Viscount Saye and Sele (1582-1662), educated at New College, Oxford, succeeded to the barony 1613, created viscount in 1624. Member of the House of Lords and a very staunch Puritan. One of the foremost opponents of Ship-Money. At the start of the Civil War he raised a regiment of foot. After the war Cromwell asked him to sit in the House of Lords he had created; he declined. Involved in the intrigues in 1660 to restore Charles II to the throne, he was appointed Lord Privy Seal as a reward. His contemporaries charged him with duplicity and dubbed him 'Old Subtlety'.

William Fiennes was certainly not a poor man, but he had nine children, five of them girls. They all married well; their dowries, therefore, would have been costly. He also purchased three manors for three of his sons: James, Nathaniel and John. The fourth son, Richard, had to make do with a sum of money as his portion. This outlay plus the upkeep of his many estates and his position as a political peer would mean that money must have featured importantly in his life. Hence his investment in several colonial enterprises was not just for religious and political reasons. That he lost money on his American ventures is on record.

Clarendon's comment on William Fiennes in his famous *History of the Rebellion and Civil War in England* refers to him as 'A man of a close and reserved nature. He was a notorious enemy of the Church. He had always opposed and contradicted all acts of state and all taxes and impositions which were not exactly legal. He had great authority with all the discontented party throughout the kingdom, and a good reputation with many who were not, who believed him to be a wise man, and of a very useful temper in an age of licence, and one who could still adhere to the law'. A skilled political strategist.

BARRINGTON, Sir Thomas (1589-1644). M.P., brother-in-law to Gerrard and cousin to Oliver Cromwell and John Hampden; he was also related to Oliver St John.

GERRARD, Sir Gilbert, of Middlesex (1587-1670) M.P., Puritan. Married the daughter of Sir Francis Barrington. His family were long connected with colonial ventures. A personal friend of Warwick, Pym and Sir Nathaniel Rich. Deputy Governor of the Providence Island Company 1634-35.

GREVILLE, Robert, 2nd Lord Brooke, of Warwick Castle (born 1608, shot dead by a sniper at Lichfield on 2nd March 1643). An M.P. A very wealthy man, from the influence of Saye he became a Puritan and very prominent in the Puritan struggle and the consequent Civil War. It was Saye who brought him into the PIC. Clarendon described him as 'rather seduced and corrupted ... therefore his death was looked upon as no ill omen to peace'.

GURDON, John (1595-1679). M.P.

HARWOOD, Sir Edward (1586-1632), lived abroad. A Puritan, an ex-mercenary soldier, his family were involved in colonial business over many years. Lord Brooke, a long standing friend from their days in Holland, acted as his proxy at Company meetings.

KNIGHTLEY, Richard (1593-1639), M.P. and Puritan, of Fawsley, Northants (north-east of Banbury) the main venue for the business meetings of the Providence Island Company. His eldest son (also Richard) was married to John Hampden's eldest and favourite daughter Elizabeth. His family also had long-term interests in the colonies.

MOUNDEFORD, Sir Edmond (1595-1643), M.P.

PYM, John (1584-1643), Puritan, born in Somerset and brought up by his wealthy step-father in Cornwall. Educated at Oxford, M.P. for Calne and Tavistock. He secured a lucrative appointment in the Exchequer. Served on many important and influential Parliamentary committees. Appointed in November 1643 a Commissioner for Plantations (American colonies). An able financier and Providence Island Company Secretary (considered the most important appointment of all the Company's officers). His was the master-mind that governed the whole course of the Providence Island Company. In Clarendon's opinion '...of a good reputation, though known to be inclined to the Puritan party'. An able debater and tactician. Pym was also considered by Clarendon to be the most able of the Parliamentary politicians. Both Pym and Sir Arthur Haselrig lived for some time with Knightley at Fawsley. Haselrig was brother-in-law to Lord Brooke.

RICH, Sir Nathaniel (1589-1636). M.P., cousin to Warwick and Holland.

RICH, Robert, 2nd Earl of Warwick (1587-1658), educated at Cambridge (the only participant to be so), M.P., Puritan, involved in American and Caribbean colonising ventures. Had what virtually amounted to his own personal navy.

ROBARTES, John (1605-1685), later Lord Robartes. Educated at Oxford. Puritan. A Cornishman and a close friend of Pym and his step-father Sir Anthony Rous and the Rich family, he married the Earl of Warwick's sister. An investor, not a particpator, in the Providence Island Company.

RUDYERD, Sir Benjamin (1572-1658), M.P., Puritan. On intimate terms with Warwick and the Rich family.

St JOHN, Oliver (*c.*1598-1673). A lawyer and M.P., closely connected by his second marriage to Cromwell and the Barringtons. Charles I made him Solicitor-General. In 1648 he was made a Member of the Council of State. Legal adviser to the Providence Island Company. A lawyer of Lincoln's Inn, he represented John Hampden at his trial when he was charged with refusing to pay his Ship-money. Described as 'reserved with a dark and clouded countenance, proud, conversing with

few ....very seldom was known to smile'. He disliked the Church because he was once brought before the Star Chamber for allegedly issuing seditous material.

SHERLAND, Christopher (died 1632), M.P., Puritan and a lawyer (he probably was a shareholder, as a business venture).

Appendix II

Patentees of the Saybrook Settlement, but not Shareholders in the Providence Island Company

Politicians:
HAMPDEN, John (1594-1643), educated at Magdalen College, Oxford, he was M.P. for Andover and a very influential Member of Parliament. He was reputed to be the wealthiest commoner in England. His mother was an aunt of Oliver Cromwell. Clarendon's opinion of Hampden, 'a man of great cunning ... a gentleman of good extraction and a fair fortune ... not of many words, cheerful, affable, courageous, [with] wisdom, he had an ability to sway people'. He raised a regiment of foot and proved to be an able commander in the field. He was mortally wounded at Chalgrove Field in June 1643.

VANE, Sir Henry the younger (1613-62), Oxford educated, M.P. and Puritan (but believed in the freedom of worship). He was for a short time Governor of Massachusetts.

Businessmen only:
Herbert PELHAM (related to John Gurdon), **Sir Nathaniel RICH** and **Sir Richard SALTONSTALL** (also related to John Gurdon), joined the Patentees in 1629, sailing with Winthrop in 1630.

Notes

1. The **Palatinate Benevolence** was a fund to aid Frederick V of Bohemia, the Elector Palatine, prosecute a war against Spain. Frederick was married to King James's daughter Elizabeth. Contributions to the Benevolence, proposed in March 1622, were not voluntary – all who were in a position to contribute were required to do so. By May, Oxfordshire, of which Lord Saye and Sele was Lord Lieutenant and a magistrate, had not contributed a penny. In fact Lord Saye had actively dissuaded people from contributing.

2. Ship-Money. October 1634 saw the first writ issued to raise money to build naval warships. The Royal Navy up until James I's reign was still largely a mercenary force using adapted merchant ships. James, however, was blessed with a talented ship builder in Phineas Pett, who started to design and construct purpose-built warships – his five-hundred-ton warships were a match for anything on the high seas. When James died he left a navy of thirty-seven warships. Charles deemed these insufficient to maintain his political ambitions. He therefore, at the instigation of William Noy, his Attorney-General, proposed to raise a tax to build more warships, soon known as Ship-Money.

Whilst such a tax had on occasion been raised previously, it had been restricted to maritime counties. It was when the tax was imposed on inland towns and villages that deep nation-wide resentment was caused, particularly to the aristocracy and landed gentry, many of whom, very vociferously, refused to pay their assessed portion of the tax. They were, by and large, taken to court, fined or imprisoned. John Hampden was one of them.

His refusal and subsequent court case was probably the most notorious case of all. Buckinghamshire, Hampden's county, was assessed for £4,500: the equivalent of providing a warship of 450 tons, fully equipped and manned for six months. Hampden's assessment was only for 20 shillings but he refused to pay on principle. So did Richard Cartwright of Aynhoe, on the borders of Northamptonshire and Oxfordshire, a wealthy landowner and near neighbour of William Fiennes, who was assessed at 45s.6d. Cartwright's son John, ironically, was married to Noy's daughter Catherine. The Northampton bailiffs actually called at Aynhoe to take Richard to prison at Northampton, when he, as they all did in the end, caved in and paid.

On a lower social scale, the mayor of Banbury, directed to levy the tax in the Borough, found it impossible to raise the money, except by 'distresses', and in 1637 had yet 'many parcels of goods which lie rotting'. Writs were continually issued to raise Ship-money in the years 1635, 1636, 1637, 1638 and 1639.

Superimposed on all Lord Saye's colonial business and his reasons for these enterprises was his active opposition to the Ship-Money tax. He not only headed the resistance of Oxfordshire landowners, but as High Steward of Banbury, Keeper of Banbury Castle, Lord Lieutenant of Oxfordshire, Cheshire and Gloucestershire, he would have been seen as a very powerful influence on others who might be of a like mind. King Charles therefore tried to win him over by offering the office of Privy Councillor, which he refused. By January 1641 the Long Parliament had declared the tax illegal; in June that year a bill was brought in declaring this so. The bill received Royal assent in August. By then it was too late: it had become the catalyst that sparked off the English Civil War in 1642.

As England was rapidly sliding towards civil war Lords Saye and Brooke sold Sayebrook to the Connecticut government in 1641. However, during the conflict Parliament found time in 1643 to appoint Lord Saye one of the Commissioners for the Plantations. The commissioners were all men with financial interests in the New World and part of their duties was to appoint state governors to the new colonies.

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PASSING THROUGH:
BANBURY in the new
OXFORD DICTIONARY OF NATIONAL BIOGRAPHY

Colin Cohen and Jeremy Gibson

One of the facilities of the splendid new *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* is that, as it is available on-line, a search can be made for specific names or words. We entered 'Banbury', and the following is a digest of relevant entries. We have in general omitted those referring to places 'near Banbury', or where 'Banbury' occurs as one of several places. Unsurprisingly, *Cake & Cockhorse* is not quoted as a source. Nevertheless articles relating to some of those listed have been published, and are so indicated. 'B.' = Banbury.

Administrators

Empson, Sir Richard (*c.*1450-1510). Constable and steward of B., 1488.

Fisher [Hawkins], Thomas (1515/16-1577). Keeper of B. Castle and bailiff of B. Hundred, 1550.

