

CHARLTON KINGS
LOCAL HISTORY
SOCIETY



BULLETIN 39

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Membership of this Society

Membership forms are available from the Hon. Secretary. Annual subscription £3.50 or £5.50 for a couple. Meetings are held monthly from September to May in the Stanton Room at Charlton Kings Library.

The *Bulletin* is published twice a year. Indexes are available to *Bulletins* 1-7 price £2, to *Bulletins* 8-17, 18-27 and 28-37 price £5 each. *Parish Registers*: I 1538-1634 price £2; II 1634-1700 price £3; III 1700-1760 price £5; IV 1760-1812 price £5.
Reminiscences of John Bowen (1993) price £2.50

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Cover - West View of Lilleybrook, from postcard, redrawn by Joan Paget

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1. OBITUARY

Mrs Millicent Smith, of 390 London Road, died on 18 September 1997 aged nearly 101. She had celebrated her 100th birthday on 11 November 1996. Mrs Smith gave us an account of the East End wartime prayer group which met from 1943 to 1967 (*Bulletin* 13 pp27-8) and lent us a photograph of Mothers' Union members at Mr and Mrs Richard Boroughs' Golden Wedding. (*Bulletin* 37 pp 35-6) Her youngest son, Canon Michael Smith, says we may keep the photograph and that if any other Charlton photos are found he will contact the Society.

2. CORRECTIONS

BULLETIN 38

- (1) Pages 28-30 The Oral History Project - It has been pointed out to us that we misheard the name of Mrs Screen (not Green). We do apologise.
- (2) Page 10, 4th line from bottom - Prout version (not Proust)
- (3) Page 2 - Mr Michael Mitchell, of 11 Chestnut Terrace, is the owner of the original sketch of the churchyard cottages. He says it is dated 1848. I am very grateful for this information.

BULLETIN 10

- (1) Pages 9-12 - *Charlton House*. This *Bulletin* was published in 1983, before the issue of *Parish Register* III. I was wrong to suggest, on page 10, that Charles Higgs, son of Charles and Susannah, was born before his parents settled in Charlton; he was baptised here on 16 November 1759. I do not now think that Charlton Lodge was "bought" about 1818 by Charles's son Charles Cook Higgs. Bank Cottage, and so the site of Charlton Lodge, was Cooke property and inherited by Charles Higgs (1759-1810) from his uncle Samuel Cooke in 1804. The house probably does date from c1818.
- (2) Charles Higgs was commissioned as Lieutenant in the Yeoman Cavalry on 15 August 1795. I am grateful to Mr Gordon Jones for pointing this out to me and giving us an extract from *The Yeomanry Cavalry of Gloucestershire and Monmouth* by W.G.Wyndham Quin (1898) and other information relating to the Gloucestershire Hussars Yeomanry Association.

3. THE LORDS OF LILLEYBROOK

Lilleybrook was last used as a family home by Mr and Mrs Herbert Owen Lord at the beginning of this century. However, to put this family in context we must go back to 28th July 1831 when a serious fire destroyed the original house, only the stable surviving. The house was rebuilt and by 1848 it was in possession of John Thorneley of Dodworth, Yorkshire. In *Bulletin* 28, Mr Newcombe tells us that Mr Thorneley's grandfather was a cotton manufacturer from Cheshire and his father had coal mines at Dodworth and Silkstone.

On 14th January 1830 John Thorneley married Elizabeth Cockle of St Mary le Bow, London. It was not until the time of his father's death in 1848 that Mr Thorneley bought Lilleybrook. The house was prepared and furnished, probably with the intention of coming to live there at least during the Cheltenham season. Perhaps it took longer than was expected to settle up his father's estate, for in the 1850 *Looker On* we find an advert "To Let Furnished Lilleybrook Charlton Kings". The *Cheltenham Free Press* of the same year tells us that twin daughters had been born at Lilleybrook to Mr and Mrs Shapland Swiny.

By 1854 the Thorneleys appear to have settled at Lilleybrook. Unfortunately John was not to enjoy his home for long for, on 19 November 1857, he died at Lilleybrook from the effects of paralysis, possibly a stroke. He is buried in St.Mary's Churchyard and his memorial (C 151)

reads "In memory of John Thorneley Esq of Dodworth, Yorkshire and Lilleybrook House in this Parish who departed this life 19th November 1857 aged 54 years", followed by a text.

Mrs Thorneley continued to live at Lilleybrook and it was here on 28 November 1864 that she died and was buried with her husband in St.Mary's churchyard. The Thorneleys were childless and so Lilleybrook was left to a relative of John Thorneley, Mary Thorneley Dugdale, wife of William Dugdale, to be held in trust for her children.

What do we know about the Dugdale family? Born in 1762 Nathaniel Dugdale went into textile manufacturing work, possibly working for Taylor, Fort and Bury. In 1813 he bought the factory of Peel, Yates and Company at Lowerhouse near Burnley. The Dugdale story had begun.

Nathaniel's sons became partners in the business, which went on to prosper. By 1840 they were one of the largest cotton manufacturing firms in Lancashire becoming merchants as well as manufacturers, and it was possible to buy "Dugdales' Cloth" and "Dugdales' Own Make". The company built a village for its employees with well-spaced out houses, some with their own back gardens and all with their own backyards. The village was provided with gas, and Dugdales ran a shop providing good quality food for their workers. The family supported many local organisations including the school and church.

Our William Dugdale was a grandson of Nathaniel. The youngest son of William and Sarah Dugdale he was born on 19 October 1839 at Ivy Bank, Lowerhouse. In 1861 William Dugdale married Mary Thorneley Ollivant of Beech House, Manchester, they made their home at Symonstone Hall near Burnley and in 1865 Mr and Mrs Dugdale had a daughter Mary Ollivant Dugdale, (later to become Mrs Lord). His obituary, in the *Burnley Express and Advertiser* for October 1896, described him as a gentleman who, in his own quiet way, did a great deal of good in our midst, and who will be much missed.

Let us return to Lilleybrook, held in trust for the children of Mrs Dugdale. Mary now had two sisters - Jane Elizabeth and Sarah Louisa. The house continued to be let, first to a Colonel Robert Octavius Cumming, then to a Mrs Gwynne who lived at Lilleybrook from around 1879 until 1893.

It is interesting to note that the Parliamentary Voters list for Cheltenham 1893, shows William Dugdale having the vote in respect of Southfield Estate, Charlton Kings. It would appear that the trustees, probably William, had been buying up land around Lilleybrook. The Ashley Manor Bill Books show that in 1894 William bought Battens Close and two cottages. James Dugdale, a cousin of William, had bought Sezincote in 1884, so it is quite possible that William and his three daughters visited the area fairly regularly.

Mrs Dugdale had died at Llandudno 28 June 1876. Llandudno was a spa town and possibly she was there for the sake of her health. As she died intestate we can, I think, assume that her death was unexpected.

By 1894 the Dugdales were living at Lilleybrook for part of the year at least, as they still retained Symonstone Hall. They certainly felt part of Cheltenham society, attending the town balls and making sure their names were in the *Looker On*. It is interesting to note that at the Annual Flower Ball, William Dugdale accompanied his three daughters and also on the list were Mr H.Creck, Mr A.E.Clerk and Mr C.G.Lord, but more of these gentlemen later.

William Dugdale does not seem to have been actively associated with the business at Lowerhouse, involving himself more with the local community. He was best known in his capacity as a magistrate and in 1892 he was appointed a Deputy Lieutenant of Lancashire. He

was a regular attender at St.Leonard's Church, Padiham and held office with many and varied organisations.

What do we know of the Lord family? Mr Arthur Owen Lord had been born in Masilpatum in the East Indies, he came to England and finished his education at Trinity College, Oxford. He went into the Army serving in the 72nd Highlanders from 1840 to 1850. He married a Sophie Taylor and in October 1853 a son, Cecil Gaisford, was born followed by Herbert Owen in 1854. Cecil was educated at Harrow, his home address being given as 24, Queen's Gate Terrace, London. He went on to Christ Church, Oxford. Herbert went to Eton College. Both boys seemed to have had an interest in the Army, and both joined Militia battalions.

In February 1895 the *Looker On* reported that Mr Dugdale and his three daughters had returned to Symonstone Hall. The *Burnley Express and Advertiser*, reported that Misses Janie and Louise Dugdale gave tea to the members of the Girls Friendly Society at Symonstone School. Both were presented with scent bottles in connection with their forthcoming marriages and afterwards each child was presented with a cup and saucer.

Jane Elizabeth was married at St.Leonard's to Lieutenant A.E.Clerk of the East Lancashire Regiment. St.Leonard's was to see another Dugdale wedding, for again in February 1895, we read, this time in the *Looker On*, a full wedding report when Sarah Louisa was married to Mr Herbert Gathorne Creek of Cheltenham. The bride wore duchesse satin and Brussels lace with orange blossom and was attended by two page boys and six bridesmaids. The reception was held at Symonstone Hall, and the honeymoon was spent on the Riviera. The trousseau was from Cavendish House and the presents were numerous and costly (and listed in the wedding report).

In March Mr Dugdale returned to Lilleybrook with his eldest daughter Mary, possibly to recover from two society weddings in one month. Mr Dugdale must have returned to Symonstone Hall during 1895, his health failing, we know that he had been ill for some fifteen months before he died. While at Lilleybrook plans were being made for yet another Dugdale wedding, this time to be held in London. 'Fashionable Wedding' was how the January 1896 *Looker On* described the wedding of Mary Ollivant Dugdale of Symonstone Hall and Lilleybrook, when she married Mr H.O.Lord of Craven House, Prestbury. Held at St George's Church, Hanover Square, London, the bride was given away by her brother-in-law Mr A.Clerk. The reception, given by the bride's sister Mrs Clerk, was held at Brown's Hotel, Dover Street, London.

Mary's sister Sarah, now Mrs Creek, was living at Cotswold, Thirlestaine Road, Cheltenham. In January 1896 Mrs Creek had a son, but sadly in March of the same year her husband was killed in the hunting field. In the October their father died at Symonstone Hall.

By 1901 Mr C.G.Lord, brother to H.O.Lord of Lilleybrook, was living at Southfield Farm. He married Miss Stacey, daughter of the Rev J.T.Cyril Stacey of Southam de la Bere. His main interest was not hunting but cricket, a well-laid cricket pitch was in the park.

On returning from their honeymoon Mr H.O.Lord and his wife Mary settled into Lilleybrook. They had two daughters, Violet Owen and Ruby. Mr Lord's main interest was hunting and the estate developed to provide good hunting country. He went on to become master of the local hunt, a post he was to hold for fifteen years. The hunt often met outside Lilleybrook. Mrs Lord took an interest in the farm, especially in fancy poultry and cattle. She was also very involved in the Red Cross, being a Vice president for Gloucestershire, in charge of the Cheltenham area.

Cheltenham Chronicle and Graphic

No. 168.

SATURDAY, MARCH 26, 1904.



MR. HERBERT OWEN LORD,
THE NEW MASTER OF THE COTSWOLD HOUNDS.

Lilleybrook House - a Red Cross Day

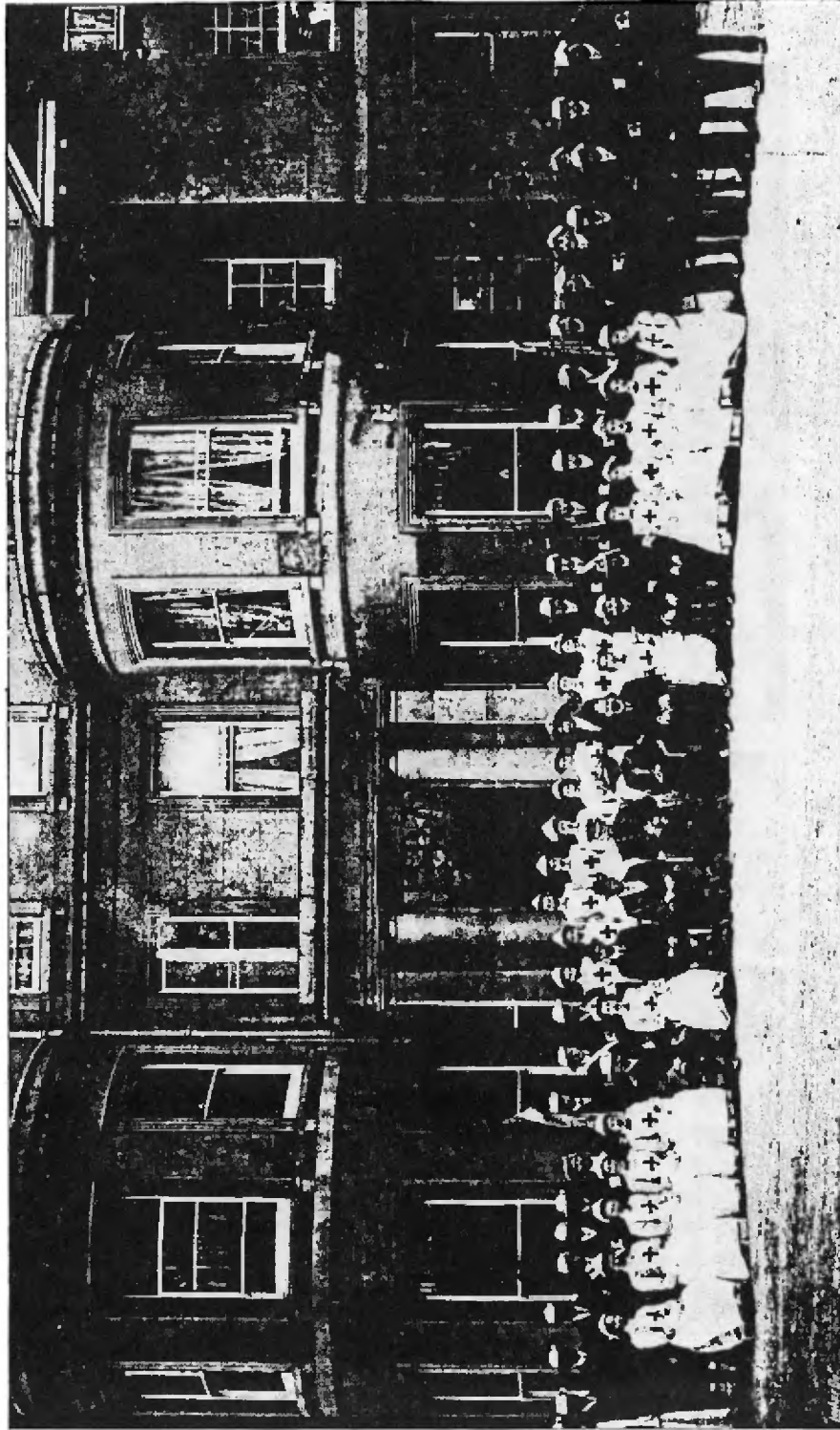


Photo.

