

of the time the conductor was Mr Barrett whose wife and daughter had a nursing home on South Bar till about five years ago.

Before the days of Wireless in people's homes news of events of special interest was telegraphed to the Banbury Guardian Office in Parsons Street and immediately pasted up on the windows. Crowds assembled in the street eagerly awaiting results. I remember seeing the announcement of the Relief of Mafeking and Ladysmith in this way during the Boer war. After each of those two events large bonfires were lighted at night in the Cow fair in front of the Town Hall.

*Editorial Note.* Photographs of pupils at Miss Dolly Bromley's school in the 1920s and 1930s, published in *C&CH*. 13.3, 4, 5 (1995-6), inspired more interest from readers (former pupils) than any of our more learned articles. Moreover, in November 1970 our Society itself created history, with a quartet of Banburians contributing their memories of the town at the turn of the nineteenth/twentieth centuries, chaired by no less than Ted Brinkworth. One of these was Miss Bromley (recorded in conversation with Ted), followed by Fred Anker (insurance broker and fire brigade enthusiast), Don Braggins (timber merchant) and headmaster N. Scroton. Fortunately the anecdotes were recorded and duly published in *C&CH*, 5.2, Spring 1972, its fiftieth issue, still then under the inspirational editorship of Barrie Trinder (all available via our website on the digitised version of our journal).

So it was with delight that quite by chance I discovered that Miss Bromley had herself written her memories of her childhood, and that these had been typed by another of our members, the redoubtable Miss Mackay of Hightown Road (now deposited in Oxfordshire Record Office). As two of our earlier members, I am sure they would approve of the appearance of these recollections here. The major part is published above, but a further section, describing the outskirts of Banbury about 1895, will appear in due course.

An article on the Banbury Academy is in preparation.

We are grateful to copyright holders (where ascertainable) for willing permission for publication.