Architects

Cockerell, Samuel Pepys (1753-1827), architect. Re-built B. church 1792-1797. *C&CH* **5**.4, N. Cooper, 'The Building and Furnishing of St Mary's Church'.

Miller, Sanderson (1716-1780), of Radway Grange, son of **Sanderson Miller** (d.1737), a wealthy wool merchant of B., and his wife, Maria, daughter of the Revd John Welchman. *C&CH* **4**.6, A.C. Wood, 'Sanderson Miller of Radway', W. Hawkes, 'Miller's Work at Wroxton', 'The Architectural Work of Sanderson Miller'.

Murray, James (1831-1863). Work included the corn exchange at B. (1857).

Civil War

Compton family:

James, 3rd earl of Northampton (1622-1681).

Spencer, 2nd earl of Northampton (1601-1643).

Sir William (1625-1663), defended B. Castle.

Fiennes, John (d. in or before 1710), parliamentary army officer and politician. Besieged B. Castle, 1644.

Hausted, Peter (*c.*1605-1644), playwright and C of E clergyman. Died 1644 on second day of siege of B. Castle.

Hind, James (1616-1652), highwayman and royalist soldier. Served in garrison of Sir William Compton at B. Castle.

Peyton, Sir Edward, second baronet (1587/8-1657). Incarcerated in B. Castle, 1642.

Turner, Peter (1586-1652), mathematician. Royalist, imprisoned at B. 1641.

Whalley, Edward (d.1674/5), regicide and major general. Laid siege to B. Castle, 1646.

Clergy (Church of England)

Asplin, William (1688/9-1758), Vicar of B., 1717. *Note.* There is also a reference in *ODNB* to Asplin under 'North, George (1707-1772), numismatist.'

Dod, John (1550-1645). Preached at B.

Lancaster, Thomas William (1787-1859), writer. Vicar of B., 1815-1849. *C&CH* **2**.4, E.R.C. Brinkworth, 'A Nineteenth Century Vicar of B: Thomas William Lancaster'.

Scudder, Henry (d.1652), clergyman and author. Closely connected to William Whately.

Clergy (Church of England) continued

Tatham, Edward (1749-1834), college head. Curate at B. 1778.

Wells, Samuel – see *Clergy (Nonconformist)*.

Whately, William (1583-1639), puritan preacher. Vicar of B. 1611-1639. *C&CH* **14**.6, J. Eales, 'The Conduct Books of William Whately: A Seventeenth Century Vicar's Advice on Marriage'.

Clergy (Nonconformist)

Belden, Albert David (1883-1964), Congregational minister, South Bar.

Church, John (b.1780), Independent minister, Baptist.

Harry, Nun Morgan (1800-1842), Independent minister at B., 1827-1834.

Lawrence [Laurence], **Edward** (d.1695), ejected minster and religious writer, father of Nathaniel (1670-1708), nonconformist minster at B.

Leigh [Lee], **Edward** (1603-1671), writer and parliamentarian. Not in holy orders himself, he was in the late 1630s a member of the godly circle based in B., an acolyte of the vicar, William Whateley, who baptised his daughter, 1638.

Parker, Joseph (1830-1902), Congregational minister at B. 1853. *C&CH* **1**.3, B.S. Trinder, 'Joseph Parker: Sabbatarianism and the Parson's Street Infidels'; **10**.7, O. Chaplin, 'A Nonconformist Cameo'.

Ryland, John (1753-1825), Baptist minister and theologian, married Elizabeth daughter of Robert Tyler of B.

Wells, Samuel (1614-1678), Vicar of B. 1648, later ejected and a Presbyterian minister (see also *Quakers:* Curtis, Thomas).

Historian

Beesley, Alfred (1799/1800-1847), antiquary. *C&CH* **2**.2, B.J. Burden, 'Alfred Beesley: Poet'; **8**.7, J.M. Steane, 'Alfred's Beesley's *History of Banbury*: A critical appraisal', B. Adkins, 'The Beesley family of Alcester and Banbury'; **12**.4, E.R.C. Brinkworth, 'Alfred Beesley'.

Landowners

Cope, Sir Anthony (1486/7-1551), of Hanwell, courtier.

Stuart, Daniel (1766-1846), newspaper proprietor and journalist, of Wykeham Park, B.

Lawyers

Amos, Andrew (1791-1860), jurist.

Chamberlain, Sir Thomas (d.1625), judge. Of Wykham, friend of William Whately.

Dover, John (1644-1725), lawyer and playwright. Practised at B.

Hill, Alexander Staveley (1825-1905), barrister and politician. Recorder of B. 1866-1903.

Hunt, Thomas (1626/7-1688), lawyer and whig polemicist. Practised law in B. 1660-1683. *C&CH* **10**.1, J.S.W. Gibson, 'The "Wheatsheaf" and the "Adam and Eve" in Restoration B.'.

Manufacturers and Merchants

Hickman, Sir Alfred, first baronet (1830-1910), iron and steel manufacturer. Owner of ironstone quarries near B.

Romney, Sir William (d.1611). A London merchant, involved with the foundation of the East India Company. It is claimed his wife, Rebecca, daughter of Alderman Taylor, haberdasher, made an endowment to the Haberdashers' Free School in B. – otherwise unknown.

Manufacturers and Merchants continued

Samuelson, Sir Bernhard, first baronet (1820-1905), ironmaster and promoter of technical education. Manufacturer of agricultural implements at B. M.P. for B. *C&CH* **1**.8, A. Potts 'Sir Bernhard Samuelson: A pioneer of Technical Education'; **9**.8, M. Graham, 'The Building of B. Library in 1884'.

Politics

Broadhurst, Henry (1840-1911), trade unionist. Stonemason.

Cope, Sir Anthony (1548x50-1614), first baronet, b. at Hardwick Manor. M.P. for B. *C&CH* **11**.1, J.S.W. Gibson, 'Heraldry, Horology and Horticulture at Hanwell'.

Politics continued

Crew(e) family:

John, first baron Crew (1597/8-1679), M.P. for B. 1628-9.

Sir Thomas (1558-1634), lawyer and speaker of the House of Commons. Of Steane. Left legacies to poor of B.

Crossman, Richard Howard Stafford (1907-1974), Cabinet Minister and diarist. Lived at Prescote Manor near B.

Douglas, Sylvester, Baron Glenbervie (1743-1823), diarist. M.P. for B. 1812.

Easthope, Sir John, baronet (1784-1865), journalist. M.P. for B. 1831. *C&CH* **11**.9, D. Eastwood, 'Politics and Elections in B. 1806-31'.

Fiennes, Nathaniel (1607/8-1669), army officer. M.P. for B. 1640.

Fry, Charles Burgess (1872-1956), sportsman and journalist. Unsuccesful candidate at B. 1923.

Hayward, Ronald George Still [Ron] (1917-1996). Born at Bloxham. Secretary/agent to constituency Labour Party at B. 1945.

Knollys, Sir Francis (1511/12-1596), and his second son **William, first earl of B.** (*c.*1545-1632), had political influence. Their cousin **Francis Walsingham** may have been first M.P. for B. *C&CH* **8**.4, G. de C. Parmiter, 'The Countess of Banbury and her Sons'.

North family:

Sir Dudley (1641-1691), merchant and economist, M.P. for B. 1685. *C&CH* **11**.7, J.S.W. Gibson, 'The Background to the Surrender of Banbury's Charter in 1683: and the Parliamentary Representation of the Borough, 1660-1698'.

Dudley Long (1748-1829), M.P. for B. 1796-1806. *C&CH* **11**.9, D. Eastwood, 'Politics and Elections in B. 1806-31'.

Francis, first earl of Guilford (1704-1790), M.P. for B. 1727.

Frederick, second earl of Guilford [known as **Lord North**] (1732-1792), prime minister. M.P. for B., 1754-1790. *C&CH* **16**.3, J. Gibson, 'Lord North and B. Corporation'.

Praed, William Mackworth (1747-1833), banker. M.P. for B. 1806. *C&CH* **11**.9, D. Eastwood, 'Politics and Elections in B. 1806-31'.

Samuelson, Sir Bernhard – see *Manufacturers*.

Vincent, Henry (1813-1878). Stood as radical candidate for B. 1841.

Willes, Sir John (1685-1761), judge. Father of **John Willes** (d.1784), of Astrop, M.P. for B. 1746.

Williams, Dame Juliet Evangeline Rhys [née Glyn], political activist and public servant. Wife of **Sir Rhys Williams**, first baronet (1865-1955), Coalition Liberal M.P. for B.

Quakers

Braithwaite family:

Joseph Bevan (1818-1905), barrister.

Joseph Bevan (1855-1934), stockbroker.

Richard Bevan (1900-90), philosopher.

Bugg, Francis (1640-1727), Quaker apostate. Debate with Mr Richard Vivers, 1702.

Camm [*née* Newby; *other married name* **Audland**], **Anne** (1627-1705), Quaker preacher. *C&CH* 7.9, B. Trinder, 'The Origins of Quakerism in B.'.

Curtis, Thomas (d.1712), Quaker schismatic. Published letter addressed to Samuel Wells, Presbyterian minister of B.

Faber, Albert Otto (1612-1684), chemical physician. Associate of Quakers, arrested in B. on suspicion of arson. *C&CH* 7.4, J.S.W. Gibson, 'A Century of Tavern-Keeping, Pt. 1: The Stokes family at the Unicorn and the Three Tuns'.

Farn[s]worth, Richard (*c.*1630-1666), Quaker preacher and writer. Incarcerated in B. when there to attend trial of Anne Audland. *C&CH* 7.9, B. Trinder, 'The Origins of Quakerism in B.'.

Parker, Alexander (1628-1689), Quaker preacher and author of *A Testimony on the Light Within* (1657), which prompted a refutation from the B. minister Samuel Grevill, who in turn was attacked in William Penn's *Urim and Thummin...*

Quakers continued

Rich, Robert (d.1679), Quaker adherent and sectary. Imprisoned at B. 1655. *C&CH* 7.9, B. Trinder, 'The Origins of Quakerism in B.'.

Simpson [Sampson], **William** (1627?-71), Quaker preacher. Incarcerated for preaching at B. 1655. *C&CH* 7.9, as above.

School and Schoolmasters

Barker, Matthew (1619-1698), Independent minister; schoolmaster pre-Civil War.

