

CAKE & COCKHORSE

The Magazine of the Banbury Historical Society



Broughton Castle Banbury

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BANBURY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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R.K. Bigwood, J.H. Fearon, B.S. Trinder, B.A.

CAKE AND COCKHORSE

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The Magazine of the Banbury Historical Society
 Issued to Members four times a year

VOLUME I. NO. 9 SEPTEMBER, 1961

P R O G R A M M E 1961/62

Tuesday, 10th October - Ancient Roads and Tracks in North Oxfordshire, by Mrs. V.S. Wickham Steed. Everyone must have recognised Roman roads preserved in straight stretches of modern roads. Mrs. Wickham Steed will be telling us of many other less obvious identifications, and of many more ancient tracks. The derivations of our North Oxfordshire roads is a fascinating subject, and we are fortunate to have so knowledgeable a speaker to tell us about them. Members attending are particularly requested to bring 1" Ordnance Survey maps for the Banbury area with them if possible. 7.30 p.m. in the Court Room, Town Hall.

Saturday, 28th October - Jubilee Exhibition of Local Records by the Oxfordshire County Record Office, in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall. Preceded by a Reception at 11.30 a.m. for 12.00 noon during which the Exhibition will be officially opened by our President. All members, together with wives or husbands, are invited. See page 114 for further details, and page 120 for a description of the exhibition.

Tuesday, 28th November - The Bloxham Feofees and their Activities, by Mr. Clarence Butler (Townsmen of the Lord of the Manor).
7.30 p.m. in the Court Room, Town Hall.

Tuesday, 30th January, 1962 - to be announced.

Tuesday, 27th March, 1962 - Local Church Architecture. An illustrated talk by Mr. G. Forsythe Lawson. 7.30 p.m., Court Room.

NOTES AND NEWS

Congratulations to our President on his well-deserved award of the Order of the British Empire. Lord Saye and Sele does a great deal of work in the public service, and we have felt honoured that so busy a person should have such an interest in our Society amongst so many other calls on his time. We are glad that his many public activities have now received due recognition.

RECEPTION AND RECORDS EXHIBITION

The County Record Office to mark its Jubilee is staging a one-day exhibition of local records in Banbury on Saturday, 28th October. This will be held in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall. To mark the event the Historical Society is holding a Reception there, at 11.30 a.m. for 12 noon, during which the President will officially open the Exhibition. There will be a Private View for members and guests of the Society only from then until 1.00 p.m., and the Exhibition will be open to the public in general during the afternoon. Your Executive Committee look forward to welcoming many members and their wives or husbands on this first occasion of this sort in our Society's history. An official invitation will be found enclosed.

The Exhibition itself will cover a wide range of records and is sure to be most interesting. A description will be found on page 120.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS.

Dr. Beeson has been joined as Joint Editor by the Secretary, Mr. J.S.W. Gibson, and editorial communications should in future be addressed to Humber House, Bloxham.

Our Archaeological Director, Mr. V. Bromley, has moved to "Sunbeams", Broughton, Banbury, and is no longer on the telephone. We must applaud his move, which we are sure is solely to be more conveniently placed for the Society's excavation near Broughton? However this must be a long-term plan, as its immediate result has been to make him too busy to supervise any dig this year. The field surrounding the site is anyway planted with corn, but we hope for a resumption next spring, house-warming and crops permitting.

ARCHAEOLOGY

In these circumstances we have been particularly pleased to welcome to Banburyshire two archaeological teams, from the Oxford University Archaeological Society, at Rainsborough, and from Queen's University, Belfast, for a second year at Sulgrave. We have been promised reports on both excavations for future issues. Members visited and helped both digs, and we hope next spring to be able to give advance information on further work planned at these sites.

IRONSTONE MINING

Since our last issue the splendid news of the refusal of permission for ironstone mining in north Oxfordshire has been received. We are sure that all local members must be deeply thankful that this threat of disfigurement to our beautiful countryside has been removed, may be we hope for ever. And we must give our thanks in great measure to the County Council and to the North Oxfordshire Ironstone Areas Protection Committee, and in particular to Mr. J.B. Schuster, for this happy outcome. The decision was obviously the result of their vigorous campaign and ably-presented case. Nevertheless we are glad to feel that our representations, by Mr. Bromley, on the danger to archaeological remains, added some slight additional weight to the arguments.

MEMBERS

One of the sadder aspects of our Society's increasing age - now almost four years - is the death of members. We are very sorry to record on this occasion the loss of Miss Helen Loveday, Mr. Phillip Brachi and Miss Dorothy Barford, all of whom took a close interest in our affairs and will be sorely missed. Appreciations will be found on pages 118, 128, 129.

We are on the other hand glad to welcome many new members, including one, Mr. I.B. Madden, from New Zealand. We will be hard put to it to find further-flung members than that!

