

THE



RECORDER

THE ANNUAL NEWSLETTER OF THE WILTSHIRE RECORD SOCIETY

EDITORIAL

Once again we have managed to fill the pages of the Recorder with widely differing articles which I hope everyone will enjoy. I was unavoidably absent from last year's AGM, so Helen Taylor, our Secretary, has kindly put together a short account of the afternoon.

This year's AGM will be held at the Quaker Meeting House in Salisbury and the theme will be connected with that building's former role as part of the old Fisherton House asylum. Details of the afternoon's programme will be sent out later in the year, but there is a preliminary advert at the end of this newsletter.

The year began with a sad note, when it was learned that Robert Pearson, a stalwart of the CCED project and a most welcoming presence on the Help Desk at Chippenham, had died just before Christmas. Much has been written recently about Robert, so I will not elaborate here. But our thoughts go out to his family, friends and colleagues. He will be very much missed.

We are trying a new venture this year – a 'Queries' section, where contributors can write an article which sets readers thinking; and, hopefully, coming up with some answers or ideas for the next issue. John Chandler kicks off the first query.

Sally Thomson, Editor.

AUGHTON: 'A NOBLE THING'

... And the band played on. Everyone has this poignant image, as the Titanic went down, of the band sinking to their watery fate while still playing their instruments. But playing what? 'Nearer my God, to Thee' has come down in folklore, but when the minimalist composer Gavin Bryars described the inspiration for his epic piece, 'The Sinking of the Titanic' (first realised in 1972) he quoted the testimony of Harold Bride, junior wireless operator who survived. 'The way the band kept playing was a

noble thing. I heard it first while we were still working wireless, when there was a ragtime tune for us, and the last I saw of the band when I was floating out in the sea with my lifebelt on, it was still on deck playing "Autumn". How they ever did I cannot imagine.'

When a version of Bryars' composition was first performed, incorporating the hymn tune 'Autumn', Sir Ronald Johnson suggested that Bride had been misunderstood, and that the hymn tune he was actually referring to was 'Aughton'. The episcopalian hymn set to this tune included the most appropriate stanza: 'And when my task on earth is done | When by Thy grace the victory's won | E'en death's cold wave I will not flee | Since God through Jordan leadeth me'. Bryars subsequently adapted the tune 'Aughton' as one of the movements of an extended version of the piece, recorded in 1994.

Around that time I was scouting around for interesting but unconsidered Wiltshire connections to the wider world, and I knew that Aughton was a tithing of Collingbourne Kingston, between Marlborough and Tidworth. So I set off (and failed) to find out what was the connection between this remote hamlet and an equally obscure tune which, nevertheless, may have had its moment of glory. Its composer was William Batchelder Bradbury (1816-68), a New England American who wrote many popular hymn tunes, including some still in use (how many of us remember 'Yes, Jesus loves me' etc, from Sunday School?). I could find no connection between Bradbury and Wiltshire, although I discovered another Aughton, in north Lancashire near Ormskirk. Then, after a considerable (but pre-internet) search, I gave up. But whenever I drive up the A338, past the turning to Aughton, I think of those noble musicians and wonder whether there was in fact a connection. It would be nice to know.

John Chandler

WRS AGM AT LONGBRIDGE DEVERILL, 2013

The Annual General Meeting for 2013 was held on 8 June at Longbridge Deverill Village Hall. This

location was chosen because it is in the area currently being researched by the Victoria County History. After the usual short and concise business meeting and re-election of our officers, Virginia Bainbridge and Alex Craven (VCH editors) gave us an interesting talk concerning their work on volume XIX which will be called 'Longleat and the Deverills'. We were then fortified by an excellent tea, after which we embarked on our walk around the parishes.



The Thynne Almshouses, Longbridge Deverill

Fortunately it was a sunny afternoon and we began by looking at the Thynne Almshouses. We were led by Dorothy Treasure, Wiltshire Buildings Recorder. It is always interesting to hear about a building's history in detail; it was unfortunate that we were on a main road and Dorothy had to compete with a constant stream of traffic passing by! The Almshouse dates from c.1665 and was originally designed to house eight inmates. It has been well maintained over the centuries. The interior was remodelled as six bed-sitting rooms with communal amenities in the 1960s and as four self-contained flats in the 1980s, while retaining original passages, stairs and panelling.

After a brief look at some of the houses on the main road, we moved on to the George Inn. This is a well known hostelry in the area and is located on the main road from Warminster to Shaftesbury. This was an ideal location for an inn and the George was well established by 1760. The oldest part of the building is the range with the low eaves, which was probably thatched. It was put up for sale as part of the Longleat Estate in 1947. The inn has since been extensively refurbished but still retains an original brick fireplace with a cambered arch, and an original elm staircase.

Further along the main road is the turning to Hill Deverill. Here was the highlight of the afternoon, Hill Deverill Manor. This building complex is on private property away from the main road, but the current owner kindly gave us permission to visit. The present Manor House dates from c.1700, although there may have been a house on this site 200 years earlier. The manor was in the hands of the Coker family in 1735, when it was described as a mansion house with barns, stables, stalls, granaries, dovecote, outbuildings, backsides, orchards, gardens, canals and fishponds.

There were extensive alterations to the house and its site for use as a tenant farm in the 18th century, and again when a new tenant came in 1808. As part of this process the fishponds were filled in and other buildings were pulled down. The house is built to a through-passage plan which now incorporates one bay of the attached 14-bay barn. It was extended into three bays of the barn in 1996 by the present owner.

The 14-bay barn is a fine example of a large barn that dates from c.1600. The interior has collar and tie beam trusses with raking struts that are very typical of 18th-century barns throughout Wiltshire. During the Second World War, prisoners of war were given the task of inserting timber bracing to arrest the westward movement of roof trusses. The barn was open for our visit and we were able to go inside. It is a large and impressive building, of particular interest to those of us who had not been inside a barn of this age. Both Tim Tatton-Brown and Pam Slocombe were with us and it was good that they were able to share their knowledge on this subject with us all. Two conflicting theories were discussed, whether the barn had been built on the site, or whether stone and timber from earlier buildings were re-erected on the site. It was not possible to come to a conclusion without further thought.

