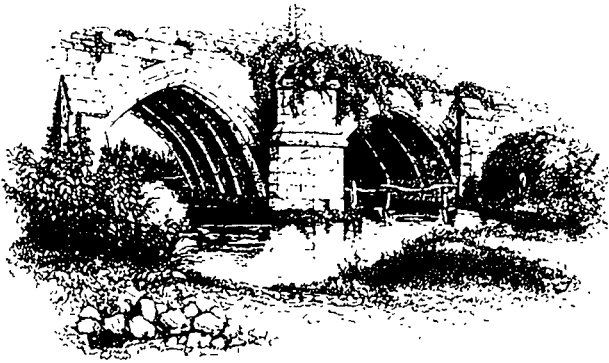


# CAKE AND COCKHORSE



BANBURY HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

AUTUMN 1988 PRICE £1.00

VOLUME 11 NUMBER 1

ISSN 6522-0823

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

**Cover picture:** BANBURY BRIDGE. The Upkeep on which  
the present Banbury Charities is founded.

# Cake and Cockhorse

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

Volume 11

Number 1

Autumn 1988

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The face of Banbury is now changing at a faster rate than at any time in its history, with the possible exception of the Great Fire. Some of the older buildings are vanishing and new buildings are covering the Archaeological evidence of previous occupations. Plans are being made for the complete redevelopment of the north side of Bridge Street and the M40 cuts a swathe through the countryside to the northeast of the town. Because of the lack of funds most of this is being carried out with only a cursory watching brief from the Oxford Archaeological Unit.

In more "Historic" towns funding is usually found for research. It is unfortunate that this is not available for Banbury, or is it that we as a Society are not pursuing it?

D.A.H.

## BANBURY CHARITIES

It is appropriate that it was in a statute of the first Queen Elizabeth of England that Charities generally were first given legal deposition when they were classified into four groups, namely the relief of poverty, the advancement of education, the advancement of religion and fourthly benefit to the community in general.

Now, in the reign of Elizabeth II, Banbury Charities have a Charity for the benefit of the poor (Sick Poor Fund), two Charities for the advancement of education (Countess of Arran Trust and the Arts & Educational Trust) but appropriately nothing to create discord by assistance for any specific religion. However, their largest trust (Bridge Estate) is for the benefit of the local community in general and has assisted various religious organisations, particularly with the renovation of their property.

Banbury is indeed fortunate to have the Charities, which can and do materially benefit the Town and its inhabitants. By national standards the Charities are very small, but by local standards, with assets exceeding £1½ million they are substantial.

The first Charity established in Banbury, which is now part of the Banbury Charities, is the Almshouse Trust. Such trusts to establish homes for the poorer elderly of the population are among the earliest forms of organised charity in Britain. Most old towns have their centuries old almshouses, and the need today is as important as ever, and primarily through the aegis of the National Association of Almshouses, new homes are still being built and, even more importantly, old houses are being modernised. The precise date of the original almshouses is unknown the first known mention is made in the Will of John Forest, Prebendary of Banbury in 1443 when he bequeathed £66.13.4d to support four persons "in my almshouse at Banbury". The reference to "my almshouse" would suggest that he instituted the almshouses sometime before that date. Unfortunately, there is little reference to the Almshouses for nearly three hundred years after this, except that it is known two years after the death of the Prebendary in 1446 that the newly found Guild of St. Mary was given permission to hold land and money to support the Chaplain and eight persons dwelling in the Almshouse. In a Charity Decree of the 20th January 1602 it was stated that "an almshouse near unto the churchyard which is employed to lodge the most poor, old and impotent people there in the town".

In 1711 the almshouses were repaired by Lord North, having been in a ruinous condition. The vestry discussed a rebuild in 1793. However, a good repair was considered all that was necessary, which was funded from the Poor Rate. It is interesting to note that it was the vestry that induced the scheme, for at this period the vestry in Banbury was probably the most influential organisation in the Town and probably had been for much of the century. Its power waned dramatically over the next hundred years as the Corporation was made responsible in law for much more of local affairs. The

renovated almshouse now contained twelve apartments, consisting of two blocks, which must have been indifferently rebuilt, for in 1877 it was considered unsafe. Presumably, in order to have sufficient capital for a new building, the Charity Commissioners were approached to amalgamate the Joshua Sprigg, Metcalfe, Smyth, Widows Grants and Almshouse Charities into one, called The Banbury Almshouse Charity. This was sanctioned in March 1882, together with an authorisation to reconstruct the Almshouse, utilising the combined funds, which amounted to approximately £800 and an annuity of £9.13.11d.

The cost of the new Building was £440, and the balance invested for the 12 Almspeople "who shall be poor widows or spinsters of good character and of not less than 60 years of age, who shall have resided in the Borough of Banbury for not less than three years and who, from age, ill health, accident or infirmity, shall be unable to maintain themselves by their own exertions; with a preference to those persons who, being otherwise qualified as aforesaid, shall have become reduced by misfortune from better circumstances". Although now the flats are not solely for women, the general intentions of the rest of this clause are perpetuated by the present Trustees. Some years later the number of residents was reduced to six to give additional space for each occupant.

In 1895 the Charity was amalgamated to form Banbury Charities, although in practice the same Trustees as the Bridge Estate and Lady Arran had been operating the existing Scheme some years before.

From 1973 vacancies were not advertised, or filled, and in 1978 the plans for the virtually new building were put into effect by the Builder, J.W. Rogers Ltd. The six flats are a credit to the Architect, Mr. C.B. Martindale and only minor adjustments were made after occupation in April 1979.

The building costs of the modernised flats was £45,747 but the total costs with fees and equipment were £52,000. It was virtually a new building, except that three outer walls were utilised. The costs were met by the sale of a Bridge Estate property in North Bar which realised £21,410, the redemption of a £10,000 investment, grants from Cherwell District Council of £15,000 and the balance by current investment income.

Just before Scotland and England were being united into one Kingdom, the predecessors of the Bridge Estate were being united by a decree of the Charity Commission dated the 20th January 1601. This was formed by a unification of Charities into the Bridges and Highways Repair Charity whose income was to be used according to the separate covenants, but primarily for the upkeep of the Bridge over the River Cherwell, the then dividing line between Oxfordshire and Northamptonshire and the highway approaches to that Bridge in Oxfordshire. The annual rents of the various premises held by the Trust varied from 2/8d to a maximum of £1. Inflation is not just a modern phenomenon: Two Bridgemasters, Overseers or Receivers were to be appointed by the Bailiff, Aldermen and Burgesses and the Minister and Churchwardens of the Town to receive the rents and interest and bestow it according to the original intentions. In practice, the Town Council came to appoint these two men who were

called Bridgemasters and were generally town councillors.

Unfortunately, there is little knowledge of the activities of these Bridgemasters, apart from some names (See Appendix). It is noted that in the 17th Century the majority were past Mayors of the Town, so no doubt the Charity was being held in esteem, otherwise it is unlikely that such people would take on a post of no importance. It is known that the River Bridge was kept in a reasonable state of repair, and the property held as income; indeed the Bridge Street property boundaries were exactly the same until the 1970's, when part of the land was compulsorily purchased for the Cherwell Street road widening.

There are no known complaints of the Bridgemasters and their responsibilities during the first two hundred years of the existence, but it would be surprising if during this period there had not been some chivying of the Bridgemasters about the state of the roads. In November 1823, cash balances were £255.18.10d and it was decided to provide street lighting of the main roads at a cost of £100. No mention of the type of lamp is made, so it is presumed to have been oilwick lanterns.

The first major change of Charity took place in 1844 when the Township of Neithrop took over the responsibility for the upkeep of the Bridge and the adjacent roads. This left the Bridgemasters with an income that was no longer required for its main original use. There was a favourable report of the Bridgemasters handling of the Trust in 1824, and when they decided sometime after their unexpected surplus of income to give it to the Town Council, there were no serious dissidents. This policy continued for over 100 years.

However, in 1889, no grants whatsoever were made and £100 was invested in Consols, two years later they were sold to pay for new stables and a coach-house at one of their properties. This was probably to that land leased to Thomas Warren at the rear of the present 3 Bridge Street, who had livery stables, for by 1892 his rent had increased from £30 p.a. to £35 p.a. Again, no grants were made but nearly £300 was spent on improvements and Surveyor's fees. The next year £300 was spent on widening the Oxford and Bloxham Roads, and in 1894 £500 was given to the Town towards the widening of the Bridge to its present size. This action was probably prompted by a polite but strong letter signed by over 150 Burgesses of the Borough in April 1890, as the income of the Trust was not being fully employed "there were three objects to which we venture to call attention as being highly desirable of accomplishment. Firstly, the Bridge is insufficiently wide to allow of the passage in safety at all times of the day of the very large traffic passing between the different parts of the Borough.... This is particularly the case at the middle of the day, when the numerous working men who have their occupation in the Town and their homes in Grimsbury are passing and on market days when the Bridge is frequently much occupied by cattle as well as vehicles and the need of a wider footparth is greatly felt" The widening of Castle Street was also mentioned in this letter as was the third request "to urge that have regard to the importance and extent of the duties now devolving upon the Magistrates and

Council of the Borough.....the present Municipal Buildings are wholly inadequate... but the Council has no funds available for acquiring the additional space".

