

# CAKE & COCKHORSE



BANBURY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Details about the Society's activities and  
publications can be found on the inside back cover

**The cover illustration** is of a hawking scene taken by R.J. Ivens from a medieval drawing published in *Life and Work of the People of England* (Batsford 1928) by D. Hartley and M.M. Elliot.

# CAKE & COCKHORSE

The Magazine of the Banbury Historical Society. Issued three times a year.

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Enough is enough. The founding fathers of our Society ruled that no Chairman might remain in office for more than three years. At that point their imagination ran out and they did not foresee the danger of an editor outstaying his usefulness. After more than six years without change the Society needs new ink. Your committee has now appointed David Hitchcox to the editor's chair; we look forward to much of interest under his guidance, and we hope from his pen. Contributions to the magazine should be sent to him at the address printed on the inside front cover.

This issue includes the annual report and accounts for 1983, earlier than usual, with notice of the annual general meeting. The AGM will be held at Canon's Ashby on Saturday, July 14, at 6.30 pm, by kind invitation of the National Trust which has recently acquired this outstandingly interesting property. We hope that members will note the date in their diaries and that as many as can will come. National Trust members should bring their cards; others will be charged the normal fee of £2 for the tour of the house. Members are encouraged to bring friends. The church will be open before the meeting.

The annual village meeting will be in Warmington church at 7.30 pm on Thursday, 12 April 1984.

D. E. M. F.

DE ARTE VENANDI CUM AVIBUS:  
AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL INTRODUCTION

The origins of the ancient art of Falconry seem to lie in the Middle or Far East. At the ancient site of Khorsabad (Iraq) the discovery of a bas-relief depicting a falconer with a hawk on his wrist dates the practice of hawking to the earlier second millenium B.C. Japanese records suggest that hawking was known equally early in China, for gifts of hawks were sent to the princes of the Hia dynasty (founded 2205 B.C.). Later Chinese records indicate that the sport remained popular, at least as a royal pastime; for example, Wen Wang, the seventh century (B.C.) ruler of Hunan was a noted falconer. It was from the East, or at least the Near-East, that falconry was introduced into Europe. Several classical authors including Aristotle, Pliny, and Aelian refer to such an origin, though generally attributing the sport's innovation to mythological heroes such as Ulysses (Harting, J. E. 1883).

In Britain hawking may have been practised by the Romans, for there are occasional finds of hawk remains on Roman sites, at Porchester for example (Cunliffe, B. 1975). However, these infrequent finds may represent no more than the killing of wild hawks.

It is certain that hawking was widely practised by the Saxons. King Ethelbert of Kent (725-762) in a letter to St. Boniface, Archbishop of Mayence (died 755), asked to be sent two falcons that could be used to fly at the crane, for 'there are very few birds of use for this flight in this country' (Harting, J. E. 1883, 71). Asser in his life of Alfred the Great says, of the king, 'his felicity in hunting and hawking, as well as in all the other gifts of god was really incomparable, as I myself have often seen' (Harting, J. E. 1883, 71). Florence of Worcester also describes the attention which Alfred paid to his hawks and Falconers (Forester, T. 1854, 66). William of Malmsbury records that part of the tribute demanded by Athelstan from the Welsh (in 926) consisted of 'birds trained to make prey of others in the air' (Giles, J. A. 1847, 134). Of Edward the Confessor, William of Malmsbury wrote: 'There was one earthly enjoyment in which he chiefly delighted; which was, hunting with the fleet hounds, whose opening in the woods he used with pleasure to encourage: and again, with the pouncing of birds, whose nature it is to prey on their kindrid species' (Giles, J. A. 1847, 247).

The tenth century (A.D.) Laws of Howel Dha show that hawking was a favoured sport in Wales. The king's falconer was the fourth officer in rank, and sat in the fourth place from the king at the royal table. The falconer was permitted to drink no more than three times, lest he should neglect his birds from intoxication; and when more than usually successful, the prince was obliged by law and custom to rise up and receive him (the falconer) as he entered the hall, and sometimes to hold his stirrup as he alighted from his horse (Harting, J. E. 1883, 72).

The importance of hawking to the Norman and Saxon nobility can

be clearly seen in the Bayeux tapestry; on four separate occasions King Harold is shown carrying a hawk, and on two of these panels his captor, Guy, Comte de Ponthieu is also shown carrying a hawk (Bayeux Tapestry panels 3, 5, 10 and 16).

The great number of serjeanties held by some form of hawk service may also be taken as an indication of the regard in which the sport was held in medieval England. For example, at the end of the thirteenth century, John de Pateshull held four virgates of land in Bugbrooke (Northamptonshire) for the annual service of providing eighteen geese for the king's falcons while they were mewing (moulting) (Rot. Hund. II, 9b). Generally, however, such serjeants held their lands for the service of looking after one or more of the king's hawks during the mewing season, when they were useless for hunting. For example, the manor of Broughton Pogges (Oxfordshire) was held by the Mauduit family and their ancestors the Murdac family, for the service of mewing one hawk and carrying another; this service can be traced from the late twelfth century right through to the fifteenth century, though it had been arrented by 1280 (Book of Fees 103, 251, 589, 831, 1173, 1376, 1393; Feudal Aids IV, 173; Stone, E. 1968, 51-53). E. G. Kimball (1936) in her study of medieval serjeanties has collected many, though by no means all, of these references.

A number of medieval lords and monarchs wrote treatises on the subject of falconry, and this can be taken as an indication of the popularity of the sport, and of the high esteem in which it was held. Of these many treatises the best is probably that of the Emperor Fredrick II, entitled, De Arte Venandi cum Avibus (Wood and Fife 1943). In common with most of the medieval and early post-medieval writings on hawks this is largely concerned with the methods of catching and training hawks, and with the curing of sick birds; though there is some discussion on the housing and equipping of the hawks and falcons.

There are other and perhaps more informative references to hawking which occasionally appear in medieval documents, such as those in the Rotulus Misae for 1211-1212:-

On Wednesday, the Feast of the Innocents (Dec. 28th), at Ashwell (Camb.), alms contributed, to buy food for 350 paupers, by the King, who proceeded to capture and took 7 Cranes, with his hawks, for each of which he feasted 50 paupers, and every one of them had a penny . . . . .  
 . . . . . summa .. 29s. 2d.

On Wednesday following the Purification (Feb. 2nd.) at Limber Magna (Lincs.) as alms to 100 paupers whom the King fed, as he went with his Gerfalcons to capture Cranes, and having taken 9 Cranes, he commanded the aforesaid paupers to be fed with bread, meat, and ale to the amount of . . . . . 13s. 4d.

Despite the fact that hawking was such a popular and widespread sport very little is known of the birds and equipment used; and virtually no archaeological remains have been recognised. General Pitt-Rivers did

recover the bones of a young falcon from the body of the ramparts at Caesar's Camp, Folkestone (Pitt-Rivers 1883, 450, 455 and 459 col. 10). More recently the skeletal remains of three sparrowhawks have been recovered from twelfth and thirteenth century contexts in Southampton (Platt, C. and Coleman-Smith, R. 1975, 340-1, 238 and 293). Similarly, in the twelfth century levels at Porchester Castle the remains of three hawks were found:- a goshawk, a sparrowhawk, and a marsh harrier (Cunliffe, B. 1977, 233-239). Usually only a very few bones from each bird are recovered, for example the Porchester goshawk was represented by only ten bones (and this was the most complete of the three Porchester hawks). Finds of hawk trappings are even rarer. Two examples of hawk rings are known, one from Hedingham Castle was inscribed Ox - en - for - de (Hedingham was owned by the de Vere Earls of Oxford) (Archaeologia 12, 1796, 408 and 410); a second ring, inscribed on one side 'sum regis angleterre' and on the other side 'et compte de Herefordshire' was reported in the Gentleman's Magazine for June 1795 (page 474).

Against this dearth of archaeological evidence for medieval hawking the extraordinary collection of finds from Deddington Castle, Oxon, seem all the more remarkable. The finds from Deddington come from a late-twelfth or early-thirteenth century latrine pit (Jope, E.M. 1946/7, 168), and from a late-thirteenth or fourteenth century cess pit (Ivens, 1983). The species represented, including several nearly complete skeletons, are:- a peregrine falcon, a kite, a montague's harrier, a kestrel, several hen-harriers, and three buzzards, together with some remnant of their trappings (the skeletal material was identified by Mrs H.M. Jope).

This extraordinary collection of species requires some explanation; first however, the evidence for the species of hawks used by medieval falconers is considered.