To the south of the house and barn is a general listed building complex enclosing two sides of a courtyard. Within this complex is Chantry Cottage. The cottage is all that remains of an earlier manor house built for the Ludlow family c.1500. It forms a group with an L-shaped range of single-storey rubble and dressed stone thatched outbuildings that included a shelter-shed, a three-bay pigeon house and stables, now converted to living accommodation.

Although we were only a small group, everyone present agreed that it had been a most interesting and informative afternoon. We thanked Alex and Virginia for organising it and Dorothy for leading the walk.

Helen Taylor

LACOCK ABBEY AND ST CYRIAC'S CHURCH BUILDING REPAIRS AND ADDITIONS

The foundation in 1232 of Lacock Abbey has been extensively written about. Over the centuries, the buildings of the Abbey underwent essential repairs and changes of use. It is widely known that the Talbot family were resident at the Abbey, due to the photographic work of William Henry Fox Talbot (he never used the name Fox in his signature). There is a quotation in the Abbey museum, by Matilda Talbot, the last family owner, which is apt: 'I have a pleasant feeling that Lacock Abbey is rather like a tree which will keep on growing, even if most of the people that sat under its shade have moved on into another world.'

Under the ownership of John Ivory Talbot in the 1750s, the Great Hall was altered by the architect

Sanderson Miller, an alteration which has been fully recorded elsewhere, but there were many other noteworthy alterations by local stonemasons. In 1755 chimneys were removed from the Abbey and into the grounds by a stonemason, Benjamin Carter, known for his work in carving mantelpieces. He was not a local man, but local stonemasons were chosen by W.H.Fox Talbot for work in his Abbey residence.

The following are extracts from the 1827 men's time book of work with weekly entries:

June 4th - 9th

Masons	Days			
Banks, Henry	5	@	3s	15s od.
<i>ditto</i>	2	@	3s.	6s. od.

June 11th - 16th

Banks, sr. (George)	6	@	3s.	18s. od.
Banks, junr. (Henry)	6	@	3s.	18s. od.

June 18th - 23rd

I.Banks	6 days	@	3s.	18s. od.
H.Banks	6 days	@	3s.	18s. od.

June 25th - 30th

C.Banks: to New Drawing Room	7 days		£1	1s.od.
H.Banks: to	<i>ditto.</i>			
	4 days 6 hrs }			
to windows in				}6dy 9h
tower room:	2 days 3 hrs }		£1	0s. 7½d.

July 2nd - 7th

C.Banks: to preparing for a New Dining Room	7 days		£1	0s. od.
H.Banks: to ditto Windows in Mr Talbot's Room	7 days		£1	0s od.
C.Banks: to preparing missing Window in Housekeeper's Room & Larder	7 days		£1	0s. od.

1827 Five more occasions of monthly work, the last found being:

August 13th - 18th

C.Banks: to preparing & fixing of ashlar to New Drawing Room	7 days		£10s.	od.
H.Banks: to preparing for Drawing Room	7 days		£1	0s od.

The above are extracts from Estate Papers and there may be similar work recorded.

The same stonemasons were chosen to undertake work in the Abbey grounds. An existing estimate is proof of this and the proposed work was probably undertaken:

*To W.H.F Talbot Esq^r
An Estimate for Masonry proposed to be done at Lacock Abbey.*

Taking down partitions, digging foundations and building stone wall from the ground to the roof by the length proposed, the wall to be 1ft 6inches thick with a Freestone doorcase in the same: to build two Chimney stacks; and two Octagonal Chimnies of Box Groundstone; two fireplaces each to be 3ft 2inches by 3ft with two Hearth stones.

One three-light window (with two mullions) 6ft 8inches wide by 4ft 6inches high; and one two-light window (with one mullion) 4ft 4inches wide by 4ft 6 inches high.

To remove a window at the Back of the building.

To draw a doorway in the Brick partition; fixing Chimney pieces, setting Boiler, making flue, fixing steampipes and necessary work for the Bath etc.etc.

A slate Enamelled Bath 6ft 6inches long by 3ft wide and 3ft deep, with an enam^d step 1ft high by 6 inches wide.

Two enamelled Chimney Pieces.

To supply all materials: £78 6s 0d

George Banks

Lacock Wharf

May 15th 1852.

(The above is from the correspondence of William Henry Fox Talbot. Project Director: Prof.Larry J Schaaf, Collection British Library, London, Fox Talbot Collection).

It is impossible to record all the work that was undertaken in the latter part of the 19th century, but the next record of interest is in 1874:

Lacock Brewery:

(which includes):

C.Banks: taking up Stone Floor	5s od.
Excavations	5s. od.
Dwarf Wall	15s od.
Cutting Stone by Cupboard	<u>1s. od.</u>
	£1 6s. od.
Letting in 3 air bricks	<u>3s. od.</u>
	£1 9s. od.

In later years, the Banks family were still providing their services, as in 1901-2. Frederick Banks was a carpenter, builder and contractor at this time and some sixteen of his invoices to the Abbey for Oct 5th 1901 to March 29th 1902 still exist. From October 5th 1901 comes the extract overleaf, the total amounting to £70 9s. 10d.:

St Cyriac's Church, Lacock.

So much repair and improvement work was undertaken in the church, that recording here is limited; but an early mention is the work of stonemason Edward Banks:

October ye 2nd 1789 The Measure of the wall against the Churchyard from the corner of the cottage to the Church gates – 35 perches and three feet at 1s 2d per perch.