THE HERALDRY SOCIETY

We are very pleased to welcome to the area the Heraldry Society. This is a national Society founded in 1947 by Mr. J.P. Brooke-Little, Bluemantle Pursuivant at the College of Arms. Its Hon. Secretary, Miss C.M. Egan, has recently come to live at Swalcliffe, where its registered office is now established. The Society issues a most entertaining news-sheet, The Heraldry Gazette, which is a lesson to all who think such historically-biased subjects are necessarily stuffy and out-of-date. Both Mr. Brooke-Little and the Heraldry Society itself have we are delighted to say joined our Society - we hope that some of our members may like to reciprocate. The subscription of one guinea seems most moderate, and anyone interested should write to Miss Egan at Swalcliffe.

RECORDS PUBLICATIONS

Our first independent Records volume, Banbury Marriage Register, Part I, 1558-1724, which was issued to all Corporate Members and Records Members subscribing 25/- in 1960, was belatedly published in June. Our apologies to our subscribers for the delay - though fortunately the book was not one to rely on passing topicality! We expect to catch up on future volumes, though probably will aim to publish early in the year subsequent to subscription, in order to be able to include a full list of subscribers. A review by the County Archivist appears on page 126. It has already been favourably noticed in the Banbury Guardian, Banbury Advertiser and St. Mary's Parish Magazine.

Our 1961 volume is to be a continuation of the Banbury Marriage Register - Part Two, 1724-1790, and the third part completing it up to 1837 will appear in due course. It is not proposed to copy or print the register after that date, when registration of births, marriages and deaths at Somerset House first started. However baptisms and burials in the Banbury register are already copied up to the mid-18th century, and, again in due course, it is hoped that these will be published.

We are well aware that other records are of much greater interest to some subscribers. Our initial choice for publication has so far been dictated by availability, as transcription and editing can often take years to complete. Work in preparation includes Dr. Beeson's "Clockmaking in Oxfordshire, 1400-1850" of which we hope to publish an illustrated edition in conjunction with the Antiquarian Horological Society in 1962-1963; and South Newington Churchwardens' Accounts, 1560-1662, edited by Dr. E.R.C. Brinkworth. Mr. R.K. Gilkes has promised to edit the Banbury Corporation Accounts of the 16th and 17th centuries, and we hope that permission will be given to edit the 19th century Gaol Records.

LIBRARY

The Society has acquired a number of books and magazines recently, and in order to make them easily available to members it has been decided, by kind permission of the Borough Librarian, to house them in the Borough Reference Library. A special book-case has been placed at our disposal, for which Mr. Hutchins has kindly made a door. The key is in the possession of Mr. A.W. Pain (Assistant Borough Librarian) to whom members should apply. A list of accessions to date will be found on page 131. The greater part of them are donated by our member Mr. E.R. Marshall, and form a valuable nucleus - a most generous gesture.

At the same time we gratefully acknowledge receipt of several substantial xerographied volumes of ms. material from the Bodleian Library; and a complete set of the Quarterly Reports of the Oxfordshire County Records Joint Committee from February 1938 to date, and the promise of future issues. These reports list current acquisitions of documents relating to numerous localities in the Banbury area which are now donated or deposited in the County Record Office.

Members will be kept informed of future accessions. Meanwhile we shall always be pleased to receive further donations, whether or not they are already possessed by the Borough Library. For a start may we suggest a few at present in print - Potts' "History of Banbury", George Herbert's "Shoemaker's Window", "Tradition & Change" (our own review copy unfortunately having gone astray): and, of course, one that is very out-of-print - Beesley's "History of Banbury".

CHRISTMAS CARD

Christmas is still a long way off, but as commercially it gets earlier every year we must do our best to preserve our own - commercial - interest in it by announcing our own Christmas Card well in advance. This year it is to be taken from an old print of the building in the Market Place, close to W.H. Smith, known usually as the Old Gaol - though it was also at one time the Bluecoat school. It will be a line drawing similar in quality to last year's card of Broughton Castle. The price is likely to be about 5/- a dozen. May we urge members to support us by buying it in quantity - we believe it is very good value for money, but it can only be produced at a reasonable price so long as a good number are sold.

CIVIC SOCIETY

Members will be aware of the recent formation of a Civic Society in Banbury. This is a result of the invitation to the Civic Trust to suggest broad plans for the future development of the town. As one of the Trust's objects is the preservation and enhancement of character in particular old and interesting buildings, we believe that nothing but good is likely to result from their suggestions. The inaugural meeting has been held and the Society is now established. We hope that our members will do all they can to support this new Society, especially by joining themselves. The Hon. Secretary is Mr. Colin Crouch, c/o Trustee Savings Bank, High St., Banbury and the subscription is 10/6d. p.a.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The third Annual General Meeting of the Society was held on Tuesday 28th March in the Court Room of the Town Hall.

The Accounts and Report for 1960 were approved.

The President, Vice-Presidents and Honorary Officers were all re-elected. Messrs. Fearon, Bigwood and Ellacott and Dr. Beeson were re-elected to the Committee.

In view of his position on the Committee, Mr. Ellacott had indicated his desire to cease acting as the Society's auditor. A vote of thanks was passed to him for his work in this capacity. Mr. Wren, the Assistant Borough Treasurer, who had agreed to serve, was appointed.

After the business Mr. Humphrey Case, M.A., F.S.A., gave an always entertaining and sometimes hilarious illustrated talk on "Barrow Diggers of the 19th Century". The vote of thanks was moved by Mr. Bromley.