Debenhams, Langman & Co., Ltd.

Work was also carried out to the house, using John Middleton as architect and Collins and Godfrey as builders. When the house was put on the market it was described as a 'Family Mansion' with billiard room, drawing room, dining room, smoking room, gun lobby and butler's pantry. There were ten best bedrooms with bathrooms, six secondary bedrooms and a further seven best bedrooms. There were domestic offices in the basement and servants' hall, and seven servants' bedrooms. The stabling facilities were excellent, sixteen loose boxes with rooms for five men above, shoeing forge, garage for five cars, and a gymnasium. Sport was obviously important at Lilleybrook for there was also a covered racquet court, and shooting on the estate. There was a splendid stone-built gabled lodge at the entrance gates.

Lilleybrook became the venue for many local functions. In 1911 both the Red Cross and Boy Scouts held similar (popular) events. In April the Red Cross organised a sham battle, enacted by the Scouts, with a horse ambulance and a field hospital set up in the badminton court by the Red Cross. By July they had got more ambitious, three hundred and twenty two Scouts paraded, were inspected and gave various displays, Mrs Lord providing everyone with tea. Then the fun began, the Scouts attacked a hill which was being defended by the Royal Gloucester Hussars. It was noted that the attack was conducted with much realism. Indeed the hospital was soon full and the rest of the wounded were taken to Charlton Kings railway station in a pantechnicon fitted with swinging stretchers ... in theory they were to be taken to Bristol. In 1912 a similar event took place, the highlight being the throwing of a pontoon across the lake by the ambulance men. It was said to have taken about half an hour to complete the task and was concluded by Commandant Wheeler escorting the Duchess of Beaufort and Mrs Lord over the pontoon. In 1913 each of the local Red Cross detachments undertook separate duties, the Charlton Kings detachment, under Miss S.H.Smith, set up a field hospital with thirty beds. There was also a camp kitchen, a rest station at the railway station and a temporary hospital for fifteen men. Again the Scouts acted as the wounded. In 1914 the 10th and 12th Cheltenham Scouts did battle with the Charlton Kings Ward of the National Reserve, this year the teams competed for a rose bowl to be presented biennially. Charlton Kings won the competition, Lilleybrook came last, so at least we know all was above board. Mrs Lord always provided tea for everyone on these occasions and one feels sure there was no shortage of volunteer Scouts.

Other changes had taken place within the family. Sarah, Mrs Lord's widowed sister, had married Major Percy Shewell in 1900 and in 1912 Mr Lord's elder brother died at Southfield Farm. About this time a first attempt to sell the estate was made, unsuccessfully. By now Violet and Ruby were doing all the things young ladies in their society did - hunting, dancing and mainly, one suspects, looking for the right husband. On 1st March 1916, her birthday, Violet married Lieutenant Maurice Kingscote, younger son of Mr T.Kingscote M.V.O., J.P., Gentleman of the Cellar and Gentleman Usher to the King, of Waterhouse, Cirencester. The wedding took place at Holy Trinity Church, Brompton and the reception was held at 33, Princes Garden, London.

In 1919 the estate was again on the market. We can see from the Estate Agents literature just how big the estate was, as well as the house and park they had Bafford Farm, The Vineyards, Southfield Farm and The Home Farm. The Vineyards Covers included Humble Bee Row, Vineyard Cover, Gorse Cover and Timbercombe. There were also several houses, Brierton Cottages, Bafford, The Knappings and May Grove and Lilley Grove almost opposite Lilleybrook on the Cirencester Road. Again the estate remained unsold.

Around this time Mr Lord had suggested that Capt Kingscote (Violet's husband) join him in becoming Joint Masters of the Hunt. There was some disagreement with other hunt members and both resigned from the Hunt. Feelings cannot have run too high as the Hunt presented Mr and Mrs Lord with a painting.

THE WEDDINGS OF VIOLET AND RUBY



Photos.
LIEUT. MAURICE J. KINGSCOTE.



Lafayette, London
MISS VIOLET OWEN LORD.



Photos.
THE BRIDE.



THE BRIDEGROOM.



The 1st May 1920 saw the wedding at St. George's Church, Hanover Square, of Ruby to Captain Douglas Crawford-Stirling-Stuart. Violet's husband had survived the war and they had a daughter Joyce who, though very young, acted as trainbearer. The Rev. Edgar Neale assisted at the wedding and the reception was held at 17 Bruton Street, London.

This is almost the end of this chapter of the story of Lilleybrook. The estate still had not been sold and had to be broken up and sold in lots. The Lords moved out of the area, going to Portcullis House, Acton Turville. Did they go to hunt with the Duke of Beaufort at Badminton one wonders?

I would like to thank Mr Eric Hebdon, of Burnley without whose help I would have not been able to write this article, also the staff in the Local History Department at Cheltenham Library.

MARY SOUTHERTON

4. ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

This article is an abstract of an interview between Ian Harris and Mrs Olive Wrathall, conducted on 9 April 1997, at Royal Court, Fiddlers Green.

Olive Wrathall is 96 years old. She was born on 1 June 1900 in the gardener's cottage at Lilleybrook. Her father was head gardener there with a staff of 7 under-gardeners. Her father had worked for the Ackland family in Devon - he and Olive's mother both came from Devon. His name was Frank May and her mother's maiden name was Tanton. From Devon he had moved to work for Lord Pontypool in Wales and then came as head gardener to Mr and Mrs Lord at Lilleybrook. The house was being rebuilt for them at the time and Olive's father designed the garden, including making a lake out of the stream. Olive claims that it was her father who suggested the name for the house to Mrs Lord, because he was planting water lillies in the brook at the time. [But see *Bulletin* 10 p5 which shows that the house was already called Lilleybrook in 1855. Perhaps he just encouraged Mrs Lord to keep the same name.]

Olive's earliest memory is of singing round the family piano on Sunday mornings - her father played hymn tunes with one finger! The piano had attached candlesticks, red satin pleating down the sides and curly legs. She went to school at 3 and remembers two of the teachers - Miss Bush and Miss Kathy, who was a pupil teacher who later went on to become a certificated teacher at St. Peter's school in Cheltenham. Miss Kathy's brother was stud groom for the hunt, and another of her brothers worked for Mr Lord and lived in the cottage next to Olive.

Mr Lord was Master of Foxhounds, and the Hunt often met at Lilleybrook. She remembers the occasions well with the men in their pink coats and the ladies with top hats with veils and riding side-saddle - 'very sedate'. Mrs Lord was the daughter of a cotton magnate from Lancashire. Her sister married another Cheltenham man - Major Shewell, and the sisters rivalled each other in society

The Lords were excellent employers - Olive has never heard a word said against them. Every Christmas there was a staff party, held in the Billiards Room with a Christmas tree cut from the estate. Every little girl had a new frock made for her by Miss Farmer and her assistant who worked in the Needlework Room at the house. Women were given dress lengths and the men had two shirts. The children also had toys. The staff at Lilleybrook included a butler, two footmen, a housekeeper, nanny and cook. Olive's father was on good terms with the

cook, so the children got lots of treats - beef broth when they were ill and sometimes fruit like a melon from the greenhouses. There were fine greenhouses at Lilleybrook with palms, and Olive's father grew early potatoes and strawberries in them ready for Miss Violet Lord's birthday parties on 1st March.

The cottage where Olive was born was one of a pair which had been built by the Lords for their head groom and head gardener. It had a small hall, a sittingroom and a living kitchen with sink and water laid on. Upstairs there were three bedrooms. There was a wash-house for each cottage, and Olive remembers a Mrs Gardner who came in once a week to do the washing - she was very small, wore a cotton cap and lived in a cottage along in the village. Olive also remembered Palmer the baker who delivered bread to the big house. She once went to a birthday party at the Palmers and had wonderful cakes.

Olive left Charlton Kings in 1905 when she was 4½. Her father took over a market garden in Tewkesbury Road. It was in a very bad state and a real struggle to start with. The first crop was mushrooms which were grown in a dark shed there while her father got the rest of the land into cultivation. She did not know what her father had been paid when he was head gardener but she remembers him paying his head workman a golden guinea a week and another man 18/-.

Olive was one of seven children - the youngest were twins, one of which was tragically drowned in a water tank in one of her father's greenhouses. She has been afraid of going into water ever since. Of her three brothers two went into market gardening - one at Barretts, the other nearer to the railway line.

After moving from Charlton Kings Olive went to St.Peter's Infant and Girls' schools and then won a half scholarship to the new Day School of Commerce. She left there at fifteen and went to work as an Order Clerk with R.E. and C. Marshall in Clarence Street. She was paid 8/- per week and worked from 8a.m. to 6p.m., with a half day on Saturdays. She had learnt Pitman's shorthand while at the School of Commerce.

Olive remembers very clearly the day war broke out in 1914. Her sister and friends had been at a Conservative fete at Carter's field in Prestbury and came back very 'full of it all, with plans to join up'. The friends included Bill Yeend and Cyril Price. Many of her school mates were killed but her brothers were too young to be called up. Lilleybrook was a VAD hospital during the war, as also was Leckhampton Court, where Olive's husband was nursed after being badly wounded. He remained crippled for the rest of his life.

Olive and her husband had been childhood sweethearts from infant school days. His father was Relieving Officer for Cheltenham and worked at the Workhouse. After infant school they were both involved with St.Peter's church - he as a choirboy and Olive helping as a Sunday school teacher. Her husband was apprenticed as a cabinet maker, and came back to work at Cavendish House after the war. After they married they lived first in Roman Road at 10/- per week and then in Brighton Road where they paid £5 per quarter. Later her husband worked for Matt Wilson, the builder, and they moved into one of his houses in Sun Street. There was a very strong community spirit in that area, but after the second world war most of the old houses were pulled down.

Olive has one daughter, who still lives in Cheltenham, and she has two grandchildren and one great-grandson. She has outlived all her brothers and sisters - the youngest brother Horace May died last year.

Finally Olive told Ian about her great day when she opened the new classrooms at Charlton Kings Infant School. She thoroughly enjoyed it and felt 'just like the Queen Mother,

everybody was so kind and sweet'. Last year Olive had written to the school to congratulate them on getting such a good report after their inspection. As a result she was invited to be present at the opening. When it was discovered that she was in fact the oldest surviving pupil she was invited to 'cut the tape' - a day she will always remember.

IAN HARRIS & JANE SALE

5. THEFT AT ST MARY'S

On Saturday 16 August 1997, just after the church cleaners had left, our two 17th century chairs were stolen from the sanctuary. I was aware that they might attract a thief and for that reason did not put a photograph of them in *A History of Charlton Kings*. Now here is one - they were a pair, given to the church by Alexander Nicholson of East Court in 1828.



MARY PAGET

6. THE RUSSELL OF CHARLTON PARK ARCHIVE (GRO D 7661)

Gloucestershire Record Office has received a large and valuable addition, in a collection from Stokesay Court, the result of the recent sale. There is a very great deal of important Charlton Kings material in it. It is, however, totally unsorted. The documents were bundled up higgeldy piggeldy, as they had been shoved into a wardrobe years ago. There are medieval deeds as well as later deeds for properties bought up by the Prinns in the 18th century; so far I have only examined one box of them. This will be a principal source of *Bulletin* papers for many issues to come.

MARY PAGET

7. MATERIAL FOR THE STUDY OF CHARLTON PEOPLE PRE 1700

We are lucky in the amount of personal detail available for family historians; and it is only when sources are listed that the extent becomes clear. For papers on houses and their tenants, look through all *Bulletins*.