PAINTER, GLAZIER, PAPERHANGER, TILER and PLASTERER.	
LACOCK, (NEAR CHIPPENHAM) WILTS. 189	
Dr. to Frederick Banks, Carpenter, Builder & Contractor.	
1798 1/2	6 days painter painting & glazing at St. 1 4
18 1/4	18 1/4 painter 27 1/4 July, 1 year 16 4
	6 days man & 2 labourers pulling out old bricks & making good walls floors and slate shelves to large greenhouse 3
	3 1/2 fms cement & barrow mortar 7 4 1/2
	2 carpenters 6 days each at 2 8
	18 feet 11 1/2 ft. 9 fms end for large greenhouse 3 3 1/2
	1 day horse hauling away stones to Pond 6
	Land.

And from the British Library comes the following account:

The Executors of the late Hon^{ble} Lady Feilding
 1846 To George Banks
 March 21st Opening Vault, Bricks, Stone,
 Lime, Cement and Useage for Men
 taking down and replacing doorway
 £5 5s. od
 Received April 2nd 1846
 G. Banks

1891 Churchwardens' Account Book includes:
 Lady Day 1818 to Lady Day 1819
 Includes George Banks' bill £22 14s 3 1/2d.

Payments continued on twelve occasions from 1821-1843. Some of the payments may have been for coal, as George was also the Lacock Coal Merchant.

A statement of Accounts of the Restoration of the Parish Church in March 1862:
 Mr Banks - Churchyard Wall, Drains, etc. £4 14s. 6d.

1879 June: Receipt and Expenditure for new Fire Boxes and altering the Grating in Church. Receipt column: Mr C Banks 2s.6d. Mr Banks A/c £6 19s od.

In Churchwardens' Account of 1861, October 19th - December: Total £35 2s. 8 1/2d.
 Lowering wall, laying Top Drain round the Church. Man for 3/4 of a day work on the new clock.
 Cleaning out Hot Air flues, putting in Gutters.

1862 Mr Banks: Churchyard wall Drains £34 16s. 6d.
 1880 Mr C. Banks: Bill for work done in the Chancel in consequence of placing the new organ there
 £3 5s. 5d.

In the late 1880s and into 1900s, the Churchwardens always chose Frederick Banks to do any repair or maintenance work in the Church.

In 1893, Frederick Banks supplied a man and a boy to clean out the flues in the church boiler:

PAINTER, GLAZIER, PAPERHANGER, TILER and PLASTERER.	
LACOCK, (NEAR CHIPPENHAM) WILTS. March 25 1893	
Dr. to Frederick Banks, Carpenter, Builder & Contractor.	
July 30	1/2 Day Man & Lad cleaning out flues with Sweep & ad Mortar 2 6
	1 1
	3 6
Settled March 30 1893 W. Banks	

And in 1899 repairs to the church clock and further cleaning of the flues took place:

PAINTER, GLAZIER, PAPERHANGER, TILER and PLASTERER.	
LACOCK, (NEAR CHIPPENHAM) WILTS. March 27 1899	
Dr. to Frederick Banks, Carpenter, Builder & Contractor.	
1898 July 9	1/4 day carpenter with clock maker for repairs to clock screws & nails 11
Sept 3	1/2 day Man & Lad with Sweep Mortar 2 6
	1 1
	4 8
Paid March 28 1899 Frederick Banks with Thanks	

In 1902, the Chancel of the Church was remodelled. Frederick Banks was the contractor and he was paid by instalments. Total payment: £1,059 18s. 3d.

Over the centuries, the Banks family were chosen for Parish Offices, not elected, but fined if they refused to accept. It appears they always accepted and over the years were Tithingmen, Ale Tasters, Haywardens, Constables, Sealers of Leather, Bread Weighers, Surveyors of the Highways and Overseers of the Poor, but strangely, never Churchwardens. Edward and George Banks attended the Vestry with John Ivory Talbot and William Henry Talbot and signed with

them for those chosen. They were very close to the Talbots, as their building work shows. A 17th-century record shows that both their seating in the Church and their Vestry attendance were constant.

When George Banks, a farmer, moved from Lacock to Potterne, he was Churchwarden at St Mary's Church there from 1862-1866; his name is on a commemorative brass to be seen in the entrance to the Church.

Brian Howells Banks

FISHERTON LUNATIC ASYLUM

A private lunatic asylum started in Fisherton Anger c.1813 when the first 75 patients were admitted. From 1829 it was licensed by the Wiltshire Court of Quarter Sessions. Between 1850 and 1870 the asylum accepted criminal lunatics prior to the establishment of Broadmoor. Throughout its history it received pauper lunatics from local authority asylums all over the country, and particularly London. In the early 1850s it was the largest private mental hospital in England, with about 700 beds.

The asylum was founded by Dr. William Finch, whose father had purchased Laverstock House in 1779 where he ran a private madhouse. William Finch snr. stated in an advertisement that for many years he had 'great success in curing people disordered in their senses' and that every person he had charge of, with the blessing of God, had been cured and discharged from his house perfectly well. Dr. Finch wrote in the local papers that 'The Asylum is situated on an elevated site; the soil is dry and healthy; the house is large and convenient; the apartments roomy, lofty and cheerful, commanding the most extensive views over a scenery picturesque and inviting. They are so disposed as to superinduce a belief in the mind of the patient that he is in the bosom of a private family instead of being under restraint'.

This forward-looking family continued to be involved in the running of the Asylum until the early 20th century. At our AGM we hope to learn more about this fascinating subject.

Helen Taylor

FIRST WORLD WAR AND RECONSTRUCTION

This year, the centenary of the start of the First World War, will see many activities and research projects related to that period of world conflict. Inevitably there will be a concentration on the military campaigns and those who fought in them. What was happening on the home front tends to be overlooked but is of great significance. In particular, as early as 1915 and 1916 when the outcome of the war was by no means certain, discussions started on what should happen after the war was over.

In this context, there were two very challenging reports by the then Director of Education, Mr W. Pullinger which, considering the intense anti-German and quite jingoistic atmosphere of the time, he must have been exceptionally brave to have aired.