Medieval society had its own model of the value of the different species of hawk, expressed as an hierarchical list, together with the social rank permitted to use each type:-

Eagle and Vulture	Emperor
Gerfalcon and its tercel (the male)	King
Gentle Falcon	Prince
Rock Falcon	Duke
Peregrine Falcon	Earl
Bastarde	Baron
Sacre and Sacret	Knight
Lanner and Lanneret	Squire
Merlin	Lady
Hobby	Young Man
Goshawk	Yeoman
Tercel of a Goshawk	Poor Man
Sparrowhawk	Priest

Musket (male sparrowhawk)  
Kestrel

Holywater Clerk  
Knave

While this list is a purely abstract concept, not adhered to in practice, it does provide a convenient way of listing the hawks that were recognised as being of value to the medieval falconer. This particular list is taken from The Boke of St. Albans by Dame Julia Berners; though not printed until 1486 this work is almost certainly based on twelfth century manuscripts (Hands, R. 1975); similar lists occur in other medieval documents, and differ only very slightly.

Significantly most of the species found at Deddington Castle are absent from this list. Therefore, before attempting to explain the Deddington finds, the species listed above are briefly considered.

The eagle and vulture were never used in Britain, though the eagle was hunted to some extent in India and the East. Their place at the head of this list is probably due to their size.

The medieval usage of the term Gerfalcon was somewhat loose. Today the term refers to four slightly different forms of the species Falco rusticolus found in Norway, Greenland, Iceland and Labrador. The medieval falconer sometimes used the name in this sense, sometimes to mean any large falcon from these northern areas, and sometimes to mean any large falcon trained to fly at the crane (this is what most true gerfalcons were used for).

The peregrine falcon shows marked regional differences in plumage, and these regional variants were classified as distinct species by medieval falconers. Hence, gentle, rock, and peregrine falcons are really all peregrines, i. e., Falco peregrinus peregrinus. The bastarde is usually interpreted as being the progeny of two of these types of peregrine. Medieval and later texts make it clear that the peregrine was the most highly prized of all falcons, and yet it is one of the rarest of the birds of prey found in archaeological contexts. Only one peregrine was found at Deddington Castle, which is situated in an area where peregrines are still frequent winter visitors (V. C. H. Oxon. I, 70).

The saker and lanner (and their tercels, the sacret and the lanneret) are large eastern falcons commonly used by Eastern and Mediterranean falconers, but not used in Britain. The merlin and hobby are small falcons which still visit the British Isles, but are not resident.

All the hawks mentioned so far are still used by falconers and are highly regarded, though the merlin and the hobby can only be flown at the smaller sorts of game.

To this point the terms falcon and hawk have been used as though they are interchangeable; there are in fact important differences between the two. The true falcon or long winged hawk belongs to the species Falco, and can be distinguished from the short winged hawks of the species Accipter, by the 'tooth' on the upper mandible, the second feather on the wing being as long or longer than the third, and by their methods of

catching prey. The long winged hawks tower and stoop on their prey, taking it in the air, but short winged hawks commonly take their prey on the ground. To tower or ring-up means to rise in a spiral to a point above the quarry in order to drop or stoop on to it.

The goshawk and the sparrowhawk are of the short winged variety, are small, and generally take their prey on the ground, but can still provide good sport. They are well regarded by modern falconers, especially now that the larger falcons are so difficult to obtain.

The kestrel, though a long winged hawk and classified as a falcon, Falco tinnunculus tinnunculus, neither towers nor stoops but hunts in the manner of the short winged hawks; its diet consists mainly of insects, small mammals and birds. It is still fairly common in the Deddington area, and is one of the commonest British hawks (V.C.H. Oxon, I, 73). The kestrel has been little used for hawking, except by the very poorest.

Of the six different species of hawk found at Deddington Castle only two, the peregrine and the kestrel, are known to have been used by medieval (and indeed modern) falconers. The buzzards, harriers, and the kite are therefore somewhat surprising finds, especially in view of the number and completeness of the specimens recovered.

The kite, which was common in Oxfordshire until the mid-sixteenth century, can be explained (V.C.H. Oxon, I, 59). The flying of the kite was a popular form of hawking; this consisted of spotting a kite, then releasing an owl with a fox tail or something similar attached, and then when the kite tried to rob the owl a falcon trained to hunt the kite was released. The kite as a superb exponent of the art of flight often produced a long and exciting chase, and frequently managed to escape (Cox and Lascelles 1892, 297). Flying the kite was practised as late as the mid-eighteenth century, when Lord Orford hawked widely over the eastern counties (Mitchel, E.B. 1900, 4).

Sir Thomas Browne states that Scaliger declared, that a gerfalcon of Henry, King of Navarre struck down in his sight, a buzzard, two wild geese, divers kites, a crane, and a swan (Harting, J.E. 1891, xxvi). This particular aspect of the sport might explain the presence of the kite (and that of the buzzards and harriers) at Deddington Castle. However, the number and completeness of the remains make it unlikely that they were prey. It is also difficult to understand why a hawking party would take the trouble to carry these birds back to the castle, only to throw them away.

An alternative but unlikely explanation is that the kite was a trained hunting bird. The Natural History Book of Mr Wood claims that it is possible to train kites; all modern falconers scorn this idea and are of the opinion that kites are quite useless for hawking (Mitchel, E.B., 1900, 39).

It is just possible that the medieval Bastarde is in fact the harrier (and perhaps the buzzard as well). Though a short winged hawk the harrier



is capable of towering and stooping, though normally it takes its prey by quartering the ground at a low level and then striking on the ground (Bannerman, D.A. 1956, V, 210-211). The term *bastarde* can mean of mixed origin; the female and male (Ring-tail hawk or Stanyel) hen-harrier were regarded as different species until they were identified by Montague (White, G. 1860, 350). Thus, it may be that the term *bastarde* disguises the hen-harrier.

However, there is an alternative and more plausible explanation of the strange association of raptors found at Deddington Castle.

‘Why an hawk is called an Eyas

An hawk is called an Eyas of her eye(s). for an hawk that is brought up under a Buzzard or a Puttock: as many be: hath watery eyes. for when they be disclosed and be put in ferme till they be full plumed. ye shall know them by their watery eyes. And also her look will not be so quick as a Branchers is. and so because the best knowledge is by the eyes. they shall be called Eyases.’

(Hands, R. 1975, 18-19, lines 345-354 and notes on 114-118; spelling modernised).

There are several terms in this passage from The Boke of St Albans that may need explanation. An *eyas* is a nestling, to disclose means to hatch, to put in ferme means to put in the mews (i.e., the hawk-house), and a *brancher* is a young bird that has started to leave the nest and make short flights, and a *puttock* is a kite.

This passage implies that there are two ways of acquiring hawks. By taking *branchers*, that is wild birds that have started to fly and have learned from their mother, reckoned to be the best sort; or by taking the eggs or very young nestlings and raising them under a kite or a buzzard. This latter method has several advantages: a buzzard (or kite) can be manned (tamed) more easily and to a greater extent than can most hawks or falcons and is therefore more tractable during the breeding period; secondly, the nestlings can be fed naturally and correctly by their foster mother, which is preferable to the falconer hand feeding; thirdly, valuable hunting birds can be relieved of this duty.

At Deddington, four non-hunting species of hawk were recovered: a kite, three buzzards, a Montague's harrier and several hen-harriers. A possible explanation has been offered for the presence of the kite and the buzzards (formerly common in Oxfordshire) (V.C.H. Oxon. I, 62). But what of the harriers? Neither of the two species of harrier are native to Oxfordshire; the hen-harrier is an uncommon winter visitor, and the Montague's harrier is an uncommon summer visitor and a very rare winter visitor (V.C.H. Oxon. I, 65, 62). It has already been shown that the medieval falconers' terminology does not exactly correspond with modern classifications; nor do vernacular bird names correspond with modern ornithological classifications. In parts of Ireland for example the hen-

harrier is known as the white kite, and in some parts of England the buzzard is known as the black kite (not to be confused with the true black kite Milvus migrans migrans). The possibility must be considered that the medieval usage of the term buzzard was fairly loose, and included large birds of prey such as the harrier (Circus) as well as the true buzzard (Buteo). Indeed Alfred Newton in his Dictionary of Birds states 'The name buzzard however belongs quite as rightfully to the birds called in books, Harriers,' (Newton, A. 1893-6, 66-7).

If this interpretation is correct, and all the harriers, and buzzards, and the kite found at Deddington Castle were foster mothers, then Deddington Castle must be seen as a hawking establishment of some size and importance. The deposits in which the two groups of Deddington hawks were found are separated by an interval of at least seventy-five years, which suggests that the use of foster mothers was a practice of quite long standing.

