# CAKE &
# COCKHORSE

# BANBURY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Our cover illustration is the portrait of George Fox by Chinn from The
Story of Quakerism by Elizabeth B. Emmott, London (1908).

# CAKE & COCKHORSE

Our main articles deal with the origins of Quakerism in Banbury and with dialect in the Banbury area.

It seems odd that, in puritan and dissenting Banbury of the 17th century, Quakers were looked on as dangerous subversives. But so it was, though the movement included substantial citizens. Barrie Trinder tells the story.

Dialect compulsively fascinates everyone. It is better heard than read and we look forward to Mrs Grimes' talk in next winter's programme. We will welcome any additions to the oral history of Banburyshire to fill out her excellent introductory survey of this subject which is new to Cake and Cockhorse.

The notice of the annual general meeting accompanies this issue, which includes the annual report and accounts. We hope to see you at Tudor Hall on July 14.

You will all have heard of the appeal for the preservation of Banbury Cross, and may have subscribed to it. You may not have heard of the appeal for the restoration of the Wroxton Abbey dovecote; £5 to the Director will entitle you to a personalized nesting box and thus a niche in history.

In this issue we are printing a list of members. By the time it reaches you it will not be wholly accurate, including some who have not paid 1979 subscriptions and excluding recently joined members. But we hope it will be useful. The list is ordered by areas. The objective is to

help members to know of neighbours who have historical interests. If it leads to occasional meetings of village groups, that would be a useful result of which we would be glad to hear. Everywhere there are monuments and gravestones to be recorded, parish registers to be transcribed, old memories to be taped, new members to be interested and recruited, lifts to be given, village meetings to be organized.

**Annual Dinner**

It is customary for members of Societies to dine together once a year, or to meet to drink and nibble, or at least to be invited to do one of these things. Some come, but most do not.

There has been much debate, and much disagreement, on what our members want - to be historically interested or contemporarily entertained, to risk the vagaries of a high English summer on a Roman camp site or to don best bib and tucker in an expensive restaurant, to be served or to serve yourselves, and of course how much you are prepared to pay for what is on offer.

This year we offer you a 3-course dinner with wine for £5 in a private house. The notice, with a tear-off slip for acceptance, accompanies this issue of Cake and Cockhorse. We hope that you will return it with a cheque, and on Friday October 26th come to Woadmill Farm, Broughton. (Take the B4035 from Banbury Cross to the Saye and Sele Arms in Broughton. Turn right, pass the Castle Lodge on the left, and home on the first lights on the right). Guests will be welcome, but total numbers are limited. There will be a speaker, and we hope there will be music.

## LOCAL HISTORY EXHIBITION

The Oxfordshire Rural Community Council has invited the county's local history societies to enter a competition, to be held next year. Each society has to mount an exhibit, on a topic connected with the life of · its area, based on research. We have formed a sub-committee to consider our entry, but we are most anxious to get support from our members for this exciting project. The committee members themselves cannot undertake all the work, and if anyone is interested in helping, would he or she please contact Christine Bloxham at the Oxfordshire County Museum, Fletcher's House, Woodstock. Telephone Woodstock 811456.

# THE ORIGINS OF QUAKERISM IN BANBURY

The Society of Friends, or the Quakers, have been active in
Banbury for more than three centuries. For most of this period they have
been a small but active religious body, whose behaviour and character have
been of the utmost respectability. But Quakerism originated in the Inter-
regnum, the period when the world was turned upside down. For more than
a decade it was a movement which was in constant and public dispute with
the established authorities. The purpose of this article is to provide as
full and as detailed a narrative as the sources will allow[1] of the beginnings
of Quakerism in Banbury, and of the Friends' conflicts with the borough
authorities up to the end of the seventeenth century. The article is based
on research undertaken some years ago for the Victoria County History,[2]
and includes much detail which for reasons of space had to be left out of
the account published in that History. Since the article was written there
has been much research on related topics both nationally and locally. It
has been possible to include here some biographical details of various
Quakers and their opponents which have come to light during work under-
taken in connection with the publication of the seventeenth century borough
accounts, and other records volumes,[3] but no attempt has been made to
relate the article to the recent literature on the social origins of the early
Quakers.[4] That is a task which must be left to a future historian with
specialist interests in the subject.

George Fox, the founder of the Society of Friends, was the son of
a Leicestershire weaver. He began to preach in 1647-48, and formed soon
afterwards his 'Society of Friends of Truth', which was nick-named the
"Quakers' in 1650. The Society quickly attracted support, and numerous
members travelled the country proclaiming the truth as they saw it.

In late August or early September 1654 John Camm and John Aud-
land, two Westmorland Quakers, passed through Banbury en route from
London to Bristol. They held a meeting at 'a place called ye Castle
adjoining to Banbury', and were received by Edward Vivers, who, with
some of his family, was converted to the Quaker way of thinking at about
this time. He was the youngest son of Richard Vivers, who had been a
churchwarden in 1605, and Mayor in 1621 and 1633; in 1619 he had been
presented for refusing to pay his easement to the church, which perhaps
indicates some tradition of religious unorthodoxy.[5]

On 13 January 1655, Anne Audland and Mabel Camm, the wives of
John Audland and John Camm, together with one Thomas Robinson, came
to Banbury, were welcomed by Edward Vivers and held a meeting at which
they won many converts. Almost immediately after their arrival, Anne
Audland and a friend went to the parish church. After the priest had con-
cluded his sermon the friend began to speak, but was silenced by the
crowd. Anne Audland protested, but was hustled out by the congregation,
and committed to prison by John Austin, the Mayor, and William Allen, a

magistrate who had been mayor the previous year.

In June of the same year, Jane Waugh, a serving maid who worked for the Camms, 'preached against deceit' in the Market Place, and was beaten and abused by a crowd and thrown into prison. On the following Sunday Nathaniel Weston went to the church where the vicar, Samuel Wells, was preaching. On seeing him Wells interrupted his sermon to say that someone had come into the congregation whom he feared might cause a disturbance, and that he could not therefore proceed to prayer. Weston was hauled out of the church by William Wheately, a magistrate, and taken to the town gaol after refusing to swear an oath. Early in the following month, Sarah Tims, a native of Mollington, met Samuel Wells in the grave-yard, and cried out 'Man, fear the Lord!' She was attacked by a mob and committed to prison by the mayor.

The trial of the imprisoned Quakers began on 26 September 1655, with many Quakers from all over Britain present in Banbury to witness the proceedings. The judge was John Griffith, Deputy Recorder of the Borough, and John Austin was also in attendance. Before the trial commenced, a Quaker who was in the court, one Thomas Cole (Colle), who had been Tithingman in the town in 1654-55, refused to remove his hat when so ordered, and was fined £5 on the spot. When he refused to pay he was sent to prison. Robert Rich, a London Quaker, objected when 'Priest Jones' and 'Priest Smart', who were in court, were provocatively invited to put on their hats, but he was silenced.

Anne Audland was tried on a charge of blasphemy, and in spite of attempts to influence the jury, and threats that she might be burned, she was declared 'not guilty', but she was convicted of misdemeanour in calling the minister a 'false prophet'. She protested her innocence, but was sent back to prison and detained for at least a further fifteen months.

When Jane Waugh was brought into court the authorities refused to tell her what offences she had committed, and after refusing to give sureties, she was returned to prison where she was kept for five weeks. Sarah Tims was similarly brought to the court without being charged, and when she inquired how she had broken the law, the mayor replied that 'sweeping the house and washing dishes was the first part of the law to her', and she too was sent back to the gaol and kept there for six months. Nathaniel Weston refused to swear the oath of abjuration in the court, or to give sureties for his good behaviour, and was re-committed to prison without a charge being made.

At this point Thomas Halhead, one of the magistrates, said to the judge that he suspected the Quakers to be Jesuits in disguise. It seems that a crowd of Friends were outside the court building, and Robert Rich who was at their head was invited back in. When the judge asked him to speak, he protested against the injustice of the proceedings, and was quickly dragged away to prison.

On the following Sunday, 30 September, Margaret Vivers, who was

probably the wife of Nathaniel, elder brother of Edward Vivers, went to the parish church and began to speak when Wells finished his sermon. He ordered her to be taken to the gaoler's house, to which she was dragged by a jeering crowd. When a Friend went to visit her he was pushed and abused. Before the mob dispersed they encountered Richard Farnsworth, a Yorkshire Quaker who had come to Banbury for the trial. William Allen, recognised him, grinned at him, heaved his fist in anger, struck off his hat, and called for him to be taken to the stocks. The crowd seized him and he was put in prison. Allen's behaviour on this occasion fits in well with the attitude he displayed when he belligerently supported the mayor's attempts to move the sheep market in 1656.

The following day Farnsworth was asked to swear the oath of abjuration, which he refused. He was then told that if he would pay his gaol fees and promise to leave Banbury he could be freed, but again he refused. He was said to have been like a man in a trance, and when asked where he lived he replied: 'In the first place in God, in whom we live, move and have our being'. He was kept in prison for six months.

The Quaker protests against the borough authorities continued nevertheless. Mary Coats and Mary Lampery reproved the vices of the mayor and magistrates and were sent to prison. The former was quickly released, but the latter was detained for sixteen days. Nathaniel Ball of Broughton was sent to gaol for speaking to the priest at the parish church, and William Sampson and Thomas Marshal for similar interruptions at other public assemblies. Christopher Burcott of Bristol and George Bayliss of London who were visiting Friends in Banbury were also imprisoned, the former for three days and the latter for several weeks. James Wagstaff was fined £2 for refusing to swear an oath, and on his refusal to pay was deprived of goods worth more than that value. Wagstaffe was a mercer, keeper of the Flower-de-Luce inn, and had served as a Tithingman and as Constable.