- (1) As most of the land was customary, there were not many early deeds, though Naunton items are relevant (*Bulletin* 1 p 1; 7 pp 48-50; 10 pp 18-20; 12 p 43; 13 pp 4-7; 19 p 40; 23 pp 26-29)
- (2) Development of Bafford Hide, discussion (*Bulletin* 32 p 3-13)
- (3) Wealthy parishioners were listed in the 1327 Lay Subsidy Roll (*Taxpayers of Medieval Gloucestershire* ed Peter Franklin (1993) under "Ancient Demesne in Cheltenham Hundred" (in part 1)
- (4) Tenants holding under Cheltenham (about 2/3rds of the total population) are listed in a rental of c1450 copied by the Steward, John Stubb. The rental names tenants from c1380 - c1450 (GRO D 855 M 68)
- (5) A valuation of the lands and goods of tenants (*The Military Survey of Gloucestershire 1522* ed R.W.Hoyle (1993) pp 46-7)
- (6) Parish Registers start in 1538 and have comparatively few gaps. Indexed transcripts published by CKLHS in four parts to 1813 (but in using Part 1, consult also the *errata* list in Part 2)
- (7) Early wills 1551-1582 (*Bulletin* 5 pp 7-10; 18 pp 22-27)
- (8) Inclosure lists compiled under the authority of the Council of the Marches 1557 and 1564 show tenants and acreages (*Bulletin* 30 pp 16-24)
- (9) Court books for Cheltenham manor - some medieval rolls are available in the Public Record Office but do not as a rule contain admissions and surrenders; from c1590 in Gloucestershire Record Office (D 855) - one gap 1660-6
- (10) Court books for Ashley manor only start in 1742 but there are papers with earlier surrenders (GRO D 109/)
- (11) John Smythe's *Men and Armour 1608* pub 1902, the Charlton part (*Bulletin* 1 pp 7-11)
- (12) Norden's Survey of Cheltenham Manor 1617, the Charlton part (*Bulletin* 18 pp 35-40)
- (13) List of tenants in the Hundred of Cheltenham contributing to the £1200 raised to have an Act to change the Custom of both manors 1625 (GRO D 855 M 68)
- (14) Hearth Tax list, 1671-2
- (15) Rate list 1697
- (16) Charlton Park estate - deeds in original deposit (GRO D 1224) and also in new deposit of 1997 (GRO D 7761)

MARY PAGET

8. FINDING A PHOTOGRAPH

While my mother was ill I was going through some things at her house and found a photograph. Well actually I found a lot of photographs, a whole archive of them, going back to my grandmother's albums but this one was special. I picked up a framed hand coloured postcard and as I did so the back fell off and a photograph fell out.

It shows five people and was taken out of doors. Two of the people I instantly recognised from other family photographs as being my maternal grandfather, William Thomas Pates born 1885 in Cheltenham, and his father, also William Thomas Pates born 1853 in Charlton Kings. They were standing behind an elderly couple who were sitting on chairs. The lady was holding a small baby who I guessed was my mother but I had no idea who the elderly couple were.

My first thought was to look in my grandmother's albums. That answered some questions but not all. Through other photographs that my mother had discussed with me I recognised the trellising in the background of this picture and was able to place the photograph as being taken in the back garden of Lanson, Naunton Park Road, Cheltenham. This was where my maternal grandparents lived from December 1912 when they were married until mid 1918. It also confirmed that the baby was most likely to be either my mother who was born in September 1915 or her brother, Vivian, who was born in January 1918. I also found other photographs of the elderly couple. Unfortunately, although my grandmother was very good and titled most of the photographs there was no title on any of those that I was interested in. There was a wonderful photo of the elderly man in a large army greatcoat with sergeant's stripes on the sleeves. Was this his coat? Had he been in the army? It was on the same page as one of the elderly lady dressed in a Red Cross nurse's uniform. Had she been a nurse?

The elderly couple were definitely older than my great grandfather, and I knew that it couldn't be his parents as his father, Thomas Pates, died in 1870 and his mother, Sarah Pates nec Greenwood, in 1878. I became quite excited at this stage as I thought the man might be one of his older brothers. He was the second youngest of ten, eight boys and two girls, all born in Charlton Kings. I knew this could not be the eldest brother, Walter Pates, because he emigrated to Australia with his family in the 1870s (I am in touch with some of his descendants). I knew it was also unlikely to be Samuel Greenwood Pates as he had been a painter in America. I knew that Andrew Pates married and lived in the St Paul's area of Cheltenham for some time, and I had an idea that John Greenwood Pates also stayed in Cheltenham but the others, Nathaniel and George, seemed to have disappeared without a trace some time after 1861. Due to my article in *Bulletin 37*, a descendant of George Pates who moved to London in the 1860s has since contacted me but I still do not know what happened to Nathaniel.

I next asked my mother's cousin if she recognised the couple but she did not. My mother with her bad health and failing eyesight was no help either. I was stumped. My only hope seemed to be to wait until my mother's brother's next visit as he is pretty good at identifying people. Fortunately I ran into some luck before then. A few weeks later I was going through a box of old newspapers that I had found in a cupboard. I was amazed as they dated back to 1912 and were in pristine condition! They had been kept because they included family photographs, but I had to read each one to find the relevant article. Most of them were articles about the Cheltenham Operatic and Dramatic Society as my grandfather and his brother Frank were members. Some had photographs of my mother, one as a bonny baby! Then I came to a *Cheltenham Chronicle and Gloucestershire Graphic* dated Saturday, May 23rd 1914. Inside was an article entitled "Old Cheltonian's Diamond Wedding" and lo and behold, the accompanying photograph was of my mystery elderly couple. They turned out to be my great grandfather's uncle and aunt, Samuel and Sarah Greenwood. Samuel was the younger brother

of my great great grandmother Sarah Pates nee Greenwood and the great grand-father of Marjorie Neville who wrote the article on the Greenwood family in *Bulletin* 36.

The newspaper article tells of Mr and Mrs Samuel Greenwood of 4, Sunnyhill Road in Streatham who celebrated their diamond wedding anniversary on May 14th (1914). He was then aged 84 and his wife 80. It reported that Mr Greenwood was born in Charlton Kings and lived there until he was nineteen. It further says that he is the uncle of Mr W Pates of Hewlett Road (my great grndfather), and like him a noted campanologist (my great grandfather, after starting bellringing in Charlton Kings, became tower captain at the parish church in Cheltenham). Apparently Mr Greenwood had only missed ringing on two occasions in sixty four years of ringing at Streatham, once when he was ill and once when he was visiting Cheltenham.

My mystery, created by one lucky accident, was solved through another lucky accident. I have now a very precious family photograph covering four generations of the Pates/Greenwood family. Fortunately for any future family historian the blank spaces are now filled and carefully filed. (Perhaps I should take time out of labelling old photographs to label at least enough of my own photographs to prevent future mysteries!?)

CHELTHENHAM CHRONICLE AND GLOUCESTERSHIRE GRAPHIC, MAY 23, 1914.



Old Cheltonian's Diamond Wedding.

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Greenwood, of 4 Sunnyhill-road, Streatham, who celebrated their diamond wedding on May 14th. Mr. Greenwood was born at Charlton Kings, and lived there until he was 19 years of age. He is now 84, and his wife is 80. He is an uncle of Mr. W. Pates, of Hewlett-road, and, like him, is a noted campanologist. During his 64 years' ringing at Streatham Church he has only missed ringing on two occasions, once when indisposed and once when on a visit to Cheltenham.



Back left: William Thomas Pates senior, 1853 - 1938

Back right: William Thomas Pates junior, 1885 -1927

Front left: Samuel Greenwood

Front right: Sarah Greenwood

Baby assumed to be Mary Guirron nee Pates

Reynolde Pate

|
John Pate

|
Walter Pate m Alice

|
William m Elizabeth Linnett
29/5/1547
bu.18/4/1596 d.30/10/1598

Richard b.9/1516 d.1588 m Matilda Lane (widow)→
Margaret m Richard Tomkin or Tomlyns→
Alice m John Darke
Joan m Thomas Purey or Pury→
Elinor m Richard Ockwold→
Agnes m John Atwell→

|
Richard m Edith Higgs
26/1/1594
b.1557 b.25/3/1572
bu.6/12/1628 d.21/9/1650

Walter d. pre 1596
Alice m Mr Webbe→
William d.1610 m Alice→
Agnes m Robert Mansell→
Joyce m Anthony Cavell or Cassey→
Margaret b.11/1561 m John Dickens→
Jane 1565 m Thomas Bowland or Rowland→
Elinor 1567 m John Crowther→

|
Linnett m Mary Ruggedale/Taylor
12/5/1640
bu.23/5/1679 b.1620
bu.25/5/1678

Edith 1594 m Arthur Bleeke→
Thomas 1596 m Mary Banaster→
William c.25/8/1599
Anne 1601 m Walter Currier→
John c.14/2/1603 d.11/1/1648
Richard c.6/7/1606 d.1634
Alice c.15/1/1608 m John Stubbs→
Elizabeth c.6/1/1610 m Walter Higgs→

|
Thomas m Frances Crump
28/7/1679
c.1/11/1654 c.14/11/1659
bu.15/11/1720 bu.16/11/1735

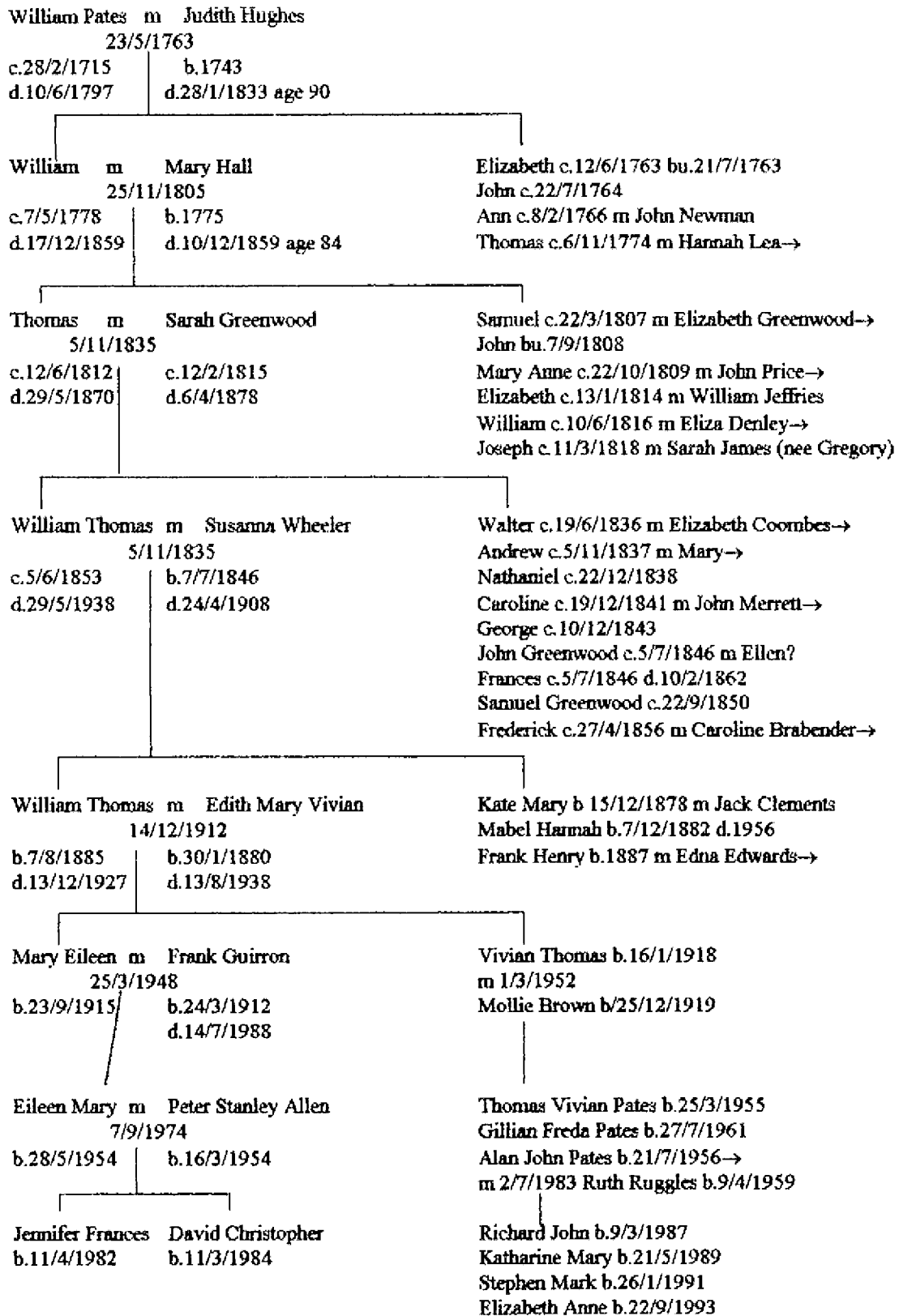
Mary c.30/4/1643 bu.9/9/1647
Elizabeth c.22/9/1646 bu.29/10/1670
Richard d.1670
Linnett c.20/5/1652 m 1)Judeth Norwood→
2)Catherine Trotman→
Mary c.23/3/1657