In view of this suggested importance of Deddington Castle as a Falconry, it is somewhat surprising that there is no documentary evidence in any way connecting Deddington with hawking. Perhaps it is the case that Deddington was not especially important, but only that the evidence has been especially well preserved. Deddington was never held in serjeanty, which form of tenure accounts for most documentary references to hawks, and this may account for the lack of documentation for a Falconry at Deddington (Colvin, H. 1963). In any case as a very widespread medieval pastime it is unlikely that a Falconry (even an important one) would merit especial notice, unless it owed some form of service to the king.

R.J. Ivens

#### Note

- I. For an exhaustive and annotated bibliography of hawking and falconry up to 1891 see Harting, J. E. 1891.

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## NOTES

Mischief, Pranks and Spare Time by Michael Pickering (autumn 1983 issue)

On page 98, half way down, the word "now" was by mistake printed as "not". That totally alters the meaning. The end of the sentence should read "...and why work and play are now often associated in old people's memories". We apologize.

Banbury LNWR (LMS) Locomotive Shed

Mr. F.A. Blencowe writes, from 115 Oldbury Orchard, Churchdown, Gloucester, GL3 2NX:-

"I have, for many years, been searching for a photograph of the Banbury L.N.W.R. (L.M.S.) locomotive shed, which was demolished about 1934. (This should not be confused with either of the G.W.R. loco sheds which stood on the western side of the gasworks).

Extensive enquiries amongst the many railway history sources have failed to produce any photographic full views of the building; apart from the partial view shown on p.30 of Simpson's 'Banbury to Verney Jc. Branch', no others are known.

I wonder if it would be possible for you to circulate this note in 'Cake and Cockhorse', adding that if any member knows of the whereabouts of such a photo, I would be very grateful to be allowed to see it, and, if possible, have it copied for my own private use only (no publication is contemplated). "

## THE BANBURY TRADES INDEX

Banbury Museum has a new resource to offer local historians, largely as a result of several years' work by Mary Stanton. The first stage in the establishment of an individual record of Banbury tradesmen has been completed with the indexing of Rusher's annual Banbury directories 1832-1906.

Although Rusher published a Banbury directory from 1798, detailed information about tradesmen is given only from 1832. 1906 marks the end of the run of easily and locally accessible annual directories.

Information can be retrieved from the record in three main ways. Given the name of an individual, a record card will show all his trades (many Banbury people pursued several at once and changed horses during their careers) and the addresses and dates at which he worked (or advertised in the directory!).

If an enquirer is interested in an individual trade or profession, from attorney to yeastdealer, an index will point to all the individuals who worked in it.

Finally, a further index, arranged by streets, shows all the individuals who occupied a particular property during the 74 years at present covered by the Record. The index lists the licensees of all the inns, public houses and beerhouses from 1832 and traces their existence back to 1798.

Not all the information in the directories is included. Where an individual served as a mayor or alderman, this is noted, as are the masters and mistresses of local schools. No attempt has yet been made to include the religious establishments of the town, or 'nobility and gentry' and 'resident householders', none of which tend to overlap with the trade and professional element of the record.

Rusher's directory information provides a base to which more can gradually be added. This will include references to Cake and Cockhorse, to the files of local newspapers and to items in the museum and reference library collections. Volunteer assistance with these tasks would be very welcome.

The trades record is available to researchers in the museum; an appointment with the Curator (Banbury 59855) is a good idea, except on Thursdays, when she is usually in the museum.

## THE OLD VICARAGE, HORSEFAIR, BANBURY

The first clear reference to a vicarage was in 1441. Following the Norman Conquest the dominant landowner in Banbury was the Bishop of Lincoln. In his rental roll in 1441 there is an entry from which it appears that the vicarage house stood where it does at present on the south side of St. Mary's Church in the Horsefair. At that time the house was separated from the churchyard by a garden of which the vicars had recently become lessees paying a quit-rent of 12d, later 18d, to the Bishop of Lincoln. It is possible that an earlier reference to the vicarage house was made in 1392 when a licence was given for a house and garden.<sup>1</sup> If the cellar was dug up it is almost certain that traces of a 14th-15th century dwelling could be found in which the early vicars of Banbury had made their first home.

Banbury had a rector, who was also a Prebendary of Lincoln Cathedral. He would have appointed a vicar (the first known was one Roger who died in 1277) to look after the parish in his absence and would have provided him with a house. Traditionally the Prebendal or Rectory House is that at the corner of Market Place and Parsons St., now the home of 'Southern Gas', so the reference in the Rental is consistent with the vicar's home being close at hand to the church.

There is an alternative theory, slightly more romantic which would appeal, no doubt, to a firm of Solicitors<sup>2</sup> because it involves a Will, presumably written by one of their professional ancestors with quill pen and inky fingers. Horsefair is not named as such in the 1441 Rental - possibly it was a freehold area paying no rent. One John Stokes, in his will in 1424, directed that "the whole of his tenement which John Cruste de Rue holds in Horschyping (Horsefair) in Banbury shall go after the death of his wife Joan to the fraternity of the Blessed Mary in the Parish Church, Banbury". It fits so well that one likes to adopt the thought of John Stokes solving the vicar's housing problem 560 years ago - but alas records also reveal that the house in question was still held by the fraternity in 1547, at the time of the dissolution of the monasteries; thus we must judge it was a different house, but not far away.

Historians assume that the Tudor rose on one of the cross beams upstairs suggests that the house was standing in the 16th century; but it seems likely that the medieval house was modernised. The surface items should be looked at, such as chimney pots, windows, fireplaces, stones, and architectural style; conclusions should be drawn from them. It is thought the vicarage escaped the great fire of Banbury of 1628 which burned for two days destroying half the town; the fire was centred in the Broad St area of the town.

Over the outer front door there is a date 1649. This is taken to be the date of, possibly extensive, repairs at the end of the Civil War, when Parliament granted timber repairs to the church, vicarage, and gaol.<sup>4</sup> The church was certainly knocked about, so we can picture the odd

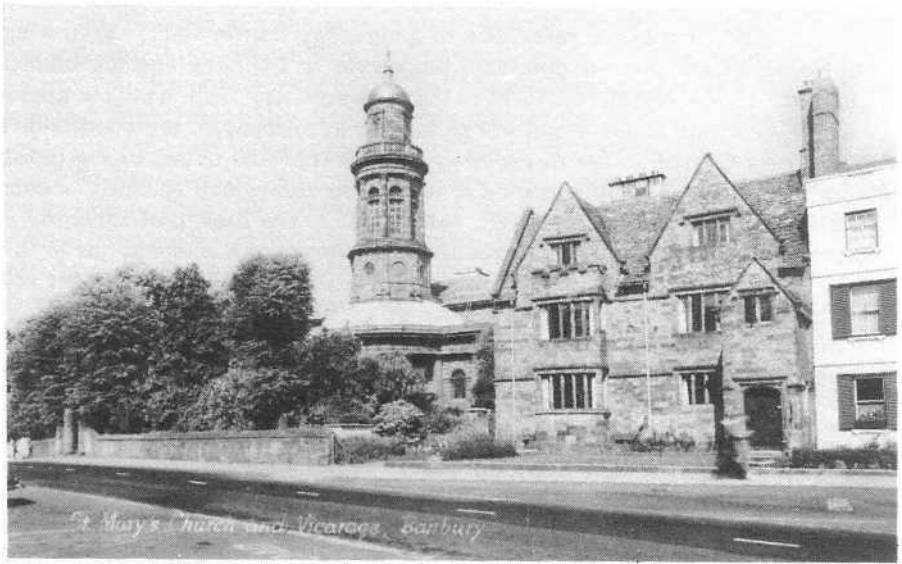


Photo: Blinkhorns



By A. G. BROWN 1913

mis-aimed cannonball damaging the adjoining vicarage. The vicarage and other old buildings in the town were built of ferruginous sandstone of the neighbourhood (Beesley). The Lords and Commons journals of 1646 record a grant to the inhabitants of Banbury of sequestered timber in Forest Wood, near Oxford of value about £300 'for repairs to the Church and the rebuilding of the Vicarage House and Common Gaol and the houses of well-affected inhabitants'. Owing to the cost of bringing the timber here it was afterwards allowed to be sold and the proceeds given to the above object. It is doubtful if an actual rebuilding took place of the Vicarage House. Probably it was rather a complete restoration or extensive repairs.

The present house outwardly retains its 17th century appearance, although the rear part and the interior were entirely remodelled in the 19th century.<sup>5</sup> The porch bears the initials S.W. (presumably for the Vicar, Samuel Wells) and the date 1649 as stated above. The late Gothic doorway is a curious anachronism which may be due to the re-use of medieval materials (VCH).