Richard Farnsworth preached through the grating of his prison, and the ill-treatment of the women Quakers attracted much publicity. Anne Audland was imprisoned in 'a close nasty place, several steps below ground, on the side whereof was a sort of common shore that received much of the mud of the town that at times did stink sorely, besides frogs and toads did crawl in her room, and there was no place for fire; yet she was in great content because it was God's cause'. Meetings were regularly held in the private houses of Friends, and by 1655 there was a strong body meeting under the leadership of James Wagstaff and Edward Vivers, and Bray Doily of Adderbury.

Some of the Quakers were obviously men of considerable standing in the town. Edward Vivers was a member of a family with a long record of office holding. He was a woollen draper, and in 1662 had taken from him three pieces of cloth valued at £12. He had been Constable in 1647-49, and his contribution of £2 to the gift to Charles II in 1661 suggests that he was

one of the wealthiest men in Banbury. His three-gabled house in High Street, which had ten hearths in 1662, still bears his initials, and is impressive evidence of his status. He was buried on 21 June 1685.

William, first Viscount Saye and Sele, bitterly attacked the Banbury Quakers in 1655. In a pamphlet he called Anne Audland 'that prating woman Audler', and tried to establish that the 'falling down, foaming at the mouth, Quaking and using unnatural gestures' caused by her preaching were contrary to the Word of God. This was not, as has been suggested in several publications on the history of Banbury, the first use of the term 'Quaker'. The "New English Dictionary" shows that it was in use well before this date. The Quakers printed a reply to Lord Saye and Sele which proclaimed that Anne Audland's preaching caused many to know,

> 'the power of God manifest which caused trembling and quaking, of which we are not ashamed, though thou revile it, '

and concluded,

> 'consider William, what will all the glory and dignity of the world do for thee, if thou go with thy grey head laded with sin unto the grave'.

Quakers from neighbouring villages were attending meetings in Banbury in 1655, and the borough authorities tried to stop them by confiscating their horses. Friends from Radway, Gaydon and Tadmarton suffered in this way. The Quakers refused to pay the sums for which they were assessed for repairs to the parish church, which had been damaged in the Civil War, and in 1656 and 1657 several suffered confiscation of goods in lieu of fines. In 1658 Richard Keite of Upper Norton was detained in prison for several months for going to the 'steeple house' in Banbury, and Margaret Freebody of King's Sutton was kept in prison for five weeks or more for speaking to Samuel Wells. In the following year Hannah Alcock of Shutford was detained for a similar offence, and Richard Russell was kept in Oxford Gaol for about two months for refusing to swear an oath. Russell's house was assessed for four hearths in 1662 and three in 1665. He was buried on 29 November 1687.

There were forty Quaker households attending the Preparative Meeting in Banbury in 1660 some of them from outside the town.[6] The restoration of the Stuart monarch brought a sharp renewal of persecution, on a more brutal scale than had even taken place during the Interregnum. More goods were taken in lieu of payments for the repair of the church, and seven men were imprisoned in Oxford for seven or eight weeks for refusing the oath of allegiance and not promising to cease meeting together. Twenty-eight others were arrested at a meeting in Banbury and committed to the local gaol by Edward Welchman, then mayor, for refusing the oath of allegiance, and they too were kept for about two months before being released on the orders of Sir Anthony Cope. In 1661 eleven men were imprisoned for several days, and one for three weeks, for similarly

refusing the oath of allegiance. Richard Russell had goods to the value of twelve shillings taken from him while he was at a meeting. Nine Banbury Quakers and five from surrounding villages were taken from a meeting by Richard Halhead, the mayor, and when they refused the oath, four were sent to Oxford and detained for three months. On 6 October 1661 a party of soldiers burst into a meeting and beat and bruised many Quakers while dragging them out of the house, wounding one in the breast with a sword. On 11 October a letter to Lord Falkland, Lord Lieutenant of Oxfordshire, from the Lords of the Council asked him

> 'to prevent and dissipate all conventions of Sectaries and like dangerous persons within his jurisdiction',

and especially,

> 'a numbrous conventicle of insolent Fansticks who usually assemble in the town of Banbury and refuse to disperse themselves; but obstinately continue their meetings'.

It thus seems that the Quaker meeting in Banbury became the focus for many who were opposed to the restored monarchy. In 1662 Edward Vivers, Henry Phillips and five others were taken from a meeting and fined, the two former losing goods as well as money. Phillips was a hatter whose house was assessed as having four hearths in 1662 and 1665. His wife was buried in the Quaker meeting house yard on 6 August 1667. Jane Waugh was dragged from a meeting to spend a further three months in prison.

In 1662 the vicar excommunicated eight Friends for failing to pay their assessments for the repair of the church. Henry Phillips was arrested by soldiers under the command of Sir Francis Henry Lee and kept prisoner for eight and a half years because he would not promise to attend church instead of the Quaker meetings, and because he refused to swear the oath of allegiance. In 1664 ten Friends were taken from a meeting by Nathaniel Hill, the mayor, and Nathaniel Wheatley and Richard Halhead, two magistrates, and they were kept in prison for six weeks. In September 1665 Edward Hyde, Lord Chancellor, ordered Edward Vivers to be brought before him at Oxford. He subsequently appeared at several courts without being charged, until he was finally accused of enclosing a burial ground and building a meeting house within it. Hyde sent him to prison, and it was not until two years and seven months later that he was released on the orders of James, second Viscount Saye and Sele.

During 1672 several Quakers were presented by the churchwarden for refusing to pay church rates,[7] but in general the 1670's seem to have seen a slackening of serious persecution in Banbury. From 1678 Friends in several north Oxfordshire villages were penalised for non-payment of tithes, but it was not until April 1683 that any of the Banbury Quakers so suffered. In that month John Long, a Neithrop Yeoman, whose house had six hearths in 1662 and 1665, was ordered to appear at the Ordinary's Court for keeping milch cows without paying tithes. He refused to pay a

fine, and was imprisoned for ten weeks during which time the fine was settled by his relatives. This incident marked the beginning of a further period of persecution. In March 1684 four Friends were fined two shillings for their absence from Common Prayer, and early in 1685 ten Quakers were fined more heavily for the same offence.

In August 1684 Richard Vivers was approached during a meeting in a lane near the meeting house while he was at prayer, and fined £20 by Richard Whatley the mayor. He lost goods to the value of £15.3.9d. at the same time. Richard was the son of Edward Vivers and was born between March 1650 and June 1655. He was a woollen draper at the time of his marriage in 1675, and by the time of his death in 1727 was described as a gentleman.[8]

In January 1685 the same Richard Whatley, now no longer mayor, approached John Haynes while he was speaking in the meeting house after the burial of a woman Friend, and after pronouncing a fine of £20, ordered him to forfeit £22 worth of goods. The constables who accompanied him could find no one to give them assistance in spite of threatening one man with the stocks and sending another to prison. This seems to mark a significant change in the attitude of the people of Banbury towards the Friends, for previously they seem always to have been ready to join a mob to attack the sect. In the same month three Quakers meeting in the house of John Parson were found by constables who fetched magistrates who fined them £13.0.3d.

The first Quaker meeting house in Banbury was in the rear of the premises of James Wagstaffe and was opened in 1657, though it seems that Wagstaffe had entertained the Friends regularly even before its erection. In 1664 William Potter and Andrew Hill purchased the plot of land now occupied by the present main meeting house, and the land directly in front of it, bordering the Horse Fair, at a cost of £25. The meeting house built in 1657 was removed from Wagstaffe's land, and erected on the new site. It was still in use in 1705, and it seems doubtful whether there is any substance in the tradition that it was burned down by an angry mob. There was a graveyard attached to the meeting house, and in order to increase its capacity and to provide room for a meeting room for women Friends, more ground was bought for £15 in 1681, and a further plot in 1681. Another room was added in 1714. The meeting house was thatched at this time, and was approached from the Horse Fair by a path. The burial ground was hired to one of the Friends for grazing. The meeting house was rebuilt in its present form between 1748 and 1750, since when there have been only minor additions and alterations.

Persecution of the Quakers in Banbury largely ceased after 1685, but during the 1690's John Long of Neithrop, a yeoman, was regularly deprived of money for tithes. The richer Banbury Quakers were mostly merchants and so less affected by demands for tithes than the yeoman Friends of the north Oxfordshire villages. After 1670 the Banbury meeting

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was visited by many prominent Quakers. Between June 1677 and May 1678 there were twenty visits by about thirty different Friends who arrived on horseback, and doubtless others came on foot. In April 1678 George Fox and his manservant stayed in the town for three nights, and a new girth was provided for his horse and his saddle repaired. Although persecution seems to have ceased, it was still necessary in 1698 and 1699 to appoint men to attend at the doors of the meeting house to 'hinder rude people from troubling the meetings', and in 1702 a dispute between the Established Church and the Quakers in Banbury was deliberately provoked by Francis Bugg, a lapsed Friend. .

The Banbury Quaker Meeting continued, declining a little during the eighteenth century, but in the nineteenth it provided many of the leaders of political, commercial and charitable organisations in Banbury. Never again did its members confront the local authorities as they had done in the 1650's, nor were they ever regarded with such suspicion and apprehension. Like many religious bodies, its respectable middle age was very different from its passionate youth.

Barrie Trinder

**References:**
1.  The principal sources on which this account is based are:
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    Norman Penney, ed., "The First Publishers of Truth", 1907.
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    W.C. Braithwaite, "The Second Period of Quakerism", 1919.
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    W.C. Braithwaite, 'Payments for Friends' Horses', "Friends' Quarterly Examiner", 1912.
    Alfred Beesley, "The History of Banbury", 1841.
    G.A. Fox, "Plan of the Friends Meeting House", Banbury.
2.  "Victoria History of Oxfordshire", X, 1972, 109-112. This account brings the history of the Society of Friends in Banbury up to 1969.
3.  I am grateful to Jeremy Gibson for providing these details, the main sources of which are:
    J.S.W. Gibson, ed., "The Marriage Register of Banbury, Pt.I, 1558-1724", Banbury Historical Society, II, 1960.
    J.S.W. Gibson, ed., "The Baptism and Burial Register of Banbury, Pt. I", 1558-1653, Banbury Historical Society, VII, 1965-66.
    J.S.W. Gibson, ed., "The Baptism and Burial Register of Banbury, Pt.II", 1653-1723, Banbury Historical Society, 1968.
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# BANBURY – TREES OR TRADE ?