Brinknell, Thomas (*c.*1470-1539), schoolmaster and theologian, master of St John's Hospital from 1511.

Edgeworth, Roger (*c.*1488-1559/60). Religious controversialist. Educated at B. grammar school.

Gee, Edward (1612-1660), C of E clergyman and writer. Educated at B.

Langley, John (d.1657), headmaster King's School, Gloucester. Educated at B.

Pointer, John (1668-1754), antiquary. Educated at B. grammar school.

Pope, Sir Thomas (*c.*1507-1559), of Wroxton, founder of Trinity College, Oxford. Educated at B. grammar school.

Stanbridge, John (1463-1510), schoolmaster and grammarian. Master of the hospital of St John at B., to open a free grammar school there 1501.

Wilson, John Burgess [*pseud.* **Anthony Burgess**] (1917-1993), writer and composer. Taught at B. School, 1950-1954. *C&CH* **15**.2, B. Trinder, 'A Literary Jubilee: "Anthony Burgess" '.

Sport

Bryan, Benjamin [nicknamed Big Ben] (1753-1794), prize fighter. Defeated Jacombs at B., 1789.

Fry, Charles Burgess (1872-1956), sportsman and journalist. Unsuccessful parliamentary candidate at B. 1923.

Holding, Thomas Hiram (1844-1930), touring cyclist and promoter of recreational camping. Captain of B. Bicycle Club, 1876.

Perrins, Isaac (1750x57-1801), pugilist and mechanical engineer. Fought Tom Johnson at B. 1789. *C&CH* **12**.9, **13**.1, J. Gibson, 'Prize Fighting in B.', 'More on Isaac Perrins'.

Born at Banbury

Cheney, Christopher Robert (1906-1987), historian.

Cope, Sir Walter (1553?-1614), administrator.

Croke, John (1489-1554), legal official.

Crowe, Dame Sylvia (1901-1997), landscape architect.

D'Oyly, Christopher (1717-1795), politician.

Gulliver, George (1804-1882), anatomist and physiologist. *C&CH* **10**.5, D.E. Allen, 'Botany and Blood: The double life's work of Professor George Gulliver'.

Hodgkin, Sir Alan Lloyd (1914-1998), physiologist.

Loveling, Benjamin (b.1711), poet, baptised at B. where his father, **Benjamin Loveling** (fl.1690-1727), was incumbent.

Maugham [*née* **Barnardo**; *other married name* Wellcome], (Gwendoline Maud) **Syrie** (1879-1955), interior decorator.

Newman, John (*c.*1677-1741), Presbyterian minister.

Newman, Samuel (1602-1663), biblical scholar, son of Richard Newman.

Scott, Sir Harold Richard (1887-1969), civil servant and commissioner of police.

Sprigg[e], Joshua (1618-1684), Independent minister, 3rd son of **William Sprigg**.

Sprigg, William (b.1633, d.*c.*1701), political writer, 2nd son of **William Sprigg**.

Troup, Robert Scott (1874-1939), forestry scientist.

Welchman, Edward (1665 [actually bapt. 1664]-1739). Religious writer. Son of **John Welchman**, gent., of B.

West, Robert (1649-*c.*1684), lawyer and conspirator [Rye House Plot]. Son of **James West** of B.

The *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* may be consulted on-line at the Centre for Banburyshire Studies. The 60-volume printed version is available at the Centre for Oxfordshire Studies, Oxford Central Library (as is the on-line version; also on-line at Abingdon, Henley and Witney libraries). For anyone prepared to make the journey to Church Hanborough, Jeremy Gibson is happy to welcome researchers to browse in his set of the printed volumes (easy car-parking and a pub next door).

The people listed here are of course only those thrown up by our search for 'Banbury'. We may try to do the same for nearby villages in 'Banburyshire' in due course. What this exercise has shown, not unexpectedly, is the transitory influence Banbury has had on the lives of these 'national' figures. For only two of those listed, Alfred Beesley and William Whately, can it be said that Banbury was central to their lives. The town was important to at least two others, Samuel Wells and Sir Bernhard Samuelson. However, Wells had been active elsewhere before he was instituted Vicar of Banbury at the age of 34. Samuelson, though Banbury became his home, had multitudinous industrial activities elsewhere and an influential parliamentary career. And who was the shadowy 'B. minister Samuel Grevill' who refuted the Quaker Alexander Parker in the 1650s? We have found no other reference to him – could it in fact have been Samuel Wells, vicar at that time? It is salutary to be reminded that life does exist outside Banbury, of the busy careers of those who passed through, or who maybe were only born here.

We have shown articles published in *Cake & Cockhorse* on a few of those listed. There is surely scope for further work of this sort. Like the *Victoria County History*, the *ODNB* should be regarded only as a starting point, not the final word. The sources are given, but even Homer nods – there may be more to be found, original material to be researched in greater depth and perhaps with the advantage of local knowledge.

The *ODNB* remains a great publishing event, a source of enormous value to all present and future historians. What's more, the on-line version will be constantly updated and corrected. It's there to be used – use it!

Note. An article on the new *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*, by Mark Curthoys, appeared in the *Oxfordshire Family Historian* (Oxfordshire Family History Society), December 2004 (**18**.3).

THORPE MANDEVILLE SCHOOL

Maurice Cole

'I shut the door of this little school with much sadnesss...'

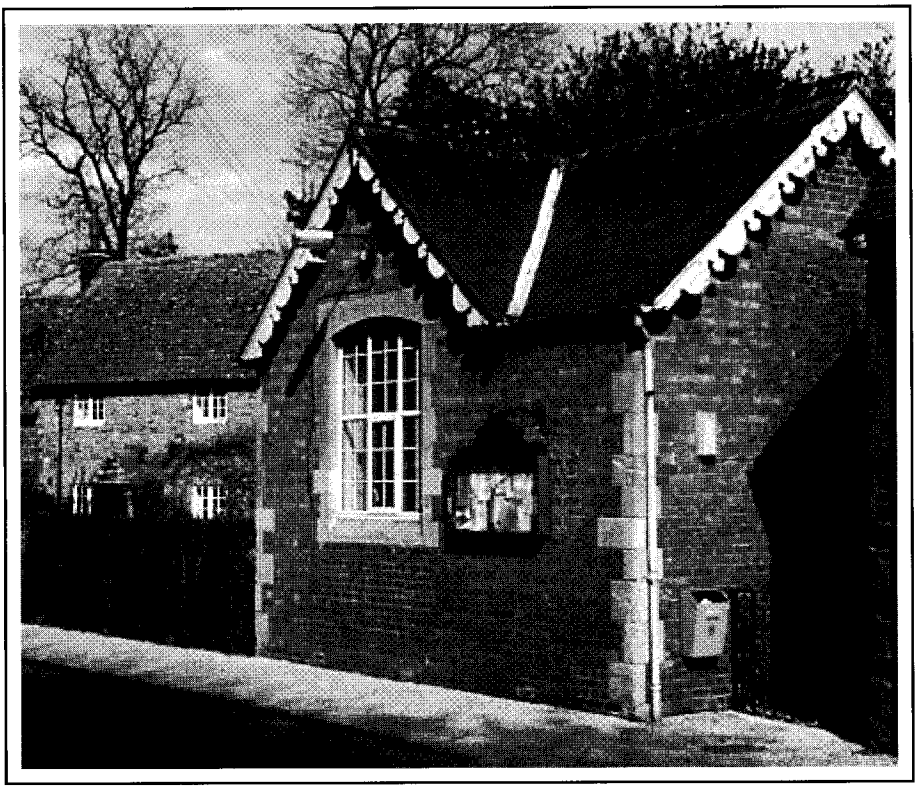
The print depicting kings and queens of England had been hanging in Thorpe Mandeville village hall for many years. However, its state of decay eventually necessitated its demise. This led to a discovery, reminding us that the building had been the village school for over a century. The backing paper to the print was the original school timetable for 1921. It had been formally signed as approved by the Northamptonshire Local Education Authority and counter-signed, on behalf of the Board of Education, as fulfilling the requirements of the Elementary Education Act, 1870.

The school was Church of England endowed and religion clearly formed a material part of the curriculum. In 1921, morning attendance registers were marked at 9am, and closed at 9.45am. During this period prayers were said, followed by religious instruction. Grace was said on dismissal for the lunch break and again when school reconvened at 1.30pm. School finished at 4pm with closing prayers. Religious instruction for the juniors totalled two and a half hours each week, compared with just over three hours for arithmetic, five and a half hours for English writing, reading and recitation, and one hour each for history and geography. Needlework was allotted two hours and music slightly less; the school had a harmonium at that time. Physical recreation and games occupied one and a half hours.

Thorpe's population has rarely exceeded 200 and therefore the number of children has always been small. There was resultant difficulty for village schooling to meet the educational needs of all age groups.

It is not clear how education was first established in the parish. Perhaps informal schooling initially came from the rector. From 1536 parishes were required to provide basic reading lessons and religious instruction to all children. This was often provided by the clergy, and in the church.

During the 1600s and 1700s the nation's schooling was primarily fee-paying in private schools and the lower working classes were thereby excluded, not forgetting the cost from the loss of a child's labour. But schooling was increasingly provided to the poor by philanthropists and the expanding charity schools in the larger conurbations. Many children still received a very limited education, often only from family, friends and their own endeavours. Even in 1810 the position had not materially improved; the



Thorpe Mandeville Village Hall, 1996.

SPCK reported that nationally two-thirds of the children of the poor had no schooling at all.

Thorpe's school development in the 1800s followed the national pattern of the church-provided *national schools*, the bulk of elementary teaching being undertaken by children under a certificated head teacher, few of whom were college-trained.

A national education system developed very slowly during the nineteenth century. Government grants started in 1833, although state schools were still not provided at that time. Elementary education relied on voluntary religious school societies, coupled with pupil teaching. The network of schools blossomed, thanks to the rivalry between the two main schooling organisations – the British and Foreign School Society (Nonconformists) and the National Society (Church of England). Good charity schools were sometimes found in rural areas, endowed by benevolent landowners or local

congregations. State inspectors of schools were appointed in 1839 but it was not until the 1870 Act that Government took a firm hand on elementary education by introducing elected school boards with the power to build and manage schools, to compel attendance and to levy a rate. 'Elementary' education was not a stage in the education process; it meant a minimal education for those who could not pay for anything better.