In 1910 the Trustees gave the Banbury Council the sum of £1,000 for the purchase of 28 High Street. This property was adjoining S.H. Jones (Vintners) and was purchased to be demolished, which enabled the widening of the road junction from Marlborough Road into High Street. This is probably the largest single grant - in real terms - ever made by the Trustees and was a great benefit to the Town.

The total number of properties owned by the Trustees has slowly dwindled over the years, although the quality and value has increased. In 1910 the Charities were receiving rents amounting to £593 from 21 hereditaments (excluding the Almshouse) while in April 1984, there were only 9 properties held as investments, but whose total rents amounted to £61,030. A rent collector was employed to collect the rents and received a commission of £16.7.0d, while Tithes and Land Tax amounted to £2.18.0d. Guineas were the denomination charged by professional people and Fortescue & Sons (Solicitors) as Clerks were paid five guineas for their work in the year.

During the period of the 1914-18 War, little was given in the form of grants, except that the surface water drainage system in Bridge Street was improved at a cost of £1,200. Some of the accrued income (£500) was loyally placed into 5% Exchequer Stock 1921. The annual income at the end of the War was in excess of £1,500. To help the Town Council in their efforts to induce the Northern Aluminium Co. (now British Alcan Extrusions Ltd.) to establish themselves in Banbury, the Trustees made the great decision, October 1930, to give £400 towards the purchase of the land for the factory in Southam Road.

It was nearly 30 years later before the increasing income of the Bridge Estate was used for any purpose other than bolstering its other Charities, Lady Arran, Almshouse or later the Sick Poor Fund.

In 1934 the well-known local personage - Ald. R.B. Miller, Secretary of Hunt Edmunds Brewery, was appointed Auditor of the Charities, an office he held until 1961 when the first professional Auditors - Thornton Baker - were appointed.

A grant of £630 was given in 1969 towards the Tree Planting Scheme in Banbury. A year later with the advent of two major housing schemes for the local elderly, Abbeyfield and Baptist Housing Association, a £1,000 grant was given to each of these organisations. From then on the Bridge Estate's expanding income was extensively utilised for the benefit of Banbury and its townspeople, for during the next fourteen years over £108,000 was donated to local people and organisations.

The Lady Arran Trust was founded in 1767 by the Countess of Arran during her lifetime, and confirmed in her Will when she bequeathed £100 of 3% annuities towards the fund.

An extract from the wording of the Trust is as follows:-  
"To have and to hold the premises ... relased by the said Thomas Cartwright and William Cartwright in Trust to pay the rents and profits thereof to Elizabeth Countess of Arran for her life and after her decease to pay and apply or permit the Mayor and Aldermen of

Banbury and other such chief inhabitants as the said Thomas & William Cartwright should appoint to take and receive the said rents and profits and apply the same for and towards the support, maintenance and education of such poor children and other persons ... (references to Workhouse) ... or such other charitable uses as the said Thomas & William Cartwright and Richard Snow and the survivors of them, their heirs and assigns should from time to time direct and appoint and as they with the advice and concurrence of the said Mayor, Aldermen and Chief Inhabitants should think most advantageous for the poor of the said Town. "

An abstract from Lady Arran's appointment of her estates by Deed Poll:-

"Unto the Corporation or Town of Banbury for the use of the poor, I ratify and confirm to them the rents and profits of the houses there purchased in the name of my said brother Cartwright and others which shall accrue after my decease for the uses expressed in the Deed of Purchase hereof with the addition of £100 to be paid out of the residue of my estate and herein or by my Will disposed of "

The property was:-

- [1] House in High Street, Banbury (Rent £24)  
(This is probably the same property which the Trust still owns and brings in its major income)
- [2] House in Church Lane, Banbury in a bad state of repair  
Rent £8. (Little further is known about this property except that the rent was reduced to £6 after being empty for a while, and sold in 1872 for £250.).
- [3] £100 3% Annuities.

Surprisingly this Trust has always been known as The Lady Arran Trust, and is still referred to by this simpler title today by both the grant seekers and Trustees alike, although its official name is The Countess of Arran Charity.

It is not known precisely when The Lady Arran Trust became to be administered by the Trustees of the Bridge Estate, it certainly was in 1889, but this fact was officially recognised by a Scheme of the Charity Commissioners in October 1895, when, together with the Alms-house Charity and the Bridges & Highways Repair Charity, it became an integral part of the new Banbury Municipal Charities.

Various references occur to the grants made or not made during its first 200-years, not all very polite. At the turn of this century a public meeting was held to wake up the Trustees to the need to give more grants to apprentices, instead of letting funds accumulate. Democracy prevailed and many more grants were made.

While originally the bequest was for the education of poor children, it soon came to be used for apprentices. This was at a time when most young men were apprenticed to their trade from three to five years, and received no more than pocket money while they were learning their skills, whether it was in a shop, building trade or engineering. The premiums to be paid to the employer varied from £10 to £20 spread over the period of the apprenticeship. The Trustees had demanded that the weekly wage be increased before granting the payment of the premium. Some of these wages were very small, some starting as



low as 2/6d (12½p) per week even in the 1920's and 1930's, but the Trustees were asking for at least 3/6d per week in the first year for boys, but seemed prepared to accept the 2/6d for girls in the first year taking hairdressing apprenticeships, which was less than the premium being paid in advance!

The first personal educational grant was to Harold Woolams for the cost of his examination fees amounting to £12.12.0 in May 1935. This was a very large sum and the Clerk wanted proof that this was the correct amount. This was at the end of his studies at Nottingham University after winning a "Boots Cash Chemists" scholarship for training as a pharmacist.

Fifty years later, the requests for apprentice grants has virtually disappeared, but the numbers asking for student grants grows year by year. In 1983 no students received any grant aid from the Charities, although four premiums for apprentices were made. In 1938 no apprentice grants were requested but 78 students received grants varying from £25 to £300, although the majority of these latter grants were made for the newer Arts & Educational Trust, the Lady Arran income being mainly used for school projects and other purposes.

The smallest of the five Charities administered by the Trustees is the Sick Poor Fund which, unlike the previous Charities, is not an integral part of Banbury Charities, but for practical purposes it is considered as a section of the organisation. The only effective difference - apart from the law - being that funds are not interchangeable.

The Banbury Nursing Association was formed in 1875 by a Dr. Pemberton for the provision of a nursing Service for the sick of Banbury. The funds were provided by donations and flag days, for the employment of two nurses to visit the sick. Each patient was asked for a modest fee, but if they could not afford to pay, the treatment was free. This payment system was adopted by many General Practitioners at the time, relying primarily on the few of the "better off" to pay for the poor, although the poor would only visit a Doctor in dire emergency. Lady members of the Committee took it in turns to visit the patients and look after their welfare.

Until recent times many of us have images of the District Nurse pedalling about the countryside with her black bag attached to a carrier on her bicycle. It is interesting to note that in April 1940 the Nurses were issued with auto-cycles and immediately after the War, a car was purchased for general use by the Nurses for longer distances or for the carrying of heavier equipment, even driving lessons were given for those who couldn't drive.

During the existence of the Association there had only been three Presidents, namely:-

Dr. Pemberton	1875-1911
Dr. Penrose	1911-1946
Dr. J.P. Hewlings	1946-1954

The latter being the President at the time of its dissolution which was caused by having outlived its very useful purpose, the National Health Service and the County Council taking over the responsibilities of the District Nurse. The Committee at its last meeting held at

14 The Green, Banbury (the home of the Secretary) consisted of Mesdames Abbots, Ashley, Barford (Treas.), Chapman, Hewlings, Hunt, Hurst, Lake, de Courcey Peach, Reid, Robins, Walker, Wharton and Wynne.

In or about 1820 a Society was formed known as the Banbury Visiting Charitable Society with the object of visiting the sick and distressed poor of Banbury. In 1926, by an Order of the Charity Commissioners the work of this Society and administration of its funds were transferred to the Banbury Nursing Association.

The necessity and usefulness of this now defunct Nursing Association is illustrated that while originally two part-time Nurses were employed, in its latter years three full-time and occasional part-time Nurses were employed, and cottage (10, West Bar) was rented for their use. One of the Nurses lived there in addition to temporarily housing the emergency Nurse of the time. Thanks to legacies, donations, fees, flag days, and the Metcalfe Charity, the funds were in a healthy state, and the total income in 1943 was £1,525.3s.2d.

However, when the immediate post-war Government stated that it was introducing the Beveridge Scheme into a full National Health Service, the Committee were worried, unnecessarily, that their funds would be absorbed into National Health funds, they decided not to raise any more money, and used capital as income until their demise, realising that there would not be the need for their work. The fees for a general nursing visit was 3/6d and for a week's attendance 15/- at the time of dissolution.