The first in August 1915 was in response to the demand by farmers for boys, as young as 12, to be allowed to leave school to work on farms to meet the acute shortage of labour resulting from the number of men who had joined the armed forces. Farm boys, the farmers said, did not need much education. Pullinger's report showed that, at that time, 17,103 people in the county were employed as agricultural workers, 3,706 of whom were under 19 and 13,397 over 19. He showed that, on average, there were 600 14 year olds working on farms but by the time this age group reached 20, it had reduced by a third to 400. There were plenty of low-paid jobs for boys but many fewer jobs for adults on farms. The situation was made worse by the shortage of farm cottages for married couples. Consequently a third of those boys, on reaching adulthood, had no option but to leave the farms and find work in industry or commerce, with a significant number joining the army, police and postal services. So, he argued, it was vitally important not to plan the curriculum simply based on the needs of agriculture, but to give all boys a wider education to allow them to take up the more demanding jobs after leaving farm work.

The second occasion and even more controversial was a speech at the prize giving of the Trowbridge Evening Schools in April 1916. Pullinger argued that, after the war, there would be a greater demand than ever for educated people. There would be the ravages of war to make good and British trade and industry were likely to meet intense foreign competition. He went on to say that, at the beginning of the war, there had been a deliberate policy to 'run down' everything German including their industry, mines, inventiveness ('mere copiers') and education. But it would be wrong and misleading to believe this. The enemy were a very capable and well-trained body of men with an enthusiastic belief in education. Germany had embarked on an education programme before 1870. By comparison, England had not believed in education and parents were only too anxious to get their children out of school at the earliest possible opportunity. He believed that the success or failure of the country after the war would be based on education. The *Wiltshire Times* was not impressed. Education, said the editorial, was not the most important factor. 'Let us strive after moral excellence as well as intellectual ability, after character as well as commerce, lest we become a second Germany. We would rather become as the Hottentots.'

It is significant that the landmark Education Act of 1918 was passed before the end of the war.

Ivor Slocombe

The *Victoria County History of England*, our internationally renowned reference series on local history, was set up to mark the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria. Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II graciously accepted its rededication on reaching her own Diamond Jubilee. I had the honour of presenting her with a VCH Wiltshire volume at the celebrations in Salisbury in 2012, accompanied by Professor Miles Taylor, Director of the Institute of Historical Research at the University of London.

It is with great sadness that I report the end of public funding for VCH Wiltshire on 31 January 2014, and with it the redundancy of the two editors currently employed by the University of the West of England. VCH Wiltshire was established in 1947 by Wiltshire County Council, acting in partnership with Swindon Borough Council and other local bodies. Wiltshire Council's VCH Advisory Committee, on which all stakeholders were represented, met for the last time in October 2013. The work of this committee will now be taken forward by the Wiltshire VCH Appeal Trust, which achieved charitable status in 2004 (registered charity no. 1102882).

The Appeal Trust will work in partnership with London University's Institute of Historical Research, which has owned the intellectual copyright of the series since 1937. In the 1950s the VCH General Editor R. B. Pugh, a man with strong Wiltshire connections, modernised the volumes using the Wiltshire series as the new national prototype. IHR staff edit the 'big red volumes' for publication by Boydell and Brewer and these are mounted at www.british-history.ac.uk. They also advise on the popular paperbacks for the *England's Past for Everyone* series, and our county once again provided the prototype: *Codford: Wool and War in Wiltshire* (2007).

Alex and I are nearing completion of the text of Volume 19: *Longleat and the Deverills*. The trustees have monies in hand for remaining architectural consultancy, proofreading and indexing. There are plans for Volume 20: *Chippenham and Environs* to cover the last remaining large town for the county series. The editors are committed to seeing Volume 19 through the press, subject to future commitments.

It is no reflection on VCH Wiltshire that public funding has ended: indeed the steady support of Wiltshire local authorities and of the University of the West of England since 2004 has outlasted public funding in most counties. A new strategy is required to raise private funds for valuable historical research and indeed for archives, libraries and museums, so that our heritage can be interpreted and preserved for new generations. The Wiltshire VCH Appeal Trust is currently considering this issue.

It has been an honour to serve Wiltshire as County Editor. I would like to thank Alex for all his hard work

as assistant editor, and to congratulate him on his new contract at VCH Gloucestershire. I would also like to thank all our funders and supporters, especially those connected with the Wiltshire Record Society.

Please send donations to the *County History Trust* set up by the late Professor Christopher Elrington, stating that the money is for work in Wiltshire.

Cheques payable to 'The County History Trust': The Hon. Treasurer, The County History Trust, c/o 18 Bloomsbury Square, London WC1A 2NS

Standing orders or BACS to 'The County History Trust': HSBC a/c 61297007, sort code 40-06-07, Russell Square Branch, 1 Woburn Place, London WC1H 0HL.

Dr Virginia Bainbridge, County Editor,

JOTTINGS FROM THE ARCHIVES

The hope, expressed in my piece in the 2013 edition of *The Recorder* (Manorial Mix Up) that account rolls of the manor of Keevil which in the early 20th century had been sent to Shrewsbury as they had been ascribed to the manor of Kyvelegh (Kinnerley) might be transferred (? repatriated) to Wiltshire, came to pass during the year. Their access benefits greatly from the accurate transcripts made by a group of volunteers working in Shropshire Archives Service. However the attribution of la Penne, the source of millstone (molare) purchased for Wadeford mill in 1342-3, as the Pennines, must be suspect. If any readers can suggest a more feasible place, I would be grateful. The stone cost 13s 2d and 5s for carriage, which may give a clue to the distance it was carried. [Note from the typesetter: Could it be Pen Pits in Zeals and Penselwood, which were exploited for millstones in the medieval period? - John Chandler]

It was very much a year of coming and going for manorial records: the going is represented by a series of court rolls of the manor of Shirley, in Millbrook, Southampton, 1377-1479, which were found among other archives in a house in Urchfont. With no clear Wiltshire link we passed them on, much to the delight of the archivist in Southampton who tells me that they will almost certainly be published in the city Record Series. It is quite exceptional for such a run of manorial records to have been unknown to archivists and historians. The earliest court sat seven days after the death of Edward III, and the steward, unsure of the correct form of expressing the regnal year of the new monarch, wrote 'in the first year of Richard, son of Edward, Prince of Wales', instead of the subsequent convention describing him as Richard II. At the first court of John Whithede, son of Robert Whithede, in 1464, the tenants all paid homage and the roll is in effect a survey of the manor.