The 1870 Act saw the demise of many pioneering church schools without the financial resources to maintain the standard of the new *board schools*. However, religious education remained a compulsory subject in all elementary schools, subject to a conscience clause.

Thorpe's red-brick school had been built a few years earlier than the 1870 Act, in 1864. The land was glebe land and therefore, on 18 July 1864, it was conveyed by the then incumbent, the Reverend Robert Pargeter Humfrey with the consent of the Lord Bishop of Peterborough and the Overseers of the Poor of the parish. (The Overseers legally originate from a 1597 Act whereby they were initially appointed and empowered to assess every parish, collecting local rates for the relief of the aged, impotent and sick. Overseers were abolished in 1927.)

Thorpe's school building was enlarged in 1898. Even then it only had two classrooms, separated by folding screen doors, for infants and juniors; the latter being known as the 'mixed' class.

The first meeting of Thorpe's 'School Board' was held in 1871, comprising the rector, two churchwardens and three other parishioners. The meeting decided that 'all children up to their twelfth birthday be compelled to attend school'. This was higher than the national requirement as it was not until 1880 that all children were compelled to attend school between the ages of five and ten. This was raised to eleven in 1893 and to twelve in 1899 (except for those employed in agriculture).

Thorpe's School Board set a local parish rate to provide funds for school expenses. In 1885, this was two (old) pence in the pound. The amount remained unchanged for at least six years. Nationally, fees for poor children were paid by the boards from 1876 until 1891 when all fees were abolished. The minutes of Thorpe's School Board in August 1891 refer to the acceptance of the free grant offered by the Education Department and that from 1 September the school would become a free one, in accordance with the Elementary Education Act 1891.

There was close association between Victorian education and social class. Therefore, the few middle class parents in Thorpe probably followed the nation-wide preference for private schooling, not allowing their offspring to share benches with the children of the lower working class. Residential private schools were 'the bedrock of the Victorian middle classes'.

But the village school was not the only school in the parish. While the Reverend Algernon Humfrey was rector, from 1876 to 1902, he supplemented his church living by running a residential school at the rectory, normally for a maximum of fifteen boys up to the age of fourteen. His promotional pamphlet proclaimed that 'the system, discipline and routine of work are, as much as possible, those of a public school'. Additionally, from 1854 to 1882, the manor house was tenanted by the Reverend William Browning for use as a preparatory boarding school. Mr Browning took an active role in the parish, being churchwarden for twelve years, keen on foxhunting and also a board member of the village school. Records show that there were 34 boys boarding at the manor in 1871, but as with the rectory school, these were not local children. We can only speculate as to how the 'sons of the establishment' settled in to what was then a fairly isolated village and how they were accepted by the villagers. Perhaps there was a rural equivalent to 'town and gown' situations found in the larger academic communities.

The school inspector's visits to Thorpe appear to have been antagonistic. Conditions in the school in 1893 were probably poor – the inspector's report recommending the building of a new school. This was not accepted, but a new porch and cloakroom were authorised. In 1896 the Inspector had the perhaps rather aptly Dickensian name of Mr. Grindrod. He commented that 'the small classroom is so crowded with heavy furniture that free movements are impossible'. The rector pointed out that the furniture had been ordered at the instigation of the inspectors in recent years. In 1898, the inspector again said that the schoolroom must be enlarged. A building extension was then agreed, providing the second classroom, at a cost of almost £74. Thorpe's average school attendance at the turn of the century was 25 pupils.

The national educational system was completely reorganised in 1902 when responsibility for providing elementary, secondary and technical education was given to 330 local education authorities (LEAs) under a central Board of Education. The *board schools* were abolished, becoming *council schools*. The first meeting of the board of managers of Thorpe Mandeville National School was held on 12 November 1903. In 1906 the school received a letter advising on the deletion of 'National' from the title of all schools.

In 1911 it was agreed that children over the age of eleven would transfer to Culworth School, one mile away, and the teaching staff would reduce to one person. (In 1918 the national school leaving age was raised to fourteen. Delayed by the outbreak of war in 1939, it increased to fifteen in 1947 and to sixteen in 1965.)

The Reverend Algernon Humfrey, c.1900.

Thorpe's school management records give us an insight into people, occupations and customs. They include:

1877 – *'John Horwood: Kept at home in order to fetch his mother's washing clothes; she being laundress.'*

1877 – 1 May: *'One day's holiday because the children are accustomed to go round the village with a garland.'* This tradition continued in the village until the mid-twentieth century. Money was collected for worthy causes, such as the Red Cross.

May Day with garlands, about 1940 (Mrs J. Edmunds).

1892 – *'Herbert Wade: Away to help his father who is in the cornfield.'*

1904 – 27 June: The school had been closed on account of measles. Deep sympathy was recorded following the death of the late head teacher, Mrs Harriet Webb, aged 61, who had been head teacher for about forty years. It is poignantly noted that the school children sang at her graveside.

Harriet was born in nearby Eydon and in 1870 she married Charles Webb, a carpenter from Culworth. Sadly he died in 1875, aged 32, leaving Harriet with three young children to support. She lived in the end-terrace stone cottage by the school gate, where her mother ran the village shop. Eventually her daughter Annie was employed as a school assistant. Annie and her sister Carrie continued to run the shop for some years after Harriet's death. Harriet's son, Samuel, was a carpenter and general builder based in Thorpe. He lived with his two sisters. None of the three children married. The graves of Harriet and her husband lie side-by-side, unmaintained, by Thorpe's main churchyard path.

1914 – Reference was made to acceptance of Belgian refugees.

Apparently the Roman Catholics of Northampton were the first in the county to invite Belgian war refugees, providing homes free of cost. Most towns and villages in the county extended the welcome as the influx became so great.

1914 – *'William Preedy: Absent to go to Moreton fatstock show.'*

1914 - A boy (who is better unnamed) *'Sent home to make himself clean and never returned.'*

Parishioners' memories of school days in the early twentieth century include kneeling for prayers and the older children being expected to assist with the teaching of the younger children. Girls had black stockings with long black boots, either laced or buttoned if from a wealthier family. The children knew the well-recounted village saying, which has now lost its meaning, if any existed:

Chacombe where you make 'em,
Thrupp where you bring them up,
S'grave where you bury 'em.

But not all memories are rose-tinted, particularly those of winter days. Heating in the two rooms was by inadequate coal fires with iron-rod guards. In February 1919 the school record states that 'all ink was frozen and the children were so cold that part of the arithmetic lesson was taken around the fire.' Wintertime lighting would have been poor, being provided by oil lamps; electricity was not laid to the village until relatively late, in 1949.

There were 22 children on the school roll in 1958. At that time Miss Freeman was head teacher. Her employment at the school almost equalled Harriet Webb's long record. She taught at the school for 35 years, from 1927 to 1962, lodging in the village and cycling home to Brackley at weekends.

Eventually, and perhaps inevitably, one hundred and three years after it was built, Thorpe's little school closed in July 1967. Seventeen of the nineteen pupils transferred to Culworth School and two transferred to a grammar school. Peterborough Diocesan Board of Finance subsequently sold the land and buildings in 1970 for £500 to a newly formed charitable trust known as Thorpe Mandeville Village Hall.

The head teacher's final record thoughtfully reminds us of different times: *'13 July 1967: Closure of Thorpe Mandeville School. I shut the door of this little school with much sadness. I do not think it is often realised how much a small school gives in experience of human relationships; the younger ones striving to keep up with the older, and the older ones taking thought and responsibility for the younger. It is teaching in its ideal form.'*

RHUBARB

Ruth Brown

"Not the money in it there used to be...
Why, there were a hundred or more acres out there.
All grown up; a proper factory we had here.
Rhubarb. Henblane. Belladonna. Poppies.
For the apothecaries in Banbury and further still.
The whole of the village was at it, but that died off.
Like coal coming up the canal in barges,
Then the railway went and the mill packed up.
End of an era.
Built them modern thatched cottages on the old rhubarb field.
The old beds were grubbed out.
One of them new-fangled homeopath shops have opened up
On Church Street, where the old butcher's used to be.
Course, now they want the old remedies back again.
Demand's higher than ever.
Suppose, in a few years' time, we'll have a grant
To put our roots back in again. "

This poem recently won a national poetry prize. We are privileged to reprint it here.

RURAL INDUSTRY:
Some evidence of the Weaving Activity in South Newington, 1540-1851

Penny Carey

This short piece, investigating weaving in South Newington, is based mainly on primary sources, probate and deed documents with some information drawn from the *Victoria County History*. It is my intention to trace the history of weaving in the village, simply from these documents, from 1540 until it died out in the nineteenth century.

There is a good water supply in South Newington provided by the river Swere. Indeed there were two water mills recorded in the Domesday survey.[1] The Milcombe Mill, separately recorded in the Domesday survey, is a third of a mile downstream from the South Newington Mill on the old parish boundary, almost within South Newington.[2] While the water provided the power for fulling mills, the growing of crops such as hemp and flax and the rearing of sheep by most households provided the raw materials for the growth of a weaving trade.[3] How early in the village's history weaving took place is not known. It was probably on a very small domestic scale to begin with, providing yarn and cloth for family needs with the surplus being sold in local markets. The growth of this 'industry' is indicated in probate and deed documents of the period from 1540 to 1851.