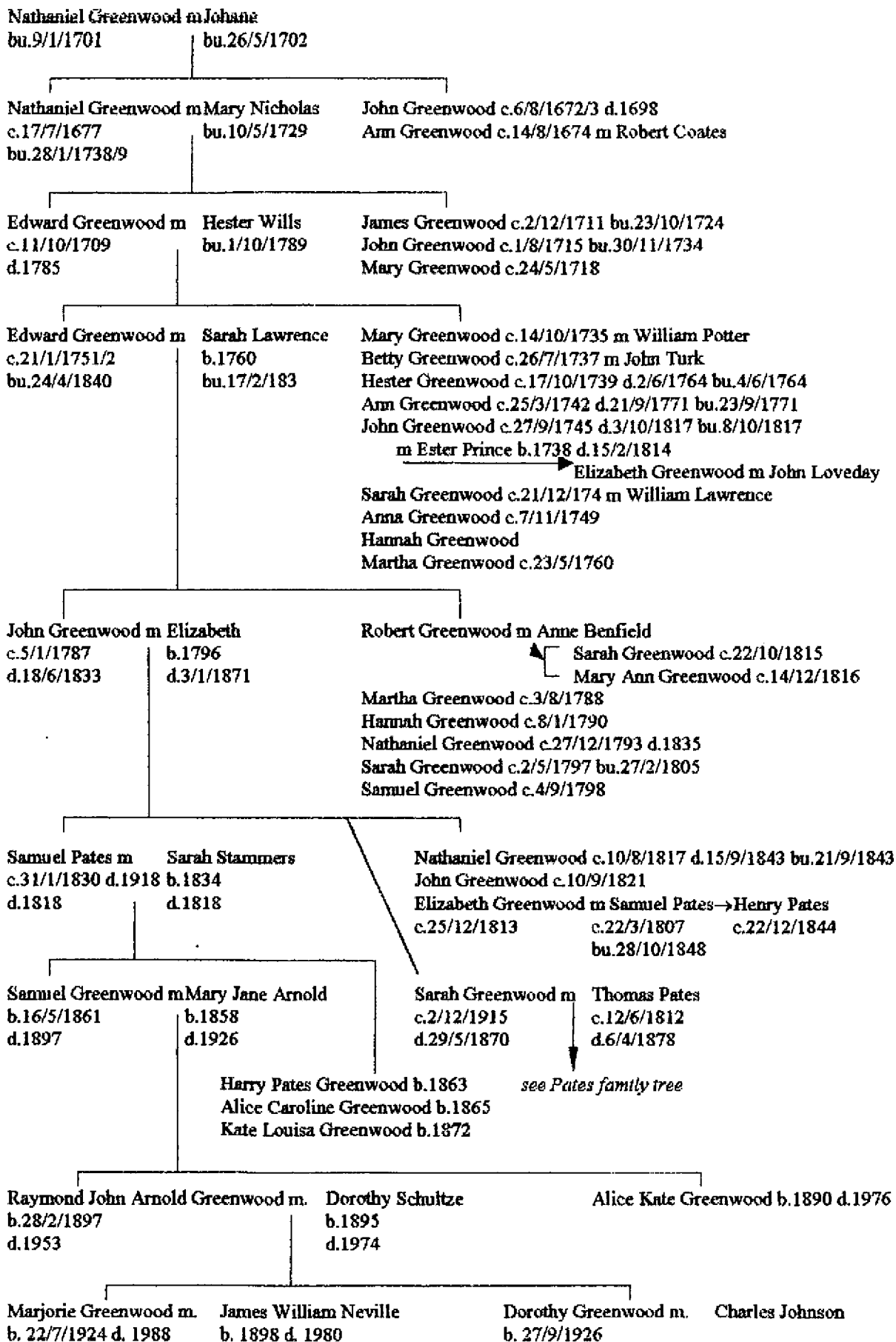
|
William m Elizabeth Freeman
30/4/1715
c.24/2/1689 1684
d.15/11/1771 d.14/5/1758

Frances c.14/2/1697
Mary c.23/5/1681
Thomas c.10/12/1682 m Judeth Greville/Pates)→
Elizabeth c.28/6/1684
Linnett c.7/2/1686
Alice c.19/8/1688
Winnifred c.11/4/1692 m William Price→
Judeth c.22/4/1694
Richard 1698 m Jane Percival→

|
William m Judith Hughes
23/5/1763
c.28/2/1715 1743
d.10/6/1797 d.28/1/1833

Elizabeth c.5/12/1717
John c.11/1/1718
Thomas c.3/12/1720 d. pre 1723
Anne c.29/5/1722
Thomas c.24/2/1723
Richard c.14/2/1725 bu.18/10/1727
Margaret c.16/7/1727





EILEEN ALLEN

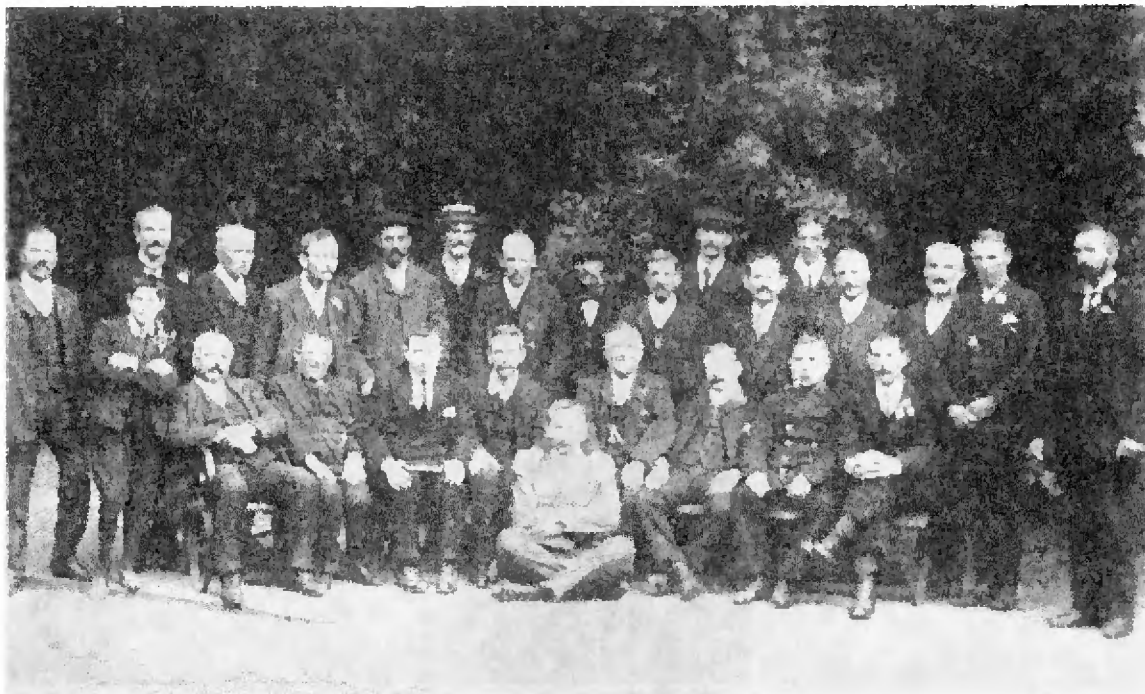
9. PHOTOGRAPHS LENT BY DOUGLAS WILKINS

(1) St Clair Ford and the Working Men's Institute



Standing: 1st left - Mr St Clair Ford, 2nd left 'Soldier' Smith
Seated: 1st left - William Pearce, 2nd left George Maisey

Below are club members at an unknown date. William Pearce is standing on far right.



(2) The Rifle Butts at Seven Springs, P.W.Wilkins, adjudicator, in the foreground - 1910



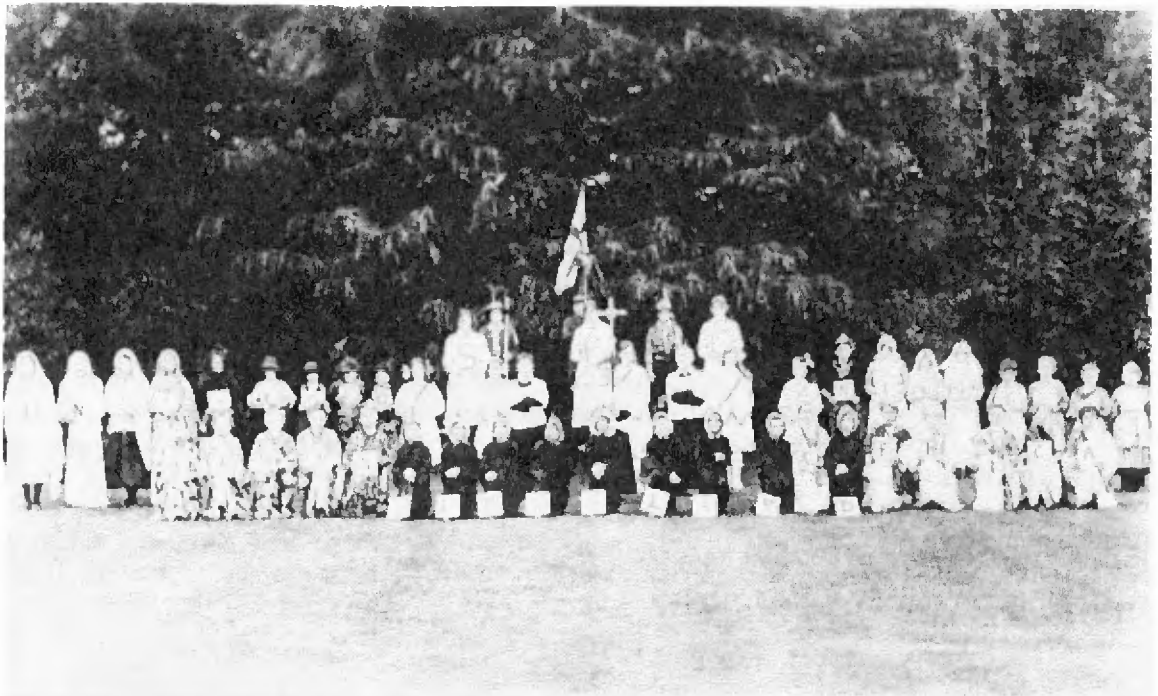
(3) Douglas' Parents and Sister
Percy and Ellen Wilkins with
3 month old Margery 1903/4
See Bulletin 28 p27 for
Margery's childhood memories.



(4) 1918 - Children outside the Club - photograph organised by Mrs Pearce (manageress of the Club) for the children to send to their fathers in France. The dog is Mrs Pearce's Bengie. Boy on left Curley Moir, then - Black (?). Girl on left without hat - Louie Taylor. Boy in centre with felt hat - Kenneth Cleeveley. [Tall trees in churchyard were holm oaks - one stump still there]



(5) The first Kings Messengers' Pageant held at the Grange in 1918



10. CHARLTON'S EASTENDERS

East End has always had a bond of affection with many of those who have lived there and I still recall it as such at seventy six years of age.

I was born at 7 Fairview Cottages on 24th January 1921 as Reg Seabright and my sister fifteen months later on 13th May 1922. My father Norman was also born at the same address so we go back beyond the 20th century if only slightly.

Perhaps the special character of East End was the 'Eastenders' of that time. A recall of the children of the families who lived there during the years 1921-1935 born 1920-1926 totalled approximately fifty five in the houses and cottages of pre-1914-18. These of this age group represented big and little who had the privilege and pleasure of being the East End gang that roamed the hills and woods around and I will talk of them later.

The boundaries of East End as we knew them started at The Hearne, London Road to East End road and up to Old Dole Lane. Who can recall the London Road lit by gas lamps - the first at the corner of Hearne Road and the alley to Ledmore - then opposite the entrance to the Gravel Pits - next outside the corner of Joe Curtis' garden and the road down to the Chase - outside Tom Clifford's entrance and the lane down to Nelmes Row - just past the Cotswold Inn where East End Road comes out - outside the road to Welling Farm and I think finally outside the 'Beehive' (but I'm not sure). Also there was a lamp at the slight bend in Steels Alley opposite the step down to Woods Cottages.

Bulletin 13 of Spring 1985 gave an account of the memory of Alan Thomas from Ontario and his account prompted my own.

Of the children of East End of those years. First the long distant travellers to Charlton Kings School - Kathy Thomas who lived at Colgate Farm and was a friend of my sister. She had to walk down over the fields to East End or down the side of the Reservoir. Then Margaret Hamilton whose parents lived at Salt Farm - I think Kathy's older sister kept a bicycle there because she used to cycle to work in town - later her parents moved to the bungalow by Dowdeswell wood that can be seen from the London Road today.

At the entrance to Old Dole were a pair of detached cottages. One was occupied by Mr and Mrs Leach and family - he later retired and moved down to East End. John Warner lived there - he was one of the lads whose Dad didn't return from W.W.1. (I assume). His mother always came up from Ellenborough Hotel where she was the resident cook and bought him chocolate biscuits on a Wednesday (how we envied him his treats).

Opposite the Barlands (gravel pits) - for a while Mr Strickland was there with two daughters - later to move to Bouncers Lane and become Strickland Haulage. Down the London Road footpath to Kilby's in the cottages before the Detmore entrance. As I am only talking of those youngsters of my age I will group all those who were older later. So first the eldest girl Ivy Kilby, brother Don and little Dorothy as I called her. Next door were I believe a couple called Gaskins - no children.

Like Allan Thomas of 1985 I will continue down one side of London Road. Detmore cottages were occupied by the Spencers - Prim the daughter was our age but they soon moved (about 1929-30) to take over the licence of a public house of New Street, Cheltenham - next to them Jim and Mrs Dyde - moved later.

Behind the Cotswold Inn were two cottages occupied by Bill and Ben Bloxham which were later demolished. The wide lane from the London Road between the Cotswold Inn and

Farrers stores was the Flaxley entrance. Way down beyond the rear of the Cotswold Inn were a pair of semi-detached cottages occupied by Mrs Eaketts and her three sons and one daughter - Dickie was the youngest and our age and he never knew his dad - war victim. Later they moved to St James Street, Cheltenham - the East End pull was so great that Dick used to bring his new playmates up to join us. Next door was Dennis Day and his Gran. They moved to a cottage at the far end of the alley off Horsefair Street near the Royal Inn. Still in Flaxley was Flaxley cottages occupied by Mr and Mrs Smith - of the three boys I recall George the eldest - he was rather devout, another brother and David. [There was a fourth boy Michael the youngest] Next to them and behind Farrers shop lived Bert Mann and his three children - Jack my age, Barbara and Muriel - also Granny Mann. Now Tom Clifford (early car/van owner of East End) with three sons Donald my age and two elder boys. His was one of the five laundries in East End. Below his large back garden was the rutted path which led to Nelmes Row. The only young person of our age was Brenda Gardner with an older brother and sister. Now the Andrews, Jack our age with two elder brothers and also Tim Ward the oldest of our group - later well known as a player at Derby County and one time their manager.