During the year I completed a catalogue of the archives of the duke of Somerset (Seymour family)

of Bradley House. It is one of our major family and estate archives with much of interest to local historians of Maiden Bradley and Seend, in particular. However there are two stand-out items: A late 15th-century bede roll of a female fraternity (?sorority) of St Margaret, which was presumably attached to the Priory church at Maiden Bradley. About 100 women are named, probably drawn from the Frome and Warminster area. Some may be of dead relatives or benefactors enrolled to receive prayers and masses. A series of three or fewer dots beside the names probably indicates masses held on anniversaries of the individuals (1332/3/2/1/23). A series of notebooks written by Edward, 11th duke of Somerset, includes one entitled, *An Enquiry on the Nature of Remote Perception*, in which he collected cases of premonition of death and illness, and fallacious cases, gleaned from published sources, and personal experience and conversations. These include one related to him by the mathematician Charles Babbage about the publication of a book on *Logarithms* [1827] (1332/1/6/18). Babbage spent some of his childhood in Teignmouth, Devon, close to the Seymour seat at Berry Pomeroy, and his precocious talent undoubtedly came to the family's attention. Both documents merit closer study by historians, which I am confident will be useful additions to our knowledge of both subjects.

It is not just by cataloguing archives in our custody that we become familiar with our collections. Enquiries from the public sometimes lead to interesting discoveries. Work on restoring Bulkington War Memorial raised the question of ownership of the structure, to which I directed the enquirer to two possible sources she might investigate in the History Centre (I do not know whether this was followed up). However, in the 10–15 minutes we ration our responses I provided two references which gave some historical context to it. A transcript to a survey of Bulkington made in 1397 included John atte Cross, tenant of a cottage, and deeds of a property described as by the cross, 1675–1681. Rather than its being a market cross, as was assumed, it was more likely to have been a preaching cross, since there was no record of the village having the right to hold a market.

A request for the copy of the will of Mary Lawrence of Biddestone, 1663, led me to quickly look at the document, and her wish to be buried in the graveyard at Pickwick caught my eye. A book of plans of Quaker chapels and burial grounds taken in 1867 (1699/104) provided the location, which had closed by the time of the OS 25" 1888, but is now 21 Bath Road, Pickwick, by the entrance to Hartham Park.

Finally the link between arts and archives, as represented by the joint role of our head of service, has led to an interesting innovation this year. Artists and creative writers have been encouraged to seek inspiration from material in our collections. The

different approaches of artists and researchers to archives, summed up best by content as opposed to appearance, has been stimulating and led to an amusing conversation I had in the search room. Watching a person who had requested a mid 18th century Freehold book from Quarter Sessions archive, working intently for an hour or more, I approached her and asked whether she was transcribing it. 'No' she replied, 'I'm drawing it'.

Steven Hobbs

FROM WILTSHIRE TO ROME

This year should see the completion and publication of *Wiltshire Almshouses and their Founders*, compiled by Pamela Slocombe and myself.¹ It is a project which has been long in the making, but it has been an interesting one, particularly when it came to researching the lives of the founders. In some cases, there was precious little to go on; but with perseverance and the ever-obliging Internet, it was possible to compile short but detailed little biographies of almost all the founders. In particular, wills provided much of what was needed, even, on occasions, a person's place of origin, as when one founder, a citizen of London, left money for the poor in Devizes – 'where I was born'.² One will, in particular, gives a very good insight into the testator's life-style and the following is an expanded account of his entry in the forthcoming book.

The founder in question was one of the numerous Edward Poores who lived in South Wiltshire in the 18th and early 19th centuries and who died unmarried and childless. This particular Edward Poore was the founder of an almshouse in Figheldean in the Avon Valley, though the building has long gone and Edward's great-nephew denied all knowledge of the charity later in the 19th century.³

Edward was the eldest surviving child of at least six children born to George Webb Poore, of Devizes, and his wife, Jane Philips.⁴ They were probably married in the late 1730s or early 40s and Edward was born between 1742 and 1745, the second son of that name, the first having died in infancy. George Poore was known as 'Counsellor [*sic*] Poore', though it is not known what profession, if any, he followed.⁵

Edward entered Queen's College, Oxford, in 1761, aged 16, gaining his BA in 1765 and MA in 1768.⁶ From there he went on to become a barrister at Lincoln's Inn in 1772 and practised there for several years. In 1787, he inherited the bulk of his uncle Edward Poore's wealth.⁷ Edward snr. was George's older brother, unmarried and childless, and he had inherited North Tidworth manor from their father, Smart Poore, who had, in turn, bought the manor from the grandson of Dr Thomas Pierce, the founder of the almshouses in North Tidworth.⁸

The sudden acquisition of his uncle's wealth was almost certainly the catalyst for the start of Edward's travels. He seems to have spent the rest of his life travelling on what appears to have been an extended Grand Tour, with a strong bias towards Italy, where he almost certainly would have acquired a permanent residence and would have become integrated with the local community, which was probably Rome; for while there, he took under his wing, a native of that city, called Carlo Trebbi, and paid for most of his education. In his will, Edward left £4,000 in Bank Dividends upon trust for Trebbi's own use and benefit during his natural life (no mention here of heirs or assigns). This was an incredibly large sum of money at that time and one cannot help wondering at the circumstance in which this bequest was made.⁹ There is little information available about Carlo Trebbi, but he was the Foreign Commissioner for Rome at the Great Exhibition in London in 1851.¹⁰ There also reposes, in the store-rooms of the V&A Museum, a mosaic, attributed to either 'Michaelangelo Barberi (1787-1867) or Carlo Trebbi (artist)'.¹¹ The mosaic depicts a landscape with cataract and river, minutely executed in coloured stones. And perhaps most intriguing of all, there exist two landing certificates for Carlo Trebbi. The first, dated 1 July 1836, records that he is from Rome, has taken ship at Boulogne and has landed at the Port of Dover. He holds a passport from the Roman Government and he has signed the certificate with a strong, flourishing signature. The next certificate is from the Port of London for 24 June 1839. He had embarked at Calais and a note says that he left in 1835-36. Again he signs and this time the word 'gent' is written after his name.¹² Whatever his origins, clearly, he moved in respectable circles.