At a subsequent Committee Meeting, Mr. G.J.S. Ellacott was elected Chairman and Mr. R.K. Bigwood Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year. Mr. B.S. Trinder was co-opted to the Committee.

MISS DOROTHY BARFORD

Miss Dorothy Barford of Linden House, Banbury, who died recently at the age of 78, was the eldest daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Barford (afterwards Mrs. Pemberton) and had lived all her life in the beautiful old house on the Green facing Banbury Cross. She took a keen interest in the Historical Society although her health prevented her from attending meetings. She was also a foundation member of the Banbury and District Musical Society when this was formed in 1919 by the late Revd. W. Fothergill Robinson, Vicar of Bloxham; and was for many years, with Mrs. N.C. Penrose, its joint honorary secretary.

One of her pleasures in latter years was to reminisce about the Banbury of past years, and of her visits to Wroxton Abbey in Lord North's time. She would enjoy telling of standing on the steps of the side door of Linden House in West Bar (the surgery door) as a young woman, to see King Edward VII drive in a carriage and pair, with coachman and footmen up, on his way from the railway station to stay with Lord and Lady Gordon Lennox at Broughton

Castle, and how his Majesty raised his Homburg hat to them as he passed.

R. HORTON-SMITH

VISIT TO CHACOMBE PRIORY - 27th June, 1961

This was a very well attended trip. On arrival at the Priory we were met by Mr. Allfrey who began proceedings by giving us a short talk on the history of the building, including the ghost!

Before 1066 the Priory was occupied by Bardi whose daughter married Sir Anus, a follower of the Conqueror, and whose name subsequently became Cheucombe from which the village also takes its name. The chapel was built about 1200 by Sir Hugh de Cheucombe and the building is still standing today with one of the earliest examples of a glass window in one embrasure. The establishment normally consisted of about 12 monks and the Priory; they were buried in what is now the kitchen garden. In 1300 the Priory was inhabited by Sir Gilbert de Seagrave who was Earl Marshal of England. He fought at Bannockburn and was buried in the garden in 1327. As repayment for a loan, Henry VIII authorised Michael Fox to evict the monks in 1543, and to take the Estate - of 4,500 acres - in lieu of the debt. The present house dates from Elizabethan times.

Following this talk we were divided into two groups and while one section looked at the gardens the others were shown over the house by Mr. Allfrey. There are 13 rooms now open to the public and apart from the furnishings to be seen there is stained glass in several of the windows. The carpets are mainly Persian and amongst other things there are Venetian glass, china by Coleport, Crown Derby and Dresden and one Ming bowl. The clocks include two grandfathers as well as one Louis XV and one Louis XVI. There are several Venetian mirrors in the house and the furniture is by Chippendale covered in many instances with French petit point. There are some interesting paintings in the house, several of them by Jim Wylie - our host's brother-in-law. There is English and Persian silver and of the chandeliers some are from Brighton Pavilion and one is from Windsor Castle. It was obvious that Mrs. Allfrey was a talented needlewoman from the use which had been made of the material in the hangings of the four-poster beds and in covering some of the furniture.

The gardens, while not fully under control, proved to be interesting if rather less so than the house. There are some rare species of birds in them.

The party of approximately 45 members and friends broke up at about 8.30 after a very pleasant evening.

G.J.S.E.

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY RECORDS JOINT COMMITTEEEXHIBITION OF COUNTY RECORDS

At the request of the Banbury Historical Society, the Oxfordshire County Records Joint Committee are staging at Banbury, on Saturday 28th October, a modified and shortened version of the exhibition originally held at the County Hall, Oxford, on 19th and 20th May this year to celebrate the Silver Jubilee of the official opening of the County Record Office in 1936.

The history of the County Record Office began early in 1934, when the Oxfordshire County Council and the Oxfordshire Court of Quarter Sessions, anxious to provide for the proper care of the official records of the County, which had accumulated at the County Hall, set up the Oxfordshire County Records Joint Committee, consisting of six members of the County Council and five magistrates. In due course three basement rooms at the County Hall were adapted as muniment rooms, a County Archivist was appointed, and the great task of arranging and cataloguing the County Records was begun. Soon the Joint Committee decided to make their accommodation freely available for the preservation of ancient documents of all kinds belonging to private persons and bodies, and some very large and important deposits, such as Lord Dillon's archives and the Dashwood estate records resulted.

In the twenty-five years that have passed, the volume of records, both official and private, preserved in the County Record Office, has increased to such an extent that the muniment rooms are now filled almost to capacity. The County Records are used by an increasing number of people - historians, genealogists, students, teachers and school-children, as well as by lawyers and administrators. As Lord Wright, then Master of the Rolls, said in 1936 when he performed the opening ceremony, "history is not merely a story of spectacular events, of wars or political crises, or international diplomacy. What they (the historians) wanted to know was how people lived - their economic conditions, their wages and conditions of life, how they tilled the fields and managed the great wool trade ... National history was local history writ large". It is hoped that the exhibition to be staged in Banbury will help to illustrate the many facets of local history which can be studied with the aid of the County Records.