The Association approached both the Charity Commissioners and the Clerk to the Banbury Municipal Charities (the husband of the Secretary was Clerk to the Charities) regarding a new Scheme for their remaining funds in 1950. This was agreed by both parties, and the draft Scheme of 1953 was accepted, and sealed on the 2nd February 1954. The Banbury Sick Poor Fund was born, and the income from the remaining investments, to be administered by the Trustees of the Charities, was as follows:-

Application of income. - (1) The Trustees shall apply the clear yearly income of the Charity for the benefit of sick poor persons resident in Banbury in all or any of the following ways or in such other ways as the Trustees think fit namely -

- (i) The supply of special food and medicines, medical comforts, extra bedding, fuel and medical and surgical appliances;
- (ii) The provision of domestic help;
- (iii) The grant of money so as to enable the recipients to obtain such benefits as aforesaid or to defray the expenses of convalescence including the expense of obtaining domestic help during convalescence;
- (iv) The relief of suffering, disability or infirmity among sick poor persons resident as aforesaid by such means as the Trustees from time to time think fit.

(2) The Trustees may apply income of the Charity as aforesaid in supplementing relief or assistance provided out of public funds but income of the Charity shall in no case be applied in relief of

public funds or so that any person may become entitled to a periodical or recurrent benefit from the Charity.

With an income of just over £200 per annum, but slowly rising - only £84 in 1959 - the Trustees have not been able to give very much, but its income is used every year for the sick and poor of the Town, primarily through the aegis of the Banbury Social Services. The funds have been re-invested, mainly into the Charities' Official Investment Fund and the T.S.B. Gilt Fund, both showing small increases in income, which hopefully will continue.

The last of the Trusts to be administered by Trustees of the Charities is the Banbury Arts and Educational Charity, which came into being by a Scheme of the Charity Commissioners of the 17th August 1981.

This Charity was created from two virtual defunct Trusts called the Banbury Institute and the Banbury Institute Educational Foundation. The history of the Mechanics Institute is well documented in a book, written by Mrs. G.B. Wood. However, these Trusts founded by Sir Bernhard Samuelson by a Deed of Gift dated the 25th June 1884, conveyed to the Trustees a plot of land in Marlborough Road and the buildings subsequently erected thereon for use as an Institute for the promotion of Literature, Arts and Science.

On the 14th May 1909 the Charity Commissioners made an Order that the part of the endowment which was held for educational purposes be called the Banbury Institute Educational Foundation. This was made possible as certain rooms of the building were to be used for specific purposes. A new Scheme was created by the Charity Commissioners in 1932, when part of the building was sold to Banbury Borough Council for Council Offices, the former County School which used this building having moved to a newly built School in Ruskin Road, Banbury. The income was to be utilised for the external repairs of the premises occupied by the Institute and in the furtherance of technical, manual and secondary instruction in Banbury and neighbourhood. In effect, any surplus after the cost of such external repairs was given to the Oxfordshire Education Department, indeed they came to demand it of right! Surprisingly, the Trustees do not appear to have even considered any alternative.

The Trust unfortunately lapsed its activities, and the last item of importance was to lease part of the building in 1954 to the Oxfordshire County Council on a seven-year lease at a peppercorn lease of 5/- per annum. The County Council subsequently utilised most of the building as a public library - the top floor was used for a short time as a local museum operated by Cherwell District Council. Neither body can be castigated for using the building without even a Lease, let alone rent free if the Trustees neglected their duties, for the premises were being used for literary purposes.

However, Mr. George N. Clark, a remaining Trustee, asked his fellow Trustees of Banbury Charities if they would amalgamate the moribund Educational Trusts into their administration. This was agreed, and after years of discussion between Mr. K.R.S. Brooks as Clerk of Banbury Charities and the Charity Commission, the new Charity was inaugurated, and the Oxfordshire County Council were very

co-operative, paying rent - plus accrued interest - from March 1980 when serious negotiations over rent commenced, rather than from the date of the new Scheme.

The income is being used mainly for grants for students taking further education, between the ages of 16 to 25 years. It is the only Trust in Banbury Charities which can use its funds beyond the confines of the former Borough of Banbury. The Trustees at present delineating an area of four miles of Oxfordshire, from Banbury Cross, as the geographical boundary for recipients for grants.

Colin Crouch.

## APPENDIX A

### CHAIRMAN

It would appear to have been the custom to appoint a Chairman from the Trustees present at the meeting; it certainly was so from 1919 until 1971. From this date, it was thought advisable to appoint a Chairman on a regular basis to give continuity and also someone to whom the Clerk could turn to for guidance on the increasing day to day affairs of the Charities. This system has proved most useful, although an increased burden to one Trustee, which has generously been accepted.

1971 Frederick H. Anker

1982 George N. Clark.

## APPENDIX B

### CLERKS

The first Clerk was appointed after the "Repairs of Bridges and Highways Charity" had outlived its main duty of the maintenance of the River Bridge, and the Bridgemasters were no longer therefore appointed by the Town Council in 1836. The funds were to be used for more general purposes for the benefit of the Town.

In 1926 the post of Clerk was advertised after the death of Mr. Charles Fortescue, and two individuals, a Land Agent and three firms of Solicitors applied for the post.

1837	W. Walford	1926	Stockton Sons & Fortescue
1845	James Beesley	1951	Harry H.L. Hunt
1852	John Fortescue	1956	Trevor M. Thomas
1891	Fortescue & Sons	1966	Kenneth R.S. Brooks

All these were Solicitors in Banbury and there is a link between each firm and individual. There was a firm called Walford and Beesley, which later amalgamated with Fortescue & Sons about 1850, while the latter three individuals were once partners, a firm which later amalgamated with Stockton Sons & Fortescue. Although through the years, the Clerk of the time has appointed some members of his staff to do some of the administration of Charities' work, e.g. accounts, the increasing work of the Charities made it necessary to appoint an administrative assistant, and in 1974 the first part-time assistant was Mr. R.F. James (previously Deputy Town Clerk of Banbury) followed in 1978 by Mr. C. Crouch (retired Bank Business Development Manager).

APPENDIX C

TRUSTEES

BRIDGEMASTERS OVERSEERS - APPOINTED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL  
 (Originally it was the Bailiffs, Aldermen and Burgesses of the Town, who had to appoint two honest and substantial men of the Town.)

NAME AND OCCUPATION AT TIME OF APPOINTMENT (If Known)	AT SOME-TIME MAYOR OF TOWN	YEAR OF APPOINTMENT	YEAR COMPLETED APPOINTMENT
John Pym, Woolen Draper		1603	1607
Robert Middlebrooke		1603	1607
Thomas Foster, Mercer	Mayor	1607	1609
Henry Showell, Saddler		1607	1608
John Nycolles	Mayor	1608 & 1618	1614 & 1620
Thomas Whateley or Wheatley, Mercer	Mayor (2)	1611 & 1618	1615 & 1621
Thomas Webb, Mercer	Mayor (4)	1614 & 1631	1615 & 1633
(A remarkable man to have been Mayor four times)			
Robert Russell	Mayor (3)	1616 & 1629	1617 & 1631
Thomas Halhead (Jnr), Woollen Draper	Mayor	1616 & 1625	1618 & 1627
John Wing	Mayor	1617	1618
Henry Halhead, Woollen Draper	Mayor	1620	1623
Henry Wysedome	Mayor	1623	1625
George Robbins, Mercer	Mayor (2)	1623	1625
William Allen	Mayor	1625 & 1635	1627 & 1637
Richard Vivers, Woollen Draper	Mayor (2)	1627	1629

Francis Andrews			
Woollen Draper	Mayor	1627	1629
Andrew Ansely or			
Annlesley, Tanner	Mayor	1629	1631
Nathaniel Wheatley, Saddler	Mayor(2)	1631 & 1639	1635 & 1641
John Turton	Mayor	1633	1635
	(Died in Office)		
John Webb	Mayor	1633 & 1653	1635 to 1655
Edward Beale, Shoemaker	Mayor	1635	1637
Richard Halhead		1637	1639
Aholiab West	Mayor (2)	1639 & 1650	1641 to 1652
Nathaniel Hill, Tanner	Mayor (2)	1641	1643
George Phillips		1641	1643
William Wheatley, Apothecary	Mayor	1643 & 1649	1648 to 1650
Thomas Robbins, Mercer		1643 & 1649	? to 1650
Thomas Pym or Pymme		1648	1649
Edward Beale, Shoemaker		1650	1652
William Allen		1652	1653
(Could be the same person mention 1635)			
Samuel Blackwell		1652	1654
James West, Mercer	Mayor (3)	1654 & 1661	1655 to 1663
Richard Halhead, Woolen			
Woollen Draper	Mayor (2)	1657	1659
(This is possibly the same person mentioned in 1637)			
Samuel Reynolds	Mayor (3)	1658	1661
Thomas Halhead,			
Woollen Draper	Mayor	1659	1661
William Hawtaine	Mayor (2)	1661 & 1675	1663 & 1677
John Hams, Baker	Mayor(2)	1665	1667
John West		1663 & 1671	1665 to 1675
Edward Welchman, Baker	Mayor	1665	1667
William Hawkins		1665	1667
Samuel Hall	Mayor	1667	1669
Andrew Harvey, Tanner	Mayor (2)	1667 & 1681	1669 to 1683
William Wheatly, Saddler	Mayor	1669	1671
John Welchman, Apothecary	Mayor	1669 & 1685	1671to 1687
Henry Stokes	Mayor	1671 & 1683	1673 to 1685
Thomas Sutton		1675	1677
Samuel Hall, Tithingman?	Mayor	1677	1679
John Allington, Apothecary	Mayor	1677 & 1689	1679 to 1691
Richard Wheatley		1679	1681
Thomas Halhead, Son of Thomas		1679	1681
John Cave		1681 & 1693	1683 to 1694
Samuel West	Mayor	1683	1685
Richard Crooke	Mayor	1685	1687
John West, Glazier, son of John		1687 & 1691	1689 to 1693
Edward Renolls		1687	1689
Andrew Smith, Ironmonger	Mayor	1689	1691
Joseph Mawle, Goldsmith		1691	1693
William Thorpe, Bookseller	Mayor	1693	1694
(Died in office)			