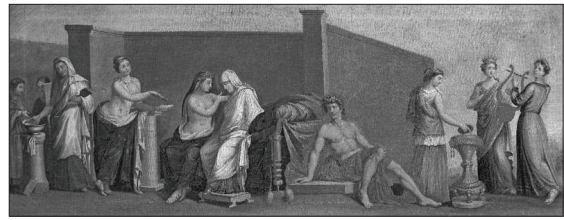
In England, Edward had another protégé, William Beare, an artist, again educated by him and the recipient of £200 from Edward's estate.¹³

Edward was evidently a well-read, well-educated man with a lively mind and a great interest in the arts. Among the possessions which he bequeathed was a large onyx ring, with a figure of Fortitude engraved in it in intaglio; it is not known if this was an antique ring, but it seems likely.



Onyx intaglio ring with figure of Fortitude, possibly similar to that owned by Edward Poore.

There was a large copy of the 'Aldobrandini Marriage', a 1st-century Roman fresco, now in the Vatican Museum. With the rising interest in antiquities in the 17th and 18th centuries, numerous copies were made, many as watercolours.



The Aldobrandini Marriage

Edward also mentions a copy of 'The Baptism of Jerom'; this was in fact *The Last Communion of St Jerome*, painted by Dominichino (1581-1641), also known as Domenico Zampieri, a celebrated artist of the Bolognese School, second only to Raphael. This particular painting, described at the time as probably the best painting in the world, was painted for the Church of San Girolamo della Carità in 1614.



The Last Communion of St Jerome by Dominichino

Corregio's 'Ecce Homo', painted on pewter by Agostini Carracci was another of Edward's bequests. Corregio (Antonio Allegri) came from near Parma and died in 1534. Caracci (1557-1602) was a painter and printmaker from Bologna. The original painting is in the National Gallery.



Ecco Homo by Correggio

Finally, there was a painting of ‘a Chinese’ by Mortimer. This turns out to have been ‘*Chinese Mandarin*’ by John Hamilton Mortimer and one assumes that Edward owned the original.



Chinese Mandarin by John Hamilton Mortimer

John Hamilton Mortimer (1740–79) was born in Eastbourne and made his name as a figure and landscape painter and printmaker. The painting of the Chinese Mandarin is now in the Hunterian Museum, in the collection of the Royal College of Surgeons of England.

Edward also owned the massive, nine-volume survey of ‘*Antiquities of Herculaneum*’, originally published in 1755–92 as ‘*Le Antichità di Ercolano Esposte*, by Ottavio Antonio Bayardi and containing over 600 plates.

There were also various dictionaries, lexicons and vocabularies in a number of languages, both ancient and modern. His travels had certainly inspired him to learn languages and to collect art.

R. Clutterbuck, writing in 1893 in *Wiltshire Notes and Queries*, says that the Poores were close friends of the Rev. Henry White, the brother of the naturalist



Plate from Antiquities of Herculaneum

of Selborne, Gilbert White. Henry held the living of Fyfield in Hampshire and the Poores often visited him there; since Gilbert was also a frequent visitor to his brother, the Poores must often have met the naturalist. Henry was also curate of North Tidworth for a time. Clutterbuck tells us that Henry regularly spent part of his Sundays at the Poores’ house and Gilbert often joined them there.¹⁴

Edward made his will in 1802, while at North Tidworth, the place he considered home in England. He willed that his body should be buried in either North Tidworth or Figheldean, unless he ‘died beyond the seas’. In the event, this is what happened. For although his will was proved in London in 1804, Clutterbuck, states categorically that he died in Rome in 1803.¹⁵ Further research reveals that Edward died on 17 August 1803 and was buried in the Campo Cestio in Rome, also known as the Protestant or Poets’ Cemetery. A stone memorial was erected over his grave, with a delicate carving on the top. Perhaps the work of Carlo Trebbi, for his name appears at the bottom of the inscription.¹⁶



Edward Poore’s grave in Rome

Literal translation of the inscription on Edward Poore's grave:
 To the memory of/ Cavaliere Edward Poore/ of
 Tidworth/ in the county of Wilts/ in England/ a
 man in both art and science/ profound and learned/
 amongst the scholars of his time/ very esteemed/ died
 in the Convento del Palazzuolo/ on the 17 August
 1803/ of years 60/ this humble tribute/ was erected/
 out of affection and the education/ given in early years
 to his/ always loved and faithful friend/ Carlo Trebbi
 Roman. (with thanks to Hilary Armstrong of Codford).

The Convento del Santa Maria ad Nives Palazzuolo (Convent of Our Lady of the Snows) is a former Franciscan monastery on the outskirts of Rome, set high on a rocky outcrop, overlooking Lake Albano. It was closed for a year from 1798–9, during the revolution of the Roman Republic and then again, from 1807–14, when Napoleon occupied the province of Lazio. Between these closure dates, the monastery continued to function as a guesthouse and hospice. Earlier, the establishment had room for 60 guests; so perhaps Edward actually lodged here when he was in Rome. Certainly it is where he spent his final days. He could hardly have asked for a more beautiful outlook.