It must, however, be remembered that the original exhibition was designed to portray, in a general way, the types of documents which could be found in the County Record Office. The Banbury

exhibition will not, therefore, be devoted specially to the history of the Banbury area, and although one or two modifications to the original display have been made in the hope that they will be of interest to people living in the Borough and Rural District, in general the "local" documents which will be shown were chosen, not for any topographical reason, but by reason of date, make up or content they fitted into the pattern of the exhibition. Banbury itself is rich in records, and the Borough archives would illustrate the history of the town far more adequately than documents from the County Record Office. However, the Banbury area is well represented in the exhibition. There are, for example, the 1794 Rules of an Adderbury Friendly Society: the Wardington Enclosure Award of 1762: a Certificate of the marriage of two Sibford Quakers in 1737: the Bill in Parliament in 1790 for demolishing Banbury Church: a Minute Book of Sibford School, 1839 - 52: the Feoffment of Wardington windmill in 1654: a printed advertisement for Samuelson's patent digging and forking machine, made at the Britannia Works, Banbury, in 1853; and the printed account of the trial and execution of William Archer of Mollington for setting fire to two ricks in 1817. The maps include the South Newington Enclosure Map of 1795 and an estate map of Alkerton and Shenington in 1819.

It is thought, however, that visitors to the Banbury exhibition will be just as interested to see the many other items on display, including to mention but a few, the holograph letter of Charles II in 1673: the letter of March, 1791, from Giles Covington, a condemned prisoner in Oxford Castle, about to be hanged: the earliest surviving minute book of Quarter Sessions, 1688 - 93: Brunel's railway plans of 1834: the Deed of Grant of c. 1150 (the oldest document in the County Record Office): the collection of printed County Maps: and the impressive display of portraits, great seals or signatures of all the monarchs of England (except Philip and Mary) from Henry VIII to Victoria.

Lastly, a special corner of the exhibition will be devoted to displaying the Oxfordshire Victoria County History volumes, in the writing of which the County Records are widely used. These provide a silent tribute to all those persons and bodies who, for hundreds of years, have looked after and carefully preserved their records. It is the task of historians to use these records to re-discover the past: it is the task of the County Records Joint Committee to make known the importance of preserving them, and it is to be hoped that the Banbury exhibition will play its part in publicising the work of the Joint Committee to whom the Banbury Historical Society has in the past given valuable assistance.

In the 17th century the election and swearing-in of the Mayor and other officers of the Borough of Banbury took place on 29th September each year and the ceremony was recorded as a Minute in the Borough Book of Accounts. Between 1677 and 1693 the Minute has an added postscript granting wine licences to two innkeepers annually. The phrases used are "to sell wine in Banbury", "to keep Tavernes as formerly" or "to keepe Taverns att their sever- al houses they doe now Live in". There are no entries of licences before or after these dates although other evidence con- firms their existence. The inns for which a few details have been collected are:- Flower de Luce, Lyon, Plough, Red Lion, Reindeer, Swan, Three Tuns and Unicorn.

The Flower de Luce: A token coin issued by James Wagstaffe in 1651 reads, obverse, " * IAMES. WAGSTAFFE (à fleur de lys)", reverse, " *IN . BANBVRY 1651 . I.W x M." J.G. Milne, 1935, Oxfordshire 17th Century Tokens, suggests the dies for this token were made in London by David Ramage. A later inferior casting appears to have been made locally. James Wagstaffe married Mary Wheatley on 30 January 1637; he was Tithingman in 1646 and Con- stable in 1649 and 1650. He may have become a Quaker as his children born 1646 to 1649 were registered but not baptised, and as one of the same name refused to take the oath of allegiance in 1661 and was committed to Oxford gaol. The house was taxed on three hearths in the Hearth Taxes in 1662 and 1665.

Later William Wagstaffe took over the inn and issued a token which reads, obverse, " * WILLIAM . WAGSTAFFE . OF (a fleur de lys)", reverse "BANBVRY . HIS. HALF . PENNY * W * W * M *** ". As this token has an outer border of diamonds and an inner border of thin cable it is later than 1665. William Wagstaffe married in January 1666 without banns or licence, presumably as a Quaker. He was buried on 4 October 1695.

Ten years later the Flower de Luce was in the hands of William Hodges, who married Mary Rattnet on 30 July 1705, and he held the inn until 1720 or longer.

The Lyon: The innkeeper in 1554 was John Barnesley, a Capital Bur- gess. In his Accounts for 1556 and 1558 Alderman John Longe item- ises various payments for victuals, ale and wine "to my coussyn Barnesley". The first dinner of the Corporation after the grant of a Charter by Queen Mary in 1554 was held at the Lyon, and other meals were taken there and important visitors were entertained with

wine and food there; in 1615 the Lyon is specifically named as the inn for the Corporation suppers.

John Barnesley died in 1581 and his will left one third of his goods and his house, the Lyon, to his wife, Helen, if she remained a widow, but within a year she remarried to John Paxton at Cropredy. By her first husband, Richard Wise of Bodicote, she had three sons, one of whom may be Thomas Wise, innholder of Banbury, who died in May 1637. There is no sure record of subsequent occupants.