The Victoria County History gives this description of the vicarage on page 100, volume ten:-

'The ironstone front range is of two stories with semi-basement and roof garret lit by two large dormer gables. On the west side is an entrance-porch with room over it in the bay windows with battlemented parapet. An engraving of 1841 indicates that the building was either double pile or had a rear wing, but the rear has been replaced by a long rear wing in Victorian Gothic containing a grandiose open hall. The rear wing date is 1860 and an inscription on the stable range suggests that it was the work of Henry Back, who became vicar in 1860. Some 17th century masonry has been used at the end of the house'.

Extensive alterations and extensions were carried out between 1858-60. Two books of plans (kindly presented to the present owners of the vicarage by the Rev. Ian Beacham, until recently Vicar of St. Mary's) were marked 'Henry Back M.A.' and it is his name and date 1860 that appear in the centre of the north wall, which can be seen from outside just above the top windows, and which also appear on a key stone on the former stable block. In the picture, now hanging over the inglenook in the waiting room, painted just after the alterations, it can be seen that in the meantime the rear outbuildings have been reduced extensively and large gothic windows on the north side have been added.

No priest-holes have been found, although a vicarage would hardly have been a 'safe-house'. When the south wall was recently exposed to the front staircase a bricked-up window or door was found at just about the present ground floor level, and an enormous bricked-up aperture at first/second floor level. The former obviously dates back to the days before the houses to the south were built; the reason for the latter is not apparent.

At the risk of disappointing readers there is no active ghost!

Although no one has dared to stay in the cellar for long, and the building creaks and whispers late at night. A visiting relative of a former incumbent did however point out the spot on the first floor landing where a ghost is said to have been seen, so the owners still await the time, 'When the night winds howl in the chimney cowls, And the Bat in the moonlight flies'.<sup>6</sup>

.....

TAILPIECE: The Solicitors who now own the building moved from 25 High St., which another firm of Solicitors now occupy.

It is clear from books on Banbury that the building has a strong legal tradition. It seems to have been swarming with Lawyer Golby, Mr. Draper (later three times Mayor) and Mr. Munton (later Town Clerk), Attorneys all, in the mid-19th century. Nevertheless despite some ancient beams and sloping floors no spectral wigs or quills have been encountered there!

Barbara Adkins

#### THE FORMER CHURCH HOUSE in the HORSEFAIR

"A handsome Church House, designed by Mr. Walter Mills was erected in Banbury, in a good position near the Parish Church and is admirably adapted for parochial purposes. Through the energy and perseverance of the Reverend Canon Porter a site was obtained and subscriptions were raised for this good work. The fund was greatly assisted by the generous bequest of Mrs. Black (widow of the former vicar) of £3,000 to be used for the fabric only. The foundation stone was laid by the Rev Canon Porter on the 1st August 1904 and the building was opened on the 16th May 1905 by the Earl of Jersey.

"This is not the first building to bear the name Church House. Until the last century a building standing in the northern part of the churchyard was called Church House. It had formerly been used as a school and was part of the property given for repair of the former church. In 1825 it was being used as a plush factory."<sup>7</sup>

Barbara Adkins

#### SOURCES

1. Victoria County History - Oxfordshire Volume ten p.100
2. Present owners of the property
3. History of Banbury by Alfred Beesley - published in 1841 p.433
4. A History of Banbury by William Potts - 2nd edition p.71
5. Buildings of England by Jennifer Sherwood and Nicholas Pevsner, published in 1974 - Oxfordshire - Banbury p.443
6. Gilbert and Sullivan's 'Ruddigore'
7. The Parish Church of St. Mary's, Banbury by Eleanor Draper and William Potts, published by the Banbury Guardian Office in 1907.



## NATHANIEL FIENNES (1608-1669)

In the 1983 Spring Issue we printed the inventory of the goods of Nathaniel Fiennes taken after his death in 1669. It listed the goods contained in his two houses at Newton Toney in Wiltshire and at Brumby Hall near Scunthorpe in Lincolnshire.

Now we are printing his will. Together these documents, previously unpublished, tell us much of the life style of a minor actor on the stage of the English 17C civil war. We hope they may encourage a 17C historian to write his life, rather than yet another biography of Charles I or Cromwell.

Nathaniel was a Banburian, second son of William first viscount Saye and Sele. He was MP for Banbury in the Long Parliament, prominent in its business and debates from 1640 to 1642. Though his grandfather Richard lived till 1613, he spent his last years in London in the house of his second wife in St. Batholomews near Smithfield. Nathaniel's father William took possession of part of the Oxfordshire estate in 1604, notably at North Newington and Bloxham, and assumed the management of all the estates in 1610. Nathaniel may therefore have been born at Broughton Castle (the parish registers for that period do not survive) or perhaps more likely at the family house at North Newington, the remaining part of which is still the house of the manager of the Broughton estates known now as Park Farm.

He fought at Edgehill, of which battle he wrote an account. He commanded a troop at the taking of Winchester by the parliamentarian forces; tradition says that he saved the college, at which he had been educated, and the tomb of William of Wykeham in the Cathedral from the iconoclasm of the puritan soldiers. He was appointed governor of Bristol, which he surrendered to the royalists after siege; for that act he was condemned to death, was reprieved, and later fully exonerated when a parliamentary army re-took the city and found it indefensible. In December 1648 he strongly opposed the trial of the King, and as a result was excluded from the House of Commons in Pride's Purge. Nevertheless, unlike his father, he later made his peace with Cromwell and, with his brother John and brother-in-law Charles Wolseley, accepted a seat in Cromwell's "Other House" of which as Lord Fiennes he became speaker.

Many of his parliamentary speeches and a full account of his trial for the surrender of Bristol survive. His place in the Long Parliament is analysed by Valerie Pearl in the Transactions of the Royal Historical Society for 1968.

He was typical of many of the county gentry who were puritans and supported Pym in parliament, with one foot in a conservative past whose constitutional rights and liberties they fought to restore from the innovative autocracy of the King, without any wish to endanger their own position in society, and the other in a future more modern in religion, in science and in technology. This last trend was to develop in Celia,

one of his daughters by his second marriage, whose account of her journeys round England on horseback at the end of the century has just been re-published.

To a modern view he was a tiresome fellow; one suspects that his contemporaries felt the same.

D. E. M. Fiennes

### WILL OF NATHANIEL FIENNES (d 1669)

In the name of God amen. I Nathaniell Fiennes second sonne of the Right Honourable William sometimes Lord Viscount Say and Sele being the Lord be praised in reasonable health and of good memorie Do make this my last will and Testament in manner following First I bequeath my soule to the good God that gave it trusting only in the merritts of the Lord Jesus for Salvation, and my body I committ to be buried at the discretion of my wife if she survive me and of my Executors As for my lands and worldly goods I dispose of them as followeth First I give my Mannour of Newton Tony in the Countie of Wilts with the Capitall Mansion house farme and demesnes with their appurtenances and all the rest of my Lands portion of Tythes and hereditaments whatsoever in Newton Tony Amesbury and Alderborough in the said Countie of Wilts unto Frances my beloved wife in Case shee survive me dureing the terme of her naturall life in lieu and instead of £200 by the yeare Joynture which was limitted unto her out of certaine lands in Over Norton and Middle Norton in the Countie of Gloster and by me sold unto my deceased Father William Viscount Say and Seale and James Fiennes Esq<sup>r</sup> his eldest sonne now viscount Say and Seale upon condition that my wife forbear to clayme any interest in the said lands so by me sold Neverthesse my will is that my said wife shall take the said Mannour and premisses upon this trust That what money shalbe raised by fines upon the stateing out of any the Coppieholds belonging unto the said Mannour shalbe paid to my Executors for the use and towards the portions of such children or child by my said wife as shalbe liveing and unmarried at my death in such proportion to each of them as their Mother shall limitt and appointe And for want of such appointment to be equally devided amongst them And as to my said Mannour farme portion of tythes and lands and the reversion of them after the death of my said wife My will is that they shalbe sold by my Executors or the survivor of them and the heires of the survivor and that the money raised by the sale thereof shalbe divided into six parts whereof foure shalbe paid to my fower daughters Frances Anne Mary and Cecilia to each one such part thereof as their mother shall limitt and appointe at the time of their marriage or when they shall attaine the age of one and twentie yeares if she be then living But if she be dead and make no appointment then to be equally divided amongst them and paid unto them at the tymes aforesaid And if any of them dye before they attaine the age of one and twenty or be married My will is that the part or parts of such childe or children shall accrew to the survivors or survivor of them which I declare to be my will and intention as for all the legacies which in