Until the passing of the Municipal Corporations Act in 1835 Banbury was governed under the terms of a charter granted by Queen Mary in 1554. There was also a second, amending, charter granted by James I in 1608.

Under these charters the officials of the town were the High Steward, the Mayor, twelve Aldermen, three Justices, the Recorder, six Capital Burgesses, thirty Assistants, the Chamberlain, the Town Clerk, the Coroner, two Serjeants at Mace, and a Cryer.

By the end of the eighteenth century the Corporation has ceased to perform any useful function other than electing one Member of Parliament, as instructed by the High Steward. This was until 1811 the Earl of Guilford. The nomination then passed to his kinsman the Marquis of Bute. These noblemen paid some of the expenses of the Corporation, including the cost of the annual Venison Feast and the Mayor's Election Feast. But with the passing of the Reform Act of 1832 they lost their parliamentary patronage, and ceased to pay for the feasts.

The Corporation owned a good deal of land in the town, either for their own purposes, or as trustees, or as lords of the manor, and they naturally wanted to develop this property to the best advantage. But there was a group of lawyers and bankers in the town, mainly of a Liberal or Radical point of view, and so out of sympathy with the staunch Toryism of the Corporation. This group, which included members of such well known local banking and weaving families as the Gilletts and the Cobbs, wanted to improve the town by introducing an effective police, by restraining the encroachments on the highways, by planting trees, and by paving the highways.

So, in November 1824, the Mayor was called upon to summon a town meeting to discuss the proposal to petition Parliament for a Paving or Improvement Act. A committee was appointed, including J.A. Gillett and three members of the Cobb family, and in due course a bill was prepared, submitted to Parliament and passed. The Act (6 Geo. IV c. 130) established a board of Commissioners, with powers to pave the streets, remove obstructions, light the town with gas or oil, appoint watchmen, remove dirt and rubbish, and perform the other functions usually included in acts of this sort. It differed however from the common form in two ways. It specifically granted authority to the Commissioners to plant trees "in the wide parts of the streets and other public places", and it did not, as was customary, include the Mayor and Corporation as ex-officio members of the board.

The board was to consist of a number of men specified by name; the list is very similar to that of those who had submitted the original petition to the Mayor. It included the Cobbs, the Gilletts and their colleagues, but to these were added a few more names, including that of

the Revd. Thomas Lancaster, the unpopular "high and dry" vicar of Banbury. There was however provision for the election of new commissioners as vacancies occurred, and four members of the Corporation and the Town Clerk were subsequently elected. It was not uncommon for the Mayor to take the chair.

Nonetheless conflict soon developed between the two bodies. The Tory Corporation resented the interference by the Commissioners, and particularly objected to their attempts to improve the streets by removing encroachments and planting trees.

Trees were planted in North Bar Street, on the Green and up to the Monument, and down the other side of the street. Some of these, soon after they had been planted, were pulled up by the roots. The alleged offenders were prosecuted in the magistrates' court, and "a mob, evidently assembled for the purpose of obstructing public justice, disturbed the magistrates in their proceedings by huzzaing, hissing,-and hooting". Mr Thomas Cobb, who had collected information with respect to the injury done to the trees, attended the hearing as a Commissioner. On his leaving the hall he was hissed and hooted by the mob to the Bank.

"Lines, against whom one of the informations had been lodged, was carried on the shoulders of the mob to the Green. There the mob in a riotous and violent manner destroyed the trees that the Commissioners had planted, which were remaining in that part of the town."

The trees apparently were pulled up by the roots and were burnt, together with the wooden cases put up to protect them, in a great bonfire. This was done by a crowd of young men, led by a baker, commonly known as "Fettlum" Walford.

One of the magistrates read the Riot Act, but as he was doing so one of the rioters took the top of one of the trees and smote him with it across the back, smothering him in mud.

The riot died down, but not the resentment. Forty-three of the Tory group petitioned the Commissioners, alleging that it was

> " impossible that a market town dedicated to the purposes
> of trade can be a fit place to blend the larger ornaments
> of nature with those of commercial utility. Either the
> body or the head must be in disproportion. We think it is
> impossible to give effect to the one without destroying the
> other. "

The Commissioners now reversed their policy, and stopped planting trees.

The militant attitude of the people of Banbury however remained. Four years later, at the time of the Otmoor Riots, the inhabitants generally refused to be enrolled as special constables, and drove out the military, who had been brought in to keep the peace in the town. At the same time the military suffered a severe reverse in Oxford. The Yeomanry had been called in to put down the troubles on Otmoor. They took

some forty prisoners, and escorted them back to Oxford, on their way to the county gaol. But as they passed down St Giles, where the annual St Giles Fair was in progress, the prisoners were all rescued by the sympathetic citizens.

Though the unreformed Corporation of Banbury had been uncompromisingly High Tory, there was a strong element of opposition and independence in the town, and in rural Oxfordshire, which emerged in these episodes.

<div align="right">Bryan Keith Lucas</div>

**Sources:**

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4. Richard T. Vann, "The Social Development of Quakerism 1655-1755", Cambridge, Mass., 1969.
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   Judith Jones Hurwich, 'The Social Origins of the Early Quakers', "Past and Present", 48, 1970.

5. Sidney Peyton, "Oxfordshire Peculiars", Oxon. Record Soc., X, 1928, 200, 213.

6. Banbury Preparative Meeting Minute Book, 1699-1720.

7. S. Peyton, op.cit., 221.

8. A book of mid-seventeenth century Quaker tracts with Richard Vivers' signature on the fly-leaf is in the possession of Jeremy Gibson, descendant of his sister Elizabeth, who married John Stone.

# DIALECT IN THE BANBURY AREA

The study of dialect speech is one of the lesser-known forms of that absorption with the past which is a feature of our time. In one sense it is a subject for the specialist, but in practice, most people know something about it, and use dialect words without thinking, as in the saying, "to buy a pig in a poke". Chaucer used this very expression. "They walwe (wallow) as doon (do) two pigges in a poke" (Canterbury Tales). It was an ancient word even at that time, and came from Old Norse "poki", a sack. "Pocket" is a diminutive form, and was originally a bag tied round the waist. That was why Lucy Locket managed to lose hers! This and many other sayings, "make hay while the sun shines", "put all your eggs in one basket", "make fish of one and fowl of the other", ("fowl" meant a bird of any kind) betray our rural origins, the main source of dialect speech. Taking Standard English as the point of reference, other language varieties are urban dialect, occupational terms, childrens' play-language, slang and modern jargon, as well as many smaller groups. Language is constantly changing, but the tendency now seems to be towards change for its own sake. "Continuous process", for example, a quite satisfactory term, has become "ongoing situation", a contradiction in terms.

Dialect speech is regional, showing differences of accent and often, words, by which one can easily tell a Welshman from a Yorkshire-man, a Londoner from a Scot, or, less easily perhaps, distinguish between an East Coast fisherman and a farmer from Oxfordshire.

The reasons for these differences are historical. If we take the birth of Christ as a reference-point in time, the British Isles were inhabited by the Britons, a Celtic-speaking people. Few words of their language remain in English, except the names of rivers and natural features, e.g. "crag".

Following a brief punitive expedition under Julius Caesar in 54 B. C. the Romans attacked in earnest in 43 A.D. and subdued the southern part of the country in a series of drives westward, only to have to turn back to quell the revolt under Boadicea. After this stormy beginning came an epoch of settlement during which the country gradually became Roman-ized. Latin was spoken, as well as the native Celtic. In 410, however, the Roman forces had to withdraw to defend their own country against invaders.

In his book "The Groundwork of British History" (written jointly with C.H.K. Marten MA) George Townsend Warner MA states on p.5 "In France and Spain the effects of Roman occupation lasted on and have made deep marks on their history. The very language of these countries is descended from the tongue of their conquerors. But in Britain, what the Romans did perished after they left. **Our language and our institutions are Saxon.** It is therefore with the coming of the Saxons that the continuous

history of our country begins. Since that time there have been many changes but no violent break". One could here, with truth, substitute "language" for "history".

From about 449 A.D. over a period of a hundred and fifty years, the Britons, left virtually defenceless by the Roman withdrawal, had to face successive waves of invaders from Germany and Frisia - Angles, Saxons, Jutes and Frisians. Land was their objective, and each group had to press farther and farther inland or along the coast to gain it.

The British fought bravely, and once, in 520, defeated the West Saxons decisively at Mount Badon, but on the whole they were forced to withdraw westwards, until they were able to find shelter in the mountains. The Saxons called them "Wealas" - "foreigners", and their new home was known as Wales. Here they stayed, and their Celtic language is spoken there still. The two forms of Gaelic, spoken still in parts of Ireland, and in Scotland, are of the same root as Welsh.

The Saxon invaders spoke in various dialects of a Germanic language, and as they consolidated their position in the next few centuries, in settlements all over England, as the country was now called, the language, even the dialects (West Saxon, Mercian, etc.) became firmly established. Here and there were pockets of Celtic survival, shown now by place-names with the element Wal (from "Wealas") i.e. Wallington, Wallasey, but names in "ham", "ton", "ford", "bury", "well", "field", and "stoke" among others, showing areas of Saxon settlement, are widespread and are common in the Banbury area. The country had become converted to Christianity and the various tribes and kingdoms had become united under Egbert, when once again, sea-rovers began their assaults on the east coast. These were the Northmen, Vikings, or Danes, from Denmark, North Germany and Scandinavia, and their raids began in 789. Like the Saxons, they sought first plunder and then settlement.