The Plough: In 1564 the house on the site of the Plough Inn was occupied by John Wysdome. In 1606 it belonged to Edward Wysdome but was occupied by Walter Wafford, who has married Elizabeth Wisdome in October 1591. Edward Wysdome married Margaret Bull in 1589, was a Chief Burgess in 1608, Mayor in 1620, Bridgemaster in 1624, Auditor in 1625 and lived some years longer. Beesley is the authority for equating the name of Wisdom with the Plough.

The name of Webb also is associated with the Plough. Robert Webb, who married Ann Pilkington on 16 June 1644, and who was buried on 8 March 1667, is described in his will as an innholder; his wife Anne died the previous year. In September 1681 Thomas Webb died, then described as a victualler. His children were baptised from 1661 to 1675 and one of them, Mary, was later buried from the Plough (September 1699). The burials in June 1683 of Widow Webb and in January 1697 of Jane Webb, also a widow, both took place from the Plough.

The inn then passed to one of the Towerzey family, Richard, who held it from early in the century until 1748; he is described as victualler and innholder.

The Red Lion: The only 17th century records of a licence are for the years 1688 and 1689 when John Towerzey kept the Red Lion from about 1680 to 1715 or later. He was born in July 1644, the son of Richard Towerseye. His wife Silence died in July 1715 without having produced a son.

However, in 1712-1718 the name of Thomas Tyler is associated with the Red Lion, and another member of the Towerzey family kept the Rose and Crown.

The Reindeer: Thomas Sutton had the Reindeer from about 1650. In 1666 he issued his token with the following design, obverse, " * THOMAS . SVTTON . AT . THE (stag walking left : in field above right, S, below, T.S.)", reverse, " * RAINDEER . IN . BANBVRY HIS HALF PENY 1666". In the same year he served as Constable, in 1668, 1672, 1674 and 1677 as Auditor, and in 1675 as Bridgemaster, and in 1679 became Mayor of Banbury. As Alderman he was Auditor again in 1681.

The Hearth Tax Survey of 1665 shows that the house had nine taxable hearths. His name occurs as Churchwarden on the 8th bell cast in 1667 for the old church of Banbury. His will, executed on 10 April 1685, described him as a vintner; two days later he was buried. Bequests were left to four sons, three un-married daughters and two nephews with the residue to his wife Sarah.

In September 1685 the licence of the Reindeer was renewed to Sarah Sutton and she held it for several years. It was taken over by Ralph Adeey (or Edy) early in the 18th century and held until he died in 1713.

The Swan: The Accounts of John Longe for 1556 already mentioned have an entry. "Payd for the vndershreves breakfast at the Swan w' my brother Wyssse", who remains unidentified. In the first half of the 17th century William Heynes was at the Swan. He was buried on 10 October 1645 described in his will as an innholder. A son of his was baptised from the Swan in 1636 and an earlier child was born in 1633.

The Three Tuns: In the third quarter of the 17th century the keeper of the Three Tuns was Charles Stokes, a son of William Stokes, and baptised 3 March 1644. He held the inn until 1718. He first appears as a Borough Officer when signing as Auditor in January 1682 which post he filled again in 1685, 1686 and 1694. In September 1690 he was elected Mayor but refused to serve, and was therefore fined £5. Other members of his family had served as Mayor, Henry in 1673 and John in 1678. One of his daughters, Elizabeth, married William Hide, Supervisor of the Excise, in November 1713, and they were still living at the Three Tuns when their son Charles was baptised in March 1718. Sarah, the wife of Charles Stokes, died in 1716 and he died at the age of 74 and was buried on 17 February 1718. In 1724 his son, Thomas Stokes, was resident at the Three Tuns, and presumably held the licence at that time.

The Unicorn: A token was struck for this inn in 1650, inscribed on the obverse, " * . AT . THE . VNICORNE . (a unicorn standing left)", on the reverse, " * . IN BANBERIE . 1650 . W.S.I.". Milne considers this token was also made in London by Ramage as the unicorn is from the same punch as that made for John Burges of Thame in 1653. He suggests that the coin may have been issued by William Sprigge, the father of the Puritan author, Joshua Sprigge; an inference because William was sometime servant to Lord Saye and afterwards steward of New College, Oxford. I think it more likely that W.S. stands for William Style since

a new licence was granted in 1685 to Daniel Style.

Daniel Style kept the Unicorn until his death in 1705. In the baptismal registration of his children from 1678 to 1687 he is described as "Mr. Daniel Style Gent." He was buried on 5 May 1705 and his wife, Mary, on 13 December 1717. On 11 December 1705 his daughter Mary (1630-1747) married Richard Nix alias Nichols, apothecary, from the Unicorn. It is uncertain if his son Henry Style (born 1684) continued to keep the inn after the death of Mrs. Mary Style. Later in the 18th century it passed into the hands of William Gibbins until he died in 1742.

17th century inns: In addition to the eight names above Beesley lists the following:- Alterstone, Bell, Bull, Cock, Crown, George, Star, White Hart and White Lion. These others were also existing in the 17th century:- King William and Queen Mary, Maiden's Head, Rose and Crown, Talbut, Three Swans and Wheatsheaf.