this my will I bequeath to my said daughters And as to the remaining two sixth parts of the proceede of the said Mannour and lands My will is that the same shalbe paid to my eldest sonne Nathaniell Fiennes and if he dye before the same be raised and leave any childe or children My will is that they shalbe equally devided amongst his daughters and younger sonnes and every of them respectively And if he leave no daughters or younger sonnes but one sonne or daughter onely then to such child as he shall leave behinde him at the time of his death And in case he leave none then the one sixth part shalbe paid to my younger sonne Willm Fiennes and his children or child in like manner as is before specified concerning the child or children of Nath: Fiennes his elder brother And the other sixth part shalbe added to the legacies before given to my aforementioned daughters to be paid to them in manner as is before declared concerning the fower sixth parts to them bequeathed. And if the lease of nynety nine years of the Mannour and Lands aforesaid assigned by me and my trustees Samuell Browne and Robert Raworth to the purchasers of certaine Lands in Over Norton and Middle Norton in the Countie of Gloster for their securitie and indempnitie shalbe freed by the release of my said wife and her children and the trustees in their behalfe or otherwayes My will is that the same shall accompanie the inheritance and be disposed of after my wifes death to the uses and purposes aforesaid and the trust and benefitt thereof until disturbance of the sale by my said wife and children shall goe with the freehold and such disposition as is made of the said Mannour and premisses by this my will. Item I give my Mannour of Bromby with all my lands tenements and hereditaments in Bromby BrombyWood and Burringham or elsewhere in the Countie of Lincolne unto my eldest sonne Nath: Fiennes his heires and assignes Neverthelesse upon this trust that hee his heires or assignes pay or cause to bee paid the summe of six hundred pounds to my Executors towards the discharge of my debts within one yeare after my decease and that he or they pay likewise unto my Executors for the use of Will: Fiennes my younger sonne the summe of five hundred pounds within two yeares after my death to be laid out by them on the purchase of some lease or other estate of lands in the Kingdom of Ireland or otherwaies as they in their discretion shall think most for his advantage and likewise upon this further trust that my said eldest sonne and every person to whome the said lands shall come by virtue of the limitation and devise made by this my will shall pay yearely to my said younger sonne Will: Fiennes during the terme of his naturall life the summe of forty pounds, that is to say, twentie pounds on the 29th day of September commonly called Mich day and twentie pounds more on the 25th day of March called Lady day the first payment to begin on the 29th of September next after my decease Item I rattifie and confirme the grant and assignment by me made of my mortgage for two thousand five hundred pounds upon rent and lands formerly belonging to my brother Jo: Fiennes in the parish of Froyle or elsewhere in the Countie of Southampton to my brother Henry and Rich Whithed upon the trust

mentioned in the indorsement of the said Mortgage that is to say upon this trust that they permitt and suffer me to take the profits thereof dureing my life and after my decease that they permitt my deare wife Frances to take the profitts thereof dureing her life if she continue unmarried and after her decease or marriage that they dispose both of the said principle interests and profits thereof to and amongst my fower daughters which I have by my said wife Frances for and towards their maintenance and positions in such proportion to each one as my wife dureing her life shall appointe and if she make no appointment then to be equally devided amongst them and paid unto them at the time of their marriage or at the age of twentie and one years which shall first happen Item I give to Nath: Fiennes my eldest sonne the summe of ten pounds to be paid within six months after my decease and to be by him laid out in a convenient monument or tombestone to be erected or laid in memorie of Elizabeth my deare wife deceased where her body was interred in the parish church of Framingham in the County of Lincolne Item I give forty pounds to be disposed of in part to the poore of the parish of Framingham and in the township of Burringham in the County of Lincolne and of Newton Tony in the Countie of Wilts and the residue to such charitable use or uses and in such proportion as my beloved wife Frances shall direct and appointe and if she give no direction therein then as my Executors in their discretions shall thinke fitt and most needfull Item I give twenty pounds amongst such of my household servants as shalbe liveing with mee at the tyme of my decease in such proportion to each one and such part thereof as my said beloved wife Frances shall allot and assigne unto them respectively Item I give and bequeath unto my said deare wife all her rings and jewells and alsoe so long as shee remaineth unmarried the use and occupation of my household stufte and utensils imployed aboute my house-keeping together with my plate pewter glass linnen bedding and other necessaries aboute my house and what remains thereof without willful wast and spoile at her death or marriage and all and every other my goods chattells leases mortgages bonds, bills debts and creditts or money put forth in my owne name or in the name of any other in trust for me after my debts and funeralls paid, which funeralls I desire may be decent and suiteable to my quallitie but without ostentation, I give and bequeath to my fower daughters Frances, Anne, Mary and Cecillia and the survivors or survivor of them to be equally devided amongst them and the survivors or survivor of them and to be paid unto them when they are married or attaine the age of one and twenty yeares which shall first happen, and till they come to the said age of 21 yeares or be married that the proceed and interest thereof goe towards their maintenance and education Neverthelessse it is my will and I doe declare that if my beloved wife shall see cause to make a difference betweene any of her daughters in the dividend of what is hereby devised unto them and shall make declaration thereof to my Executors by some writeing under her hand and seale in the presence of two or more credible wittnesses how much for their respective parts shalbe

paid to them they shalbe paid according to such declaration and division made by their mother and not otherwayes And I doe hereby direct and appointe that my said wife have the tuition of my said children so long as shee shall continue a widdow and unmarried after my decease and that she shalbe allowed towards the same for each of my said children the summe of ten pounds a yeare untill they shall attaine the age of tenn yeares respectively and after the said age the summe of twenty pounds a yeare And the Remainder of the said proceed and profitts shall goe towards the increase of the principle advance of their portions respectively And it is my will that if my said wife shall marry againe after my decease that then and in such case my beloved brothers Richard Fiennes and Hen: Whithed cause good securitie to be given in by my said wife for the forth coming of the respective portions or such part thereof as shalbe in her hands to be paid to my said daughters at their dayes of marriage or age of one and twenty which shall first happen, or in case such securitie shall faile to be putt in then it is my will that my said Brothers or the survivor of them shall take the said portions or such part of their portions into their custody and secure the same for the uses and trusts aforesaid deducting out of the same all such charges and expenses as they or any of them shalbe at suffer or undergot in or by the due execution of this trust Lastly it is my will and expresse declaration any thing herein contained to the contrary notwithstanding that if my said wife or children or any of them shall demande levie and receive any rent estate summe or summes of money out of certaine lands in Over Norton and Middle Norton in the County of Gloster by vertue of my former settlement thereof uppon them or any limitation to their use or any of them Then it is my will that so much as shalbe soe charged at any time by any of them uppon the said lands and premisses shalbe deducted and allowed by my Executors out of the severall and respective legacies and portions hereby bequeathed to each or any of them so charging the same respectively. It being my full and cleare intention that the said lands in Norton should be totally acquitted of all and every incumbrance and charge heretofore settled or imposed by me and that my personell estate shalbe alsoe lyeable to the discharge thereof And I hereby revoke all former wills and declarations of wills and do hereby constitute and appointe my loveing brothers Rich:Fiennes and Hen: Whithed Esq<sup>rs</sup> to be the Executors of this my last will and testament. And I desire my deare Brothers Rich: Norton and Will: Thomas Esq<sup>rs</sup> to be overseers of the Execution thereof and to advise and assist therein. In testimonie of my respects to whome I give to each of them a gold ring of the value of three pounds In witness whereof I doe publish and declare this to be my last will and testament this fifth day of October in the year of our Lord according to the computation of the Church of England one thousand six hundred and sixty nine Nath: Fiennes in the presence of Nath: Fiennes iunior, Honour Harpur, Ann Whithed, Samuel Jones, John Slemater [?].

Probate granted on 3rd December 1670.

## NORTH OXFORDSHIRE PARISH REGISTERS AND MODERN TRANSCRIPTS

At some stage during their research local and family historians will need to consult the parish registers. Not many years ago this would have meant a visit to the parish church. Today, however, most registers, and especially those over one hundred years old, have been deposited in the appropriate diocesan record office (DRO). For most counties in England and Wales county record offices are the recognised DROs, but for Oxfordshire (pre-1974 boundaries) it was, until the end of 1983, the Bodleian Library in Oxford. All this has now changed, and from April 1984 the registers along with other parish and probate records for the (historic) county are transferred to the Oxfordshire Record Office, County Hall, Oxford OX1 1ND (tel. Oxford (0865) 815203).

Some incumbents and parishioners may be very unhappy to see 'their' records leave the parish for deposit in the DRO, particularly if it is situated some considerable distance away. However, they might like to reflect on the sad fact that today very few parishes have registers which date from 1538, when Thomas Cromwell first ordered them to be kept. Indeed, some parishes can now only 'boast' registers which date from the seventeenth, eighteenth or even nineteenth centuries, because the early registers have been lost or damaged by damp, fire, vermin - even careless incumbents or churchwardens.

It is, therefore, imperative that we do not lose those records which have survived. County record offices or equivalent, unlike most churches, can offer the best possible storage conditions and security, and, consequently, if registers are deposited, we can be sure that they will be preserved for future generations.