Their place-name elements "keld", "fell", "beck", "gate," "by," and others can be seen all over the North of England and in Eastern counties as far south, roughly, as Norfolk, with a scatter of such names farther south and west.

Egbert's grandson, Alfred, defeated the Danes at the Battle of Ethandun in 878, and, by the Treaty of Wedmore which followed, forced their leader, Guthrum, to accept a division of land, by which the country was divided, in broad terms, by the Watling Street, the Roman road from London to Chester. The Danes were to remain in the Danelaw north-east of this line.

In 1066 came another invasion, this time from France. The Norman Conquest introduced into the country words of Norman-French origin, derived from Latin. For many years the country was basically bilingual. Some of us were taught in school that the animal in the field or wood was given an Anglo-Saxon name by the man who looked after it - e.g. cow, sheep, swine or deer, while the meat at the table was called beef,

mutton, pork or venison, by the Norman who ate it.

Linguistically, the country now had large areas of Old English, the speech of the Angles and Saxons, lesser areas of Old Norse where the Northmen had settled, (these two languages were related) and the whole was overlaid with Norman-French. These three elements gradually coalesced over the centuries until by about 1400, a composite language, Middle English, had developed. This was the fore-runner of present-day English. Even so there were marked regional differences. London speech, itself at first a regional dialect, grew in importance with the city itself. The language of the court, particularly, was much admired, and copied by all who could aspire to do so. This "courtly language" became the basis of **Standard English**. The poet Geoffrey Chaucer, himself a Londoner, wrote his immortal and sometimes bawdy tales in the most courtly verse. A hundred years later, William Caxton set up his printing press, and printed in English, instead of the usual Latin. Standard English, to use modern slang, "had it made". Regional dialect remained varied, unstandardised and oral. The universities took no account of it. The revival of interest in the classics, needing an established form for translation, caused it to slip farther behind. At the same time, there was a good deal of interest taken in the varieties of regional speech, and in the roots of the language, and a number of individual scholars, both linguists and historians, wrote on the subject.

Sir Thomas Browne (1605-1682) for example, compiled a list of Norfolk words.

Standard English became easier for more people to learn when spelling was standardised, and by work in the many schools which were established in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries by private benefactors, religious bodies or, after 1870, by the State. But luckily, while many a village schoolmaster reached for his cane at the first mention of "frit" or "cow 'us", the very fact that education was spreading meant that here and there some enlightened scholar or layman became intrigued by words which were not in the books, and busily compiled a useful glossary. Similarly the Industrial Revolution and the growth of railways, while they eroded the old rural communities, also enabled people to mix and talk with others from different places.

The English Dialect Society was founded in 1873, with the avowed object of producing a Dialect Dictionary. Lists of local words were supplied from all areas including one from Oxfordshire, two from Northamptonshire (compiled in 1851 and 1854) and four from Warwickshire. Work went on for twenty-three years, under the direction of Professor Joseph Wright, a Yorkshire miner's son, who had been trained in linguistics in Germany, and became Professor of Comparative Philology at Oxford. The first part of his monumental work, The English Dialect Dictionary (EDD) was printed in 1896 and it was completed in 1905, with the publication of the 28th part and a supplement.

Between 1948 and 1961 the fieldwork for The Survey of English Dialects (SED) was carried out, mainly in established agricultural communities. A list of prepared questions involving the use of words was asked of older people, and the answers written phonetically.

This work was inaugurated by Professor Dieth of Zurich University and Professor Harold Orton of Leeds University, and is sometimes called The Leeds Survey. In 1974 The Word Geography of England, giving dialect information in map form, and written in part by Professor Orton, was published. He died on the day of its publication. He would have been glad to know that a much more ambitious work, the Linguistic Atlas of England based on SED, was published as planned in 1977. Its price, £45, is an indication of its scope and importance.

Tape-recording is an important part of all dialect research, and the answers to the SED questionnaire are being processed for computer reproduction.

In September last, I asked for information about dialect words in a letter to the Banbury Guardian. The following words were among those sent to me, with information on each from the English Dialect Dictionary EDD. Other abbreviations are: n, noun; v, verb; adj., adjective; cf, compare; O.E., Old English; O.N., Old Norse; M.E., Middle English; Fr., French; Q, quotation; Oxf., Oxfordshire; War, Warwickshire. My own comments are in brackets. All the words are still in use, or well remembered.

**baver** Oxf.
More commonly "bever". Light refreshment between meals, or drink given to labourers during harvest. At Eton College, in the last century, "bread, beer and salt were laid for the collegers under the name of beever". "At Charterhouse, if a boy wants an additional piece of bread, he asks for a beavor". "Thirty meals a day and ten bevers" - Marlowe "Dr Faustus" c.1590 Cf. beverage, Fr. "boire",

**bivver** Oxf.
More commonly "bever". n. and v. shiver. "Many knyghtes shoke and beuered" - Malory. d.1471 "Morte D'Arthur".

**blather**
Empty, noisy or unwise talk. Flattery. ON, "blathra" - to talk nonsense (ON words are rare in the Banbury area. This may be a borrowed word, or O.E. may have a similar word).

**breeching**
Harness passing round hinder-part of shaft horse, enabling it to push backward. CF. breeches.

**brevit**
Search, rummage. "Massinissa lived for some days by the breviting and robberie of the other two horsemen". Holland "Livy"

burrer (burrow) n. and adj.

A place of shelter, as the leeward side of a hedge. Q. Oxf. "Let us move over the other side. It is more **burrow** there". O.E. "beorgan" - protect.

chat — a small potato, also twigs, chips of wood, etc.

cherry-curds — First, second or third milk from a cow after calving. Puddings made from it. Q. War. "Be quick and boil them **beastings** (beastenings) and make some "**cherry-curds**".

chit n. and v. — n. First sprout of seed, especially corn.
v. Sprout, germinate (corn, potatoes) OE "cid" - young shoot.

cow-'us — cowhouse, cowshed. OE "hus" - house. Also 'en-'us, **back-'us, ale-'us**, etc.

dillin — smallest pig in a letter. "Dilling - last child that parents have" - Blount 1670.

farm-out — clean out. Q. Oxf. "**Farm-out** the 'en-'us, ool ee?" (will you?). OE "feormian" - purge.

frem — (Not in EDD, but widespread throughout South Midlands. Used frequently in my childhood) - fresh, firm, crisp.

frez — frozen

frit — frightened OE "fryghta" to frighten

grinsard — (A pronunciation of greensward used mainly in Oxf. where it usually means a green field. It appears in "Lark Rise to Candleford" where Flora Thompson uses the word in its more exact meaning of "grass verge"). "Sward" was in common dialect use for the rind of bacon (and is still so used in Leicesterhsire, at least). A Norfolk dish called "**sward**-pork", (useful when times were hard), consisted of the rind of pork, seasoned, rolled up tightly, boiled and eaten in slices. OE "sweard" - skin, rind of bacon, later, edge.

keach — to ladle liquid, especially water from a well, as opposed to letting down a bucket. A **keach-hole** was a place scooped out of the bed of a stream to collect water for domestic purposes. (In widespread use. A lady near Towcester told me that a frog used to live in their keach-hole. "That was lovely water", she said, "I reckon that there frog kep' it fresh".)

keck(s) — cow-parsley, or its dry stalk. 'As doth a kex or a candel that caute hath fyre and blaseth". Piers Plowman.

keck-handed — left-handed.

kiver — a shallow vessel used for kneading dough, or for butter-making.

larn — M.E. "lernen" - teach. (Accounts for the widespread "He learnt me my trade" etc).

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|---|---|
| latter-math | after-math, second cut of hay, O.E. "late" late. |
| lease | glean. O.E. "lesan", collect. "Whoso helpeth me .... shal have leue .... to lese here in hervest". Piers Plowman. |
| mackle | mend, make-do (from "make") |
| mommer | confuse. Q. Oxf. "Oh, children, do be quiet. You fair mommer my poor brains". |
| | "I wonder in my soul |
| | What you should ask me, that I should deny, |
| | Or stand so mammering on". Shakespeare Othello 3 iii 70 |
| muckle | Heap of manure or compost (May be muck-'ole) |
| mullock | As above. Cf. "mulch" "Til it (fruit) be roten in mullok" Chaucer. Canterbury Tales. |
| mullin | the bridle of a cart-horse. |
| quank | overcome. |
| pie | heap of potatoes stored in a field. |
| tchure/tewer/tuer | Q. Oxf. "The narrow passage between two rows of houses so frequently met with in the villages around Banbury" 1869 |
| tiffle | to idle, potter about, do a little light work. |
| | "I tyfell with my fyngers, or busye myselfe longe about a thyng to make it well to the contentyng of my mynde". Palsgrove 1530. |
| unkid | unknown, strange, ugly, Cf. unco, uncanny. |
| | ME. "unkid" not made known. |

It can be seen that most of these words, far from being slang words spoken by uneducated people, have an honourable history. Many are OE words, and others probably are, but cannot be verified because of the limited number of Anglo-Saxon manuscripts which have survived. Taken together with place-name evidence, they show that Banbury lay in an area of Anglo-Saxon settlement. It is 18 miles or so from Towcester and the Watling Street (A5).

Martyn Wakelin, in his book "English Dialects, an Introduction" which is a standard work on the subject, says on p.104, "A dialect boundary seems to follow the course of the Watling Street, the old Roman road which came to mark the territorial division between Alfred and Guthrum. One of the most important dialectal features probably marked off by Watling Street formerly is the voicing of initial consonants f.s, which appear now rather sporadically in the west as v,z. Another is the rounded "r" in words like "churn", "farmer" and initial "w" lost before "oo" west of Watling Street, in words like "woman", "wool"." The lady who told me about the frog in the keach-hole lives two miles south-west of Watling Street, and a tape-recording which I made shows clear evidence in her husband's speech of rounded "r" in words like "farmer", and they said that

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"gooin' up th' 'oods" or "gooin' 'oodin'" to gather firewood, was commonly said until recently. These sounds are heard only occasionally in Northampton, eight miles north-east of Watling Street, as some of my other tape-recordings show, but are common around Banbury, as one would expect.