The Oxfordshire Record Office Probate Document index, for South Newington village, records that the majority of occupations in the village in this period were those of husbandman and yeoman. However, there were also a variety of other trades and occupations. Some of the documents between 1540 and 1715 relate directly to weavers and the allied trades. Many inventories and some wills of husbandmen, yeomen and even gentlemen, suggest some involvement in weaving or the production of yarn for weavers. Some examples of these are:

• Margar[e]t Hadlonde, who in her will of 1560 left '*half the curat* (overseeing?) *of her loombe [to] William Gylles and Tho[ma]s Sprootleye with others*' [183.382].[4]

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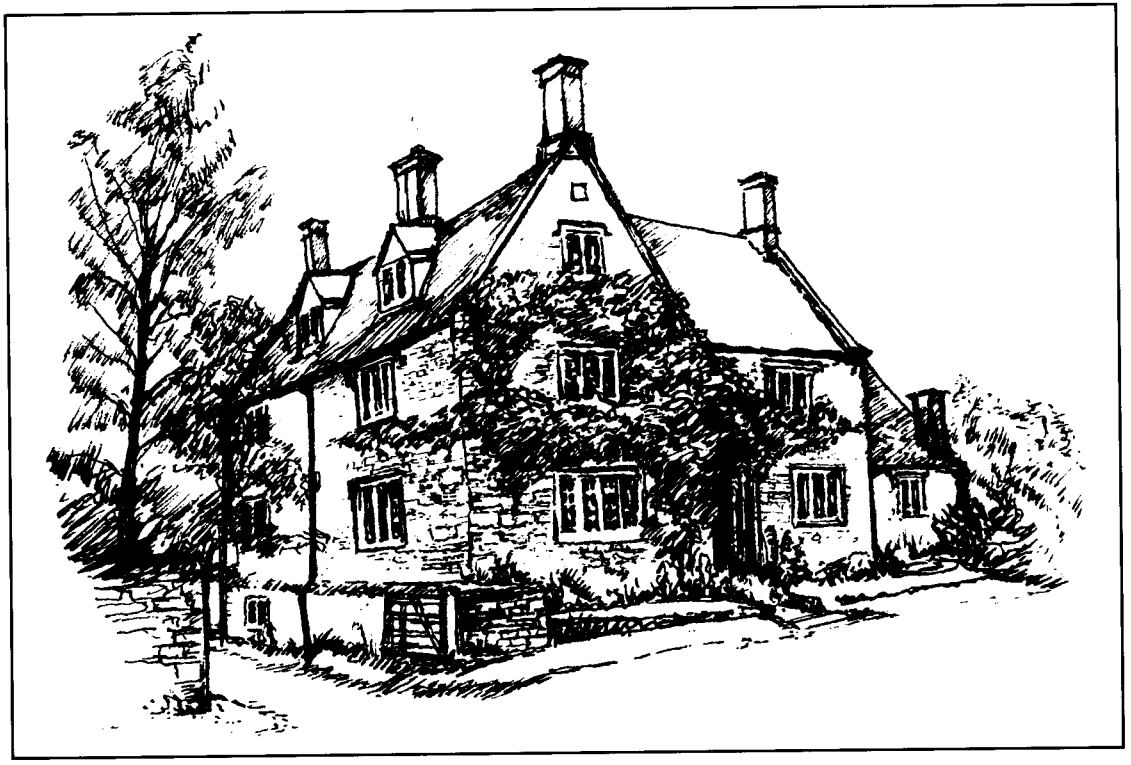
[1] *VCH* Vol. XI, *Wootton Hundred (North)*, p.154.

[2] *VCH* Vol. IX, *Bloxham Hundred*, p.72.

[3] *VCH* Vol. XI, *Wootton Hundred (North)*, p.151.

[4] Quoted probate documents are from Oxfordshire Record Office Wills and Inventories.



College Farm, South Newington.

• Henry Hall 1584, husbandman, in his will leaves '*a stone of dressed hemp*' to Alice his '*maide servante*' [29/1/48].

• The inventory of George Throgmorton, gent, 1635, lists *'twoe wheeles'* in the kitchen [175/1/6].

• Mr Phillip Box lived in College Farm in 1715. His inventory lists three *'spinen wheels'*, two '*in the Garret to the street*' and one in the chamber over the kitchen. There was '*about 16 or 17 tod of wool*' in the back garret [116/3/48].

The earliest surviving probate document that relates specifically to the weaving trade is the will of Thomas Orchard, 1571, 'Woollwynder' [185.110]. Thomas had two sons both called John. At the end of his will he leaves to his eldest son, John, '*a myll to be a standarde unto the howse to the use of the said John*'. No other item in the will relates to his trade. Was this '*myll*' a wool-winding machine? Was he winding hanks of wool/warps for weavers in South Newington and neighbouring villages?

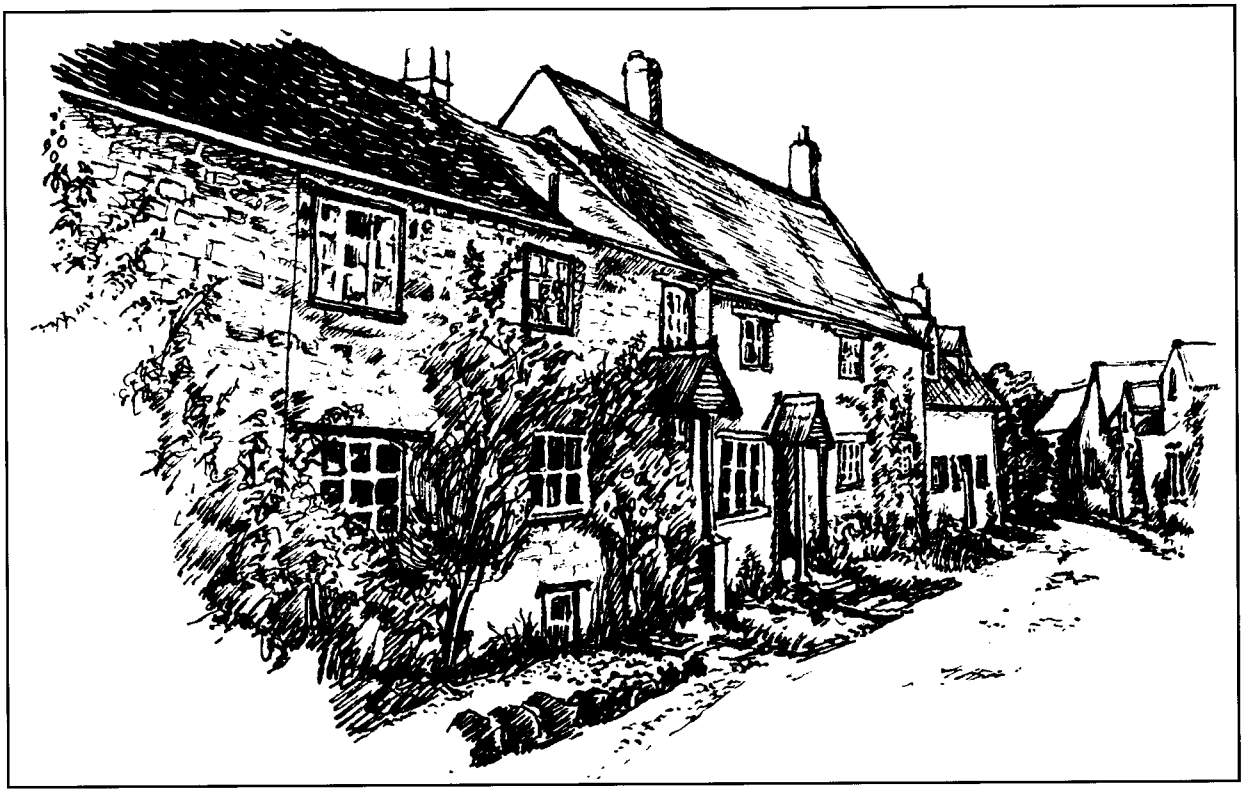
In the seventeenth century, according to the *VCH*, the Kinge family owned the South Newington Mill. It was both a corn mill and a fulling mill. John Kinge was the fuller when he died in 1624. Both his will and inventory survive but, apart from stating that he is a fuller in the preamble, there is no mention of any tools particular to his trade. However, two spinning wheels and some '*yarne of wool & hemp*' valued at ten shillings are included in the inventory [39/2/38].

Two sets of probate documents survive for actual weavers, Richard Buckingham, 1678 [7/1/19], and his son, also Richard Buckingham, 1715 [116/3/43]. Their occupations are stated in their will preambles. The inventory of Richard Buckingham, 1678, lists the tools in the shop. Presumably the shop was where the looms were and where weaving took place. Interestingly one of the appraisers is one John Kinge, fuller – a descendant of the John Kinge who died in 1624. The inventory of Richard Buckingham, 1715, makes no mention of any items connected with his trade. We do not yet know where in the village these weavers worked.

Owners of a house in Moor Lane think that it may have been built by weavers. It is a fine double-fronted eighteenth century Hornton stone house that originally had two tall windows (over the ground and first floor) at the back of the house. Could this have been a Buckingham house?

Other documents that provide evidence of a growing weaving 'industry' in the village in the seventeenth century are deeds.

Old deed documents found in the roof a cottage in Green Lane give more confirmation of the weaving industry in South Newington and the names of more of the weavers. (The numbering of these documents is mine.)



Green Lane, South Newington.

Document 20: A Lease dated 25 July 1780 has the first mention of Thomas Geden, sometimes spelt Godon, who was a weaver. The property was 'in the several tenure of Thomas Geden, Robert French and William Dale'.

Document 21: A Release dated 26 July 1780. The sale by Joseph Keen and Thomas Manning to Thomas Gedon, weaver, of the Messuage or Tenement in South Newington with all belonging.

Document 22: A Security for a Loan of £30 dated 27 July 1780 from Mr Thomas Gedon of South Newington, weaver, to Mr George Green of Banbury, shag manufacturer. There is a penalty of £30 on the loan should Gedon default. The property was to be held for a 500-year-term with an annual rent of one peppercorn. George Green was the first 'manufacturer' named and this possibly indicates that weaving in the village was now on a more 'industrial' scale, possibly on an outworker basis to the bigger business of George Green in Banbury. George Green came from a family of shag manufacturers. At his burial in 1794 he was described as 'gent. and Alderman'.[5]

Document 23: This Feoffment, dated 5 April 1787, was from Mr Thomas Geden of South Newington, shag weaver, to Mr Green of Banbury, shag manufacturer. George Green paid £47 to Thomas Geden for the messuage in South Newington tenanted by William Dale, Mr French and Thomas Geden. The sale also included a weaver's shop in South Newington adjoining and belonging to the messuage. This is the first occurrence that I have found in these documents of an actual weaver's shop and gives some indication of a slightly larger scale in the operation.

Document 24: A Rent Agreement, dated 22 August 1787 and written on a scrap of paper, was between French, Dale and Mr Geden agreeing to take Mr Green's house for an annual rent of £1.14s. payable half yearly. This seems to indicate that Geden was now in a weaker financial position.

Document 25: A Copy of a Feoffment dated 21 April 1803: the devisees of George Green deceased, Amelia Green late of Banbury now of Sydenham, Kent, widow, and Joshua Green of Banbury, shag manufacturer and eldest son of George Green, deceased, to John Cook of South Newington, butcher. The property now ceased to be owned by weavers.