Ten more innkeepers' names are known from their wills but which of the inns they kept has yet to be discovered.

R E V I E W

THE STORY OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH, BANBURY. The Revd. R.P.R. Carpenter.

The Vicar has recently issued a new edition of this little book which traces the history of the Parish Church in outline from about 1140 to the present day. The frontispiece is a view of the old Church and there are four further plates of the interior of the present one, supplemented by an external photograph which also shows the Cross.

No new sources of material appear to have been used in dealing with the old Church, but the first half of the book does give a useful and readable synopsis of the main events in its history.

In dealing with the present building the Vicar has been able to go into a lot more detail, although it would have been of interest to see in print more about the stained glass windows. There are sections dealing with the Side Chapels, the Tower, the Bells, the Church Plate and the Organ, as well as sidelights in connection with the Gulliver Tomb and the local Rhymes.

At one shilling this must be considered good value, but it is aimed at visitors rather than local residents - who can be expected to have other sources at hand which deal with the subject more fully.

G.J.S. ELLACOTT.

R E V I E W

MARRIAGE REGISTER OF BANBURY, PART ONE, 1558-1724. Transcribed by Mrs. N. Fillmore and Mrs. J. Pain. Edited by J.S.W. Gibson. Published by the Banbury Historical Society, 1960, pp. 200 + xvi. Price 25/- to members.

Reviewed by H.M. Walton, Oxfordshire County Archivist.

This is a wholly commendable enterprise of the Banbury Historical Society. At a time when many older, larger and richer societies are forced to curtail their publications through rising costs and lack of funds, this Society, which would not yet claim full national or international fame and membership, has succeeded in producing an attractive and useful volume of over 200 pages, which makes available to its readers the contents of the marriage entries in the first two volumes, covering the years 1558 to 1724, of the parish registers of the ancient parish church of St. Mary's, Banbury, with a promise of two further volumes to bring the story down to 1837 and a hint that other volumes for baptisms and burials are contemplated. Students of local history will be more than grateful not only for this volume and the promises to come, but also for the Society's previous contributions to local history in the form of the Index to Wills Proved in the Peculiar Court of Banbury, and Dr. Brinkworth's Old Banbury.

The Editor in his preface apologises, quite unnecessarily it may be thought, for having produced his volume for under £100 and for having resorted to duplicated typescript. But he and his printer have provided an attractive printed cover and title page and a text duplicated with care and craftsmanship in well-linked clear type on reasonably good paper. This is in contrast to the dreary duplicated volumes often seen, produced on spongy brittle paper with the ink ranging from black blots through grey shadows to non-existence. After seeing this volume, one wonders again why publishing societies stick so rigidly, in spite of limited funds, to traditional forms of printing instead of experimenting, when the contents of a volume permit, with other and cheaper forms of reproduction such as duplicating and off-set lithography, not forgetting, where facsimiles are required, xerography and other photographic and electronic devices. Experiments in these directions might result in more and fuller volumes. Librarians would only ask, for shelving purposes, that formats be kept uniform whatever the method of reproduction.

Of the contents of the volume, there is not much to say, so

well have the Editor and his two transcribers done their work. The Introduction explains carefully and in detail the nature of the registers and their contents and describes briefly the history of their inception and development. It recognises that the volume is an abstract, not an exact transcript of the original registers, and the serious student will realise from this that in cases in doubt or perplexity, he must check back to the originals. The abstract, with its indexes of surnames, place-names, trades and professions, immeasurably lightens his task, but he will still hope, as he is entitled to hope, that the originals will be as carefully and jealously safeguarded against loss and disaster in the future as they are now. It was a pity that the Bishops' Transcripts for the period 1663 to 1723 were discovered too late for inclusion in the indexes, although the additional entries themselves have been inserted separately at the beginning of the volume. This is one of the hazards and frustrations which beset every editor however learned and conscientious. The omission of the entries in the Transcripts from the indexes is adequately noted on pages iv, viii and xii, and it would, perhaps, be too critical to suggest that some means might have been found to sound a further note of warning at the beginning of the indexes themselves by the insertion of a page or a slip.

The Introduction draws attention to the confused start of the earliest register and to the fact that there is only one entry for 1559. The Editor suggests, therefore, that some if not all the preceding entries belong not to 1558 but 1559. This seems a likely explanation and the Editor may not have noticed that the first entry is said to be for the 15th January, 1558 (which from what is said on page vi must at first glance be taken as 1558 "New Style"), while the caption which precedes it refers to the entries having been made "from the first yeere of the Raigne of our Soveraryne Ladie Queene Elizabeth, being the yeere of our Lord God 1558". Elizabeth did not come to the throne until 17th November, 1558, so it follows that the 15th January 1558 (New Style) could not have fallen within the first year of her reign. In 1598 it was ordered that all names from the earlier paper registers should be copied into parchment registers from the beginning "but especially since the first year of her Majesty's reign". The Vicar of Banbury, like so many others, contented himself, so it seems, with the less onerous interpretation of this expression by starting not from the beginning of the paper registers (1538) but from the first year of the Queen's reign. His first entry for the 15th January, 1558, must, therefore, fall in 1558 ("Old Style"), that is to say, in 1559 ("New Style"), contrary to what is indicated on page vi of the printed