Ironically, by centralisation, parish records have become more accessible to the general public and this, coupled with the recent upsurge in the interest in local and family history, has meant that they are now being handled as never before; and there can be little doubt that many registers have suffered accordingly. However, many Oxfordshire registers have been spared from such treatment because of the availability of modern, indexed transcripts made by members of the Banbury Historical Society (especially Nan Clifton and Jeremy Gibson) and the Oxfordshire Family History Society (especially Brigadier Goadby), and, of course, in the case of Banbury, the early registers have long been available as part of the BHS Record Series. Researchers are urged, therefore, to use these transcripts whenever possible, so that the original registers will be protected from the wear and tear of constant handling.

It is now the purpose of this article to list all Oxfordshire parishes in the environs of Banbury (including Banbury itself), giving the dates of the deposited registers (or the earliest dates of those still in the parish), together with the dates and locations of modern transcripts.

C.G. Harris

## North Oxfordshire Parish Registers and Transcripts

### Abbreviations

B	: burial(s)	ORO	: Oxfordshire Record Office
Bod	: Bodleian Library	PRs	: parish registers
BT	: Bishop's Transcript	PRO	: Public Record Office (London)
C	: christening(s) (baptisms)	SG	: Society of Genealogists (London)
M	: marriage(s)	TS	: transcript
MS	: manuscript	Z	: birth(s)
OCL	: Oxford Central Library	Inc	: incumbent

Banbury Historical Society transcripts are in the possession of Jeremy Gibson at Harts Cottage, Church Hanborough, Oxford OX7 2AB (tel. 0993 882982).

- Adderbury** PRs 1598+ - not deposited  
TS (1) index B 1598-1840 (Bod, SG, ORO, OCL, Banbury Museum);  
(2) M 1598-1840 (SG);  
(3) M 1754-1837 (ORO).  
Further transcript in progress.
- Alkerton** PRs CB 1544-1812, M 1546-1975, Banns 1824-1923 (CB 1813+ - not deposited).  
TS (1) CB 1544-1812, M 1544-1837 (Bod, SG, ORO, OCL, Inc, Mrs Clifton)  
(2) M 1546-1739 (Banbury Hist Soc).
- Balscote** (chapelry in the parish of Wroxton) PRs C 1821+, M 1821-1977, Banns 1824+, B 1821+ (earlier entries are in the Wroxton registers) - C, Banns, B not deposited.  
TS BT M 1822-1840 (SG).
- BANBURY**
- St Hugh** PRs C 1956+, M 1970+, Banns 1969+ (No B) - not deposited.
- St Leonard, Grimsbury** PRs 1930+, M 1921+, Banns 1964+ (No B) - not deposited.
- St Mary** (peculiar jurisdiction of Banbury until 1846) PRs C 1558-1898, M 1558-1892, Banns 1653-1659, 1843-1881, B 1558-1962.  
TS (1) C 1558-1812, M 1558-1837, B 1558-1723 (1723-1812 in press) publ. B.H.S. vols. 2, 3, 5, 7, 9, 16 (18 in press);  
(2) B 1723-1812 (Bod, ORO; for publication in 1984)  
(3) CB 1813-1838 indexed MS (Banbury Hist. Soc. - for eventual publ.).
- St Paul** PRs C 1853+, M 1900+, Banns 1900+ (no B) - not deposited.
- Banbury, South, Christ Church**  
PRs C 1853-1967, M 1853-1967, Banns 1853-1967 (No B).  
See Banbury St Mary registers for earlier entries.
- Barford St John** (chapelry in the parish of Adderbury) PRs C 1629-1812, M 1698-1928, Banns 1837-91, B 1695-1762 (see also Adderbury regs.).  
TS (1) BT CMB 1669-1737, C 1808-1840 (Bod, SG);  
(2) M 1698-1753 (Bod, SG, ORO, OCL, Banbury Hist. Soc.).
- Barford St Michael** PRs C 1813-1899, M 1755-1961, Banns 1755-1772.  
TS (1) C 1648-1812, M 1721-1812, B 1678-1812 (Bod, SG, ORO, OCL, Inc);  
(2) BT CB 1721-28, M 1721-66 (Bod, SG, Banbury Hist. Soc.).
- Bloxham** PRs C 1630-1954, M 1630-1970, Banns 1754-1937, B 1630-1940.  
TS (1) C 1630-1658, M 1639-1745 (SG, ORO, OCL, Banbury Hist. Soc.);  
(2) BT C 1813-1837, M 1746-1837 MS (SG).
- Bodicote** (chapelry in the parish of Adderbury) PRs C 1563-1850, M 1563-1753 (M 1754-1837 at Adderbury), 1837-1933, B 1563-1865.  
TS C 1563-1840, M 1564-1753, 1837-40, B 1567-1840 (Bod, SG, ORO).
- Bourton, Great** (chapelry in the parish of Cropredy) PRs C 1863-1973, M 1872-1978, Banns 1864-1953 (B 1864+ - not deposited).  
TS Banns 1864-1953 (SG, ORO, OCL, Inc)  
See Cropredy registers for earlier entries.
- Broughton** PRs C 1683-1893, M 1683-1862, Banns 1698-1702, 1818-1944, B 1683-1881.  
TS M 1680-1840 (Bod, SG, ORO, OCL, Banbury Hist. Soc.)  
Further transcript in progress.
- Claydon** (chapelry in the parish of Cropredy) PRs C 1569-1885, M 1569-1920, Banns 1759-99, B 1569-1812.  
TS (1) CMB 1569-1725 (Bod, SG, ORO, OCL, Inc);  
(2) M 1569-1837 (Bod SG, ORO, OCL, Banbury Hist. Soc.)  
Further transcript in progress.

- Cropredy** (peculiar jurisdiction of Banbury until 1846) PRs C 1538-1861, M 1538-1978, Banns 1843-1928, B 1538-1904.
- TS (1) C 1538-1861, M 1538-1976, B 1538-1904 (Bod, SG, ORO, OCL, Inc);
- (2) C 1538-1571, 1654-1701, M 1538-1837, B 1538-1571, 1654-1719 (Banbury Hist. Soc.).
- Deddington** PRs 1631-1971, M 1631-1969, Banns 1754-1803, 1823-1929, B 1631-1885.
- TS C 1631-1836, M 1631-1837, B 1631-1845 (Bod, SG, ORO, OCL, Inc, Mrs N. Clifton).
- Hempton Chapel** PR C 1852-1920.
- Drayton (St Peter)** PRs 1577+ - not deposited.
- TS (1) CB 1577-1812, M 1578-1837 (Bod, SG, ORO, OCL, Inc, Mrs Clifton).
- (2) CB 1654-88, M 1578-1837 (Bod, SG, Banbury Hist. Soc.).
- Epwell** (chapelry in the parish of Swalcliffe) PRs 1577-1940, M 1580-1952, B 1584-1812 (1813+ - not deposited).
- TS (1) C 1577-1837, M 1580-1837, B 1584-1837 (Bod, SG, ORO, OCL, Banbury Museum);
- (2) C 1654-1787, M 1707-1753, B 1654-1791 (Bod, Inc, Mrs Clifton)
- Grimsbury** - see under Banbury St Leonard.
- Hanwell** PRs C 1586-1930, M 1586-1837 (1837+ - not deposited), B 1586-1812 (1813+ - not deposited).
- TS (1) C 1586-1930, M 1586-1837, B 1586-1812 (Bod, SG, ORO, OCL, Inc, Mrs Clifton);
- (2) CB 1586-1754, M 1586-1837 (Bod, SG);
- (3) CB 1586-1754 (Banbury Hist. Soc.).
- Hook Norton** PRs C 1561-1911, M 1729-1917, Banns 1754-1812, 1823-1940, B 1643-1867.
- TS C 1550-1788, 1813-1854, M 1669-70, 1721-1837, B 1643-1788, 1813-1867 (Bod, SG, ORO, OCL, Inc).
- Horley** (peculiar jurisdiction of Banbury until 1846) PRs 1538+ - not deposited.
- TS C 1540-1880, M 1538-1837, B 1538-1965 (Bod, SG, ORO, OCL, Inc, Mrs Clifton).
- Hornton** (chapelry in the parish of Horley; peculiar jurisdiction of Banbury until 1846) PRs 1703+ - not deposited.
- TS C 1703-1862, M 1723-54, 1779-84, 1813-37, B 1703-1880 (Bod, SG, ORO, OCL, Inc, Mrs Clifton).
- Milcombe** (chapelry in the parish of Bloxham) PRs C 1562-1766, 1813-1944, M 1562-1711, 1838-1967, B 1562-1719 (1854+ - not deposited)(entries for intervening years are included in the Bloxham registers).
- TS C 1562-1766, M 1562-1711, B 1562-1719 (Bod, SG, ORO, OCL, Banbury Hist. Soc.).
- Milton** (chapelry in the parish of Adderbury) PRs C 1857+. M 1956+, B 1857+ - not deposited.
- See Adderbury regs. for earlier entries.
- Mollington** (chapelry in the parish of Cropredy; peculiar jurisdiction of Banbury until 1846) PRs C 1561-1897\*, M 1562-1837, Banns 1789-92, 1824-1910, B 1565-1813.
- TS (1) C 1570-1813, M 1565-1837, B 1565-1799 (Bod, SG, ORO, OCL, Inc);
- (2) C 1799-1897\*, M 1837-1959, B 1799-1979 (Bod, SG, ORO, OCL, Inc);
- (3) M 1565-1840 (Bod, SG, ORO, OCL, Banbury Hist. Soc.).
- \* C transcript post-1897 in progress.
- Neithrop** - no separate registers; see Banbury St Mary.
- Newington, North** - no separate registers; see Broughton.
- Newington, South** PRs C 1538-1870, M 1538-1975, Banns 1754-1817, 1823-1932, B 1538-1925.
- TS (1) CMB 1538-1840 (Bod, SG, ORO, Banbury Hist. Soc.);
- (2) C 1538-1603 (Bod, ORO, OCL).
- Rollright, Great** PRs C 1560-1887, M 1561-1837, Banns 1823-1928, B 1560-1935.
- TS C 1560-1887, M 1561-1837, B 1560-1935 (Bod, SG, ORO, OCL, Inc).
- Shenington** (formerly Glos.) PRs C 1721-1873, M 1726-1978, Banns 1823-89, B 1721-1926 (early registers destroyed by fire).
- TS BT CMB 1613-1720; (PRs) C 1721-1873, M 1726-1837, B 1721-1926 (Bod, SG, ORO, OCL, Inc, Mrs Clifton).
- Shutford** (chapelry in the parish of Swalcliffe) PRs C 1698-1875, M 1702-1978, Banns 1756-1762, 1822-1893, B 1699-1921.
- TS CMB 1698-1840 (Bod, SG, ORO, OCL, Banbury Museum, Banbury Hist. Soc.).
- Sibford (Ferris and Gower)** PRs C 1840-1880, Banns 1841-1970, B 1840-1918.
- See Swalcliffe registers for earlier entries.