Somewhere next to Andrews were the Lacey, Pearce and Partridge families. The Laceys moved to the village (Horsefair Street) but both Bert and his sister were part of the Eastenders for a time. Then Mr and Mrs Tickle - he was a bee-keeper but no children to my memory - he had a drive into his yard, maybe the house was a shop at some time from the front appearance. Next a pair of houses - one occupied by Horace Cleevly and family (mentioned in *Bulletin* 13) with two boys Cedric and Alan. They had a small laundry at the rear of the house. Now the Drakes who were related to the Gardners. The two sisters, Doreen and Joan Drake were the same age as myself and my sister. Another house occupied by a Mr and Mrs Drew - elderly couple, then Mills the Bakery. There was a lane with a very rough surface which was a cart track that had a right of way to the Rouse Ham Farm and also the footpath to Detmore. On the other side of the lane was an iron rail fence and the Holloways' orchard, a garage - shed on the front - where he kept his little grey petrol van and also his large chicken run. His son and daughter were older.

Mr Holloway's house was one of a pair, the other occupant I do not recall. Now The Chase, it was a rough stone road with a wide grass verge and a line of trees. At the bottom facing the London Road a large double fronted house occupied by a retired Professor Smith from some University in Scotland. My mother did housework for them and for a time I had a Saturday job, gardening.

Then coming back up to the main road a pair of houses - one occupied by a Mr F Harris a relative of Aunt Clara Harris at number 8 Fairview. Then a large corner garden onto the London Road and the last of three houses on the north side of the road. The first occupied by Joe Curtis and his family - no-one our age - finally Castlefields the house that also had a laundry.

Across the road to the Gravel Pits. The bungalow The Wrens Nest was built for Grampy Neather of the Duke of York after he was confined to a wheelchair. Opposite and backing onto the London Road could be seen the roof of the house occupied by an elderly couple - Mr and Mrs Fardon - next the Savery family whose roof was demolished by a lorry. The eldest boy Jack - my age - then Gilbert, next Les and finally much younger a daughter. Opposite and backing up to the wall of East Court a row of three cottages, on the end of which Bob Neather erected a house and had a step daughter Marion who joined all our activities.

The Saverys had all the land as garden and a series of steep steps took us up to the main road next to the house and entrance to Steels Alley - on the verge was a mileage sign - Cheltenham two miles, Oxford thirty seven miles - I wonder if it is still there? The Morgans

lived at the house, but I cannot recall them. Jim Dyde, his wife and family moved there from Detmore cottages in later years.

Then Linden Lawn - I remember it as Miss Roches School [see *Bulletin* 17], to which Don Clifford and Harry Bloxham went for a period until it closed. Then the house was divided into two - and here in 1931 came the family who did much then, and still now, to keep the name and tradition of East End going. Mr Duguid, his wife and family of Bill, Irene, Ian and Granny from Scotland. What a strange accent, to our Gloucestershire ears, but how quickly they became part of us, our life and ways - later little Jennie was born - a true 'Eastender'. The lawns at Linden were a site for three houses and the Savery family moved into one after their house was hit as I said previously.

Now Fairview cottages Nos. 1 - 8. No.1 was home to Mollie and Dennis Smith, No.2 the Geoffs for a period, No.3 Nellie Gibbons family - another laundry. There was and I suppose still is the alley between No.2 and No.3 with the upstairs rooms of each house joined over the alley. The Gibbons had a pump in the yard for the well that had once supplied the water to all three houses (incidentally the map of 1886 on page 22 of *Bulletin* 13 shows in the top right hand corner Nos.1 & 2, the alley past 3 - the pump and boundary between 3 & 4 and the path to No.4 from the joint alley between 5 & 6). No.4 was occupied by the Stevens family - Fred my age, then Ivor, Mickey and the youngest we called 'Ginger'. No.5 by an elderly couple and then by Mr and Mrs Marshall who moved from Nelmes Row. No.6 a Mr and Mrs James - they had two boys - much older, in fact Jack was nearer my father's age and used to help him erect the large workshop in our garden. Mrs James died and he remarried and they had several children - the eldest Mary I recall and also a brother - but not the others. The garden at the end also had a pump to supply water for Nos.4- 7 and access again was a covered alley between 5 & 6 and No.4 had a path behind the brick shed on No.5's garden to their own garden. We also had a path from our back to the pump and down through the alley. No.8 was different, there was a valley roof between us and them. I suspect No.8 was built after Nos.1 - 7. They had no access via the alleyway and no pump water, so I presume it was built after the mains water from the reservoir was available. My father built a gate in the hedge between us so that their coal could also be brought to the back door rather than through the house. The first playmate of my sister and I, was Doreen Jones who lived next door with Auntie Clara as we called Miss Harris, a great girl for dressing-up and playacting was Doreen. (As a matter of interest the workshed my father built is still intact but moved to the top of the garden, it must be seventy years plus in age).

We arrive at Charlie Viners yard. The yard was full of horse drawn carts and scrap of all shapes and sizes from large hay wagons to milk floats. Inside Charlie had the forge roaring and the hammers striking the iron hoops that go on the wood wheels, or new spokes being shaped for wheels that had been damaged. When my father made a sledge for me he had Charlie fit quarter inch steel runners. It was the fastest sledge that came down the fields above Holder's farm - Ashgrove. It was continually used by East End children until 1954 when I claimed it for my own daughter.

Next the yard of the Duke of York with big double doors where Bill Neather (son) ran his coal delivery service - the brewery delivered huge wooden barrels of beer - but more later. Dukes Alley ran between the Inn and Duke Terrace. At the rear of the Inn Bill Junior lived with his family - Ron, same day and year of birth of my sister 13th May 1922, next came Dennis, then Philip and much later a girl Edna.

Duke Terrace consisted of about six houses where Harry Bloxham lived with his parents and elder brother always known as 'son'. Also the Taskers and the Mongers - a lovely memory of Freda Tasker and her pigtails is in *Bulletin* 35, a photo reproduction. Next came Charlie and Mrs Viners house, with gates and yard and brick building on the east end of the property.

Squeezed in between this wall and the semi-detached where the Weaver family lived, was a cottage occupied by Mr and Mrs Powell and two children. The Weavers were Maud, another sister and brother also 'Ossie' Wilnot whom I recall more than the others. Next was Mr Leach and family, they had moved from Old Dole Lane after retiring from Whithorne. John Warner to whom I referred earlier was the only one who was part of our gang. 'Pick' and Les Leach were older by some years.

Then came the row of cottages from Noah's Ark to the boundary of the Leach house. A long path led up to them with gardens at the front. The Cox family I remember with Margaret the eldest also Ted Mayo but the family moved to the first house in the terrace at Spring Bottom. Also there were the Evans, 'Banjo' the father and two girls and a boy - I think. At Noah's Ark on the corner lived Granny Clapham and her famous son 'Scorcher'.

Down East End Road at the 'Back Lane' as it was known, first lived the other Weavers - son Bob older than me and two girls Betty and Connie, then Irene Duguid's friend Joyce, and brother, Mr and Mrs Webb's children. 'Dukes Alley' was sided on the east by the gardens of Duke Row and retained by a Cotswold stone wall and the Charlton side had the vegetable garden of Grampy Neather of the Duke. Next a stone built house with gas lamp outside and the rear garden which backed onto Fairview Cottages' rear gardens. I then recall a house or pair of cottages before we came to Woods Cottages and Steels Alley. After Greensons moved and then Miss Bubb came to East Court, and Ron & Bob Coates with their parents arrived at the house next on Steels Alley to join us. Finally the last house adjacent to the farm yard of East Court, but no-one of our age. The only other youths of that time were two boys of East End Farm on the corner of Balcarras lane. Their father moved there after Mr Burroughs - they were the Laws family.

TO SCHOOL - School for me started after my 4th birthday, so in September of 1925 I went to the infants in School road with others. I have little memory of the infants school. We had a group photograph of me standing in the same position near Mrs Roberts that my father had years previously, but nothing more. The boys school was and still is a source of pleasant memories - Mr Elmes - or 'Chas' Elmes as we called him was I think an exceptional teacher. Mr Hales took the first year and prior to him a lady teacher Miss Rice, a very nice person. 'Chas' Elmes taught not only the usual three Rs he also ran the horticultural class and the woodworking. As I recall there was an entrance into the dirt playground from Lyefield Road, from that entrance to the end of the playground was a section of land divided into plots where we learned the art of digging, planting and harvesting potatoes, peas, beans and carrots and also other crops. Opposite in the far corner was a plot with fruit trees - I remember in particular the Cox's Orange Pippin and Mr Elmes' instructions on pruning and budding. In the workshop we were taught all the aspects of woodworking including dovetail and mortice and tenon joints and how to make them. Whilst there I made an umbrella stand to which the metal work section made a square well and it stood for many years in the passage of No.7 Fairview.

I failed the entrance to Pates Grammar School but passed for the then North Gloucester Technical College for two years 1935-37. On the wall in Mr Thorne's classroom was fixed a board which listed the winners of the Empire Day Essay prize, started in 1924 by 'General Dickie', a school governor. My name for winning was there in both 1934 and 1935. My final visit to the Boys School was to ask Mr Thorne for a reference to go with my application to the G.W.R. It was a reference I treasured for many years - Thank you Sir.

School cannot be spoken of without mentioning Sunday School and Miss Kitty Marshall - for years twice every Sunday she took and looked after the little East End children in their early years at the Chapel. A diminutive lady with her wide brimmed round hat she gathered all the chapel goers outside the Duke of York and led us all through Dukes Alley and down the back

lane and returned each morning and afternoon. So kind and gentle I can still see her in my minds eye. She was one of the residents in the Nelmes Row Cottages.

WIDENING THE HORIZONS - School holidays and what to do led us to explore and enjoy the hills and woods from East End. The field called the Fox between Balcarras Court and the London Road and Ham Dales (reached down the lane past Mills Bakery) were the first playgrounds. Both were long standing grass fields with different grasses and wild flowers. From the Ham field by the stile over the Chelt there were three footpaths, first to the top of Ledmore via Ham Farm Lane, the middle one direct to Ham Farm - the daily route for Mr Kilby and son Frank who worked for Mr Rouse. The third path led over the fields to Welling Hill and then Colgate. Are the magnificent oak trees still there? These paths were both to explore and forage in the season. Welling Hill Farm had many holly trees and crab apple trees in their hedges. Christmas was the time to get holly and mistletoe from the apple trees - never the apples in the autumn - too bitter! The best holly tree as I remember was near the stile at the top of the hill by Black barn - a huge corrugated cattle barn to our eyes.

In the summer on to Colgate out into Whittington Road and then back down the Lannet as it was known on the boundary to Dowdeswell Wood - now shown as part of the Cotswold Way, to the reservoir and Salt Farm. There were many other routes to take from behind Ham Farm and Ham brook rose in the hill beneath Ham hill and a deep wooded ravine separated Ham hill a gorse covered site from Ham Farm fields - a great place to wander and cut hazel sticks for bows and arrows. Sometimes from the black barn we would go down the hill and up Welling Farm drive from the Chelt to London Road.

Opposite lay the entrance to the Fox and across the Holders fields - just opposite the Balcarras Lane gate were two or three huge cider pear trees - very sweet pears and visited every year in season for the usual raids. The path along there took us to Sappercombe fields and over the railway line. A steep climb up three fields to Bull hill. The steep slope below the top of the hill was the favourite place for sledging every winter. On where the Timbercombe path joined the Sappercombe and through an enclosed cart track and out on to Wisley hills. The final route to 'Revy' as Wisley escarpment was called was via Old Dole Lane and up past the turning to California Farm and then a steep climb up the almost 45 degree slope to the top of the hill, there in the summer sun to see the church spires of Cheltenham the glass roof of the Winter Gardens - then a roller skating venue, and the houses of East End. I could always pick out our house because father had pebble dashed and painted white the back walls. Between the trees we could see the smoke and hear the railway engines puffing up to Andoversford or sounding the whistle at the level crossing on the way down to Cheltenham (in spite of Eagle Star, a walk today from the Chalcombe pitch road across to the 'Revy' escarpment will still give a view, perhaps the finest of East End and Charlton Kings and the glory of our Cotswold hills).

In spring the first fields over Old Dole bridge sloped down to a pass under the railway to Whithorne. Here grew the finest cowslips around these hills and we used to pick them, then sit on the bank above the bridge cutting and de-heading them - the buckets of yellow heads we took to the butchers down Lower High Street and he used them to ward the flies off the meat on the marble slabs.

Above Old Dole Farm was the entrance to Lynover or 'Red' Wood as we knew it. The timber roadway passed the field (Old Dole) had been cut out of the woods and it led to a path, which led down to the one field before the railway embankment. In that part of the wood apart from bluebells, lily of the valley grew in great profusion, many East End families used to go on a Sunday afternoon to pick bunches. Further up the escarpment among the hazel bushes were several huge beech trees in whose bark names of previous generations had been carved and many of our initials joined them - I know mine did. To continue through the ride we would

come out on the fields above Rossley Manor and then down to the London Road opposite Reservoir house.

I recall one New Year Tim Ward, Jack Andrews, Jack Mann and myself went wassailing. First to Holders at Ashgrove - in the cold winter dawn at the front door we chanted "Apples to roast, nuts to crack, a barrel of cider ready to tap. The old year out, the new year in, please open the door and let us in". Mrs Holder - Cyril's mother let us in and insisted we went out of the back door, round again and in the front door and then gave us mince pies and some money. Then we went all the way to Moe Davis at Old Dole and repeated it - never again we were frozen.