Document 26: A Conveyance and Assignment dated 31 January 1805 from John Cook of South Newington, butcher, and George Brown of Shutford, weaver, to Mr George Barrett of South Newington, yeoman, and

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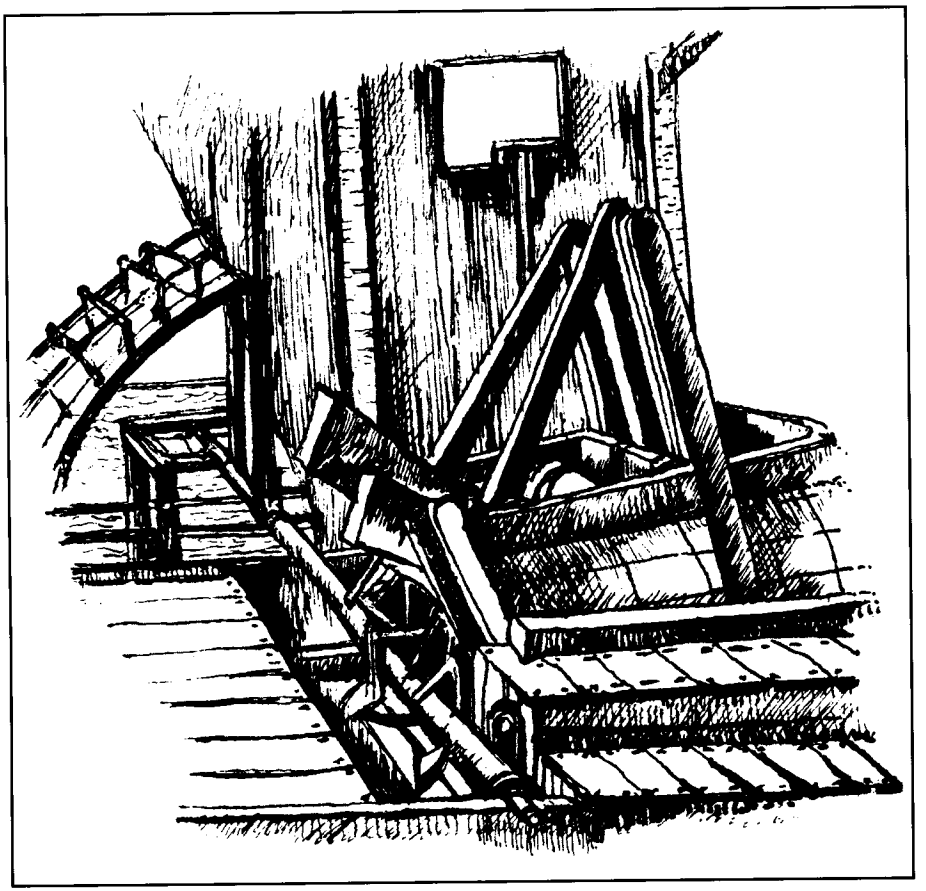
[5] *Banbury and Shutford Plush*, V. Hodgkins and C Bloxham, B.H.S., 1980, 2004, 'Shag and Plush Weaving in 18th Century Banbury', J.S.W. Gibson, p.5; *Banbury Burial Register, 1723-1812*, ed. J.S.W. Gibson, B.H.S. **18**, 1984, 11 Aug 1794.



A fulling mill.

his trustee John Isaac of Banbury, sadler. The document refers to an agreement that 'John Cook grant and devise to George Brown [amongst other premises] that messuage or tenement ... formerly in the occupation of Henry Taylor late of James Taylor then of William Reeves and late in the occupation of Thomas Geden, deceased, William French, William Gale and Thomas Geden junior, Thomas Geden junior acquiring the lease for one thousand years of a newly erected weaver's shop adjoining, securing it for the sum of seventy pounds'. The content of this document suggests that the property may have changed hands in the interim but any documents concerning these changes are missing. The newly erected weaver's shop is

--the second one to be mentioned in deeds from the box. It is at this time that George Barrett pays £50 to John Cook for part of the property. The property seems to have been held in trust by John Isaac.

Document 27: The Will and Probate dated 7 March 1811 of George Barret, weaver, leaving three freehold cottages in South Newington, currently in the occupation of William Holloway and Elizabeth French, to his daughter Sophia Taylor, his wife Mary to have the rent. He willed his loom to his son in law William Taylor – so weaving was still continuing in these premises.

Document 28: A Deed to Lease dated 15 September 1827. This document relates to the lease of a field by William Taylor of South Newington, weaver. Though the property named was of no particular interest it does show that there were still weavers active in the village at this time. There were no other documents in this deed box relating to weavers.

There are other records that help to confirm the existence of a fairly active weaving industry in South Newington in the eighteenth century.

In the Oxfordshire Record Office are copies of Lease and Release documents, both dated 1757, from William Stevens to Alexander Tredwell of three mills and mill houses with appurtenances, two fulling mills and a water corn mill.[6] There are also documents in the New College Archive dated 1 June 1757. [7] They concern the sale by William Stevens of Hornton, apothecary, to Alexander Tredwell of Shennington, blacksmith of the same: '*Three mills and Millhouses with the Appurts lately called Fulling Mills and a Water Corn Mill with Appurts Situate and being in South Newington*'. That there were two fulling mills in the village suggests a lot of activity in the weaving trade.

It is not clear precisely when there ceased to be weavers in South Newington. In 1841 there were two plush weavers and seven weavers.[8] There are no weavers recorded in the 1851 Census.

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[6] O.R.O., Taylor VI/3 and Taylor VI/4.

[7] O.R.O., Taylor VI/3 and VI/4.

[8] *VCH* vol. XI, *Wootton Hundred (North)*, p.153.

Lecture Reports

Brian Little

Thursday 9th December 2004.
***The History of Oxford College Gardens* –**
Michael Pirie, head gardener, Green College, Oxford.

Michael Pirie looked at a variety of college gardens on a century by century basis. His selection was guided by the availability of maps and the need to try to identify the functions of specific gardens.

The earliest map illustration was for 1578 and highlighted the colleges. In the case of Magdalen it revealed kitchen gardens as well as other green spaces with fish ponds. At Merton the social hierarchy within the College appears to have been a factor in garden designation. There was a warden's garden as well as one for bachelors. New College exhibited very different features. Vines were grown and, by 1500, an orchard had been acquired. In contrast, All Souls was more plant conscious and saw no need to grow its own fruit and vegetables.

By the seventeenth century the incentive for colleges to have kitchen gardens was much diminished by the growth of market gardens located on the edge of the city and prepared to sell to the University. In the case of Magdalen and Wadham Colleges, a different kind of response was to invest in more formalised layouts. Robert Plot found that Wadham had evolved a water display and John Evelyn spotted apiaries in the grounds.

During the eighteenth century, although some college buildings were neglected, associated gardens continued to be the focus of attention. At New College a formal layout with yew trees was their interpretation of a dominant landscape movement. There was attention to borders of flower beds and grand gates gave added significance to the whole garden approach.

As the century advanced so layouts became more informal, more naturalistic. This trend persisted through the following hundred years and was very visible at St John's, Trinity and Wadham Colleges. The outer gardens at St John's became a popular rendezvous spot on Sundays.

Michael Pirie concluded with some observations about the present day and the likely future appearance of college gardens. The formal garden is still around but has the disadvantage of being labour intensive. On the evidence specially of St John's and New College, a high value is placed on the possession and appearance of gardens which suggest that in general college gardens have a good future and will continue to attract visitors.

Thursday 13th January 2005.
***Oxfordshire Houses* – John Pilling.**

This interesting talk was based on his book of the same title which was published in 1993. John Pilling concentrated on the transition in building styles from medieval times right up to the twentieth century. His main theme was that buildings resemble documents in the way design and materials reflect life style changes.

In the opening sequence of pictures the focus was on properties with prominent halls seen partly as status symbols. Typical examples were Minster Lovell Hall near Witney and Yelford Manor close to Bampton. The latter had been home to gentry who suffered the experience of a hall open to the rafters.

Our speaker interrupted the strict progression of Oxfordshire houses in order to reveal how amongst French chateaux were buildings contrasting with the hall houses such as our local example of Broughton Castle. They were more symmetrical as well as taller and more compact. This gave more privacy rather than the Fiennes preference for stylish large windows.

His choice of Chastleton House afforded an example closer to the chateau model. This incorporates a hall of sorts but depends more on symmetry, large windows and a hidden main door. This house marks the transition from medieval construction to renaissance characteristics. In the same way an East Hendred property (Wickens Stores in the early 1990's) reveals sixteenth century modernisation as a way to achieve privacy. Though scarcely as grand as Broughton, it has a striking fireplace and chimney, herring-bone design bricks and an off-centre front door.

Cogges Manor was another choice of property in which the attractions of a fine medieval hall had been superseded by a more modest hall together with small comfortable bedrooms.

The sixteenth and seventeenth centuries saw great emphasis on chimney features, as at Dorchester on Thames, where a diamond shape had been favoured. The characteristic was all part of pride in the house.

John Pilling concluded his talk with some examples of properties built for people of more modest status. Typical of these was a stone/thatch house at Stanton Harcourt built for farm workers and craftsmen. In a few cases, cruck construction houses have survived. The Barley Mow Inn at Clifton Hampden has really lovely cruck (timber) blades in the gable wall. This style of house almost certainly reflects the use of locally available materials in the days before transport development allowed builders to look further afield.

John Pilling completed the transition from medieval to modern times with some examples of double fronted properties where chimneys were on side walls. These were a far cry from the hall houses with which he had commenced this fine profile of Oxfordshire buildings.

Note. Reports on our meetings in February, 'Church and Chapel and the Religious Census of 1851 – touching on nonconformity in north Oxfordshire', by Dr Kate Tiller, and in March, 'Archaeology of Roman Oxfordshire', by Paul Booth, will appear in our next issue.

Book Reviews

The Banbury Chapbooks, Leo John De Freitas (A5, 136pp., many illustrations, appendices, indexes). Banbury Historical Society Records Volume 28, 2004. £12.00 + £1.00 p&p (free to records members) from B.H.S., c/o Banbury Museum.