George Thorpe, Haberdasher		1703	1705
Francis Godwin, Tanner	Mayor	1703 & 1713	1705 to 1718
Sanderson Miller, Mercer	Mayor	1705	1707
Henry Lucas, Barber	Mayor	1705	1707
(Surgeon)			
Malachi Harvey, Tanner	Mayor	1707	1709
Fulke Rainbowe, Distiller	Mayor	1707	1709
Richard Wheatley, Ironmonger	Mayor	1709	1711
(This is probably the son of the person mentioned in 1679)			
Benjamin House		1709	1711
William Box		1711	1713
Henry Clarson		1711	1713
		Also 1731	1732
Thomas Mander		1713	1718
John Welchman	Mayor	1718	1720
Thomas Stokes		1718	1720
		Also 1727	1729
Robert Greenall		1720	1723
Henry Pettipher		1720	1723
Blagrove Gregory		1723	1727
Thomas Bradford		1727	1729
Samuel Sansbury		1731	1732
Mayor and Aldermen of the Town		1753	
		1754	

The appointment of "officers" rather than named individuals shows lack of interest in the Charity, and no further references to the work of the Bridgemasters can be traced until the beginning of the next century.

#### BRIDGEMASTERS

William Judd, Carrier	Mayor	1812	1815
James Barnes, Brewer	Mayor	1812	1815
John West	Mayor	1816	1830
John Pain, Timber Merchant	Mayor (2)	1816	1834
Mathias B. Kirby, Ironmonger	Mayor	1831	1836
Charles Brickwell, Surgeon	Mayor	1835	1836

These are the last references to Bridgemasters.

The next names are referred to as Trustees of the Charities.

Samuel Beesley, Baker		1837	1834
Robert Brayne	Mayor	1837	1847
Timothy Rhodes Cobb, Banker	Mayor	1837	1867
John Davis		1837	1843
Thomas Golby, Carrier		1837	1855
Richard Grimbley, Grocer		1837	1854
Lyne Spurrett, Seed Merchant	Mayor	1837	1843
Jabez Stutterd, Ironmonger	Mayor	1837	1853
Henry Tawney, Banker	Mayor	1837	1845
Charles Gillett, Banker		1855	1895

Thomas Hunt, Brewer	1855	1867
W. Potts, Jr.	1855	1867
Henry Stone, Stationer	1855	1893
Thomas Clarke	1855	1892
T. Baughen	1855 & 1860	1856 & 1862
John Philip Barford, Ironmonger	1856	1907
William Edmunds, Brewer	1889	1904
John Harlock, Draper	1889	1905
Joseph Malsbury, Grocer	1889	1897

In 1895 a new Scheme was inaugurated that included 4 Trustees to be representative Trustees appointed by the Town Council. This followed a Scheme of only two years earlier.

Edward Franey, Surgeon	1894	1915
Alfred Benjamin Field, Miller, Mayor	1895	1901
William G. Mainwaring	1895	1898
William Denchfield, Farmer, Mayor	1895	1901
Oliver James Stockton, Solicitor	1895	1911
John Padbury Gillett, Banker	1896	1905
Hubert Bartlett, Chemist, Mayor	1899	1901
William Henry Walkley, Corn Merchant	1903	1911
Henry Richard Webb	1903	1918
Licensed Victualler		
William Lampet Whitehorn, Mayor	1903 & 1914	1911 & 1919
Solicitor		
Milton Kench, Miller	1905	1926
Robert Henry Gibbs	1906	1930
Henry James Cooke, Store Manager	1907	1911
William Lake, Tailor	1907	1914
Arther Stockton, Solicitor	1911	1927
John Wm. Bloomfield, Mayor	1912	1917
(Innkeeper)		
Arthur Fairfax, Solicitor Mayor (2)	1912	1927
Charles Windsor, Draper	1912	1930
John Taylor Mawle, Ironmonger Mayor	1918	1930
William Hefford, Fellmonger Mayor	1919	1924
William Edward Wood, Land Surveyor	1922	1929
John Arthur Green, Carpenter	1924	1929
Arthur Edward Fox, Chemist Mayor	1925	1936
Wm. Isaac Richard Lidsey, Mayor	1926	1933
Farmer		
Leopold Shilston Whitehorn, Solicitor	1927	1929
Walter Golby Page	1927	1944
John Collingridge, Registrar, Mayor	1930	1948
John Cheney, Printer	1930	1958
Mayor		
Joseph Archibald Maxwell, Land Agent	1930	1937
Joseph Ashby Gillett, Banker	1931	1941
Maurice Wm. Edmunds, Brewer	1932	1948
Wm. Thomas Palmer, Coal Merchant, Mayor	1932	1938
Albert James Butler, Fruiterer, Mayor	1934	1945



Edgar Chapman, Furnisher, Mayor	1937	1954
James Friswell, Scrap Merchant, Mayor	1937	1946
Theo Clark, Miller Mayor (3)	1940	1944
Cyril James Coggins, Banker	1944	1965
Sydney Ewins, Garage Proprietor, Mayor	1944	1949
Arthur John Deacon, Chemist Mayor	1945	1959
Victor Edward T. Jones, Railwayman	1946	1958
Frederick Henry Anker, Insurance Broker	1948	1982
Frederick Wm. Blincowe, Solicitor, Mayor	1949	1952
Wilfred Brown, Baker	1951	1959
Mrs. Mary Cheney Mayor	1951	1955
The First Woman Trustee	1960	1969
Frank Partridge, Credit Draper, Mayor	1952	
Thomas Auld, Aluminium Worker, Mayor	1953	1957
Mrs. Margaret Annie Johnson, Mayor	1955	1961
Councillor		
Leonard Charles Walklett, Printer, Mayor	1958	1969
George Noyce Clark, Miller	1958	
Jack Padbury Friswell, Scrap Metal Merchant Mayor	1959	
William Miller Weaver, Company Secretary	1960	1977
Miss Quendoline Stella Bustin School Secretary Mayor	1966	1969
Malcolm Spokes Mayor	1966	1969
Personnel Manager		
Mrs. Hester Mary Phillips	1969	
Mrs. Connie A. Vincent, Councillor	1969	1975
Eric Wordsworth Office Manager, Mayor	1969	1977
Geoffrey C. Lester, Bookmaker, Mayor	1973	1977
Miss Violet Doreen Smith, Salary Controller	1977	
Donald Edward Jelfs, Office Worker, Mayor	1977	1981
Richard Peter Walford, Optician		
Leslie John Justain, Office Manager, Mayor	1977	1979
Mrs. Sheila E. Mills, Councillor	1979	
Mrs. Angela Billingham, Councillor, Mayor	1982	
Mr. Ian Henry Brodey, Tool Manufacturer	1983	

The precise years of service are not always known, particularly the year of completion of service. It often happened that the name of the Trustee disappears from any mention after appointment, in which event the last known mention in relation to the Charity is noted as the year of completion as a Trustee.

#### Sources:

Banbury Charities Minute Books  
Banbury Reference Library  
Oxfordshire County Records Office.



Sir Anthony Cope, Bt. of Hanwell, M.P. for Banbury  
from a portrait at Knole Park, Sevenoaks.

## HERALDRY, HOROLOGY AND HORTICULTURE AT HANWELL

A description in Beesley's History of Banbury (p.484), of the funeral of Sir Anthony Cope in 1675 led me to two Funeral Certificates preserved at the College of Arms. Mr Patric Dickinson, Rouge Dragon Pursuivant, helpfully transcribed these for me, and they are now published here by kind permission of the Chapter of the College of Arms.

These Certificates, part of the formal records of the College, "contain the record of the ceremonious funerals, with banners and escutcheons of arms and achievements of the deceased carried in procession, conducted by the heralds in accordance with successive Earl Marshals' orders; with accompanying particulars of the deceased and their families" (The Records and Collections of the College of Arms, by A.R. Wagner).