Other local sound-variants are "ett" for "ate", "gret" for "great", "dug" for dog, "hug" for "hog" and "ship" for "sheep". My grandmother's usual comment about a person who ate his food greedily was "Gret 'ug!" and in the same terse vein is an old saying "Ett yer bread and kiss yer cheese" - the tiny piece of cheese being almost too precious to eat. A lady from Boddington said in a letter, "We learned at school that the camel was known as the 'ship of the desert'. I was twenty before I learned that it was not because they were kept in flocks by the Arabs! There were ship all around us in Boddington".

She told me that, in conversation with the older people in the village, she hears such sentences as, "I'm swep' the mullocks into the yep" (heap) sometimes "muck-'ep", or "Us be gooin'" or "Us 'oodn't do it". This lady also knows many of the old field and farm-names - Peasland and Pedley, Pingle and Buckle, Cleaver's Ground and Pleck. Of these, the first two were fields where peas were grown (OE "leah" - meadow - became "ley") the next, a small enclosure (Cf. "Pyghtle"). Buckle was the "spring frequented by deer" (Buck-well), "Cleaver's Ground" may have been so-named from a former owner, but "cleavers" is a dialect name for goosegrass. The last name simply meant "place". The Bretch at North Newington was probably "broken" or ploughed land, Hangland Farm, near Upper Wardington is "farm on sloping land" and Newbottle was once a new building. Bandlands and Lincroft at Brackley are "beanfields" and "flax croft" respectively. Flax and hemp were so expensive to import that Henry VIII ordered all villages to grow their own, so field-names with the elements "hemp", "lin" and "wad" are quite common. The last is OE "wad", woad, a plant from the leaves of which a blue dye was obtained by grinding, drying and fermenting, and used for dyeing textiles.

As well as single words, people often remember sayings, weather-rhymes, children's games, songs, stories, and those intriguing sheep-counting numerals "een, teen, tithery, fithery, fip", etc. which may be Celtic.

"By St David and St Chad
Plant your beans, weather good or bad", would be a handy aide-memoire to an illiterate gardener - a reminder to get his broad beans set by March 1st.

I was delighted to receive some information of this kind all the way from Australia, from a lady who has lived there nearly thirty years, but whose thoughts, obviously, often return to Banbury. She remembers her grandmother, who was born at Hornton, saying, "Lawks-a-massy-O" for "Lord have mercy on us", and always calling the road "the horse road".

The old lady would also sing the folk song which began,
> "Theer was an old 'ooman as I've heerd tell,
> Fol-lol-diddle-diddle-dol. (after every line)
> She went to market, her eggs for to sell.
> ·She went to market, all on a summer's day,
> She fell asleep on the King's Highway.
>
> Along came a pedlar, his name was Stout.
> He cut her petticoats around and about.
> He cut her petticoats up to her knees,
> Which made the old 'ooman to shiver and sneeze", etc.

Neither I, nor the lady from Australia can remember any more.

This grandmother also knew a riddle-rhyme, always popular fire-side entertainment. It had been handed down by **her** grandmother, and went like this:-
> "As I sat in me cassy,
> I looked through me eyes-y gassy,
> And saw old Hump-back,
> Pulling No-pack
> Through lumber-timber.
>
> If I'd a' had me old fire-lock,
> I'd a' shot old Hump-back,
> Pulling No-pack.
> Through lumber-timber".

A "**cassy**" was a basket-chair. OE "**cassuc**", hassock-grass or osier. The last two words in the second line mystify me. The meaning may be "eye-glass", or "**gazey**" a transparent window, as opposed to earlier opaque glass. "Hump-back" is a wolf, and "No-pack" a sheep (i.e. not a beast of burden). "Fire-lock" may just mean "gun", but it is tempting to think that it may refer to the earliest form of hand-gun, which was ignited by a length of slow-burning match. Its date (15th century) would place it approximately in the time when wolves still survived in England...... or the riddle may just be 19th century Canadian; though the mention of a sheep makes this unlikely.

There is certainly a bright thread of native poetry in the homespun fabric of the oral tradition. I am always moved by this, because life was very harsh in past times and there was little time for anything except work and bed. The English Dialect Dictionary confirms this, with its proliferation of words "slatternly", "awkward", "exhausted" and the like, as well as words for food, symptoms of illness, the weather, and bird, animal, fish and plant names. A picture emerges of the countryside and country people, caught in a trap of poverty from which there would never be any escape, and this means hard work until the end of the story. Yet they were usually sensible, critical, resilient, and had the redeeming grace of religious faith. Sometimes this contained elements of forms of worship

older than Christianity. The lady from Australia wrote "So much of our ancient heritage is fast disappearing. Why do I curtsey to the new moon? I don't really know, except that it was instilled into me as part of belonging to life and nature. It will die with me, as I have only two down-to-earth young sons.

You know, for years, I thought my grandmother had actually been at the Battle of Cropredy Bridge in the Civil War, as she would say "Blood ran down the gutters like water, gal". How much ancient knowledge died fifteen years ago with that solid, simple country lady."

She is right. Dialect study is a race against time.

(Mrs. Dorothy Grimes,
27, Winchester Road,
Northampton.
Telephone Number:
NORTHAMPTON 61784)

Books used:
1. The English Dialect Dictionary, compiled by Professor Joseph Wright.
2. The Groundwork of British History by George Townsend Warner MA and C.H.K. Marten MA.
3. English Dialects, an introduction.
   Martyn F. Wakelin (for one quotation and many ideas).
4. The Concise Oxford Dictionary of English Place-names Ed.IV. Eilert Ekwall.
5. The Place-names of Northamptonshire.
   The English Place-name Society.

I am grateful to Miss Barbara Adkins for sending me several lists of dialect words, and for identifying those still used or remembered. Further help from anyone interested would be most welcome.

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List of Members: Corporate Members continued from p. 291

Newberry Library, 60 West Walton St, Chicago, Ill, 60610 USA.
Barr Smith Library, University of Adelaide, Adelaide S. Australia.
Harvard Law School Library, Langdell Hall, Cambridge 38, Mass. USA.
Northants County Library, The Guildhall, Northampton.
Roundwood Press, Brookhampton Lane, Kineton.
Texas University Library, Austin 12, Texas, USA.
Genealogical Socy., 50 East N. Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150, USA.
Harvard College Library, Cambridge, Mass., 02138, USA.
Cornell University Library, Ithaca, N.Y., 14853, USA.

MISCELLANEOUS

Mr and Mrs Cheetham, formerly of 'Cromwells', Hornton, and
Mr and Mrs Crawford, formerly of 'Kilmore' Valley Estate, Duns Tew,
their present addresses required please.

## ANNUAL REPORT 1978

Your Committee have pleasure in submitting the 21st Annual Report and Statement for the year 1978.

The Society comes of age this year, and after 21 years its standards are as high as those set by its founders. The membership has remained almost constant during 1978, with the gains compensating the inevitable losses.

Overshadowing all else in the life of the Society this year was the death of Dr Brinkworth. We shall not see his like again. Apart from the loss of Dr Brinkworth, there has been no change of committee membership, but there was one change of office during the year, when Nan Clifton took over the main secretarial duties from David Smith, who now organizes the summer visits.

For the 1978 A.G.M. a welcome return was made to Wroxton Abbey by invitation of the Fairleigh Dickinson University there. After the business meeting, parties were conducted round the house and gardens.

During the summer Mr Forsyth Lawson once again helped us to understand the architecture of local churches, which included Thenford, (where the wild rhubarb threatens the very foundations), Hanwell, and North Aston. David Smith arranged an interesting trip to Chedworth Roman villa and the Corinium Museum at Cirencester, which was much enjoyed by members.

The winter season got off to a good start with Hugh Compton's excellent talk on the making of the Oxfordshire Canal. In October came what was possibly the high spot of the year, when we welcomed the ebullient Brigadier Peter Young — Captain General of the Sealed Knot. Marlborough Road Church was filled almost to capacity, the audience including many visitors.

Mary Beck of the Oxfordshire Family History Society gave a most refreshing talk on that Society in November, and in December our own Sarah Gosling and Dr Kate Tiller talked of their work at Swalcliffe in "The Swalcliffe Parish Survey".

In January the "Gibson Players" made their second appearance — with a change of cast — when Messrs Gibson, Donaldson, Fiennes, Clifton, and "guest celebrity" George Fothergill presented "Parson and Prime Minister", being extracts from letters to the Earl of Guilford at Wroxton, from Matthew Lamb, Vicar of Banbury in the 1760's and 1770's; and from the Earl's son, Lord North, who was M.P. for Banbury. February and March lectures were as successful as the rest of the season had been, with a splendid collection of slides and an interesting talk by Mr Robins, curator of Sulgrave Manor; and a visit from Martin Welch, late of the Ashmolean, who came from London to talk on "The Tradescants and the Ashmolean". We are grateful to all our speakers, who, through the difficult weather conditions, never let us down, making this a very fruitful

season.

Contributors to "Cake and Cockhorse" during 1978, under the able editorship of David Fiennes, included (in addition to members of the committee) Barbara Adkins, Alan Crossley, Carol D. Frost, G.C.J. Hartland, Mrs Y.S. Huntriss, Dr Pamela Horn, Blythe W. Marston, and Barrie Trinder.