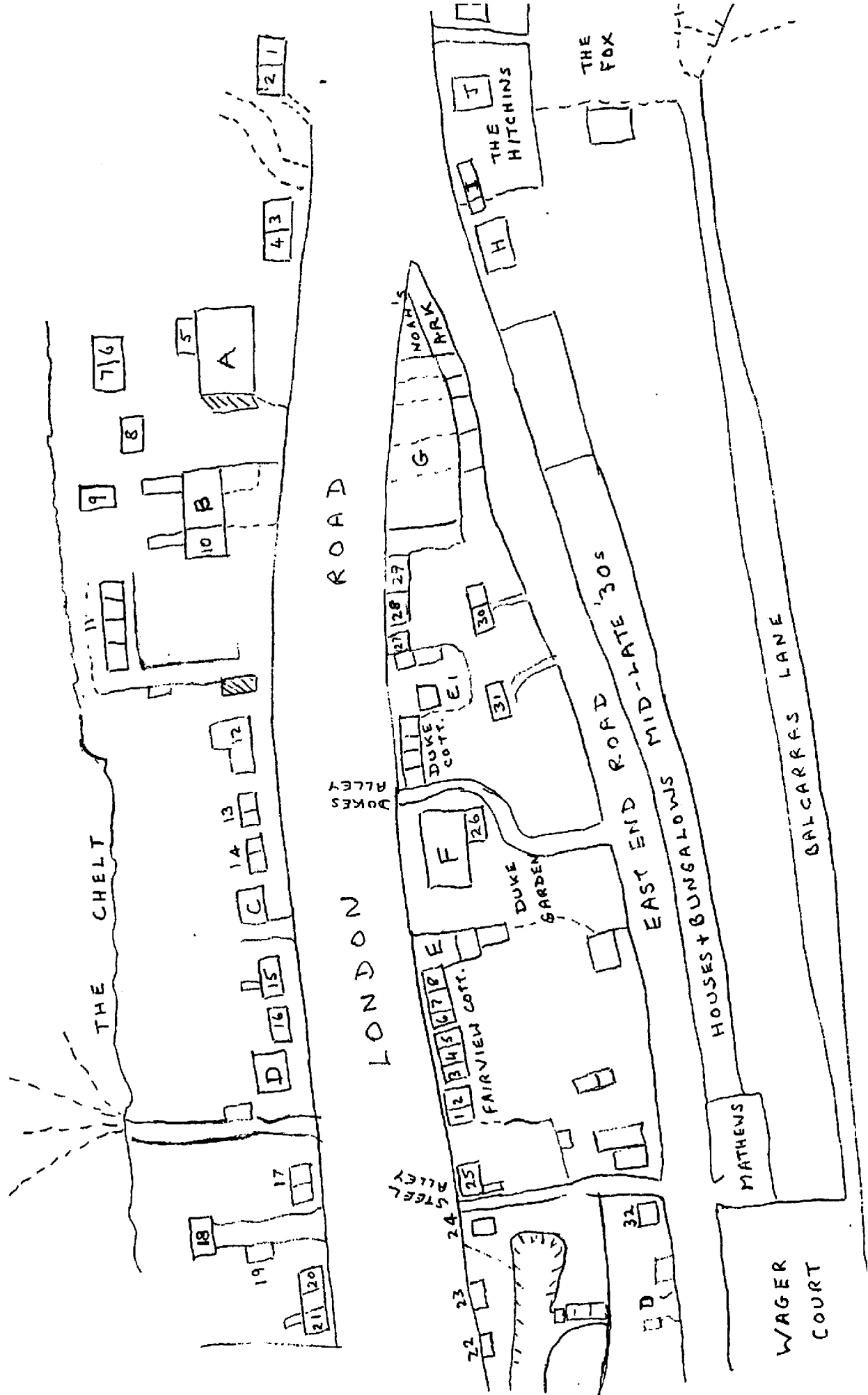
EAST END AND WORK - There were five families engaged in laundry work, Tom Clifford, Horace Cleevly, Castlefields, Pearts at Linden Lawn, and Gibbons at 3 Fairview. At the Cotswold Inn Harold Cook had a garage repair shop in the lean-to next to the Flaxley entrance. He had the first petrol pump with the glass bowl above saying ROP (it can just be seen in Fred Thomas' photo in *Bulletin* 13.) We used to take the wet batteries to him for recharging (for radio) and later to 'Dales'. Jake Farrer and Mills Bakery the two shops - Mr Holloway went daily to his shop next to the Midland Hotel opposite the L.M.S. station entrance. Mr Fred Harris - manager R.L.Boulton & Sons sculptors - my father served time there until W.W.1 and again except for the depression of the '30s and W.W.2 until his retirement.

Just an aside - at the time Boultons was home and work to quite a few Charlton men - John Warner was apprentice joiner - Ted Mayo wood machinist - Ron Taylor sculptor and stone mason - Les Timms carver - also Arthur Cook, Chappie Woodward and I think a Mr Lawrence all of Ryeworth were there. Les Timms still at Cambridge Avenue, Cheltenham went to Martins and after the war carved the various insignia above the U.S.cemetery outside Cambridge. Arthur Cook I recall seeing working at the base of the altar in St Davids Cathedral during a visit in the early '50s. Finally Bob Coates then of East End took over as manager in Boultons final move to Wellington Street until closure. I should mention Miss Norton a clerk at Boultons who cycled to and from the cottages on Shipton Cross Road beyond Andoversford daily.

Back to East End and work, Charlie Viner we know of. Bill Neather Jnr had two coal carts and employed Bill Bloxham - after my attack of meningitis at the age of ten I was for a long time unable to run and play so I used to go on the rounds with Bill. Then he got a cow which used to graze in the Castlefields and was milked in the stables at the Duke. Later he took over the tenancy of Lower Woodlands Farm from the Cheltenham Water Corporation and also the Hitchins orchard from Mr Bond. After the death of Mr Bond, Bill purchased the Hitchins orchard and I last saw him one Sunday in the autumn of 1983. Ossie Wilmot and I had many happy hours making ourselves useful at the Hitchins.

EAST END TRANSPORT - In 1932 a major overhaul of the London Road took place. That winter the tarred surface was renewed. For several weeks the night watchman had a brazier going outside the long tarpaulin shelter where the workmen ate. We would gather there and put potatoes to bake in the ashes and stay until our parents rounded us up. First the grass verge outside Eastcourt - then the grass verge of the Chase and then again opposite Detmore entrance.

My memories are of the steam lorry that Healings of Tewksbury used to deliver flour to Mills. The carriers to the Cotswold villages were horse and cart and I still recall one carrier with his black and white sheep dog trotting up the road under the rear cart axle. Cyclists were not in great numbers to my memory. Visits to town were a walk to either Lyefield Road or Six Ways for the tram. Apart from young ladies who cycled down from the hills, my main



memory was of a Mr Lander in his leggings, cap and jacket cycling to Gressons to take up his chauffeur duties, also Mrs Viner looking dignified as she rode down the London Road - in contrast to husband Charlie - and a Miss Clarence rushing up and down to and from Detmore which she shared with the Misses Fison and Malleison. [see *Bulletin* 21] Milk was delivered by the milk float - Rouses, Parslow, Bill Neather - and Mr Smith of Flaxley cottage with large cans on his bicycle. Farm milk was collected from wooden platforms by the Gloucestershire Dairy, there was one I recall outside East End farm which they and Holder used and one by Hitchins in London Road. The churns were left full for collection and returned empty for the farmer to collect on his next visit.

Finally can anyone recall the large red Co-op horse-drawn van that used to deliver the grocery orders that had been placed at the Lyefield Road shop on the Saturday morning. I would take my mother's order and on the Saturday evening the van would deliver the order complete and wrapped in brown paper with string - very exciting.

With the appearance first of Jim Perrot and his father as a bus operator followed by all the other carriers from Stow, Naunton, Chedworth G.W.R. and Bristol Blue up and down the London Road, Cheltenham became easy to reach and with it the consequent changes.

These memories have been greatly helped by constant telephone conversations with my dear friend of sixty years, namely Irene Staddon (nee Duguid) of 10 Ewens Road, the lass from Scotland who became and remains a true East Ender.

In conclusion Irene tells me that Joe Curtis had his ashes scattered under the oak trees in Ham Dale. Her mother Mrs Duguid's were scattered in Holders field under the famous and popular pear trees. Others whose names she cannot remember are also scattered there. As I said in my opening, East End was special. This must surely prove it.

Key to my 'Memory Map' 1921-1935

A - Cotswold Inn and Cooke Garage	13 - Lacey
B - Farrers Store	14 - Peart
C - Tickle Bees	15 - H.Cleevly
D - Mills Bakery	16 - Drake
E - Viner's Yard	17 - Holloway
E1 - Viner's Residence	18 - Mrs & Prof. Smith
F - Duke of York	19 - F.Harris
G - Cottages - Cox & Evans	20 - Curtis
H - Millward House	21 - Castlefields
J - Hitchins	22 - Mr & Mrs Fardon
	23 - Savery
1 - Kilby	24 - Morgans
2 - ?	25 - Miss Roche - later Duguids
3 - Spencer	26 - Neather Jnr
4 - ?	27 - Powell
5 - Bloxham (Bill & Ben)	28 - Weaver
6 - Eaketts Mrs	29 - Leach
7 - D.Day & Gran	30 - Weaver
8 - Smiths	31 - Webb
9 - Manns	32 - Coates
10 - Clifford	
11 - Nelmes Row	
12 - Andrews	

REG SEABRIGIT

11. A CHELTENHAM ARCHITECTURAL FIRM

The Cheltenham architect, John Middleton, is described by David Verey in his introduction to *The Buildings of England. Gloucestershire*, as 'the most prolific of the local church architects of the Victorian period, and (with the possible exception of Benjamin Bucknell ...) the most talented'. We may not all agree with this judgement, but there is no doubt that he and his firm left a significant mark on the appearance of Charlton Kings, in particular regarding our two churches.

Middleton was trained in the north by J.P.Pritchett and came to Cheltenham about 1860. Some records of his architectural firm have been deposited at Gloucestershire Record Office under the reference D2970. They start in 1868, when the firm was known as Middleton & Goodman. Later it became Middleton & Son from 1876 to 1883, then Middleton, Prothero & Phillott until 1893. After Middleton's retirement the firm continued as Prothero & Phillott - until 1903 and then Prothero, Phillott & Barnard until 1919.

Below is a summary of work done by the firm in Charlton Kings taken from Job Ledgers, a Contract Book and a Cash Book.

D2970 3/1 - Job Ledger 1868-1883

(1) p50. Chas.Higgs Esq. Charlton Kings Design for Font Cover Design for Reading Desk Design for Reredos Design for Fountain - [no payment but '2Y' written in red]	
(2) p90. J.D.Hartland Esq. Charlton Kings Chancel. Making plans of the old chancel =	£1.11.6
Fair & working drawings, specification & superintendence in connection with rebuilding of the chancel	
Exp. £500 + value of old material £50 = £550 @ 5% =	£27.10.0
Plans for altar rails, gas fitting & brass plate =	£3.3.0
	<hr/>
	£32.4.6
Contract stamps etc =	£1.5.0
Tiles in tower	-
	<hr/>
Received Sept. 1882	£33.9.6
(3) p94. The Committee for Rebuilding Charlton Church To fair & working drawings, specification, superintendence, etc connected with the restoration of nave & aisle.	
Expense £2718 plus Old Material worth £500 = £3218 @ 5% =	£160.18.0
To making plans etc of old church =	£5.5.0
Copies of Plans for Faculty =	£3.3.0
Contract & Stamps =	£1.11.6
2 Contracts & Stamps =	£2.2.0
Plans large scale for appropriating the scale =	-
Plans of Church Yard walls connected with Sir Wm. Russells opposition =	-
	<hr/>
	£172.19.6

Rec. Dec 1878 on acc.	£100.0.0
Rec. May 1879 bal.	£72.19.6
D2970 3/2 - Job Ledger 1885-1902	
(1) p34. Rev. F.F.Reavely. Teano House, [now Lexham Lodge] Aug.1889 Professional advice & attendance =	£15.0.0
Sep. Design for new wing [not built] Est cost £650 @1¼% =	£7.2.6
Out of pocket expenses =	2.0
	<hr/>
	£22.4.6
1894 Feb 27 By cheque on acc.	£7.0.0
By allowance	£8.0.0
(2) p42. Capt. H.G.Willis. The Glenfall 1892. Professional services in connection with alterations & additions Cont.amt. £750 @ 5% =	£37.10.0
Cont. agreement =	£1.11.6
Lands Improvement Commission =	£2.2.0
Ditto for Bed. of H. =	10.6
Conveyance & Postage =	11.0
	<hr/>
Paid by cheque Nov.14	£42.5.0
(3) p.64 Apr.1886. Mr Samuel Hollister. House at Charlton K. Plans of alterations to stable =	£2.2.0
Paid May 1986	
(4) p.66 May 1886. Mr.C.L.Sweeting. Balcarras House. Valuation of Repairs etc. drainage work at Balcarras House. Attendance re Arbitration =	£3.3.0
Paid July 1887 £2.2.0 by cheque, £1.1.0 by allowance	
5) 1887. p.122 Capt.St.Clair St.Clair Ford. Charlton W.M.Institute Design for Institute, Working Drawings & specification. Cont. amt. £1094 @ 5% =	£54.14.0
Perspective Drawing =	£1.1.0
Contract & Stamp =	£1.1.0
Copies for Local Board =	10.6
Commission upon cost of front fence & gate £40 and tiles in hall £2.12.6 =	£2.2.0
Cab fares =	7.6
Extra copy of spec. for use of committee =	10.6
Commission on other extras - £29.12.1 =	£1.9.0
Ditto - Marshall £50.3.4 =	£2.10.0
	<hr/>
	£64.5.6
difference upon adding extras =	1.0
	<hr/>
	£64.6.6

May 1888 cheque £29.19.6
July 1889 cheque as agreed £33.11.0. Allowance 16/-

(6) p168. 1897. J.C.P.Higgs Esq. & B.Bouncer Esq.
Trustees of Holy Apostles Church
Contract for repairing roof £100 + extras @ 5% = £7.10.0
Agreement & Dup. = £1.1.0
Paid by cheque Dec.6 1897

(7) p.188 1894. H.J.Carrington Esq.
Charlton Parish Church
Chancel Stalls, cost £115 @ 5% = £5.15.0

Paid by cheque Jan 1895

1898. Rev.J.Hudson. Charlton Parish Church
New Vestry, cont. amt. £1251.10.0 @ 5% = £12.11.6
Contract Agreements = £1.1.0
Faculty Copies = 10.6
Cabs & Postage = 7.6

£14.10.6

Paid by cheque June 1899

D2970 3/7 - Rough Job Accounts 1875-85

(1) p28. Sir Brooke Kay - window for Charlton church.
Exp. £135 @ 2½% = £3.7.6. Pd. Jan 4th 1884

(2) p103. The Committee for Restoring
the Transept of Charlton Church.
Fair & Working Drawings for restoring Transept
& enlarging Vestry £289.7.6 @ 5% = £14.9.0
Plans, abridged specification etc. for obtaining faculty = £1.11.6
Contract = £1.1.0

a/c rendered Apr.1885

£17.1.6

(3) p.104. Rev.G.Dundas
Plans, specification, & superintendence connected
with the erection of a retable = £1.1.0
Preparing plans for enlarging & altering
the present vestry = £2.15.0

£3.16.0

Added on to p.103 = £20.17.6

D2970 3/9 Contract Book 1868-96

(1) W.M.Institute, Charlton Kings.