- Swalcliffe** PRs C 1558-1924, M 1566-1837 (1837+ - not deposited),  
B 1577-1812 (1813+ - not deposited).  
TS C 1558-1840, M 1566-1840, B 1577-1840 (Bod, SG, ORO, OCL,  
Banbury Museum, Banbury Hist. Soc.).
- Swerford** PRs C 1577-1869, M 1577-1978, Banns 1754-1812, 1823-1903,  
B 1577-1943.  
TS (1) CMB 1577-1746 MS (Bod);  
(2) BT M 1670, 1722-54, 1813-37 MS (SG).
- Tadmarton** PRs C 1548-1858, M 1548-1837, Banns 1755-1882, B 1548-  
1913.  
TS CB 1813-1837, M 1755-1837 (Bod, SG, ORO, OCL, Banbury Hist Soc).
- Wardington** (chapelry in the parish of Cropredy; peculiar jurisdic-  
tion of Banbury until 1846) PRs C 1572-1889, M 1571-1978,  
Banns 1824-1921, B 1566-1857.  
TS (1) C 1572-1967, M 1571-1971, B 1566-1969 MS (Bod, ORO, OCL);  
(2) M 1603-1840, B 1695-1705 (Bod, SG).
- Wigginton** PRs C 1559-1881, M 1559-1837, Banns 1754-1925, B 1559-  
1812.  
TS (1) C 1558-1881, M 1558-1837, B 1558-1812\* (Bod, SG, ORO, OCL,  
Inc, Mrs Clifton).  
(2) M 1558-1672 (Bod, SG, ORO, OCL)  
• B transcript post-1812 in progress.
- Wroxton** PRs C 1548-1956, M 1552-1972, Banns 1824-1964, B 1548-1889.  
TS (1) C 1548-1858, B 1548-1888 (Bod, SG, ORO, OCL, Inc,  
Mrs Clifton);  
(2) M 1552-1753 (Bod, SG, ORO, OCL, Banbury Hist. Soc.);  
(3) BT M 1670, 1680-2, 1721-1837 MS (Bod, SG).

In the interests of space details of non-parochial registers and Bishop's Transcripts have had to be excluded. However, it is probably useful to list here the registers and transcripts for the Banbury Society of Friends (Quakers), since they cover the whole of North Oxfordshire.

#### **Banbury Society of Friends Monthly Meeting**

- Regs Z c1660-1837, M 1662-1769, 1776-92, 1796-1837, B 1655-1837  
(PRO); Z c1660-1868, M 1655-1868, B 1648-1894 (digest) MS (ORO).  
TS (1) Z c1660-1812, CBc1660-1723 (Banbury entries only) - publ.  
B.H.S. Vols. 9, 16; B 1723-1812 (Banbury entries only), vol.18.  
(2) ZMB c1660-1837 (Bod, SG, ORO, OCL, Banbury Hist. Soc.).

For full details of Oxfordshire parish registers, modern and "Bishop's Transcripts", and a guide to non-parochial registers see *Oxfordshire Parish Registers and Bishop's Transcripts*, by C.G. Harris, published by the Oxfordshire Family History Society, £1.00 (available from the Banbury Historical Society).

## BOOK REVIEWS

Banbury in Old Picture Postcards, by Ted Clark. European Library - Zaltbommel/Netherlands, 1982. 80pp., 78 illustrations. £6.95

Ted Clark has brought together a fascinating collection of pictures, most but not all of them originating as postcards. The time span is from Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee in 1897 to Sir Alan Cobham's visit on Aviation Day, 1932. Each picture is accompanied by a lengthy and informative caption, in which Ted's great knowledge of Banbury in this century is displayed to our advantage.

There are pictures of the Diamond Jubilee celebrations, of market days in the streets, of the scene before and after the building of Church House, of strangely empty streets showing shops and buildings long gone - in particular the old Red Lion, and, a more recent loss, the Original Cake Shop and its wisteria. It is a small consolation to know of one reversal of this trend, that the Globe Room is now reinstalled in its original setting.

Calamitous fires always attract photographers, and those at Samuelson's in 1912 and Cheney's in 1923 are duly recorded, together with a posed group of Samuelson employees and the great man himself (an early one, this, dated 1870), and another industrial scene, of munition workers at the time of World War I. Not only fires, accidents too. A car accident on Sunrising Hill, as early as 1907, and another in 1910, are both captured for posterity. The Banbury pictures fittingly conclude with the arrival of Northern Aluminium in 1931 and a photo of the first hot rolling mill.

However, Banbury's hinterland is not forgotten. Illustrations of Broughton Castle and Wroxton Abbey are followed by sample views of nearby villages as they were in the early 20th century: Adderbury, Bloxham, Deddington, Hook Norton, the old elm at Upper Tysoe (which survived until 1978), Middleton Cheney (and Harry Bonham's carrier's cart), Horley and Wardington.

The photos are mostly views, though often well populated and with individuals identified. It is fitting that portraits of three generations of the Potts family, who edited the Banbury Guardian from 1838 to 1947, are shown. The very last picture is of a very different Banbury character, the hermit Theodore Lamb, who lived for forty years in a shack beside the Shipston road at Sibford.

This is a delightful and absorbing little book. How sad that its high price will prevent most of those who would enjoy it doing more than glance at it in the bookshop.

J.S.W.G.

John Loveday of Caversham, by Sarah Markham. (pre-publication notice).

The name of Loveday is well known in north Oxfordshire - Bishop Loveday, indeed, is our senior vice president. Mrs Sarah Markham, daughter of the late Dr Thomas Loveday of Williamscothe and herself a life member of the Society, is the author of John Loveday of Caversham 1711-1789: The Life and Tours of an Eighteenth-Century Onlooker, to be published on 26th March 1984.

The book, 'a compulsively readable portrait of a man of intelligent interests in eighteenth century England', is based on John Loveday's extensive diaries and correspondence. He was a passionate sightseer, listing the paintings and works of art that he saw in country houses and other buildings on his tours - which took him (principally in the 1730s) throughout the British Isles and once, in 1737, to the Low Countries. These lists are included in a 75-page appendix.

There are also delightful vignettes of university life at Oxford and important new material on the antiquary Thomas Hearne. Although John Loveday's home was at the southern tip of Oxfordshire, his bride was to come from Arlescote on the north Oxfordshire/Warwickshire border. But the book is a mine of marvellous detail for anyone with an interest in social history and topography anywhere in eighteenth century England and further afield.