The accounts for 1978 show a welcome improvement in the financial position of the Society. That improvement is due partly to the increased subscription rates, with the result that the subscription income rose by nearly £500, and partly to reduced expenditure on the production of volumes during 1978, with the result that the publication reserve balance increased from £818 to £1,311. Sales also increased by nearly £90. On the other hand, it has been possible to keep down the cost of production of 'Cake and Cockhorse' which has risen by less than £100 over the whole year. A new credit item in the accounts is the sum of £58 for income tax refunds; that is a very useful source of income, and the Hon. Treasurer would be pleased to hear from those members of the Society who have not yet signed a form of covenant but who would be willing to pay their subscriptions in that way. The Society is much indebted to Mr Geoffrey Ellacott for his generosity in auditing the accounts of the Society.

## BOOK REVIEWS

**A History of Banbury.** William Potts. Gulliver Press. 1978. £8.50

This is the first book to be published by Banbury's newest publishing house — Gulliver Press, founded by Dianne Coles, following the success she has had with the Banbury Bookshop. Gulliver Press hopes to specialise in books of local interest, and, as such, 'A History of Banbury' makes an excellent start. Although Banbury is singularly fortunate in the wealth of material published about it, this new, well produced edition of William Potts' book is most welcome. It fills a gap between the erudite but not always easy to read Victoria County History, and the outline history provided by Dr Brinkworth's 'Old Banbury' and the 'Book of Banbury', neither of which can hope to give more than the bare bones. I am sure that William Potts himself would appreciate both the way in which the book has been updated to take into consideration recent research, and the high standard of production. It is sad to think that he never even saw the original edition in print, as its publication was delayed by the second world war. This edition is a pleasure to handle, being beautifully printed on high quality paper, with an imaginative cover designed by Andy Essen. With book prices rising at their present rate it is remarkably good value.

William Potts had more or less completed his book by 1939, and died in 1947, so some of the original edition has been superseded by recent research. Ted Clark, who prepared the first edition for publication in 1958, has undertaken the far from easy task of updating the second edition,

ably assisted by Jeremy Gibson. Both are extremely well qualified for the job — Ted, as a past editor of the Banbury Guardian has amassed a vast knowledge of the town, particularly its more recent history, and Jeremy, as a founder member and Publications Editor of the Banbury Historical Society, has done much documentary research. It is obvious that all the new material written about the town has been consulted, and most of the chapters have been extended and amplified, although William Potts' original style and format have been retained. This gives the book a slightly dated feel, as his style of history is far more narrative than one would expect today, although this makes it none the less readable. There are far too many new elements in the book to retail them all, but to give one or two examples:- the chapter on Banbury Castle has been expanded to include information gleaned from the recent excavations, which gave us far more information about its structure and development. Potts believed that Banbury's main cross was situated in Horsefair, but more recent research indicates that it was in Cornhill, the northern section of the Market Place, so this chapter has been extensively revised. Potts dated the half timber buildings in the town to the 16th century; so Michael Laithwaite's research, establishing them as 17th century, is included. Jeremy Gibson's wide knowledge of Banbury families is well used, and he has written a section on the Knight family who played such an important role in the town in the late 16th and early 17th centuries. Ted Clark has used his specialist knowledge to add chapters which bring the history of the town up-to-date, including a chapter on the effect of the two world wars on Banbury. Jeremy has added an erudite index, which will be of great use to students and others.

This edition is lavishly illustrated, including some photographs of the town as it is today, as well as earlier ones. The Walford prints at the end of chapters are delightful, my only criticism being that they are not captioned and not all are easily identifiable. However, this edition is far superior to the first, and should be owned and read by all who care about Banbury's heritage. It bodes well for the future of Gulliver Press, which I wish every success.

<div align="right">Christine Bloxham.</div>

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**The Diary of a Cotswold Parson** - Reverend F.E. Witts, 1783-1854. Edited by David Verey. Published by Alan Sutton 1978 - £6.95.

Banburyshire cannot claim Upper Slaughter as its own. But there can be few Banburians who do not know its delights, and those of Stow-on-the-Wold and the many near places frequented by this magisterial parson in the last century. These excerpts from his diary are recommended reading.

Who, these days, would rise at 3.30 on a frosty April morning and breakfast at 4, in order to be on the Bench at the Gloucester Criminal Court by 8.30?

<div align="right">D.E.M.F.</div>

**A History of Bloxham School** by Brian S. Smith, published by Bloxham School and the Old Bloxhamist Society, 1978. X, 206 pp., £6.50 (incl. p. and p.) from Bloxham School.

Two previous histories of All Saints School Bloxham, and a supplement, have been produced, but this History of Bloxham School is by far the most comprehensive to appear. It gives a full record of the school's progress up to 1978.

The present school was opened by P.R. Egerton in 1860, but the first chapter of the book is rightly devoted to the previous seven years, during which a school was started by J. W. Hewett, a Curate of Bloxham. Hewett's school was a financial failure, and his work is often forgotten. Were it not for Hewett there would be no Bloxham School. It was Hewett's school buildings, standing empty and for sale by auction, which Egerton, as a Deddington Curate, discovered on a circuitous walk from Banbury back to Deddington in 1859. He purchased the property and opened his school the following year.

In general, a chapter is devoted to the period covered by each headmaster who has served the school down the years. It is interesting to read of the school's changes in fortune, reflecting to a remarkable degree the fluctuations of the economic climate, as well as the influence of two world wars. The school is shown to have flourished in wartime, and the difficulties of running such an establishment in wartime are vividly described. Also of note is history repeating itself in worries over state education in the 1890's and again in the 1950's.

Relations between school and village appear to have been generally happy. The Cottage Gardeners' Club are recorded as holding their first annual show in the School Grounds in 1855, and, as part of the school's Centenary celebrations, a fete was given for the village children. In the interim school and village played in cricket and football matches and cooperated generally. The friendly atmosphere was possibly tempered a little at the end of a summer term in the 1930's, when an enraged village was awoken at midnight by boys ringing the Church bells.

In its early years, the school's impact on the Banbury neighbourhood would appear to have been relatively small. In my own time as a boarder from 1917 to 1923, when my home was at Aynho, Bloxham School seemed very much isolated from the surrounding district. The book makes many references to increasing local involvement in more recent years. In this connection a table is included showing the relative distances of boys' homes from the school over the past twelve years. Comparative figures for the 1860's and '70's would be interesting.

Sixty years ago day boys were in a fractional minority, having a small part in the life of the school, whereas the book records the increasing encouragement of day boys, and, indeed the recent appointment of a day boy as Captain of the School.

The book is very well researched, as would be expected from the pen of a County Archivist. Many months must have been spent in preparation, and the Appendix includes an impressive Bibliography. Illustrations are adequate and principally of interest to Old Bloxhamists, but a particularly informative feature for the general reader is the inclusion of maps showing this part of Bloxham village in 1802, the main school buildings in 1930, and the extent of the school in 1978.

<div align="center">Charles S.H. Hawkes.</div>

Note:- On page 13 it is said that the headmaster, the Revd. Charles Egerton, "could trace descent from William of Wykeham...". That is a libel on both of them. William of Wykeham was a bishop of the mediaeval catholic church against whom such improper conduct has never before been alleged.

<div align="center">Editor</div>

**The Banbury to Verney Junction Branch**, by Bill Simpson, (168 pp., illus. with fold-out plans), Oxford Publishing Company, 1978, £2.95.

This is a very well researched history of a railway which originated in the Gauge Wars of the 1840's, but never became the vital strategic route which its builders envisaged. Its history was interesting nevertheless, and Mr. Simpson has much to say about the various traffics carried, and the modes of operation. If ever a local history book demonstrated the value of pictorial evidence this one does. The photographs of locomotives, stations, staff, tickets, customers' sidings, and even of a stile, are quite magnificent, and convey impressions of the line in a way which words could never do. The stills from the LMS official war film of operations at Banbury Merton Street station in 1941 are quite amazing, and Mr. Simpson deserves the warmest congratulations for obtaining and publishing them. This is a most welcome addition to the growing range of literature on the railways of the Banbury region.

<div align="center">Barrie S. Trinder</div>

# LIST OF MEMBERS

## ADDERBURY

Mr D. Atkins, 'The Old Vicarage'
Mr F.D. Boss, 'Moorey House'
Mr P.S. Crowson, 'Tarvers' Croft Lane
Mr A. Donaldson, 2 Church Close
Dr N.J.P. Hewlings, D.S.O.,
  'Hamelin Cottage
Mrs B. Jennens, 23 St. Mary's Road
Mrs G. Plester, 9 Twyford Gardens

## AYNHO

Major and Mrs R.N.J. Allen, Aynhoe Park
Miss E. Watts, 'The Pediment'
Mrs C.M. Czeppe, 94 Skittle Alley

## BANBURY

Miss B.A. Adkins, 12 Addison Road
Mr F. H. Anker, 32 Bloxham Road
Mrs E.N. Austin, 28 School View
Miss S. A. Anderson, 38 Hearth Way
Mr J.W. Burden, 4 Grimsbury Square
Mrs G.E.V. Burt, 20 North Street
Mr M.T. Burden, 4 Grimsbury Square
The Revd I.W.H. Beachem, 89 Oxford Road
Mrs G.W. Brinkworth, 43 Church View
Mr E.T. Clark, 53 Queensway
Mr G.N. Clark, 49 Hightown Road
Mr R. P. Collisson, 22 Queens Road
Mr J.R. Coles, 18 Dexter Close
Mrs D.M. Jones, 62 Oxford Road
Dr and Mrs K. Kilpatrick, 'Four Winds',
  Warwick Road
Mr D.S. Longden, 33 Park Road
Miss C.H. Mackay, 55 Hightown Road
Mr and Mrs R.J. Mayne, 48 Parsons Street
Miss S. Mulkern, 1 Oxford Road
Mr M.L. Morbey, 98 Elton Road
Dr B.D. O'Farrell, 41 Church View
Oxford Mail, 4 South Bar
Mrs J. Pain, 248 Broughton Road
Banbury Guardian, South Bar
Mrs E. Shaw, 1 Grimsbury Square
Mrs B. Stanford, 100 Oxford Road
Mr D. Smith, 62 Bath Road
Mr A. Sergeant, 3 Morris Drive
Miss F. M. Stanton, 12 Kennedy House,
  Orchard Way
Mrs J. Northover, 24 Kings Road
Miss H.M. Scragg, 31 Park Road
Mr C.A.K. Trimbos, 26 Marlborough Rd
Mr and Mrs L. Tanner, 21 Grimsbury Drive
Whateley Hall Hotel, Horse Fair
Mr S.A. Withey, 6 Beaconsfield Road