Capt.S.C.Ford & Committee - Apr 17 1888

Messrs. Jones, Gloucester, contractor - Nov 17 1888 - £1094 in 5 installments

- i) When up to groundfloor window sills - date of cert. June 5 1888
- ii) When ready for roof timbers - date of cert. July 7 1888. Pd 29 May 1888
- iii) When roof timbers & tiling complete - date of cert. Sep 13 1888. Pd 17 July 1888
- iv) When all is finished - date of cert. Nov 20 1888
- v) Within 3 months of architect's cert. of completion

on a/c sent by (?) Capt.Willis June 7 1889

(2) Alterations & additions to the Glenfall.

Capt.H.C.Willis - Apr 1892

Messrs Rainger & Wilson, 10 Bath Rd., Cheltenham, contractors - July 1892

£849.12.9 Architect £42.5.0

Work carried out between June & October 1892

D2970 2/2 Cash Book 1868-1902

p.44 - 1895 - Numerous cab fares to Lilleybrook & Southfield Farm

p.113 - 1898/9 - 2 cab fares to Charlton Church

p.130 - 1889 - Cab fare 1/6 & telegram 6d to Rev.Reavely at Teano House

p.131 - 1899 - Numerous cab fares to Lilleybrook

p.171 - 1908 - Tram journeys to Lilleybrook Cottages

p.174 - 1892 - Mr Phillott 3 conveyances to The Glenfall 11/-

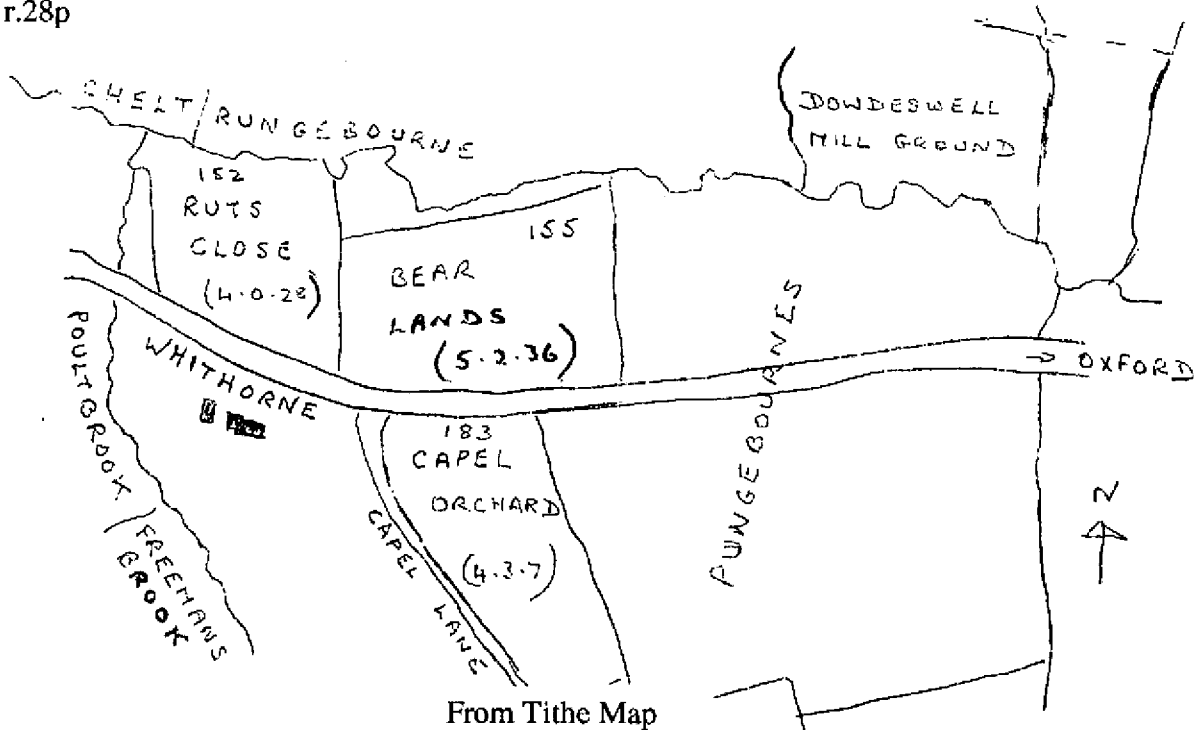
JANE SALE

12. MORE ABOUT ANTHONY WEBB AND HIS PROPERTY

In *Bulletin* 10 pp36-39 Joan Paget wrote up all the facts she could discover about the man who lived at Church Cottage east of the chancel (see *Bulletin* 38 pp 1-3 and cover drawing). His will dated 22 June 1696 (ref. 1698/96) and inventory (ref. 1698/56) survive. Now from a deed of 12 April 1711 (D 7661) we learn more of what happened to his property after his death.

Anthony left two rudes in Water furlong in Lower field to his kinsman Giles Webb the elder of Cheltenham collar maker (i.e. maker of horse collars) outright. The rest he left to trustees Samuel Cooper gentleman, John Gale and John Sturmeay, in trust to raise about £70 for legacies within four years. After that it was to go to Giles Webb's son Gyles Webb of Gloucester apothecary, for life and to heirs male of his body. A codicil of 19 August 1697 gave Giles the father a life interest first. However, the 1711 deed explains that the son was to pay a lump sum to his father instead; the entail was to be docked and the property vested in the son, mortgaged and possibly sold. A young man setting up in business in Gloucester wanted ready monecy not a house and land in Charlton and Naunton.

The messuage Anthony had lived in at the east end of the church had its garden and court; on the south it stood next to a tenement which once belonged to the parishioners (actually to the poor's charity). By 1711 this small dwelling, empty in 1700, had been disposed of (See *History of Charlton Kings* pp 151-2). There were also three parcels of meadow or pasture called Little, Over and Lower Stanways or Stannells Ford (total 11 acres) and two groves - these were by the road to Dowdeswell where a tributary of the Chelt (Poultbrook or Freeman's Brook) crossed the highway; the name Stanway suggests that this area was or had been a paved ford. It seems that Anthony Webb owned the site of Whithorne House and its land to the south and also TM 152 (Ruts Close in 1848, 4a.1r.25p according to the tithe apportionment) on the north of the road - a piece not yet cleared of trees in 1711. He also owned a five acre close called The Capells shooting north on the highway. This must be Capel orchard (TM 183 4a.3r.7p) east of Capel Lane, which in 1828 was said to measure 5a.1r.28p



In 1711 the Dowdeswell road still swung south after it crossed the brook to join Balcarras Lane (see map, *History* p158). This block of freehold land at Stanway Ford explains the alternative name for the tributary, Freeman's Brook - we may assume that extra land was being cleared beyond Middle field at the time of Henry II in order to create more freeholders to sit on juries. In addition, Anthony Webb had three acres inclosed out of Middle Field, roughly where the present A40 runs.

In Naunton, Anthony owned a toft or house site with twenty six acres of meadow or arable in rudes in the three Naunton fields, and a little grove. Another deed in this collection, a 1720 exchange between John Prinn of Charlton and John Higs of Sandford, shows that Prinn used seven rudes in Naunton formerly Giles Webb's to get rudes in Charlton Lower Field. This is explained by an endorsement on the 1711 deed, telling us that the mortgagee who lent the Webbs £120, William Lane, was acting on behalf of John Prinn whose money it was.

If Prinn did in fact acquire the whole of Anthony Webb's property it was less because he wanted it for himself than because it would be useful in bargaining with other tenants whose land adjoined his. The map of strips in Charlton Lower field, which indicates the original

owners and those strips (the majority) acquired by the Prinns, explains how this inclosure process was carried on (see *History* p35).

MARY PAGET

13. FOUR POTTER WEDDINGS 1862 - 1871

(1) Source:- Cheltenham Examiner Issue No.1206 Dated Wednesday 3rd December 1862

Marriage Charlton Kings 12 November. By Rev Sir Lionel Darell, assisted by Rev R Greenall, incumbent of Stretton and rural Dean of Cheshire. St.Clair Ford Esq., Captain Bombay Staff Corps, youngest son of the late Sir Frances Ford; and Eliza Jane eldest daughter of the late T.S.Potter, East Court.

On Thursday last there were unusual festivities and rejoicings in Charlton Kings on the marriage of Captain St Clair Ford with the beautiful and accomplished Miss Eliza Jane Potter. Both families have long been identified with Charlton Kings. Eliza Jane's family is well known and beloved, and St Clair is the youngest surviving son of the late Sir Francis Ford, who lived in Charlton Kings for many years. The kindness of the Fords and their liberality endeared them to all. The union is indeed a cause for celebration.

Long before the hour of the service, the churchyard was crowded, and the Church was full of privileged visitors. The covered way from the church door to the south gateway to the burial ground, was lined on both sides with children from Charlton Kings Infants School (the first stone was laid by the late Sir Francis Ford), and they presented bouquets to the bridal parties as they arrived. The nurseries of Burgess and others in the neighbourhood had supplied liberal contributions towards these bouquets. After the ceremony the children bestrewed flowers in the pathway of the bride to her carriage.

Captain Ford's chief groomsman was Leicester Shirley Esq. Lady Ford, Lady Darell, Miss Mears and immediate relatives and friends had specially reserved seats in the chancel or near the altar. The bridesmen were Captains Nasmyth and Battine, Edward Potter and Messrs Crofton, Evans and Fletcher. Captain Johnson, formerly of Charlton Kings, was prevented by illness from being best man.

Meanwhile East Court was alive with involvement in the arrival and marshalling of guests. The eight bridesmaids were the sisters Miss Potter and Miss Caroline Potter, Miss Ford, Miss Darell, Miss Barker, Miss Brown, Miss Maling and Miss Nora Maling. Four had dresses of white Albania gauze trimmed with blue, wreaths of blue cornflowers, with coquet of poppies and daisies at the sides, and a long tulle veil. The other four dresses were of the same materials but white trimmed, and a long tulle veil reaching to the ground. Each bridesmaid was accompanied to the church by a cavalier. The bride wore a high dress of white chrystalise trimmed with a deep flouce of Honiton lace and a veil of tulle with a wreath of stephanosis, myrtle and orange blossom. She was given away by her brother Mr Potter.

Congratulations from friends in the church, but outside there were unceremonious, but hearty cheers of spectators, again and again, mingling with the peals from the Church Tower.

An excellent dejeuner was held at East Court with forty to fifty guests from the principal families in the neighbourhood. Apart from the Ford, Potter and Darell families and those participating in the wedding service, there were Mrs Daintry, Rev J F S Gabb, Mr and Mrs Lechmere, General Bell, Mr and Mrs Whateley, and Mrs and Miss Meall. In the toasts reference was made to Captain Ford's active and useful service in Scinde, where he had a

high appointment and was complimented by the Governor of Bombay for his gallant discharge of his duties.

The numerous presents were a perfect exhibition of plate and jewellery (a set of turquoise and massive gold bracelets) and beautiful and costly ornaments. In the afternoon the bridal pair were on their way to Malvern in a carriage and four. In the evening one hundred and eighty invited guests attended a ball and supper at East Court.

"The first germs of love were sown and produced the full blown wedding tree".

(2) Source:- Cheltenham Examiner Issue No.1235 Dated Wednesday 24th June 1863

Marriage 8th June Charlton Parish Church, by Rev Richard Greenall, incumbent of Stretton and Rural Dean of Cheshire assisted by Rev Henry Barnard, Vicar of Yatton and Prebendary of Wells; George A Graham, Esq., and Lydia Caroline, youngest daughter of late T S Potter Esq., East Court, Charlton Kings.

On Thursday last Miss Caroline Potter, youngest daughter of the late T.S.Potter, East Court married Captain George Graham of Suffolk Square at Charlton Parish Church. Captain Graham had been a bridesman at Miss Eliza Jane Potter's wedding just over six months ago. It was an unusually large wedding attended by many leading residents of Cheltenham and Charlton Kings.

A covered arcade, decorated with flowers and shrubs had been erected at the Church for the occasion. The bride was given away by her brother and the ceremony performed by Rev R Greenall, Rector of Warrington, assisted by Rev H Barnard. The bride wore a rich, wide ribbed silk dress, flounced with Brussels lace, a Brussels lace veil with a wreath of orange blossom and stephanosis. She was accompanied by Misses Potter, Graham, Barker, Harris and Starkey, all dressed alike in Brussels net with blue tartalan ruches, and blue veils with wreaths of forget-me-nots and lily of the valley.

