

Cake and Cockhorse

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

Volume 17

Summer 2007

Number Three

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Ranging from 2000BC to the 21st century, who can say that *Cake & Cockhorse* does not attempt to cover the whole range of civilised history.

As Catherine Robinson tells us, but who would guess, a unique turf labyrinth, the only one of a 15-ring classical layout, dating back centuries, lies in the parish of Somerton, only just down the road. Coming back to the present, Brian Goodey opens our eyes to the origins and special features of Banbury's eastern suburb of Grimsbury, long neglected if not despised.

The second (concluding) part of the list of Banbury wills proved in the P.C.C., 1800-1858, provides important sources for researchers into Banbury's hierarchy in that time of great change. These come from The National Archives website, where in theory they should be easily found - but only if you know what name(s) to look for. New to the internet, we thought we had better check the reference so blithely provided in the last issue. We're relieved to find that the information given was correct, and thus we now possess a facsimile of the will of our 3gts grandfather Edward Stone, a Quaker grocer who died in 1808. He "was very clever and much noted for his cure of eyes, though no Doctor, and one room in his house [in High Street] was called the surgery and people came to him for treatment" [unpublished memoirs of Eleanor Stone, 1882].

Early Victorian Squarson: The Diary of William Cotton Risley, Vicar of Deddington, 1835-1848, is at last available. Hot on its heels is coming *Banbury Past through Artists' Eyes*, our 50th Anniversary publication (October). Many of its illustrations (200 in all) show buildings long gone. The current demolition of Neithrop House (against the advice of CDC's own officers and many other bodies) shows that nothing changes. Information from the Membership Secretary, Banbury Civic Society, Pitts Orchard, Station Road, Bloxham, Banbury OX15 4QG (tel. 01295 722925).

Cover: A classical labyrinth.