volume. The alternative, but wholly unlikely explanation, is that he decided to begin his parchment transcripts with Elizabeth's accession on the 17th November, 1558, and then threw in for good measure the whole of the preceding part of the 1558 ("New Style") calendar year from 1st January to the 16th November. It is more likely that the entries on page 1 for January 1558 should be taken to refer to 1558 ("Old Style") i.e. 1559 ("New Style") and that the succeeding entries from 22nd April to 26th November should all refer to 1559. Something depends on whether the Vicar in 1598 knew and remembered the precise date of the Queen's accession.

Throughout the text there are useful notes drawing attention to changes in style or handwriting in the originals and to other points of importance as they occur. These notes have been done with care and thought, though one might have hoped for a comment (or correction) on the eccentricities of the latin entry for 1639 on page 73. As it is, we are left in doubt as to the respective contributions of the Vicar, the transcribers and the printer. The correct transcribing of personal names and place-names depends not only on familiarity with the hand-writing of the period but also on local knowledge of names and places. Without this knowledge, and without comparing the published entries with the original entries, it is impossible to say how well the transcription has been done, but there are no signs of imperfections. The editor may have run some risk in standardising the dating in both registers to "New Style" but as he has done this, it might have been wiser to have included notes in the text showing where the dating which he uses differs from what is shown in the originals. This would have given the reader a chance to check any possible errors that there may be in interpreting dates.

In a final but despairing effort to find something to complain about, the reviewer can only say that the Society's noble and distinguished President might have been given, on page iii, his full style as a Deputy Lieutenant of the County and the holder of an honoured decoration.

H.M. WALTON.

MISS HELEN LOVEDAY

By the death of Miss Helen Loveday of Wardington, which occurred in August, in her eighty-second year, the study of local history in North Oxfordshire has suffered a sad loss. Born of a family well known and long settled in the county, the traditions of the

neighbourhood were in her blood and her knowledge of them was unrivalled.

I first had the privilege of meeting Miss Loveday in 1938 when I was preparing an account of the Battle of Cropredy Bridge. Miss Loveday most generously offered to take me a 'conducted tour' of the terrain, and this, enlivened by the sallies of her dog after sheep, remains an unforgettable experience. Fired by, and firing others with, her enthusiasm, it was as if three hundred years had rolled away and Miss Loveday herself had witnessed General Middleton crossing the ford at Slat Mill and been present when King Charles dined under the 'great Ash'.

Her intimate acquaintance with the locality of Edgehill and the sites and stories connected with the Battle has always stood me in good stead when I have been asked to talk in situ. Always on these occasions I have known that it was Miss Loveday who should have been speaking and have keenly regretted that the physical disabilities of her latter years prevented her presence otherwise than in the spirit.

Yet with an intrepidity that triumphed over bodily infirmity, Miss Loveday was until recently to be found on excursions of the Oxford Architectural and Historical Society, where her enjoyment was infectious. But perhaps my happiest recollection is of a long summer's day spent in the tranquillity of her charming home, surrounded by her treasures, which one by one were brought out for my pleasure. Her memory will indeed be cherished and held in honour by all those who love the history of her corner of the English countryside.

MARGARET TOYNBEE.

MR. PHILIP BRACHI

Mr. Philip Brachi of Long Cottage, Marston St. Lawrence, who died in August, joined the Society in 1959. He was keenly interested in archaeology and of late years it had been his main hobby. He was particularly interested in the Roman site at Edgcote, and he was instrumental in discovering a fine example of a Roman well there.

Although he had been in indifferent health for some time, Mr. Brachi maintained his regular appearance at the Society's meetings and excursions, and his cheerfulness won him a wide circle of friends.

V. BROMLEY.

Q U E R I E S

Mrs. H. Brown, Shenington, writes "On the left of the road from Wigginton approaching the Banbury - Chipping Norton road is a large circle similar to a Fairy Ring. From the Ordnance Survey map No. 145 the name of the small hill seems to be 'Bury's Hill'. Does this signify that there was a fortified site here and have there ever been any excavations?"

Mrs. J. Wintle of Widenham House, West Common, Gerrards Cross, is anxious to find out all available details of Cropredy Lawn Farm, near Banbury, in the early part of the last century. It is suggested that one of the Elkingtons, who have farmed in and around Cropredy since the 16th century, may have leased or owned it. According to the Census records for 1841 a farmer, George Elkington, lived at Arlescote near Cropredy.

Mr. Arthur Elkington, who has undertaken extensive research into the Elkingtons of Cropredy and Banbury, has no information about the farm and would also be glad to learn something about the property.

Mrs. Wintle also writes "In 1851 William Hunt Chamberlin of Adderbury Mansion left three portraits in his will to Gulliver Judge, a solicitor of Banbury. The portraits were of his father, John Chamberlin, and two of himself. I would very much like to trace these portraits if possible and imagine they may have been passed down through the Judge family, but can't find any descendants."