The earlier Certificate is for the funeral of Sir William Cope, eldest son of Sir Anthony Cope. Sir Anthony, despite being a puritan who got into trouble with Queen Elizabeth when he was a member of Parliament, was knighted by her and became a baronet when James I created this order. Sir William, like his better-known father, was Member of Parliament for Banbury, in the three Parliaments of James I, 1603-4, 1614 and 1620-21. Until Sir Anthony's death in 1615, he had lived at Hardwick. Saddled with his late father's substantial debts, at Hanwell he twice entertained kings: James I, in 1616 - when he might have been raised to the peerage, but balked at the exorbitant cost of £10,000; and, shortly before his death, Charles I in 1637.

The Certificate reads:

"The right worshipfull Sir William Cope of Hanwell in y<sup>e</sup> county of Oxford Knight and Baronett, Departed this mortall like, upon the 2<sup>d</sup> day of August. 1637 and his funerall obseques were selempnized [sic'] at Hanwell aforesaid upon the 22<sup>th</sup> day of the said month of August, and his body was interred in the Chauncell of the church of Hanwell, He mar: Elizabeth Da: and sole heire of Sir George Chasworth of Wyverton in the county of Nottingham K<sup>t</sup>: and had yssue by her Sir John Cope of Hanwell now Baronett eldest sonne, who married to his first wife Mary Da: of Sir John Walter K<sup>t</sup>: late Lord cheife Baron of the Exchequer & hath yssue by her one Da: named Anne Cope, The said Sir John Cope married to his 2<sup>d</sup> wife the lady Elizabeth Fane Da: to the right honourable Francis Fane earle of Westmerla: and hath yssue by her two sonnes siz: Anthony Cope eldest sonne and John Cope 2<sup>d</sup> sonne both of them infants and one Da: named Mary Cope. The said Sir William Cope lefte also a younger sonne named Jonathan Cope and 3 daughters viz: Frances married to Robert Lee Esquier sonne and heire apparent to Sir Robert Lee of Billesley in the county of warwick K<sup>t</sup>: Mary 2<sup>d</sup> Da: and Ursula 3<sup>d</sup> Da: both unmarried This Certificate was taken by John Philipot Somerset herald, appoynted by Clarneclux King of Armes to direct and order the said

funerall, and being examined by the said Sir John Cope is testified to be true by his subscription.

John Cope"

[The certificate is accompanied by a painting of the Arms and Crest of Cope].

Sir William's son John only survived him by a year, when the 'infant' Anthony succeeded at the age of six. A minor throughout the Civil War, Sir Anthony not surprisingly became a Royalist like his mother, and was one of those involved in secret plans for the restoration of Charles II. Dr. Richard Allestree, who acted as an important intermediary, lived at Hanwell for several years and clearly remained a close friend, preaching Sir William's funeral sermon and acting as an executor of his will. The rector of Hanwell from 1658, George Ashwell, was of similar mind, having been a preacher to Charles I during his stay in Oxford. He was a strong supporter of the established church and in 1663 dedicated his Gestus Eucharisticus to Sir Anthony.

Sir William, like his family before him, represented Oxfordshire in Parliament after the Restoration. He was evidently an amateur engineer, as Dr Robert Plot describes in his Natural History of Oxfordshire (1705):

**Chapter 9:125.** At **Hanwell**, in the Park, there is also a **Mill** erected by the ingenious Sir **Anthony Cope**. of wonderful contrivance, where-with that great **Virtuoso** did not only grind the **Corn** for his House, but with the same motion turned a very large **Engine** for cutting the hardest Stone, after the manner of **Lapidaries**; and another for boaring of **Guns**: and these... either severally or all together, at pleasure.

However, one suspects it was his water clock which probably gave him most enjoyment. A century later it still merited mention in The Beauties of England and Wales (1764, p.139), and it certainly impressed Plot:

**Chapter 9:49.** Nor can I pass by unmentioned, a **Clock** that I met with at **Hanwell**, at the House of the Right Worshipful Sir **Anthony Cope**, that moves by **Water**, and shews the **Hours**, by the rise of a new gilded **Sun** for every **Hour**, moving in a small **Hemisphere** of Wood, each carrying in their **Centers** the Number of some **Hour** depicted **black**; as suppose of **one** a clock; which ascending half way to the **Zenith** of the **Arch**, shews it a quarter past **one**, at the **Zenith** half **Hour**; whence descending again half way towards the **Horizon**, three quarters past **one**; and at last absconding under it, there presently arises another gilded **Sun** above the **Horizon** at the other side of the **Arch**, carrying in its **Center** the Figure **two**: and so of the rest. Which ingenious Device, though taken out of **Bettinus**, who calls it, **aquarii Automatis ingeniosissimi horarium operationem**: yet being since improved by that ingenious Person, and applyed to other Uses, particularly of **Pseudo-perpetual Motion** made by the descent of several gilt **Bullets** upon an indented Declivity, successively delivered by a Wheel much of the same Fabrick with the **Typanum** of the **Water-clock**, so that they seem still the **same**: I could not but in Justice take notice of it.

50. There are some other **Water-works** at the same Sir **Anthony Cope's**, in a House of **Diversion** built in a small **Island** in one of the **Fish-ponds**, eastward of his House, where a **Ball** is tost by a **Column** of **Water**, and artificial **Showers** descend at pleasure; within which they can yet so place a **Candle**, that though one would think it must needs be overwhelmed with **Water**, it shall not be extinguish'd...

Sadly, Sir Anthony's children all died before him, "which loss", says an annotator in the Hanwell registers, "proved fatal to him and his lady". Beesley comments (p.484) that "grief hurried Sir Anthony to an early grave at the age of 43; and deprived his unfortunate lady of her reason".

The Heralds' Certificate reads:

The right Wor.<sup>th</sup> S.<sup>r</sup> Anthony Cope of Hanwell in the County of Oxford Baronet (Son and heir to S.<sup>r</sup> John Cope of Hanwell Baronet, by y<sup>e</sup> Lady Elizabeth his wife, daughter to ffrancis late Earl of Westmerland) Departed this mortall life in his Manour house at Hanwel upon the 11<sup>th</sup> day of June A<sup>o</sup> 1675 and was buried in the midst of the Chancell at Hanwell: His Funerall being there Solemnized according to his Degree, upon the last day of the same Month of June. The Standard carried by M.<sup>r</sup> Throgmorton, the Guydon, by M.<sup>r</sup> Baldwin Serv.<sup>ts</sup> to the Defunct. The Penon of his Armes w<sup>th</sup> Quarterings by M.<sup>r</sup> John Draper his Steward; The other Penon of his Paternal Coat by Mr. .... Whitney his intimate friend. The Helme, Crest, Gantlet and Spurrs by Portcullice. The Coat of Armes Sword and Target by Norroy. The Vicount Falkland, with many Baronets, Knights & other persons of Quality being then also present and the learned D.<sup>r</sup> Allestry preaching his Funerall Sermon. He married Mary Daughter of Dutton Lord Gerard of Gerald's Bromley in Com. Staff. and had issue by her divers Sons and Daughters; all which died young in his own life time; Whereupon S.<sup>r</sup> John Cope his Brother (now Baronet) succeeded him in his Honour and Estate, who was Chief Mourner at this Solemnity, his Assistants being Col. William Cope his near kinsman, George Raleigh [blank space] and... Wickham Esq.<sup>rs</sup>. The Supporters of the Pall S.<sup>r</sup> Compton Read & S.<sup>r</sup> Robert Jenkinson Baronets.

This Certificate was taken by William Dugdale Norroy K.<sup>g</sup> of Arms, who with Thomas Holford Portcullice Marshalled this Funerall.

[The certificate is accompanied by a painting of Arms (Cope impaling Gerard) and Crest.]

His widow Mary became insane the following year but lived on at Hanwell until 1714, supervised by her relatives William and Charles Spencer. Sir Anthony had considered his younger brother had made a misalliance in marrying a lady named Ann Booth, so although the new baronet, Sir John, "Chief Mourner", received a life interest in the estate, his children were debarred from inheriting and Hanwell eventually passed to a cousin.

Very surprisingly, the arms and pedigree of the Copes of Hanwell are not recorded in the published Heralds' Visitations of the County of Oxford, 1566, 1574, 1634. However, George Baker's History and

Antiquities of the County of Northampton, Vol.1. (1822-30), p.748, has a pedigree of COPE of Denshanger and Grimsbury, the major part of which deals with the Hanwell family, from William Cope, d.1513, Cofferer to Henry VII, to the children of Sir William Cope recorded above. The Cope arms are blazoned as Argent, on a chevron Azure, between three roses Gules, slipt Proper, as many fleurs de lis Or. **Crest:** On a wreath, a fleur de lis Or, a dragon's head issuing from the top Gules; **Motto:** Aequo adeste animo. Richard Rawlinson, whose collections date from the first half of the eighteenth century, describes the arms on the still extant tomb of the earlier Sir Anthony (d.1615) much as above, the roses "slipped and leaved Vert", the dragon of the crest mistaken for a more mundane fox! The hatchments for the two funerals do not survive, but that for a descendant, Sir Charles Cope (died 1781) can be seen in Hanwell Church, with the addition of the Badge of Ulster (indicating a baronet), the crest once again a dragon's head.