## Banbury continued

Mr R.W. Alcock, 122 Bath Road
Mrs V. Blade, 116 Bloxham Road
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  Bloxham Road
Mrs F.L. Colegrave, Wykham Park Farm
Mrs D. Coles, Banbury Book Shop, White
  Lion Walk
Mr A.J. Coles, 18 Dexter Close
Mrs D. Costella, 5 Brantwood Rise
Miss B.P. Durrant, 38A Church View
Mrs M.E. Davies, 34 Hornton View
Mrs C. Denton, 2 Old Parr Road
Mrs S. Duckett, 34 Mewburn Road
Mr G.C.J. Hartland, 5 Beechfield Crescent
Mr and Mrs R.W. Hobbs, 29 Crouch Street
Mr and Mrs B.E. Little, 2 Burlington Gdns
Mrs J.M. Morris, 26 Riley Drive,
Mr and Mrs R.L. Smith, 11 Browning Road
Mr and Mrs M.R. Snowden, Garden Cottage
  Tudor Hall
Mrs R. Southam, 7 Old Parr Road
Dr K. Tiller, 6 Briggs Close
Miss M.E. Tibbets, 30 St. Annes Road
Mr B.W. Tabraham, 2 Byron Road
Mr E.A. Underwood, 12 Kingsway
Mr S. Wass, 49 Queens Road

## BARFORD ST MICHAEL

Mrs H. Burstall, Dove House

## BLOXHAM

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Mrs G.D. Brown, 'Magnolia Cottage',
  The Ridgeway
Miss H.N. Grierson, Hog End
Mrs Y.S. Huntriss, 'Yew Tree House'
Mr G. F. Lawson, 'Woollen Hale'
Mrs M.J. Long, 'Cumberford Cottage'
Mr J. Portergill, 'Stonecroft', Barford Rd
Mr and Mrs J.B. Phillips, 'Stoneleigh House'
Mrs J.R. Thompson, 115 Courtington Lane
Mr G.C. Wood, 'Bredon House',
  Courtington Lane
Mr and Mrs R.D.O. Aplin, 'Ivy Cottage'
Mrs G. Beeston, 81 Courtington Lane
Mr J.M. Neal, 'Barratts", Kings Road
Mr G.R. Stanley, 2 Colegrave Road

## BODICOTE

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Mr and Mrs G.J.S. Ellacott, 3 Deers Farm
Mr and Mrs J. Fearon, 'Fleece Cottage'

**Bodicote continued**

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Mrs L.B. Robins, 'Felgate' Broad Gap
Mr D.J. Barlow, 68 Oxford Road
Mrs A.M. Sorrell, 108 Oxford Road

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Lord and Lady Saye and Sele,
   Broughton Castle
Mr J.F. Roberts, The Old Rectory
Mr M.J. Shillington, 'Cambers'
   Wykham Lane

**CHACOMBE**

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Mr K.S.C. Jakeman, Combe Hill Court
Mr B.J. Lilley, 'Greenleaves'
Mr J.W. Grant, 'Pear Tree House'

**CHARLTON**

Miss E. Covill, Fox House

**CLAYDON**

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Mr A.F. Fox, Butlin Farm

**COMPTON WYNYATES** (Warwicks)

The Rt. Hon. The Marquess of Northampton

**CROPREDY**

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   Creampot Lane
Mrs B. Watkiss, 3 Red Lion Street
Miss S.M. Penny, 'Ashdown' Creampot Lane
Mr and Mrs E.T. Wilmot, 'Lyndhurst'

**DEDDINGTON**

Miss M.C. Bedworth, 3 Philcote Street
Mr J. Plumbe, Hopcraft Lane

**DRAYTON**

Dr A.N. Turner, 'Meadow View'

**FARNBOROUGH** (Warwicks)

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**FENNY COMPTON**

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Mr A.C. Wood, 'Church Cottage', Church St

**HANWELL**

Mrs S. Gosling, 14 Main Street
G de C Parmiter, The Halt

**Hanwell continued**

Mr T.H. Wood, 'Stonewalls'

**HOOK NORTON**

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**HORLEY**

Mrs Birchall, 'The Cottage'
Air. Comd. H.I. Cozens, Horley Manor

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Mrs M.E. Coxon, 'Brookfield'
Mr L.W. Hubbard, 4 Glebe Rise
Miss F.G. Hurley, Homestead Close

**LITTLE BOURTON**

Mr P.D. Mulley

**LONDON AREA**

Mrs M.K. Adams, 95 Alleyn Park,
   West Dulwich
Mr R.A. Apletree, 'Gulded' Weskey Road
   Langdon Hills, Essex.
Mr A. Davidson, 37 Vernon Avenue, Raynes
   Park, S.W.20
Miss R. Hobbs, 11a Stanhope Court,
   Stanhope Av., N.3.
Miss M.J.O. Kennedy, 5 Golden Yard,
   Hampstead NW3 6VH
Mr D.A. Partridge, 16 Mashiters Walk,
   Romford
Mrs B. Stonehouse, 66 Eastbury Road,
   Northwood, Middlesex.

**LONG COMPTON** (Warwicks)

Revd. E.J. Rainsberry, Vicarage

**LOWER BRAILES**

Mrs P. Bradshaw, 'The Cottage',
   School Lane

**MIDDLETON CHENEY**

Mr W.R. Brown, 36 Stanwell Lea
Mrs H. Hahn, Laxton House

**MILTON**

Mr J.M. Rogers

**MOLLINGTON**

Miss M. Davies, 'Cicerone'
Miss H.C.M. Grant, 7 The Jetty
Miss E. Hunt, 'Old Reading Room', Old
   Park Cottage

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Miss B. Hudson, 7 Lowyers Close, Evenley
Mr J.G. Haselwood, 26 High St, Weston
Mr V.A. Hatley, 6 The Crescent,
  Northampton
Mr and Mrs R. Lewis, 'Abbey Lodge',
  Farthinghoe
Mrs J. Owen, 'The Old Rectory', Mixbury
Mr L.W. Blencowe, 'Church Cottage',
  Marston St. Lawrence
Mrs P.S. Towers-Clark, Greatworth Manor
Miss R. Wade, 35 Fulwell Rd, Westbury
Mr J. Willis, 47 Richmond Rd, Towcester
Mr O. Chaplin, 2 Poplar Court, Boothville,
  Northampton
Mr R.J. Chapman, Abthorpe
Mr J.F. Cooknell, Manor Rd, Sulgrave
Mr P.I. King, 55 York Rd, Northampton
Mrs J.E. Tattersall, 'Corner House',
  Sulgrave

## NORTH NEWINGTON

Mr K.E. Riley, Main Street
Mrs J. Cooper, 'Rose Villa'

## OVERTHORPE

Miss R. Barnden, Castle Farm House

## OXFORD AREA

Miss D.M. Barrett, The Corner House,
  Hampton Poyle
J.P. Brooke-Little, The Richmond Herald.
  Heyford House, Lower Heyford
Nelson P. Bard, 40 Bagleywood Road,
  Kennington
Mr R. Cullen, 337 Cowley Rd, Oxford
Mrs P.L.R. Horn, 11 Harwell Rd, Sutton
  Courtenay
Dr H.G. Judge, 2 Upland Park Rd, Oxford
Mr S.R. Smedley-Stevenson, 16 Francis Rd,
  Middle Barton
Miss M. Stanley-Smith, 12 Ship St, Oxford
Miss S.M. Thomson, Spelsbury House,
  Oxford
Mr G.R. Tibbetts, 'Chatterholt' Cassington
  Road, Eynsham
Mr M.A.J. Wheeler-Booth, Fir Trees
  Cottage, Sandford St Martin
The Bishop of Dorchester, Christ Church,
  Oxford
Dr G, JH and Miss S. Duncan, 'Westfields'
  Steeple Aston
Mr C.A. Horn, 11 Harwell Rd, Sutton Court-
  enay

## Oxford area continued

Mr C. Paine, 65 Warwick St, Oxford
Mrs M.A. Roberts, 5-Ways Supermarket,
  Sturt Rd, Charlbury

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Mr and Mrs H.R.H. Clifton, 'Senendone
  House'
Miss A. Keyser, 'Old Rectory'
Mr D.J. de Silva, 'Okorton Cottage',
  Sheep Hill

## SHUTFORD

Mr and Mrs M.C. Rainbow, 'Whitelands'

## SOULDERN

Mrs D.M. Gray, Souldern House
Mrs McDouall, 'The Old School'
Mrs B. Maddison, 'Rose Croft' Foxhill Lane

## SOUTH NEWINGTON

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Mrs V.M.L. Barbour, The Barn House
Miss R. Cross, 1 Chapel Close
Mrs O. Parker, 'Applegarth'

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Swalcliffe Lea; Mrs J. Marten, Swalcliffe Ho.

## TADMARTON

Mr and Mrs R.K. Asser, Tadmarton Manor

## WARDINGTON

Mrs C. Bateman, 'Rivendell', 1 Banbury Rd
Bishop Loveday, Ivy Cottage

## WHICHFORD (Warwicks)

Mr C.F. Clayton, Post Office House

## WIGGINTON

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Mr F.D. Price, 'Lyndon'
Dr S. Grover, 'The Forge'

## WOODSTOCK

Miss C.G. Bloxham, 1 Brookside Court

## WROXTON

Mr and Mrs H.W. Read, 'Clematis Cottage'

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Mr P.D. Nelson, 12 Hollywood Close, Great Baddow, Chelmsford, Essex.