In the mid-1790s little James Raine, son of a blacksmith, a frail child, who was later to found the Surtees Society, passed as much time as he could with his maternal grandmother. "She...had two books in which I took great interest, the one a life of Christ ornamented at the head of each chapter with a rude woodcut of a very characteristic nature. That of the crucifixion was intended to represent not only the event but also the darkness which overspread the land during our Lord's agony and I shall never forget the effect which this strangely depicted scene had upon my mind. I remember it as well as if I had seen it yesterday. Another copy of this book has never since fallen in my way. It belonged to the earlier part of the seventeenth century. She also had a copy of Aesop's Fables, tattered and torn and imperfect, equally ornamented with woodcuts, over which I used to pore with infinite delight. This book which was of an earlier date has never since come into my hands. I had during that period spent every hour I could call my own by the wheel of my grandmother and, revelling in the glories of an immense bundle of penny histories and ballads, made myself intimately acquainted with giants, witches, fairies and their doings, and had the Seven Champions of Christendom and the ballads of Robin Hood at my fingers' ends." This was printed in *A Raine Miscellany*, in 1989, pp.14-15.

The 1980s were a decade in which enormous leaps had been made in the study of cheap print. They did much to 'decodify' this century in James Raine's autobiography, which might have been passed over without special notice before. In 1968 Victor Neuberg had written a pioneering study of chapbooks, which he called *The Penny Histories: a study of chapbooks for young readers over the centuries.* (The last part of the title was mistaken. The readers were not only young.) Bernard Capp's volume on almanacs, my own studies of the chapbooks collected by Samuel Pepys over the decade of the 1680s, and then of the chapmen and pedlars who distributed them, all came later, followed by Tessa Watt's superb study of the origins of the chapbook genre, and the content of the ballads, which preceded it, in *Cheap Print and Popular Piety, 1550-1640* (1991). It is a great pity that this last is omitted from the bibliography here, and from consideration. A thesis, by Michael Frearson, on the earliest newsbooks, pointed, like Dr Watt's work, to the 1620s as the key decade in which these two new responses to a newly-literate market took off. Meanwhile, Victor Neuberg gave us his article on the Diceys. Now we have this additional good study of two particular little printing families in Banbury from the eighteenth century into the nineteenth. I tried to interrelate all these developments in an almost unknown article on 'The Pedlar, the Historian and the Folklorist: Seventeenth Century Communicants' which appeared in *Folklore* (1994), reprinted in my collected papers, *Figures in a Landscape* (2000).

I have one criticism of this excellent book, it is that I should like to push it forcibly back a century in time. This is, of course, unreasonable, since John Cheney did not set up his press at the Unicorn in Banbury until 1767. Even without that, it is easy to understand why, in general, people tend to think of chapbook printing and publishing as an eighteenth and nineteenth century development rather than seventeenth. The specialist printer publishers were all based in London until the expiry of the Licensing Act in 1695.

Survivals are rare. Even before that, the little twopenny books were not dated in general. They have to be dated from knowledge of the dates the particular trade-partnership was functioning. A thesis, unfortunately unprinted, by Professor Robert Thomson of Miami ('The development of the Broadside ballad trade and its influence on the transmission of English folk-songs', University of Cambridge, Ph.D., 1974), shows the routes the eighteenth and nineteenth century ballad and chapbook chapmen used as they worked for the printers. We know more than the routes of the chapman John Magee down the Great North Road, but it is not surprising that Dr De Freitas did not find this evidence (pp.20-23). Anyone who edited the Thomson thesis for us would be doing us a favour.

Immediately upon the expiry of the Act, publishing of this cheap print mushroomed and exploded, and every large provincial town seemed to develop its own specialist syndicate. There are far more survivors. There is a huge collection of eighteenth and nineteenth century and a few seventeenth century chapbooks, made in the early twentieth century, called the Lauriston Castle Collection, in the National Library of Scotland. It is profoundly educational to try and distinguish the dates these little books were produced.

You begin to distinguish the trading partnerships, which often give the town. In Banbury, Cheney's chapbooks, shown on p.89 and thereafter, are quite different in 'feel' to those from the Rusher chapbooks (p.92-on). Moreover, Cheney uses what I would guess are some old seventeenth century blocks at the beginning of his endeavours (some shown, p.89, though the first example is later) and pp.90-91. You begin to distinguish the stylistic likenesses, which also give you an approximate date to a decade or more.

But here, great caution is required. Woodblocks were used over and over until they wore out. My use of the original illustrations from the Pepys Collection in *Small Books* (1981) was nearly stopped by my publisher, who refused initially to use such inferior, worn material, and then asked at least to 'touch up' the worn edges of the woodcuts. I have thought since that one of my more useful contributions to social history as a discipline has been to have insisted on printing these illustrations, for the response to them was so great that the reader sees them now very commonly illuminating different occupations or social situations, particularly on covers or jackets. They are eye-catching. But the blocks are not ever precisely dateable.

One of the great merits of this book are its illustrations, which will enlarge the range available to non-specialist readers. The demonstration of the way the work of more skilled practitioners fed into coarser workmen's productions is brilliantly shown

by J.G. Rusher's use – and bowdlerization – of Thomas Bewick's beautiful cuts (see 37 and 38, p.75, and 40 and 41, p.77).

I am not surprised that an innkeeper like John Cheney of the Unicorn should have set up a printing press, though Dr De Freitas is (p.30). The wills and inventories of pedlars and chapmen, which I have read, more commonly have the names of inn or alehouse keepers as executors, overseers or supervisors, than family. These chapmen were men who lived on the road, and they were more likely to use the men who put them up to help them as they died than anyone else. Banbury was a prosperous, well-established market-town, and it already, naturally, had its own chapmen in the sixteenth century (p.21). If they could satisfy the popular thirst for cheap print by buying from a local printer, he would undoubtedly have a ready sale. John Cheney's initiative will have been welcome.

Dr De Freitas' Appendix on the titles published in Banbury shows the amazing continued popularity of some titles. In *Small Books* I printed the trade list of William Thackeray, who held the entire stock of the London specialist partnerships in 1689. It is fascinating to compare the two lists, and find out just how deep-rooted in the past some of these titles were. *Tom Thumb* was the first 'chapbook' we have indentified as registered with the Stationers in 1621. Here it is, with *John and Kate* and *Fair Rosamund* and other friends from the seventeenth century, printed by Cheney and Rusher in the eighteenth and nineteenth century in Banbury.

Truly, little James Raine, delighting himself with his grandmother's heap of books and ballads in the 1790s, had his hands on more popular history than he knew. Dr De Freitas is to be congratulated on adding one more splendid piece to the jigsaw puzzle of popular print, and its salesmen.

Margaret Spufford

Man-Midwife, Male Feminist: The Life and Times of George Macaulay, M.D., Ph.D. (1716-1766), James Wyatt Cook and Barbara Collier Cook. 304pp. The Scholarly Publishing Office, The University of Michigan University Library, 2004. $40.00.

In the Spring of 1997 (*C&CH* **13**.8) we published 'The House at Pye Corner', by the above authors, relating George Macaulay's time as a physician in Banbury in the later 1740s. That article formed the basis of Chapter Four, 'The Banbury Years, *c*.1740-1750', of this biography of Macaulay, which has now at last been published in full.

Macaulay's main claim to fame was that his second wife Catherine became a leading feminist who wrote a history of England, and her biographer, Bridget Hill, has dismissed George Macaulay as one of whom 'all too little is known' – an assertion repeated in the new *Oxford DNB*. To have written a full length book about him is in itself an achievement. To make such an unpromising subject so readable and enjoyable is all the more so.

I understand it should be available in several local libraries, but also it is or soon will be available *gratis* on-line.

J.G.

OBITUARY

David Clarke, Hook Norton Brewery

David Clarke, aged 63, of the Hook Norton Brewery, died peacefully on 28th September in the John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford

Hook Norton has been a remarkable brewery in recent years by any standards. It has been described as a 'Victorian Pagoda' and a 'Working Museum'; titles given with enormous fondness for the kinds of values embodied in the brewery. Here is a brewery in a classic building, with machinery driven by a 100 year old steam engine, with local deliveries made by horse drawn dray and, most important of all, run by five generations of the Clarke family. The success of the brewery since the 1970s is all due to one remarkable man, an unflamboyant figure who was, nonetheless, one of the great names of the British 'Beerage'.

David Clarke was born in January 1941, the great grandson of John Harris, who started the Hook Norton Brewery in 1849. He was educated at Rynaby School, Banbury, before becoming a boarder at Overthorpe Hall. He then passed the common entrance exam for Bloxham School where he studied geography, history and the sciences and became a keen rugby player. He left school in 1958 and decided to make brewing his career. He took up a pupillage at Burtonwood Brewery in 1959 and gained all round knowledge of brewing. In April 1960 he returned to Hook Norton where his father was Head Brewer. He became Second Brewer and the Bottling Manager, with bottling all done by hand. The low point for the brewery was 1973 when 8,500 barrels were brewed, and the Gilchrist family, owners of Burtonwood Brewery, stepped in with a supportive cash injection. This and the rise in popularity of real ale meant that by 1990 the output had risen to 20,000 barrels, and the keg beer equipment that had been purchased was never used. In 1981 David became Managing Director, although his father was still active until his death in 1982. When he took over, the estate numbered 28 pubs, but has grown since then to 45.

David married in 1970 Paula Green from Sibford Gower. James was born in 1971, and in 1974 came Victoria, who tragically died of leukaemia at the age of twelve. Since then the family have raised large sums of money for the Leukaemia Research Fund. In the family tradition, David was, for many years, a retained fireman and was awarded the British Empire Medal for his efforts. He sponsored the Hook Norton Brass Band, was President of the Football Club, and supported the local [Hook Norton] History Society. His hobbies included gardening, shooting, salmon fishing and collecting old vehicles, including his much-loved 1952 Dennis. In 1999 he welcomed the Princess Royal to open the Brewery Visitor Centre in celebration of the brewery's 150th anniversary.

This is a shortened version of the obituary that appeared in *Beer on Tap*, The Newsletter of North Oxon CAMRA Branch, 19, Winter 2004, edited by Geoff Clifford, to whom we are grateful for permission to reprint it here.

BANBURY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ANNUAL REPORT, 2004

Your Committee have pleasure in submitting the 47th Annual Report and Statement of Accounts, for the year 2004.