The groomsmen were E Otway Mayne, E Potter, Crofton, Captain Baker, Captain Chapman and Mr Richmond. Those present included Lady Ford, Captain and Mrs St Clair Ford (brother-in-law and sister of the bride), Greenall, MP, Mrs Graham, Mr and Mrs Whateley, Colonel and Mrs Kennady, Mr and Mrs Woosnam, Mr and Mrs Meall, Mr and Mrs Bell. The dejeuner was at East Court and the bridal pair left in the afternoon for Clifton.

(3) Source:- Cheltenham Examiner Issue No.1598 Dated Wednesday 8th June 1870

There were few gayer marriages in Cheltenham than that of T W Potter, East Court, Charlton Kings, and Miss E M Willis, fair and accomplished daughter of Captain E Willis, Cleevemont, Cheltenham, Inspector General of Constabulary of Southern Division of England and formerly Chief Constable of Manchester for sixteen years. It was celebrated in a manner worthy of the occasion. Sightseers were in the streets from the early hours and Charlton Kings was in holiday garb. It was an event which would give to a noble mansion that which had been its only lack, a mistress worthy to dispense its hospitality.

A large crowd had gathered in the neighbourhood of St Lukes, and as soon as the church doors opened, there was a rush, mainly of ladies. But thousands were content to see from the outside. The bridegroom drove up in a carriage drawn by four greys. The bridal party drove all the way from Cleevemont through thronged streets, a gay procession of carriages and greys, with the bride last in her father's private carriage.

Possessed of great personal charm the bride was beautifully attired in a dress of white satin, with flounces of deep Honiton lace, looped with bouquets of orange blossoms, and an exquisite veil of Honiton lace with wreath; wearing jewelled ear rings and a cross of the finest diamonds, an heirloom of the bridegroom's family and the bridegroom's bridal gift.

The bridesmaids, Miss Potter, Miss Ellis, Miss Dawson, Miss C Willis, Miss Cruk, Miss Sanderson, Miss Florence and Miss Maude Braddyll (the latter two were little children, carrying bouquets and wedding favours) wore trimmed skirts of white and mauve tarlatan, with poul de soie tunic with square body and open sleeves, all trimmed with ruchings of blonde; and bonnet of tulle with wreath of mauve hyacinth and clematis, and in centre a white Marabout feather from which hung a long veil. Each had a handsome gold locket, gifts of the groom.

Fred Proctor was best man, and G Bolton, Captain Versturne, Rev Mr Irving Courtenay, Mr Hart, W Phibbs, Croker and Hugh Crofton were groomsmen. The marriage service was by Rev H Richmond, son of Leigh Richmond, an old friend of the bridegroom, and by Rev T Tyers. Flowers were strewn in the path on leaving the church and the front of Cleevemont was decorated with evergreens and bouquets of roses. The bride and groom returned to Cleevemont in carriage and four greys, with postillions; followed by fourteen carriages with pairs of greys. Among those at Cleevemont were E Potter with Mrs Potter, Captain and Mrs St Clair Ford (brother-in-law and sister of the bridegroom), General and Mrs English, Miss English and Mrs Tickell. Wedding presents - bridal diamonds and costly dressing bag from the bridegroom; jewellery, ornaments, clocks and furs from friends.

In the afternoon the bridal pair travelled to Gloucester by carriage and four; then to Clifton; then by four in hand to Scotland. In the evening there were festivities at Cleevemont and East Court, both places being illuminated. But the centre of attraction was Fulwood Park, where E Potter, the bridegroom's brother, entertained a large party. The grounds were turned into a fairyland with lights - on the mansion, on the trees and on the lake. The tenants of Potter at Derby Matlock were sumptuously entertained last evening and the tenants at East Court this evening.

Trousseau and bridesmaids' dresses were by Debenham and Freebody (Cavendish House); wedding breakfast by Mr George; bouquets by Mr Heath; horses and carriages by the Plough. Messrs Attwood provided the illuminations and Garrison the lamps.

(4) Source:- Cheltenham Examiner Issue No.1643 dated Wednesday 26 April 1871

Marriage on 20th April 1871 at Charlton Parish Church by Rev William Garrett, cousin of the groom, assisted by Rev J F S Gabb, H Bathe, Captain 5th Fusiliers, and Harriet, second daughter of the late Thomas Smalley Potter Esq., East Court.

A triumphal arch of evergreens at the entrance to East Court; an arcade of evergreens, with mottoes interspaced, to the door; the front of the mansion was a mass of flowers, with a coat of arms and illuminated scrolls; a decorated temporary porch with pillars had been erected by Bubb of Charlton Kings; inside the house groups of flowers were massed in all the reception rooms. All these decorations were set up under the guidance of the head gardener of East Court, Mr Reynolds, with the assistance of Miss Parry and friends. On the route to the church, flags were flying on private houses; and one was flown on the Church steeple. Opposite Attwood's premises an archery of evergreens, with mottoes, had been erected by Attwood and Bubb.

The groom and best man, Captain Froom, were at the church at 11 o'clock, to await the bridal party of nine or ten carriages, from East Court, drawn by grey horses, and with red coated

postilions. A huge crowd had gathered outside the Church, with school children lining each side of the covered and carpeted avenue to the church door, to see the bride arrive and walk down the flower strewn path on the arm of her brother T W Potter. She wore a rich silk dress, trimmed with deep flouces of Honiton lace; a veil of Honiton lace with a wreath of stephanosis and orange blossom; and diamonds set in enamel. She carried a bouquet of Covent Garden flowers.

The bridesmaids were Miss C Gleig, Miss Foaker, Miss Garrett, Miss E Graham; Miss M Leighton, Miss Violet Graham, Miss Eva St Clair Ford and Miss Ida English. The second quartette of bridesmaids wore miniature copies of the dresses of the first quartette - white tarlatan dresses trimmed with roses with headdress and veil trimmed with roses and marabout feathers. Each bridesmaid wore a locket of crystal with white enamel back, presented by the groom. Their bouquets were by Benjamin Wood of Charlton. The groomsmen were Captain Steer, Mr Boulton, Mr Crofton and Master Anson St Clair Ford.

The wedding breakfast was held at East Court at 12.30, provided by George of Cheltenham with wines by Boyer & Co, and the cake by Harrison of Manchester. Among those present was Rev J F S Gabb, who in thirty years at Charlton Kings, had presided at several East Court marriages; Captain and Mrs St Clair Ford, brother-in-law and sister of the bride; General and Mrs English, Miss Leighton, Mr and Mrs Potter and E S Potter. Most of the wedding presents were of silver, including one of many inkstands.

The bride, in a mauve dress with hat to match, left with her husband, in a coach and four for Malvern. Her trousseau was by local tradesmen. The day's proceedings was capped by an evening ball at East Court, to the music of Major and Bretherton's band from Cheltenham, and attended by friends and neighbours.

Source:- Cheltenham Examiner Issue No.1644 dated Wednesday 3 May 1871

Servants' Dinner at East Court - For past and present staff, given by T W Potter in honour of his sister's marriage to Captain Bathe last week. Many of those within Miss Potter's visiting district were also invited. Forty to fifty people were at the table, headed by Marsh, the butler and at the bottom Mrs Trigg, the housekeeper. Sherry was on the table at the end for a toast to the bride and groom who were then present. T W Potter said nothing pleased him more than to see his own servants and those of his parents associating. He expected servants to do their duty, as he would as employer, but servants should not be unmindful of their duty to their heavenly father, and they would get their reward in after life. Then there were songs and dances.

ERIC ARMITAGE

14. WHERE WAS 'CLOFESHO'? - A REVIEW

"*Clofesho* has a fair claim to be the most famous lost place in Anglo-Saxon England" says Dr Catherine Cubitt in her important book *Anglo-Saxon Church Councils c655 - c850* (Leicester University Press and Associated University Presses USA, 1995).

The question interests us in Charlton Kings because the 803 Council of *Clofesho* mentions a minster (*monasterium*) at Cheltenham as having been in existence for over thirty years. It interests historians because at least eleven church councils are known to have met there and it was the place preferred for such meetings by Archbishop Theodore of Tarsus (668-690) when he organised the Anglo-Saxon church. The Council of Hertford in 672, canon 7, ordered that councils should be held at *Clofesho* yearly on or about Lammas (1 August). In practice this

meant any time between the end of June and November (avoiding August, the harvest month).

Other Southumbrian synods were held at Hertford, Haethfeld (probably Hatfield), *Adtuifyrði*, Austerfield, Brentford, Chelsea where Offa had a palace, *Acleah*, London, Tamworth, Croft and *aet Astram*. The meetings at Tamworth and Chelsea reflect Mercian supremacy until the death of Offa in 796 and all the places which can be identified were in Mercian territory or overlordship. All except Tamworth were within the diocese of London. Gregory the Great had intended London to be the archbishop's seat and it was only accident that settled Augustine at Canterbury; Theodore may have hoped to move his see to London some day. That area had many advantages, because of its Roman past, London was the centre of the Roman road network and on the Thames, a navigable river; so the London area was the most convenient meeting place. Food for a large assembly could be had from Aldwych (the old street or market) where Anglo-Saxon commercial life flourished. Within the city (*Londinia civitate*), where the council met once, was the cathedral, the royal palace at Cripplegate, and the Roman amphitheatre on the site of Guildhall Yard and Guildhall - this may have been where the London synod gathered.

The belief that one synod met at Winchcombe is mistaken, based on a forged charter (probably a genuine *acta* establishing the monastery which was published at the Council of Chelsea in 811).

So was *Clofesho* in the London area? The name comes from OE *Clof*, a fold or cleft, with OE *hoh*, a heel or spur of land. As Cubitt points out, there are many place-names with the element *hoh* in Hertfordshire. Any place with a large open space would do. There is no suggestion that the archbishop, his twelve suffragans, some abbots, many priests and deacons, and their retinues, besides as a rule the king and his lay followers and servants, actually met in a church or hall or anywhere but the open air. The council of *Clofesho* in 803 lasted at least six days and it is possible that tents were erected. There is a reference to a tent in the account of another synod. So we need not look for a major Anglo-Saxon church, such as that at Brixworth. "The region around Hatfield and Hertford was likely to have been Theodore's choice for the site of future synods" says Dr Cubitt.

The 803 synod was large and lasted longer than usual because business of exceptional importance was to be transacted.

The first document issuing from the council was a confirmation by Bishop Deneberht of Worcester of his grant to Wulfheard of a life interest in land at Inkberrow and Bradley. This is dated 6 October.

The second was the agreement between Deneberht and Wolfheard bishop of Hereford to settle their claims to minsters at Cheltenham and Beckford. The document is dated AD 803 in the 11th indiction (1) and to Coenwulf's 7th regnal year; and also bears the date of the 4th of the Ides of October, which was 12 October, a Thursday, as the charter correctly states. "This settlement is drafted in the form and phrasing favoured by Worcester for Synodal dispute settlements and manifests no suspicious features" - Archive at Worcester.

Having cleared away these minor matters, the synod proceeded to its two major tasks, first the abolition of the metropolitan see of Lichfield, created under pressure from Offa in 787. This abolition had to be ratified by all the bishops.

The other important decision related to lay lordship of monasteries and is also dated 12 October. Here the council was dealing with the small monastic houses founded by wealthy families (generally to provide a home for surplus ladies who had not found husbands or had

been widowed). The family that built the house and endowed it had expected to be allowed a controlling interest. These 'family' houses were not under any precise Rule - the general adoption of the Rule of St Benedict or St Augustine came later. Now the synod decided unanimously to forbid lay lordship of monasteries and the abbots attending the council concurred. Presumably it was under the provisions of this decree that the bishop of Worcester gained possession of the small monastery at Bishop's Cleeve, which became his manor.

Here it is worth remarking on the confusion that has arisen over the Anglo-Saxon use of the word '*monasterium*' to cover both communities living a coenobitic life with the members more or less strictly enclosed and minster churches staffed by several priests and deacons who ministered to the spiritual needs of large parishes. These clergy lived a semi-communal life but were not under any specific rule. It is inconceivable that a royal manor and hundred of the size of Cheltenham would not have a minster church and clergy, even if this is the only reference to it in a document.

As to why the bishop of Hereford was involved (with permanent consequences in that he and his successors became possessed of the manor of Prestbury, though till the 12th century it remained in Cheltenham Hundred), I can only speculate that there had been some financial involvement, a loan or mortgage, which gave the bishop of Hereford a claim on parochial rents.

(1) Indiction - Cycle of fifteen years instituted by Constantine and reckoned from 24 September 312, after fifteen cycles, the indiction reverts to 1. See *Handbook of Dates* Cheney (1970) p2.

MARY PAGET

15. INDEX FOR THE CHELTENHAM EXAMINER

The members of the Cheltenham Local History Society are currently indexing the *Cheltenham Examiner*. This newspaper was first published in 1839 and appeared every week until 1913. Currently (January 1998) the index covers the period from 1839 to January 1884 with 25,617 entries. There are a considerable number of references to Charlton Kings.

At present the index is available in card index form, ask at the Cheltenham Reference Library. It is hoped that it will be available on computer, with full search facilities, from mid-1998.

The index will greatly assist members searching for local nineteenth century material and we are greatly indebted to our friends of Cheltenham Local History Society who have undertaken this lengthy and very worthwhile task.

DEREK COPSON

16. OBITUARY - MARGERIE WILKINS

We are sorry to report the death of Margery Ellen Wilkins on February 28th, aged 94 years. See page 19 for photograph of Margery as a baby with her parents.