Convento del Santa Maria ad Nives Palazzuolo, where Edward Poore died in 1803.

Notes:

1. Working title. Publication expected 2014.
2. Will of William Barret of London, 1621: PROB 11/138.
3. *Report of Charities Commission, 1908*, vol. ii, 171.
4. Sherlock, P., ed. 2000 *Monumental Inscriptions of Wiltshire, 1822*; by Sir Thomas Phillipps. Trowbridge: WRS vol. 53, 367.
5. Clutterbuck, R.. 1896 *Wiltshire Notes & Queries*. Devizes: G.Simpson. vol. i, 79.
6. *Alumni Oxoniensis*.
7. Will of Edward Poore, 1787. TNA, PROB 11/1157.
8. Stevenson, J. 1995 'North Tidworth'. in *VCH Wiltshire*, vol. xv, 158.
9. Will of Edward Poore, 1804. TNA, PROB 11/1405.
10. Tallis, J. 2011 *History & Description of the*

Crystal Palace & the Exhibition of the World's Industry in 1851. Cambridge: UP.

11. V&A website (2014).
12. Landing certificates from ancestry.com (2014)
13. Will of Edward Poore.
14. Clutterbuck, 79.
15. *ibid.*, 79–80
16. *findagrave.com* (2014).

Sally Thomson

MURDER OF WILLIAM HARTGILL AND JOHN HARTGILL OF KILMINGTON BY CHARLES, LORD STOURTON AND HIS SERVANTS

The parish of Kilmington, then in Somerset just across the county border from the Wiltshire parish of Stourton, was on 12th January 1557 the scene of a double murder of William Hartgill of Kilmington, esquire and his son, John Hartgill of Kilmington, gentleman, by Charles, 7th Baron Stourton and his followers and servants, for which Lord Stourton was subsequently tried, attainted and hanged. The case is described and many documents from the papers of the Marquis of Bath at Longleat and from public records, then in the Public Record Office and the State Paper Office, relating to the circumstances surrounding the case are transcribed or extracted in an article by Rev. Canon J. E. Jackson 'Charles, Lord Stourton, and the Murder of the Hartgills' *Wiltshire Archaeological Magazine* VIII, 242–341. Jackson's edition of the narrative of the murder was based on two documents now in the British Library, Harleian MS 590, ff. 76,76b and Lansdowne Ms No. 3, Art. 49, (parts, or early copies, of one of Foxe's Manuscripts) describing the events surrounding the murder and compiled shortly afterwards. This account was published by John Strype in 1721, though edited in the language of his own day, in his *Ecclesiastical Memorials* (London, 1721), iii (1), 592–600, and in Sir Richard Colt Hoare's *Modern History of Wiltshire* (London, 1822–45 'History of Mere', p. 252), William Phelps's *History and Antiquities of Somersetshire*, I, part 2, p. 178 and John Bayley's *History and Antiquities of the Tower of London*, p. 454, and a summary version was published in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1790, when the murder of his steward by Lord Ferrers caught public attention. Modern accounts were published under the title *The Stourton tragedy: being an account of the murder of the Hartgills by Charles Lord Stourton on the 12th January 1557*, the first edition in 1890, and the second published by George Sweetman in 1901 (Wincanton, Sweetman's Historical Pamphlets, 1901). A succinct, but authoritative, modern account is to be found in the biographical note on William Hartgill by Nora Fuidge in *History of Parliament: House of Commons, 1509–1558* ed. S.T.Bindoff (Woodbridge, 1982).

Two years earlier in 1862 Canon Jackson had published his revised and enlarged edition of John Aubrey's *Collections for the Natural and Topographical*

History of Wiltshire based on earlier editions and the surviving volume of manuscript notes deposited by Aubrey in the recently formed Ashmolean Museum shortly before his death. Aubrey gave a brief account of the murder and the relations between Lord Stourton and the Hartgills derived from Rev. Francis Potter, rector of Kilmington, 1628–78. In an extensive footnote on pages 393–4 of his edition of Aubrey’s work, Canon Jackson provided a more succinct and accessible account than that in his later article in the *Wiltshire Archaeological Magazine*.

William Hartgill held various Crown and other public offices in Somerset, Dorset and Wiltshire, including lord lieutenant of the three counties, as well as serving as M.P. for Westbury in 1545. He was keeper of the woods at Maiden Bradley of Edward, earl of Hertford, later Duke of Somerset and Lord Protector, until the latter’s fall from power, and his son was in the service of Sir John Thynne. By 1544 he became steward to William, 6th Baron Stourton and held several properties in Stourton and Kilmington from the latter, including a farm at Beckington and holdings in Norton Ferrers in Kilmington which Stourton had purchased in the early 1540s from Walter Devereux, Earl Ferrers. He was also steward and tenant of the Shaftesbury Abbey’s manor of Kilmington and appears to have sought to acquire a grant of the manor following the abbey’s dissolution. William, Lord Stoughton was granted the manor on 18th July 1543, but two days later obtained a royal licence to alienate it to Hartgill. This, with other purchases and sales of Stourton lands by Hartgill and what Aubrey and Potter saw as his cozening of his father as steward in his father’s absence in Henry VIII’s French expedition was Charles, Lord Sourton’s main grievance against Hartgill, together with grievances over the administration of his father’s will and Hartgill’s apparent support for the claims of both the widow, who refused enter into a bond not to remarry, and of his mistress, Agnes, daughter of Rhys ap Gruffydd, to whom his father had bequeathed his personal goods. Jackson suggested further causes of dispute between Lord Stoughton and the Hartgills: the latter’s failure to pay certain rents for property on which they claimed leases, over the lease of the Kilmington rectory estate and other outstanding debts, over a right of way, over the exercise of common and hunting rights, detention of hunting dogs, and the Hartgills engagement in the local service of Edward Seymour, Duke of Somerset and Sir John Thynne, all contributing to a nine-year feud into which other tenants, followers and servants were also drawn dividing them into Stourton and Hartgill factions and leading to a climate of dispute and violence.