The year has seen some important developments. Of these, that of longest-term effect must be the transfer of the complete run of *Cake & Cockhorse* (to the end of Volume 15) to CD-Rom. Whilst this may be of little direct relevance to current members, it does mean that the vast body of research this represents now becomes available worldwide, encouraging yet more interest in the history of 'Banburyshire', the main purpose of our Society. Of immediate importance is the capability for searches for specific words throughout the run, effectively providing a computer index to Volumes 7 to 13, which have no printed index; and indeed merging the seven indexes that do exist. The initiative for this has come from Colin Cohen, from his first suggestion at an AGM some years ago through months of investigation and experiment to its completion.

Second, after several years of unfufilled expectations, Leo De Freitas' eagerly awaited records volume 28, *The Banbury Chapbooks*, has at last appeared and has been distributed to members. This must be the most attractive truly records volume (as opposed to narrative history) yet produced by the Society, of which we think we can be justly proud. A special thank you is due to Leo for his tolerance of the continued delays in its production.

On a purely administrative level, after many years as chairman Brian Little has moved sideways to become Hon. Research Adviser and Deborah Hayter now chairs your committee. Brian and his wife Margaret (who acts as membership secretary) remain the easiest point of contact for information on the Society, but we now also have our own internet website c/o Banbury Museum (see inside front cover).

At the A.G.M. Kay Smith retired from the committee, after many years' service, and Chris Day was elected in her stead. Other officers and committee members were again re-elected. Membership of the Society remains close to three hundred, most as records members. Attendance at meetings and new membership remain constant, thanks to posters (fresh for each meeting) distributed by Deborah Hayter for display at an ever-increasing number of key places.

The year's meetings maintained their accustomed entertaining variety. Nick Allen has now been arranging these since 1995, and we have a full line-up for 2005/06. Reports prepared by Brian Little have appeared in *Cake & Cockhorse*. Graham Sutherland gave an account of the Gunpowder Plot, at short notice Chris Day gave an absorbing talk on Deddington Castle, and the season ended in fine fettle with Steve Bacon's graphic description of medieval medicine. In the autumn we welcomed once again Christine Bloxham, speaking on the old favourite Banbury Plush. The occasion of this talk was taken to publish a reprint of her *Banbury and Shutford Plush*, long out of print, which is selling well. Margaret Thomas came all the way from Kendal to tell us about the New

Globe Theatre on the banks of the Thames in Southwark, we learnt about the combination of archaeology and documentary evidence for a group of villages on the Buckinghamshire and Northamptonshire border from Dr Richard Jones, and ended with Michael Pirie on Oxford College Gardens (see this issue). The Museum location continues popular, often almost house-full, with relatively easy parking and disabled access of which gratifyingly good use is made.

On fine summer days, we visited Honington Hall (near Shipston) and Stowe House (near Buckingham), where much has been done in recent years to restore the State Rooms to their former magnificence from the ravages of schoolboy occupation. Beryl Hudson organised these with her usual initiative and efficiency. A smaller than usual number attended the A.G.M., held at Steane Chapel, by invitation of Sir Michael Connell, nevertheless it was the usual pleasant occasion.

Once again our start-of-season reception was held at the new Museum, hosted by Simon and his staff, and as always much enjoyed.

The normal three issues of *Cake & Cockhorse* appeared, with contributions from Nick Allen, the late Thomas Ward Boss (1903), Nicholas Cooper, Alan Donaldson, Jone Garmendia, Peter Gaunt, Ross Gilkes, Deborah Hayter, Geoffrey Stevenson, Hazel Thurlow and Barrie Trinder, as well as from regulars Brian Little and Jeremy Gibson.

With *The Banbury Chapbooks* published, attention is now focused on Geoffrey Smedley-Stevenson's edition of the diaries of William Cotton Risley, 1836-1869. This is planned to form two volumes, the first for his time as Vicar of Deddington 1836-1848; the remainder for his continuing residence at Deddington Manor during the notorious incumbency of his successor the Reverend James Brogden. They cover a wide variety of matters relevant to Banburyshire and further afield, and make absorbing reading – members are in for a treat. Publication of at least one and, it is hoped, both will be during 2005. In the circumstances, the delay with *Turnpike Roads to Banbury* continues, but it *will* be completed in due course.

Our general income comfortably covered the cost of our monthly meetings and publishing *Cake & Cockhorse*. Our major item of expenditure this year was £3,364 on the publication and despatch of *The Banbury Chapbooks* records volume, towards which we received a generous grant of £2,000 from the Greening Lamborn Trust. The reprint of the *Banbury and Shutford Plush* booklet cost £438.

We met the cost (£970) of transferring the complete run of *Cake & Cockhorse* to CD-Rom from the Brinkworth Fund. A generous legacy of £500 had been received from Mrs Sarah Markham (obituary *C&CH* **15**.9) and this was paid into the Brinkworth Fund as a contribution towards this expense.

Banbury Historical Society

Income & Expenditure Account for the Year ended 31 December 2004

GENERAL FUND

INCOME		2004 £	*2003 £*
Subscriptions		2,520	*2,500*
Income Tax refund		278	*314*
Building Society interest		393	*311*
Sale of publications		764	*812*
Over-provision for rent of hall written back		0	*770*
Other		61	*41*
Total Income		4,016	*4,748*
EXPENDITURE			
Cake & Cockhorse costs		2,031	*2,135*
Records volumes costs	3803		
Less Grant from Greening Lamborn Trust	2000	1,803	*31*
Meetings		702	*368*
Reception & AGM		213	*252*
Administration inc publicity		272	*243*
Total Expenditure		5,021	*3,029*
DEFICIT *(SURPLUS)* for the year from *(to)* General Fund		**(1,005)**	*1,719*

BRINKWORTH FUND

INCOME			
Legacy from Mrs Sarah Markham		500	*0*
Building Society interest		80	*64*
Total Income		580	*64*
EXPENDITURE			
Transfer of Cake & Cockhorse volumes to CD-ROM		969	*0*
SURPLUS *(DEFICIT)* for the year to *(from)* Brinkworth Fund		**(389)**	*64*

Banbury Historical Society

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2004

	2004	*2003*
GENERAL FUND		
Balance at 1 January 2004	15,717	*13,998*
Less Deficit *(Plus Surplus)* for the year	(1,005)	*1,719*
Balance at 31 December 2004	**14,712**	*15,717*
BRINKWORTH FUND		
Balance at 1 January 2004	3,029	*2,965*
Less Deficit *(Plus Surplus)* for the year	389	*64*
Balance at 31 December 2004	**2,640**	*3,029*
TOTAL BALANCE at 31 December 2004	**17,352**	*18,746*
Represented by:		
ASSETS:		
NatWest Bank Banbury - Current Account	533	*1,263*
Leeds & Holbeck Bldg. Soc. - General Account	14,481	*14,667*
Leeds & Holbeck Bldg. Soc. - Brinkworth Account	2,640	*3,030*
Cash	42	*26*
	17,696	*18,986*
Plus Sundry Debtors	341	*152*
TOTAL ASSETS	**18,037**	*19,138*
Less LIABILITIES:		
Subscriptions in advance	685	*392*
(Sundry Creditors)	0	*0*
TOTAL LIABILITIES	**685**	*392*
NET ASSETS	**17,352**	*18,746*

G.F.Griffiths, Hon. Treasurer

I have reviewed and examined the books and records of the Banbury Historical Society and confirm that the accounts prepared by the Hon Treasurer represent a fair and accurate summary of the financial transactions completed in the year ended 31 December 2004.

R.J.Mayne, FCA FCMA

BANBURY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Banbury Historical Society was founded in 1957 to encourage interest in the history of the town of Banbury and neighbouring parts of Oxfordshire, Northamptonshire and Warwickshire.

The magazine *Cake and Cockhorse* is issued to members three times a year. This includes illustrated articles based on original local historical research, as well as recording the Society's activities. Well over a hundred issues and some three hundred articles have been published. Most back issues are still available and out-of-print issues can if required be photocopied.

Records series:

Wigginton Constables' Books 1691-1836 (vol. 11, with Phillimore).
Banbury Wills and Inventories 1591-1650, 2 parts (vols. 13, 14).
Victorian Banbury, by Barrie Trinder (vol. 19, with Phillimore).
Aynho: A Northamptonshire Village, by Nicholas Cooper (vol. 20).
Banbury Gaol Records, ed. Penelope Renold (vol. 21).
Banbury Baptism and Burial Registers, 1813-1838 (vol. 22).
Oxfordshire and North Berkshire Protestation Returns and Tax Assessments 1641-1642 (vol. 24).
The 'Bawdy Court' of Banbury: The Act Book of the Peculiar Court of Banbury and Cropredy 1625-38, ed. R.K. Gilkes (vol. 26).
King's Sutton Churchwardens' Accounts 1636-1700, ed. Paul Hayter (vol. 27).
The Banbury Chapbooks, by Dr Leo John de Freitas (vol. 28, pub'n. December 2004).

Current prices, and availability of other back volumes, from the Hon. Secretary, c/o Banbury Museum.

In preparation:

Selections from the *Diaries of William Cotton Risley,* ed. G.W. Smedley-Stevenson:
Part 1: *Vicar of Deddington 1836-1848* (publication Spring 2005);
Part 2: *Squarson of Deddington 1849-1869* (publication Summer 2005).
Turnpike Roads to Banbury, by Alan Rosevear.

The Society is always interested to receive suggestions of records suitable for publication, backed by offers of help with transcription, editing and indexing.

Meetings are held during the autumn and winter, normally at 7.30 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month, at Banbury Museum, Spiceball Park Road, Banbury. Talks are given by invited lecturers on general and local historical, archaeological and architectural subjects. Excursions are arranged in the spring and summer, and the A.G.M. is usually held at a local country house.

Membership of the Society is open to all, no proposer being needed. The annual subscription is **£10.00** including any records volumes published, or **£7.50** if these are not required; overseas membership, **£12.00.**

BANBURY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Summer 2005 Programme

Thursday 14th April.
Coventry Council House, by invitation of John Gazey, Lord Mayor of Coventry.
See separate leaflet.

Thursday 19th May. 2.30 p.m.
Oxfordshire Bus and Morris Motors Museum, Long Hanborough.

Thursday 16th ~~May~~ June. 2.30 p.m.
Chicheley Hall, near Newport Pagnell.

Saturday 2nd July. 5.00 p.m. for 5.30 p.m.
A.G.M., at **Deddington Manor**, New Street, Deddington,
by kind invitation of Group Captain and Mrs Denys Heywood.

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