One feels sure that the heraldically aware horologist Sir Anthony would have also been horticulturally enough minded to have surrounded his ingenious contrivances with red roses and golden lilies.

J.S.W. Gibson

### Sources

In addition to those quoted in the article, I have referred to the **Victoria County History of Oxford (V.C.H.)**, Vol. 9 (Bloxham Hundred), 'Hanwell', pp. 114-20.

Also to the Scholar Press reprinting edition (1972) of Plot's **Natural History of Oxfordshire**, in which the Cope of Hanwell references are on pp.240-41 and 269-70 (differing from those quoted in **V.C.H.**).

For Richard Rawlinson's notes on Hanwell, see **Parochial Collections of Wood and Rawlinson**, Part 2, ed. F.N. Davis, Oxfordshire Record Society vol. 4, 1922. Sir Charles Cope's hatchment in Hanwell Church is recorded in the **Hatchments in Britain** series, 4, **Bedfordshire, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Wiltshire**, ed. Peter Summers, Phillimore, 1983.

### BOOK REVIEW

**Lifting the Latch: A Life on the Land.** by Sheila Stewart. Oxford University Press. 192pp. £9.95 hardback. Paperback also available.

I found this one of the most compulsively read-and-re-readable books I have ever met. It is the autobiography of Mont Abbot, who has spent most of this century in the parish of Enstone, an agricultural worker all his life from helping with the harvest as a 7-year-old on.

Enstone is just outside 'Banburyshire', but Mont's working life must typify that of hundreds of others in north 'Oxfordsheer' as he would have called it. References to Banbury, Bloxham, Hooky and

Chippy are frequent. Mont's life was bounded by the markets he went to, excursions further afield being rare (though there was one memorable visit to Buckingham Palace in 1936, to see his brother Gil, a footman there, and a charming encounter with the little princess 'Lilibet').

Mont's early years were as carter, in charge of nine great horses; later when the tractor ousted these, he was a shepherd. But he clearly could turn his hand, with skill and pride, to anything on the farm.

The autobiography has been put together 'with love and great respect', by Sheila Stewart, via her tape recorder and two years of conversations. The result is an outstanding authentic and unsentimental evocation of what it meant to work on the land just before the agricultural revolution of our lifetime.

Jeremy Gibson

## OBITUARIES

We record with sadness the deaths in recent months of several good friends of the Banbury Historical Society.

**Miss Gwen Dannatt** was best known as the historian of Bicester, where she taught at Bicester Grammar School for many years. However, fortunately for us, Ted Brinkworth persuaded her to write an introduction to the transcripts of Banbury inventories that he had made. This she did with great thoroughness, and the lengthy result much enhanced the eventual volume (13). I recall with gratitude her patience when year after year passed with the volume unpublished, and it was a very great pleasure to be able to present her with it at last, just three years ago.

**Dr. Margaret Toynbee** and **Brigadier Peter Young** were the authorities on the battle of Cropredy Bridge. Peter Young had earlier written the definitive history of the better known Edgehill. Margaret had described the battle to us one summer evening overlooking the battlefield beside the Castle Inn, and we had talks from both of them on the two battles and Banbury's important role in the Civil War.

**Harold Clifton** worked tirelessly on the community's behalf, in rural district, district and county councils, chairing both the councils themselves and arduous finance committees. But to our Society he will be best known as Nan's husband, despite his committee-burdened life accompanying her to our meetings with great regularity. Our deep sympathy goes to Nan in her loss.

Jeremy Gibson.

## SOME APPRENTICES FROM EIGHTEENTH CENTURY BANBURY

Until the mid-nineteenth century; apprenticeship provided the educational opportunity for a future livelihood which those of any standing in the community (nobility and landed gentry apart) needed for their sons. It was the equivalent of what in more recent times has been expected of public and grammar schools, now available to all through secondary education and technical colleges. This would have been preceded by a basic education of the three R's. Apprenticeship was supposed to continue to the age of 24, though certainly many apprentices, as shown below, must have been well under the age of 17 which the normal term of seven years implies.

Records of apprenticeship provide important information on the solid backbone of respectable tradesmen families at an age at which they are unlikely to appear elsewhere. They reveal dramatically the amount there was of migration at a young age. An eldest son might expect to inherit his father's business, but this was unlikely to be able to support his younger brothers. It made good sense for them to learn their trades elsewhere, where there was no risk of family rivalry.

Such records in general fall into two categories:

- (1) Those in the national archives [Public Record Office, Chancery Lane, IR.1], which result from a tax imposed on apprenticeship indentures from 1710. Although the records it generated continued until 1808, from 1760 the information recorded decreased so much that it is of little local historical or genealogical use.
- (2) City/Borough archives. These may start as early as relevant archives survive. In the case of Oxford, they exist in an unbroken series from the early sixteenth century to the nineteenth.

Unfortunately virtually no local records survive for the Borough of Banbury, although they must have existed once. In the Bodleian there are some 43 apprenticeship indentures for Blue-Coat School boys, 1769-1816 (MS. Top Oxon. c.238) Search in the IR.1 records would certainly reveal more; volunteers from our membership who can work in the P.R.O. are sought!

However, as mobility is such a feature of apprenticeship, there is still information on Banbury and its neighbourhood to be gleaned from published records of other towns and counties. The Dugdale Society has published two relevant volumes: one to Warwickshire (county-wide) apprenticeship indentures, 1710-1760, deriving from the P.R.O. IR.1 records; the other from the Coventry City records, 1781-1806 (now in the Coventry City Record Office). More recently, the Oxford Historical Society has published a calendar of the Oxford City Apprentices indentures from 1697 to 1800, edited by our old friend Dr Malcolm Graham of the Oxford Central Library Local Studies Department. These are of course from Oxford City archives in his care, and cover a somewhat arbitrarily chosen period, as such records



extend back to the early sixteenth century.

In general the details recorded are much the same. Name of apprentice, his father, occupation and location; to whom apprenticed and in what trade; length of apprenticeship [although almost invariably seven years in the Oxford volume, the Warwickshire terms were frequently much less], date of indenturing; fee paid. It is noticeable that the Oxford indentures frequently record the son's apprenticeship to his father, whilst most Warwickshire indentures are to masters away from home.

The volumes have informative introductions and detailed indexes. To demonstrate their use and interest, the Banbury entries are reproduced here:

#### **Warwickshire:**

**2057. Styles, Edward**, son of Ann, widow, of Banbury: to Richard Adderly of Coventry, weaver and clothier: 14 Jan 1716/7: 7 years: £5. (Edward was born 1701, sone Mr. William Style, Town Clerk of Banbury until his death in April 1716. See Banbury Parish Registers, BHS 9; Banbury Corporation REcords, BHS 15; C&CH 7. 4'A Century of Tavern-keeping; The Stokes family at the Unicorn and the Three Tuns'.)

**2321. Welch, William**: to Edward Cope of Birmingham, mercer and draper: 12 Dec 1750: 6 years: £60. (Not identified: John son of William, maltster, was baptised 1733; John son of Mr William, chair-maker, bap. Feb 1737/8.)

#### **Oxford:**

**786. Southam, Edw** s of Giles S late of Banbury gent decd. to Jn Smith saddler; 7 years; friends to find clothes; 2 Nov 1713; £20. (Banbury baptism register has two of Giles Southam's children, Penelope 1703 and Giles, posthumously 1705; the burial register records Giles Southam 'from Jacobs Well' [an inn in High or Sheep Street, opposite Church Lane] as dying in March 1704/5, 'buried at Aynho'. Aynho [BHS 20, p.101] mentions that the family, once prominent in village affairs had moved away in the later seventeenth century. I can confirm this, as my own direct ancestor, George Southam (1664-1739), born at Croughton, moved to Barton Hartshorn near Buckingham when his son married an heiress and inherited the manor there. Giles was probably his nephew, son of his brother Giles [will of John Sowtham, proved Archdeaconry Court of Northampton, 1662].)

**881. House, Jas** s of Benj H of Banbury upholsterer, to Jn Sears cordwainer; 7 yers; 26 Feb 1715/6; £35. (Banbury baptism register; 23 Jan 1705/6, son of 'Mr Benjamin Howse', who was later 'of the Reindeer' and of Calthorpe, on the Corporation and Mayor 1712-3, died March 1715/6 [Banbury Corporation Records, BHS 15].)

**1996. Jones, Jn** s of Edw J of Banbury garterweaver, to Jn Love feltmaker; 7 yrs; 2 Oct 1750; master died soon after taking this app. (Banbury baptism register: 15 Jan 1737/8, son of John and Hannah Joans.)

**2594. Knowles, Jn** s of Thos K of Banbury stonemason, to Wm Fidler tailor; 7 yrs; 27 Jan 1770; £18. (Banbury baptism register; 8 Mar

1765, son of Thomas, stone-carver, and Elizabeth.)