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Mr and Mrs E. Tranter, 43 Fivefield Road, Keresley, Coventry.

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Mr D.J. Goodway, York House, Laurel Grove, Keighley.
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Mr B.S. Trinder, 20 Garmston Road, Shrewsbury.

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Mr A.D. Rose, 120 Cedar Drive, Chichester.
Mr J.H. Stilgoe, 15 Whitby Road, Milford on Sea, Lymington.
Brig. J.S.W. Stone, 'The Mill House', Kirtbury, Berks.
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Mr F. Willy, 24 Stonham Road, Hove, E. Sx.
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Mr D.W. Harrington, 143 Sturry Road, Canterbury.

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Mrs M. Woolley, 'South Cas Cottage', Maysey Hampton, Cirencester.
Mr G. Cox, 'Dayne Cottage', Amberley, Glos.

## SCOTLAND

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## OVERSEAS MEMBERS

Sterling E. Beesley, 1030 South Orchard Drive, Bountiful, Utah 84010.
Mr R.J. Ivens, Dept. of Arch. 17 University Square, Queens University, Belfast.
Mr G.H. Kimbell, 2650 Boulevarde Liegeois, Ste Fey, Quebec.
Dr D.B. Woodfield, The Box Stall, 883 Laurenceville Rd, Princetown, N.J. 08540, USA
Mr J.A. Waldo, 1st Floor, 14 Flint St, Salem, Mass. 01970, USA

Mr J.C. Maycock, 932 Dead-run Drive, McLean, Virginia 22101, USA
Mr Burnell E. Staffin, 168 Lexington Avenue, Buffalo, New York 14222, USA
Prof. R.T. Vann, 95 High St, Middleton, Connecticutt 06457, USA
Prof. Olaf E. Wallin, Eiksbergsgatan, 21, 11430, Stockholm, Sweden.

## CORPORATE MEMBERS

Birmingham Public Library, Reference Library, Birmingham.
Oxford Polytechnic, The Lady Spencer Churchill College, Wheatley, Oxon.
Leicester University Library, Leics.
Yorkshire Archaeological Society, Claremont, Clarendon Road, Leeds.
North Oxon Technical College, Broughton Road, Banbury.
Banbury Library, Marlborough Road, Banbury.
Oxon County Libraries, Holton Park, Oxford.
Oxon County Libraries, Westgate, Oxford.
Oxon County Record Office, County Hall, Oxford.
Oxon County Museum, Woodstock.
Guildhall Library, Aldermanbury, London EC2P 2EJ.
Birmingham University Library, Edgbaston, Birmingham 3.
Fairleigh Dickinson University, Wroxton College.
National Library of Scotland, Edinburgh.
Institute of Historical Research, University of London, Senate House, WC1E 7HU.
Warwickshire County Record Office, Shire Hall, Warwick.
Warwickshire County Library, The Butts, Warwick.
Cambridge University Library, Cambridge.
Coventry City Library, Bayley Lane, Coventry.
Northampton Central Public Library, Abington Street, Northampton.
Warwick University, Coventry.
British Library, Store Street, WC1E 7DG.
Bodleian Library, Oxford.
All Saints School, Bloxham.
Sibford School, Sibford Ferris.
Shakespeare's Birthplace Library, Stratford upon Avon.
Banbury Upper School, Ruskin Road, Banbury
Ashmolean Museum, Oxford.
College of Arms, Queen Victoria Street, EC4V 4BT
London Library St James Square, S.W.1.
Society of Antiquaries of London, Burlington House, W1V, OHS
National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth.
Public Record Office, Chancery Lane, WC2A 1LR.
Tudor Hall School, Wykham Park, Banbury.
National Library of Australia NSM/1/813/70, Canberra.
Wisconsin University, Madison 6, Wisconsin 53706 USA.
Michigan University Library, T-26-231441 Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA.
Enoch Pratt Free Library of Baltimore, 17 East Mount Vernon Place, Baltimore,
        Maryland 21201, USA.
Virginia State Library, Richmond 19, Virginia 23221, USA.
Los Angeles Public Library, 630 West 5th St, Los Angeles, Calif 91108, USA.
Public Library, 900 Webster St, Fort Wayne, Indiania 46802, USA.
Indiana University Library, Bloomington Indiania 47401, USA.
New England Historical and Gen. Socy, 101 Newbury St, Boston, Mass 02116, USA.
Yale University, New Haven, Conn. 06520, USA.
Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Calif 91108, USA.
University of California, Los Angeles, Calif 90024, USA.
New York Public Library, Grand Central Stn, PO Box 2237, New York 10017, USA.

## Revenue Account for the Year ended 31st December 1978

| 1977 | Expenditure | | | 1977 | Income | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 383 | "Cake and Cockhorse" | 478 | | 617 | Subscriptions | | 1,109 |
| 10 | Less: Sales | 49 | | | Less: Proportion | | |
| 373 | | | 429 | | attributable to | | |
| 2 | Subscriptions | | 2 | 315 | records | | 495 |
| | Lectures and Meeting | | | | | | |
| | Expenses, printing, | | | 302 | | | 614 |
| | stationery, tele- | | | | Deposit account | | |
| 145 | phone and sundries | | 161 | 35 | interest | | 38 |
| 114 | Postage | | 108 | - | Income Tax refunds on | | |
| 135 | Annual Dinner | - | | | Covenants | | 58 |
| 120 | Less: Receipts | - | | | Excess of ordinary | | |
| 15 | | | - | | expenditure over | | |
| | Excess of ordinary | | | 312 | income | | - |
| | income over | | | | | | |
| | expenditure | | 10 | | | | |
| 649 | | | 710 | 649 | | | 710 |
| | Extra-ordinary expenditure | | | | Extra-ordinary income | | |
| 7 | Repairs to typewriter | | 18 | 50 | Coach trip | 44 | |
| | Cheese and wine party | 60 | | 48 | Less: Expenses | 42 | |
| | Less: Receipts | 41 | | 2 | | | 2 |
| | | | 19 | 5 | Donations | | 13 |
| | | | | | Excess of extra- | | |
| | | | | | ordinary expenditure | | |
| | | | | - | over income | | 22 |
| 656 | | | 747 | 656 | | | 747 |

## Publications Account for the Year ended 31st December 1978

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | "Wills and Inventories" | | | 675 | Publications reserve, | | |
| 38 | Part 1 (Vol.13) | - | | | balance at 1.1.78 | | 818 |
| 827 | Banbury Corporation | | | 315 | Subscriptions | | 495 |
| | Records (Vol.15) | - | | 164 | Sales | | 253 |
| 10 | Baptismal & Burial | | | 1 | Royalties | | 1 |
| | Registers (Vols.16 & 17) | 473 | | 500 | Grants: Marc Fitch - | | |
| 875 | | | 473 | | Fund | | |
| 37 | Postage and packing | | 33 | 100 | British Academy | 250 | |
| 25 | Research | | - | 600 | | | 250 |
| 818 | Publications Reserve | | | | | | |
| | balance at 31.12.78 | | 1,311 | | | | |
| 1,755 | | | £ 1,817 | 1,755 | | | £ 1,817 |

## Balance Sheet as at 31st December 1978

| 1977 | Liabilities | | | 1977 | Assets | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 86 | Subscriptions in advance | | 81 | 635 | Cash in | | |
| 818 | Publications reserve | | 1,311 | | current account | | 411 |
| | Capital account | | | - | Cash in | | |
| 43 | at 1.1.78 | (269) | | | deposit account | | 700 |
| 312 | Less: Excess of expendi- | | | | | | |
| | ture over income | 12 | | | | | |
| (269) | | | (281) | | | | |
| 635 | | | £ 1,111 | 635 | | | £ 1,111 |

We have prepared the above accounts from the books, records and explanations of the Society, and certify them to be in accordance therewith.

13th March 1979            ELLACOTT, STRANKS & CO.,
Chartered Accountants.

# BANBURY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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

The Magazine **Cake & Cockhorse** is issued to members three times a year. This includes illustrated articles based on original local historical research, as well as recording the Society's activities. Publications include **Old Banbury - a short popular history** by E. R. C. Brinkworth (2nd edition), **New Light on Banbury's Crosses, Roman Banburyshire, Banbury's Poor in 1850, Banbury Castle - a summary of excavations in 1972, The Building and Furnishing of St Mary's Church, Banbury**, and **Sanderson Miller of Radway and his work at Wroxton**, and a pamphlet **History of Banbury Cross.**

The Society has also published fifteen records volumes to date. These have included **Banbury Parish Registers** (in six parts: Marriages 1558-1837, Baptisms 1558-1812, Burials 1558-1723); **Banbury Corporation Records: Tudor and Stuart; Banbury Wills and Inventories 1621-1650; A Victorian M.P. and his Constituents: The Correspondence of H.W. Tancred 1841-1860; South Newington Churchwardens'** Accounts 1553-1684; **Wigginton Constables' Books 1691-1836;** and **Bodicote Parish Accounts 1700-1822.** Volumes in preparation include **Banbury Wills and Inventories 1591-1620** and **1661-1723; Banbury Burial Register 1723-1812** and **Baptisms and Burials 1812-1837;** and an edition of letters to the 1st Earl of Guilford (of Wroxton, father of Lord North the Prime Minister).

Meetings are held during the autumn and winter, normally at 7.30 pm. Talks on general and local archaeological, historical and architectural subjects are given by invited lecturers. In the summer, excursions to local country houses and churches are arranged. Archaeological excavations and special exhibitions are arranged from time to time.

Membership of the society is open to all, no proposer or seconder being needed. The annual subscription is £4.50 including any records volumes published, or £3.00 if these are excluded.

Application forms can be obtained from the Hon. Membership Secretary.