Despite his appointment as lord lieutenant of Wiltshire, Dorset and Somerset under Queen Mary, the disputes involved Charles, Lord Stourton in cases in Chancery and the Star Chamber and led him to be summoned before the Council and on different

occasions briefly imprisoned in the Fleet and the Tower, and ordered to pay damages to the Hartgills and released on a bond of £2,000. Jackson saw these indignities as provoking him into the retaliatory actions against the Hartgills which ultimately led to the murders.

Canon Jackson in 1864 clearly felt that, despite his intensive use of the public records and the Longleat Papers, the documentary evidence was insufficient to come to a conclusive interpretation of the events and actions surrounding the sustained feud and the murders; and it seems unlikely that further documents will be now found to fill the gaps in the story, though there might be much to gain from considering the significance of factional rivalries within the wider context of changes in local and national politics, religion and landownership in the period following the dissolution of the monasteries and religious reform.

The circumstances culminating in the two murders also point to the dangers of local studies within too prescribed a local framework. The events spanned parishes and interests in two, if not three, counties and demonstrated also the relative proximity to central national institutions of the Council and the central courts and the occasional significance of national as opposed to purely local affairs, as in military or diplomatic service abroad or involvement in privy council or courts, at the higher levels of local society. It is therefore worth considering in research the possibility of documentation outside the county. It is scarcely surprising in this case that there are a few relevant documents at the Somerset Heritage Centre and a note of selected documents relating to the case or landholding in Kilmington and neighbouring Somerset places are appended to this note.

Documents relating to the murder and to Kilmington and Stourton in the Somerset Heritage Centre

A\AQP/25 Hundred of Norton Ferrers: Notes by Edmund Rack, commissioned by John Collinson for his *History and Antiquities of Somersetshire* [some material including that for Kilmington used in Collinson iii,31–52] , with additional material by Crocker, chiefly on Penselwood and Wincanton, and correspondence relating to Kilmington from the Hon. Charles Digby: f 1 Bratton Seymour; f 2 Charlton Musgrove; f 5 Cucklington; f 7 Kilmington, including (f 14) Stourhead; (f 15) A Barbarous Murder Committed by Lord Stourton and Four of his Servants on the bodies of William Hartgill, esq, and his Son, John Hartgill, of Kilmington, in Somersetshire: Being a particular Relation of it, which was written soon after this Bloody Act was done. Taken out of Strype’s *Memorial Ecclesiastical* (London, 1783), referred to in correspondence from f 11 onwards; f 16 Penselwood; f 21 Shepton Montague; f 23 Stoke Trister; and f 25 Wincanton.

These notes have recently been published in Mark McDermott and Sue Berry (eds.) *Edmund Rack’s*

Survey of Somerset (Somerset Archaeological and Natural History Society, 2011: ISBN 978 0 902152 22 9); for Kilmington see entry 294, pp.239-240, with a further reference in entry 65, p. 61 (sub Milton Clevedon)

A\CTP/2/1/103 Roll of copy deeds relating to various manors owned by the Ferrers family: manors of "Bukebroke," "Cherlton Mucegres" [Charlton Musgrove], "Norton juxta Bradeleye" [Norton Musgrave, also known as Norton Ferris, in Kilmington], "Hampstede-Sifrewaft", "Alvescote" [?Alvescote, Oxfordshire], "Buknore," [?Bicknor, Gloucestershire], "Longeforde" [Langford]', "Botintone" [?Boddington, Gloucestershire] and "Magna Toyntore" [?Great Torrington, Devon], relating to the Ferrers family, 13th cent.

A\CTP/2/1/104 Lease for lives, with warranty, from Hawise de Forrays [Ferrers] to Richard Quayle and his wife Julian of lands in Norton Musgrave [also known as Norton Ferris, in Kilmington], 23 Jun 1314

One place of land called "The Hustede" in Norton Musgrave, two "deynas" of land and pasture, six bovates on the hill of Norton; Rent: 1 red rose at the Nativity of St. John the Baptist; Given at Monkspath [Old Cleeve]. Witnesses: William Huse, John of Burwelle, William of Norton, William atte Wodehouse, John Penstan. [Latin]

DD\BR\wr/27 Inspeximus of inquisition post mortem (1557) re. lands of Charles, Lord Stourton, including hundreds of Andersfield, and Williton and Freemanors, and manors of Kingston, Charlton Horethorne, Charlton Musgrave, Beckington, Kilmington, Marston Bigot, Wanstrow, lands in Frome; advowson of Wincanton, 1597.

DD\PH/62 Deeds including manors of Yarnfield in Kilmington and 'Allington' in Ditchat parish -

settlement previous to marriage of Henry, second son of Sir Edmund Ludlowe, and Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Phillipps, deceased, and niece of Sir Edward Phelips, 1611.

DD\X\TNN/1 Kilmington, etc. deeds: Copyhold tenement and 53 a., copyhold tenement and 32 a. called Clements and 2 leasehold cottages, 1684 (Hartgill); reversionary lease for 3 lives of messuage and 9 a. (named), 1733; will of John Hartgill of Bruton and Lord of the Manor of Kilmington, Esq., 1747 4 documents.

DD\L\M/8 includes deeds relating to various properties in Taunton, 1561-1737/8, including Taunton St James and Norton Ferrers, 1737/8.

DD\R\R/32 One Bundle of miscellaneous old deeds relating to property at Kilmington, nd.

Published works

PAM 853

Stourton tragedy being an account of the murder of the Hartgills by Charles Lord Stourton on the 12th January 1557, 1890

PAM 964 *George Hartgill: an Elizabethan parson-astronomer and his library*, 1968

Duncan Chalmers

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SATURDAY 14TH JUNE 2.30 PM

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There will be a short business meeting (max 30 mins) followed by speakers & hopefully a walk around the area

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