**3147. Rusher, Jn Golby** s of Wm R of Banbury bookseller, to Ric Slatter printer; 7 yrs; 4 Oct 1798; £30. (Banbury baptism register; 15 Dec 1784, son of William, schoolmaster, and Mary. J.G.Rusher was the well-known printer and publisher of Banbury Chapbooks, and was Mayor in 1834-5.)

**3153. Roberts, Wm**, brother to Ric R of Banbury brandymerchant, to Jn Coleman currier and leathercutter; 7 yrs; 21 Dec 1798(?); £60.

**3201. Grainge, Geo** s of Geo G of Banbury innholder, to Jn Grainge grocer and tallowchandler; 7 yrs; 30 Dec 1799; 'services'.

### **Coventry**

**969. Cockerell, William**, bound by Banbury Overseers, to James Burden, of St Michael Coventry, silk weaver, 27 Dec 1800. (No baptism entry found at Banbury, but there are Cockerells occurring in the Presbyterian and Methodist registers at a later date, so his family were probably Dissenters.)

**3860. Shaw, William**, minor, of Banbury, to William Shaw of Coventry, weaver.

These entries demonstrate the sort of information to be gleaned from the records of apprentice indentures. There are good indexes to places: most villages in the Banbury area (Northamptonshire and Warwickshire as well as Oxfordshire) occur in the Oxford volume, though are less well represented in that for Warwickshire, whilst the Coventry records have only four other Oxfordshire entries, two each for Bloxham and Claydon.

As noted, the Oxford records extend back to the early sixteenth century. Until the mid-seventeenth, migration of apprentices into Oxford from long distances was common, and, within the county, there were major links with the north and west. It seems likely, therefore, that many more boys from the Banbury area might be found apprenticed in Oxford in these earlier years. It is to be hoped that similar calendars will be compiled and published, as they would clearly be of wide interest.

J.S.W. Gibson

### References

**Oxford City Apprentices, 1697-1800**, ed. Malcolm Graham, Oxford Historical Society, N.S., 31, 1987 (for 1986-87). £28 + £1 p&p from HOn. Treasurer, O.H.S., 38 Randolph St., Oxford OX4 1XZ.

**Warwickshire Apprentices and their Masters, 1710-1760**, ed. K.J. Smith. Dugdale Society, 29, 1975.

**Coventry Apprentices and their Masters, 1781-1806**, ed. Joan Lane. Dugdale Society, 33, 1983.

PROBATE RECORDS INFORMATION IN BANBURY BURIAL REGISTERS,  
1558-1653 (B.H.S. vol 7, 1965/6)  
ADDENDA AND CORRIGENDA

A special feature of the published Banbury burial registers is the inclusion against the appropriate entries of references to any probate records left by the deceased. As explained in the Introduction to B.H.S. 7, virtually all such records for those dying in Banbury are to be found in one of two ecclesiastical probate courts, the local Peculiar Court of Banbury (PCB) [now in the Oxfordshire Record Office] or the national Prerogative Court of Canterbury (PCC) [now at the Public Record Office, Chancery Lane]. At the time of publication (1965) there was already a published index to all PCB probate records (BHS.1) and published indexes (mainly from the British Record Society) to all PCC wills to 1700. Those dying without having made a will (intestate) whose affairs required probate record were the subjects of Letters of Administration (Admons.), and in 1965 indexes to pre-1653 PCC admons. (with indexes to places) were only partially published (1559-80, 1596-1608, 1620-30 and 1649-53; 1581-95 is published but has no index of places). Thus PCC admon. references could only be included for those years.

A volume covering the earlier gap, 1609-19, was published in 1967 (B.R.S.83) and now the long-awaited 1631-48 volume has at last appeared (B.R.S.100, 1986) [the writer has had some involvement with the vicissitudes of its production, and as a long-running saga it compares with the Banbury Historical Society Aynho and Wills & Inventories Part 1 - all now despite all odds at last in print!]. This volume is particularly important, covering as it does the Civil War and its aftermath, when the local ecclesiastical courts ceased to function. PCC was effectively the only probate court, and the number of admons. granted in 1645-7 compared with earlier years, usually for people several years dead, illustrates the chaos in probate procedure which the Civil War inflicted (for an account of the confusion, exacerbated by the transfer of PCC with the King to Oxford, see 'Probate during the Civil War and Interregnum', by Christopher Kitching, in the Journal of the Society of Archivists, 5, 5-6 (1976)).

The entries for Banbury (parish, including Neithrop, Calthorpe and Wickham - there are none for Grimsbury) have been extracted and are listed below, first those for whom burial entries have been identified, and then those who presumably died/were buried elsewhere (except between June and late December 1642 the registers were maintained amazingly well considering the traumas of seige and plague with which the parish clerk had to contend).

In line with the practice in the published register, the entries are confined to the actual PCC admon. reference. The admon. itself provides little information, usually restricted to the name of the next of kin to whom it was granted. For genealogists this can be

important in itself; the name of the relict, sometimes a widow with an 'alias' surname showing that she had already remarried; sometimes a son; sometimes parents as trustees for the deceased's own children, thus providing three generations and perhaps the wife's maiden name. Or it may merely be the name of the chief creditor - even this can indicate a line of business. All this information is incorporated in the BRS published index, so there is no need to examine the original records.

As well as the admons. for the period, the Index includes 'sentences', the final judgment on a disputed will, reached by the Court. There is only one for Banbury, but this is of some interest, as it relates to the will of John Webb, the old retainer of the Hawtyn family at Calthorpe. Depositions from the case (in 1641-2) survive in the records of the Banbury Peculiar Court, which formed the basis of my article 'A Disputed Inheritance' in C&CH.6.5 (Spring 1976). I wrote then that 'in the usual tantalising way we do not know the outcome'. This is now revealed, when, after the intervention of the Civil War, judgment was given in PCC on 10 July 1647, 'Sententia pro valore test.', i.e., the will was upheld and Ann Vivers née Hawtyn was confirmed in her inheritance.

The opportunity is being taken also to list minor corrigenda which have come to my notice during the twenty-odd years since publication of the volume - mainly of additional references to PCB records, now of course published in BHS 13 and 14. Where these are concerned, the number of the will/inventory in these volumes is shown in square brackets.

It seems, alas, unlikely that many, if any, reading this and actually possessing BHS7 will take the trouble to annotate their volume (though eventually the writer's own interleaved copy should end up in Banbury Library), but at least this additional information is now in print. For any who do, it cannot but enhance the use and value of their copy.

The British Record Society volume 100, like the earlier 83 (and indeed many others), has been edited by Dr. Marc Fitch, whose meticulous and gigantic work has given incalculable help to the present generation of historians and to all who come after. Details of subscription to the British Record Society (to whose members volumes are issued free) and of individual volume prices are available from the Hon. Treasurer, B.R.S. c/o Department of History, University of Keele, Staffordshire. [please enclose stamped addressed envelope].

Jeremy Gibson

**PROBATE RECORDS INFORMATION IN BANBURY BURIAL REGISTERS, 1558-1653:  
ADDENDA AND CORRIGENDA**

*Burial*

1594 Jun 29	BUTLER	Ales, of Warkworth - PCB 32/4/15 [26]
1600 Sep 6	GEENEVER	Fraunces - PCB 39/3/1 [60]
1602 Jul 25	RYLYE	John - PCB 50/1/19 [69]
1606 Oct 18	DRYVER	John - PCB 36/3/15 [92]
1612 Dec 9	WESTON	Edward - PCB 54/1/38 [138]
1616 Dec 20	DAVIS	An wife of Nicholas - PCC Admon 1617:111 (under Anne NICHOLAS). The executor of 'Mrs Nicholas widdow alias Anne Davis' was presented by the churchwardens for not taking out probate, March 1616/7 [ <i>The Churchwardens' Presentments in the Oxon. Peculians...</i> Oxon RS 10, 210].
1617 Dec 25	AUSTIN	William, husbandman - PCB 32/1/24 [192]; PCC Admon 1618:210
1618 Sep 28	HOWSE	Robert of Calthorp - PCC Admon 1618:208
1618 Oct 2	CARTWRIGHT	William - PCC Admon 1618:208
1619 Mar 25	BUSWELL	Thomas, servant to [Sir] Tho. Chamberlin [of Wickham] - PCC 116 Parker
1619 Oct 16	BETT	Edmund, stranger - PCC Admon 1620:55 [as Edward B] [not PCB]
1620 Jan 11	HATTON	Ann, widow - PCB 41/2/23 [220]
1620 Nov 12	BUNWORTH	Thomas - PCB 32/5/2 (under BORNWORTH) [230]
1623 May 28	GOWAR	Anne, widow, a stranger - PCB 39/3/30 [254]; PCC Admon 1624:76 [under GOWRE]
1623 May 31	BUTTLER	Christian, of Warkworth, widow - PCB 32/5/10 [255]
1625 Feb 11	TAYLER	Alice, widow - ?PCB 52/4/4 [263]
1631 Sep 2	WILLIAMS	Thomas - PCC Admon 1632:96
1631 Oct 31	STRONG	Nathaniell - PCC Admon 1631:70
1633 Apr 24	HAYWARD	Alice, widow - PCB 41/3/26 [335]
1635 Jul 15	GULLIVER	Edward - PCB 39/4/22 [363]
1636 Mar 13	LUMLEY	Ann, widow - PCB 45/2/4 [352]
1636 Jul 17	WISDOME	Mr Edward [of this towne] - PCC 9 Goare
1638 Jun 5	SOWTHAM	James the elder of Neithrop - will of 'James Sowtham, husbandman, of Neithrop', 1632, in Dean and Chapter of Lincoln wills, 1/51
1641 Aug 4	CROSSLYE	Mr, physician - PCC Admon 1641:64 [John CROSLY]
1641 Oct 25	WEBB	John, of Calthorp - PCB 54/3/42 [387]; PCC sentence 'pro val. test.' 10 July 1647 [146 Fines] (see C&CH.6.5)
1641 Nov 30	BRADFORD	Leonord - PCC Admon 1642:102
1643 Sep 6	NEWLAND	John - PCC Admon 1647:48
1643 Sep 15	WARD	Samuell, maulster - PCC Admon 1648:44
1643 Sep 25	DANVERS	Captayn William - PCC Admon 1646:124 (of Culworth, Nhants.)
1643 Oct 25	ARCHER	Richard, Esquire of Neithrop - PCC Admon 1646:139
1644 Jan 15	HULL	John, curiar - PCC Admon 1646:84
1644 Dec 26	LONG	Mathew of Neithrop - PCC Admon 1646:54
1645 Jan 20	YOUICK	Nathaniell of Neithrop - PCB 56/4/14 [396]; PCC Ad 1647:48
1645 Jul 16	STOAKES	Nicholas - PCC Admon 1646:84
1645 Aug 4	GOLIVER	Mary, widow - PCC Admon 1647:69 [GULLIVER]
1645 Oct 13	SCOTT	John, senior - PCC Admon 1647:22
1648 Aug 2	BENDBOW	[Mr] Robeart - PCB 39/4/33 [402]