Making 640 pages, with sections of illustrations, maps of tours, family trees, appendix, bibliography and exhaustive index, it has received a grant from the British Academy and other subsidies which have enabled a price of £14.95 (plus £1.60 p&p) to be set for orders received before 30th June 1984. After that date the price will increase to £17.95. To give members the opportunity of taking the earlier price, this pre-publication note is included now, but there will be a full review in a later issue. Orders to: Michael Russell (Publishing) Ltd., The Chantry, Wilton, Salisbury SP2 0JU.

J.S.W.G.

LESLIE WOOD, M.B.E.

His multitudinous friends will be very saddened to hear of the death of Leslie Wood on Saturday 17th March after a short illness. As Secretary of the Oxfordshire Rural Community Council for very many years Leslie was known and welcomed in literally every village in the county. His visits to village halls with 'magic lantern', when he would project old photographs of the village and encourage the audience to comment and recall, will be remembered by countless of those who have lived any time in our county. On one occasion, in Bloxham in 1965, this was made the opportunity for our annual village meeting. Even earlier, in 1963, he had introduced the popular film "Twenty Four Square Miles".

During the years of his all too short retirement he undertook and completed the vast task of calendaring and indexing the testators in the probate records of the Oxford Consistory and Archdeaconry Courts from 1732 to 1858, a project which will be of enormous value to all future Oxfordshire historians. He was Chairman of the Oxfordshire Local History Association and also took a very active part in the Oxfordshire Family History Society, of which he was Programme Secretary.

To those in the county unable to visit library or record office, Leslie was synonymous with local history - he brought it to them and must have aroused or encouraged an interest in the subject which is now reflected in the many groups there are throughout the county.

We extend our sincere sympathy to his widow and family.

J.S.W.G.

### BANBURY HISTORICAL SOCIETY - ANNUAL REPORT, 1983

Your Committee have pleasure in submitting the 26th Annual Report and Statement of Accounts, for the year 1983.

Undoubtedly the most important and joyous event of the year was our Silver Jubilee party, which, to take advantage of the clement weather, was held in the Spring of this 26th year of the Society. Its enormous success, with more members and their friends gathered together than ever before, was in major part due to its location in the great hall of Broughton Castle. Our Society is most fortunate in the interest our President and his father before him have always taken in our activities, and their frequent hospitality. Refreshingly informal entertainment was provided by the Sycamore Singers. Surroundings and company combined to give us a memorable evening.

Whilst 1982/3 was the Silver Jubilee of the Society, 1984 will be that of its journal "Cake & Cockhorse". So it is with regret that with the number in which this report appears we see the end of David Fiennes' editorship. His tenure has seen twenty issues and a fine maintenance of the high standards which the magazine has established during its twenty-five years' existence. In 1983 there were articles on Hook Norton, on Adderbury, Shenington, Lower Heyford and Burton Dassett, contributors including (in addition to committee members) Don Amphlett, Christine Bloxham, Pamela Horn, Michael Pickering, Penelope Renold, Alan Sibson, Christopher Sinclair-Stevenson, Mary Sumner, Kate Tiller, Gill White and Jean Williams. The growth of village history societies is a recent and welcome occurrence, and it is to be hoped that "Cake & Cockhorse" will continue to benefit from their researches.

Meetings in 1983 included a talk by James Bond on "The Deserted Medieval Villages of North Oxfordshire", with Alan Crossley three months later telling us something of their more successful neighbours when he

spoke on the Wootton Hundred, for which he has edited the recent volume of the Victoria County History. For a more general subject, we heard about "The Medieval View of the Anglo-Saxon Past" from James Campbell; whilst, together with the National Trust branch, a crowded Town Hall heard Nicholas Cooper give an illustrated talk on "The History of Aynho", the subject of his forthcoming book. Appropriately, our A.G.M. in June had been held at Aynhoe Park, former home of the Cartwrights, when Nick Allen had told us a little (all there was time for) of the family and house. The year ended with a Christmas party in Banbury Museum, which was attended by disappointingly few, but, as is often the way, was all the more enjoyable for those that were there.

The village meeting was at Wigginton, when Douglas Price talked about the village and its history. Sadly, bad health prevented Geoff. Forsyth Lawson being present, but we still were able to see his slides. Summer visits were paid to churches at Great Tew and Slapton, and to Temple Balsall.

Despite the optimistic remarks in last year's Report, no records publications appeared during the year. However, checking of "Banbury Burials, 1723-1812", which took longer than expected, is now complete and this is about to be printed. "Aynho: A Northamptonshire Village" also took longer to see through production than originally envisaged, but the considerable tasks of proof-reading and indexing are now complete and printing and publication imminent. Miss Renold has continued work on the 19th century Banbury Gaol Records and the long overdue first part of Banbury Wills and Inventories has not been forgotten.

The delay in production of the first two of these books has meant only a slight advance expenditure - this more than offset by a grant towards Aynho - but £2,000 of the apparently sizeable publications reserve is in fact committed to the cost of these two volumes.

During 1983 the chairman and officers of the Society remained unchanged. Nick Griffiths, who arranged so many of our summer excursions, left the committee on his departure from Banbury, and Mrs Clare Jakeman has been a welcome and energetic replacement.

The accounts show that we are containing the costs of running the Society, though it should be noted that we received one very generous individual donation towards the cost of the Jubilee party. Most significantly, production costs of "Cake & Cockhorse" are £160 down on 1982, and economies here will continue to be sought. On the other hand, the costs of meetings are over £100 up. We pride ourselves on entertaining our speakers adequately, as none ask a fee for speaking and often they accept only token expenses. The £305 cost still only represents about £1 per member, and those who are able to attend meetings regularly will know what excellent value they receive.

**BANBURY HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

**Revenue Account for the Year ended 31st December 1983**

1982	<b>Income</b>			
	1286	Subscriptions	1,404	
	<u>410</u>	Less: Transfer to publications account	<u>450</u>	
876				954
100		Income Tax refund on covenants		47
213		Interest on Deposit Account (less bank charges)		146
-		Donations		<u>6</u>
<u>1189</u>			<u>£ 1,153</u>	

	<b>Expenditure</b>			
	874	"Cake & Cockhorse": Typing, printing, etc.	715	
	<u>118</u>	Postage	<u>151</u>	
	992		866	
932	<u>60</u>	Less: Sales	<u>90</u>	776
	138	Lecture and meeting expenses: Printing, postage, secretarial and administration expenses	185	
	<u>75</u>	Hire of halls, entertaining and speakers' expenses	<u>120</u>	
	213		305	
174	<u>39</u>	Less: Donations at meetings	<u>25</u>	280
13		Shortfall on annual excursion		-
11		Subscriptions to other bodies		11
28		Insurance		29
23		Research		-
-		Silver Jubilee and Christmas parties	407	
-		Less: Donations	<u>406</u>	1
8		Excess of Income over Expenditure for the Year		<u>56</u>
<u>1189</u>				<u>£ 1,153</u>

**Publications Account**

1982				
<b>Exp.</b>	<b>Inc.</b>		<b>Income</b>	<b>Expen.</b>
	410	Proportion of subscriptions	450	
1718		"Victorian Banbury" (including postage, etc.)		-
	228	Sales of publications (less discounts and C&CH)	197	
		Forward expenditure on publications:		
		"Banbury Burials, Part 3"		31
		"History of Aynho"		57
		Grant towards "History of Aynho"	200	
	1080	Surplus/deficit for Year, transferred to Publications Reserve		<u>759</u>
<u>1718</u>	<u>1718</u>		<u>847</u>	<u>847</u>

**Balance Sheet as at 31st December 1983**

1982	<b>Liabilities</b>			<b>Assets</b>			
	87	Subscriptions in advance	217	41	Paid in advance	36	
	-	Sundry creditors	15	321	Cash on current account	586	
	2871	Publications reserve, 1.1.83	1,791				
1791	<u>1080</u>	Add: Surplus for Year	<u>759</u>	2,550	1550	Cash on deposit account	2,250
	27	Capital account, 1.1.83	34				
	<u>34</u>	Add: Surplus for Year	<u>56</u>	90			
<u>1912</u>				<u>2,872</u>	<u>1912</u>	<u>£ 2,872</u>	

We have audited the above Balance Sheet and annexed Accounts and certify them to be in accordance with the books and records of the Society.

21st February, 1984

Ellacott, Stranks & Co., Chartered Accountants.

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 many volumes in the record series. 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; Bodicote Parish Accounts 1700-1822; and Victorian Banbury** by Barrie Trinder. 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 £8.00 including any records volumes published, or £5.00 if these are excluded.

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

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