FORTHCOMING ARTICLES

Future issues of "Cake & Cockhorse" will include articles on:-

Economic and Social Changes in Banbury, 1830-1870,
by B.S. Trinder, B.A.

The Peculiar Court of Banbury
by E.R.C. Brinkworth, M.A.

Excavations at Sulgrave, Northants.,
by B.K. Davidson.

ACCESSIONS TO THE B.H.S. LIBRARY

Note: This is the first list of accessions to be published. The Library is housed in a bookshelf in the Borough Reference Library.

B.H.S. Publications.

Records Volume One: An Index to Wills Proved in the Peculiar Court of Banbury, 1542-1858. Ed. J.S.W. Gibson. 1959

Records Volume Two: Banbury Marriage Register, Part One, 1558-1724. Ed. J.S.W. Gibson. Transcribed by Mrs. N. Fillmore & Mrs. J. Pain, 1960.

Cake & Cockhorse, Volume One, Nos. 1 - 8, Sept. 1959 - March 1961.

Brinkworth, E.R.C. - Old Banbury, a short popular history, 1958.

McClatchey, Diana - Oxfordshire Clergy, 1777-1869. Oxford, Clarendon Press, 1960. (Review)

Clark, W.H. - The Story of Adderbury Church. Banbury, 1960. (Review)

Carpenter, The Rev. R.P.R. - The Story of St. Mary's Church, Banbury, Banbury, 1961. (Review)

Anon. All Saints' School, Bloxham. 1960 (Review)

Northamptonshire Past and Present. 1959 and 1960 (Exchange)

Received from the Bodleian Library - xereographed copies of mss.:

Parochial Index (Oxfordshire) to some Mss. in the Bodleian Library, ed. Canon Oldfield. 1929.

Index of Berkshire and Oxfordshire Archdeaconry Marriage Bonds and Affidavits. 4 vols.

From the Oxfordshire County Council.

Quarterly Reports of the County Records Joint Committee. 1938-1961.

From the Beds. Record Office - Catalogue of Deeds relating to a cottage at Hatch, Northill, Beds. (These deeds were found in a Banbury solicitor's office and presented by the B.H.S. to the Beds. County Record Office.)

Donated by B.S. Trinder

An Oxfordshire Town in the 1830s and 40s. Ed. B.S. Trinder.

Loaned by B.S. Trinder:-

Nonconformist Baptismal Records. Ed. B.S. Trinder.

All the following items have been presented by E.R. Marshall:

- Murray, J. Pub. Handbook for travellers in Berks., Bucks & Oxfordshire, 1860.
- Kelly's pub. Directory of Berks. Bucks & Oxfordshire. 1899.
- Parker, J. History of Oxford during the 10th & 11th Centuries. (912-1100). 1871.
- Petit, J.L. Remarks on the principles of Gothic Architecture as applied to ordinary parish churches. 1846.
- Oxford Arch. & Hist. Soc. Proceedings. 3 vols. covering 1860-1880.
- Arch. Soc. of North Oxon. First Report. 1854.
- Collingwood & Myers Roman Britain & the English Settlements. 2nd Ed. 1937.
- Marshall, E. Diocesan Histories: Oxford, 1882.
- Slater, pub. Description of Blenheim (not dated)
- " New Description of Blenheim. 8th edn. 1840.
- Macray, W.D. Notes from the muniments of St. Mary Magdalen College, Oxford, from the 12th to 17th c. 1882
- Kirtland, C. Brief Memorials of the early history of Chipping Norton, 1871.
- Wing, W. Antiquities and history of Steeple Aston (not dated)
- Born, J.S. History of parish registers in England. 1856.
- Sims, R. Manual for Genealogists... 1846
- Turner, M.V. Story of Deddington. 1933.
- Fowler, W.W. Kingham Old & New. 1913.
- Kelly's pub. Handbook to titled etc. classes. 1921.
- Burke, J. General Heraldic dictionary .. of England, Ireland & Scotland. 1846.
- Bridger, C. Index to printed pedigrees. 1846.
- Marshall, R.M. Oxfordshire byways. 2 copies (not dated)
- Oxon. Arch. Soc. Report for years 1928 to 1940, inclusive.
- " " " A prehistoric timepiece.
- " " " Churchwardens' Accounts of St. Michael's Church Oxford. 1933.

Recent additions of historical interest to Banbury Public Library:

- Who's who in history. Vol. 1. British Isles, 55 B.C. to 1485 A.D. 1961.
- Stenton, F. First Century of English Feudalism, 1066-1166. 1961.
- McClatchey, D. Oxfordshire Clergy, 1777-1869. 1960.
- Wagner, A.R. English Genealogy. 1960.

OXFORD ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

The Society is concerned with the archaeology, history and architecture of the Oxford region. Its activities include lectures, excursions and the publication of an annual journal, Oxoniensa. The Society also endeavours to preserve and safeguard local buildings and monuments. Full membership (to include Oxoniensa) one guinea. Ordinary membership ten shillings. Apply Hon. Treasurer, O.A. & H.S., Ashmolean Museum, Oxford.