*Banburians in PCC/PCB probate records not appearing in the burial register*

1573	DARTE(?), Anne	- PCB 36/3/2 - <i>Household and Farm Inventories in Oxfordshire, Oxfordshire Record Society 44</i> [22]
1592	THORPE, William, yeoman,	of Calthorpe - PCB 1/94,52/3/6 [8]
1592	DANVERS, John, esquire,	of Calthorpe; also of Halton, Lincs. - PCC 8 Nevell; also in Consistory Court of Lincoln, proved 29 Dec 1591
1601	LORD, Justinian	- PCC Admon 1601:90
1606	YOWICK, Joice, widow	- PCB 56/4/3 [89]
1611	NORRIS, William	- PCC Admon 1611:24

*Banburians in PCC/PCB probate records not appearing in Banbury burial register, 1558-1653, continued*

- 1617 STOKES, Nycolas, labr., of Nethercote - PCB 51/1/18 [176]  
1617 STRONG, Barthlomew - PCB 50/5/35 [183]  
1617 DOWNES, William - PCC Admon 1617:113  
1624 PRAT, Alse, of Neithrop, widow - PCB 48/2/11 [258]  
1626 BROWNE, Richard, of Warkworth - PCB 32/5/20 [274]  
1628 NICHOLLS, Thomas, yeoman - PCB 47/1/16 [292]  
1631 BONER, Richard, of Hardwick, husbandman - PCB 33/1/18 [311]  
1633 TRANTER, John - PCC Admon 1633:171  
1636,1638 POTTER, Richard, junr., of Wickham (1636), Bloxham (1638) - PCC Admon 1636:39; 1638:154  
1640 LAWRENCE, Anthony, bachelor, of Wickham - PCC Admon 1640:162  
1645 SMITH, Alexander, bachelor - PCC Admon 1645:20  
1646 BENTLEY, Mary - PCC Admon 1646:124  
1646 SMITH, Thomas - PACC Admon 1646:67  
1646 CHURCHILL, John, of Neithrop - PCC Admon 1646:82  
1647 BENTLY, Maud, widow - PCC Admon 1647:6  
1647 HARTFORD, George and Mary - PCC Admons 1647:41  
1647 JOHNSON, William - PCC Admon 1647:49  
1647 CHAMBERLAINE, John, of Wickham - PCC Admon 1647:180  
1648 COLLES, William, of Wickham - PCC Admon 1648:37

**Appendix to:- LIVING IN BANBURY 1660-1730** which appeared in  
Cake and Cockhorse Vol. 10 no. 9

Inventories for Banburians amongst the probate records of the  
Prerogative Court of Canterbury, at the Public Record Office,  
Chancery Lane, London, Class PROB 4 or 3 as indicated

- 1663 Moulder, Wm. tallow chandler, 4/11060  
1664 Carter, Joan, wid. 4/20262  
1666 Wheatly, James, 4/10962  
1666 Hall, John, mercer, 4/11059  
1667 Wells, John, malster, 4/11929  
1667 Younicke, Robt, yeoman, of Neithrop, 4/11023  
1670 Sheldon, Rd, grasier, 4/21738  
1674 Frith, John, d in HM Service, 4/11062  
1674 Wootten, Peter, butcher, 4/11068  
1675 Haynes, Anne, 4/20529  
1675 Smith, Henry, ironmonger, 4/16737  
1680 Porteman, John, 4/11066  
1680 Cave, Matthew, 4/15661  
1683 Annesley, Andrew, lacebuyer, 4/10787  
1684 Watson, Smith, esq. 4/21570  
1685 West, James, gent, 4/10995  
1685 Sutton, Ihos, vintner, 4/10818  
1685 Vivers, Edward, woolen draper 4/10909  
1685 Halhed, Rd, cooper, 4/10910  
1686 Nicholls, Ihos, gent, 4/17786  
1686 Walker, Edwd, slattier, 4/10695  
1686 Gunn, Wm, gent, of Neithrop, 4/21623  
1687 Steward, James, malster, of Neithrop, 4/10793  
1688 Reason, Nath, cutler, 4/11030  
1689 Grundie, Ihos, gent, died at Banbury but of Thomston,  
Norfolk, 4/22070  
1690 West, John, 4/11108  
1692 Haynes, John, locksmith, 4/10996  
1692 Clarke, Rd, the elder, shoemaker, 4/17329  
1719 Clever, Samuel, malster, 3/18/36  
1742 Stone, Dorcas, wid, 3/41/43  
1743 Gibbins, Wm, 3/42/37  
1747 Paynton, Mary, sp, bur at Marston, Northants, 3/46/15

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

The Magazine **Cake and Cockhorse** is issued to members three times a year. This includes illustrated articles based on original local historical research, as well as recording the Society's activities. By 1985 there had been 88 issues and at least 230 articles. Most back issues are still available and out-of-print issues can if required be photocopied.

Other publications still in print include:

Booklets -

**Old Banbury - a short popular history**, E.R.C. Brinkworth  
**New Light of Banbury's Crosses**, P.D.A. Harvey  
**Banbury Castle - a summary of excavations in 1972**, P.Fasham  
**The Building and furnishing of St. Mary's Church, Banbury**,  
N. Cooper

Pamphlets -

**History of Banbury Cross**  
**The Globe Room at the Reindeer Inn, Banbury**

The Society has also published twenty or more volumes in its records series (list available of those still in print). These have included **Banbury Parish Registers** (in seven parts: Marriages 1558-1837, Baptisms and Burials 1558-1812); **Banbury Corporation Records: Tudor and Stuart; Banbury Wills and Inventories, 1591-1650** (Part 1, 1591-1620; Part 2, 1621-1650); **A Victorian M.P. and his Constituents: The Correspondence of H.W. Tancred 1841-1860**; **Shoemaker's Window: Recollections of Banbury before the Railway Age**, by George Herbert (now available in Gulliver Press edition); **South Newington Churchwardens' Accounts 1553-1684**; **Wigginton Constables' Books 1691-1836**; **Bodicote Parish Accounts 1700-1822**; **Victorian Banbury**, by Barrie Trinder (with Phillimore); and **Aynho; A Northamptonshire Parish**, by Nicholas Cooper (with Leopard's Head Press); **Banbury Coal Records 1805-1852**, edited by Penelope Renold. Volume in preparation **Baptisms and Burials 1813-1838**. An edition of letters to the 1st Earl of Guilford (of Wroxton, father of Lord North, Prime Minister and M.P. for Banbury) is also planned.

Meetings are held during the autumn and winter, normally at 7.30 pm at the North Oxfordshire Technical College, Broughton Road, Banbury, on the second Thursday of each month. Talks are given by invited lecturers on general and local archaeological, historical and architectural subjects. In the summer, the AGM is held at a local country house and other visits are arranged.

Membership of the Society is open to all, no proposer or seconder being needed. The annual subscription of £8.00 including any records volumes published, or £5.00 if these are excluded.

Application forms can be obtained from the Hon. Membership Secretary, c/o Banbury Museum, 8 Horsefair, Banbury, Oxon.

