

CHARLTON KINGS LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY



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Spring 2001

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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.

Publications:

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Please apply to the Chairman, Mary Southerton, for past issues of the *Bulletin*, Indexes, Parish Register Transcriptions, and other publications as shown below:

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Reminiscences of John Bowen (1993), *Five More Walks Around Charlton Kings* (1998) all at £1.

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Cover - A Sketch of St. Mary's - 1830, drawn by Emma Allen Fraser.

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1. OBITUARIES:

Mavis Prout: Mrs Prout, an active member of this Society, died on 26th December 2000 and will be greatly missed at our meetings. She contributed many recollections of Ryeworth, where she lived as a child, and wrote about her father's firm Adams Caravans in Copt Elm Road (*Bulletin 25*). In *Bulletin 31* she recalled for us Holy Apostles' Dramatic Society productions and a Charlton Kings Welfare party in 1959.

Patrick Charles Pumfrey: Readers of our last *Bulletin*, no 44 in September 2000, will have admired the research into the Pumfrey family done by Patrick Charles Pumfrey and published just in time for him to see his work in print before he died on 6th November 2000. I shall miss his letters and careful work.

2. SKETCH OF ST. MARY'S - 1830

This sketch was sent to us by Michael Coombs of Buckingham, who writes: "Your name and address were given to me by a gentleman working in the churchyard on Monday, 7th August. My wife and I were on our way to the west country and called in to see your church as drawn in pencil by a sister of my great-grandmother. The artist was Emma Allen Fraser. I know not why she was in Charlton. It was done in 1830 before the alterations and additions at the west end. It shows the design of the west doorway at that time. My grandfather married in 1870 in Cheltenham Annie Sarah Williams, daughter of George Edmunds Williams, solicitor, of 6 Royal Crescent, Cheltenham. His aunt, Emma Allen Fraser born 1808, was sixty two years old at that time. Maybe there is some connection. Perhaps she knew the Williams family."

He adds that this copy of the sketch is slightly enlarged; and gives some notes on the Williams family.

The sketch shows the stone wall with stile which then divided the churchyard from Hollow Lane/Horsefair Street. This wall went right round the church and is shown on the south side in the sketch by Rowe of about 1850 (the basis of Ken Venus's cover for *Bulletin 14*). We did not know there was a stile in Hollow Lane, roughly opposite Chestnut Walk (on site of Gladstone Road). Emma Allen Fraser shows the north side of the church when the new north aisle of 1824 joined the original north end of the transept (not extended till 1875) and confirms the existence of a door under the north window of the transept.

It seems likely that the artist was a visitor to Cheltenham who walked out to Charlton (as the guide books suggested). Leaving Cudnall Street by the new Cirencester turnpike road of 1826-7, she probably missed the muddy footpath into the Horsefair (now Lyefield Road West) and left the main road by Chestnut Avenue (an avenue of sweet chestnut trees leading to the church). This would bring her out roughly where she did her sketch, though she has put both the Cross and big yew tree rather too near the Church. Her view is now largely hidden by later planting.

MARY PAGET

3. HAWLF MEASURES: GIFTS OF LAND IN HAM AND CHARLTON IN C11 & C12

Some time before 1196 Walter of Ashley (Esseleg), Lord of Ashley or Charlton Kings Manor since before 1143, and a Tenant-in-Chief of the King, gave to St Mary and the Canons of Llanthony Priory by Gloucester, for the health of the souls of himself, his wife, and his ancestors and descendants in perpetual alms, the homage and all the land held by Richard, son of Bald[w]in in Charlton, who was to pay the Canons half a mark of silver annually for it (1).

Walter of Ashley also confirmed a gift by Walter Hawlf (2), for the health of his soul and those of his ancestors, of land (earlier received from Walter of Ashley) and the tenants thereon, at Ham, to Llanthony Priory. The gift consisted of two half-virgates [each about 12 acres] one held by Thomas, son of Waluric, and one by Radulf [Ralph] Godrich and their respective families. In return Walter of Ashley was to receive annually for Ralph's holding a pair of gilded spurs, worth 6d, for all service due to him and his heirs. For the other tenement four shillings sterling would become due annually; 12d at the Feast of St Andrew [30 November], 12d at the Annunciation [25 March], 12d at the Feast of St John Baptist [24 June] and 12d at Michaelmas [29 September], for all service. Other service was owed to the Crown for the two tenements in the vill (3).

These deeds are interesting as they show that

(a) until they were given away, there were two Ashley unfree tenements in Ham. There were very probably 18 base tenements left in the manor in 1246, (according to the second Walter of Ashley's IPM. Welch 1932. P149). The holdings were not concentrated in one block of land, but were scattered throughout the three tithings of Bafford, Charlton and Ashley. Until this evidence we knew of only one Ashley holding in Ham, Ham Days.

(b) this is the earliest known reference to Ham, which was identified as a separate vill [settlement];

(c) some of the tenants living in the Manor can be identified for the first time. The Godrich family were evidently living in Ham some 200 years earlier than previously known.

Unfortunately we cannot yet say where any of the three holdings given to Llanthony were located. We know the names of some of the tenants of Llanthony land in Charlton Kings in the late fifteenth century, and the amounts of rent paid or owed for it, but have no precise evidence of locations:

(a) in 1480 rents of 24 shillings were payable from Ham; and a Charlton holding owed 6/8d. (was Richard's holding still paying the same twelfth century rent of half a mark? it seems likely).

(b) also in the 1480s the Lord of Charlton was also owed "out rent...paid by the tenant at Ham" of 4/6d. (presumably the 4/-owed annually by Thomas for his holding; plus 6d in lieu of spurs)

(c) in 1482 Margaret Hale of Charlton had paid 2/6d, and Thomas Huntley 2/5d.

Later references are made to the heirs of John Grevyle, Walter Frenssh and Walter Boroghill owing Bailiff's arrears of 49/8d. The tenants of Geybreche (unlocated) in Charlton also owed money; in 1486 "when it was lately John Throckmorton's 3/3d". (4)

The names Grevill, Frensshe and Throckmorton appear too in a rental of Cheltenham Manor of c1450. (Mrs Paget. 1986). Walter Frennsshe the elder then held Lordsleyn next Okeley in Ham, (near where Llanthony Priory also held land). (6, last sentence).

Hawlf also later gave (5) in alms to Cirencester Abbey an assart of his land "in Rodeweie versus orientem juxta regiam viam" (which William de Fonte had had and given up). Dues to the Crown were 1d per quarter, payable "as all tenants of the Lord King in the manor of

Cheltenham are accustomed to do". (CC II 428/459) (6). William de Fonte is probably the man who was an accessory to the murder of a merchant by de Fonte's wife and son in 1221 (7).

Llanthony Priory also held other land in the Cheltenham area, including two assarts at Oakley [SO 9722] (8), and also Redgrove Manor, and property at Prestbury.

FOOTNOTES:

(1) The date of 1143 is from Welch 1935, P. 54. The donation is in Llanthony Priory Cartulary VI serial 57. Walter of Ashley, who was dead by Michaelmas in 1196 (Ross CC II 568, footnote), is identified as the donor by the reference to "Walt' filio meo" as a witness to this charter. Walter of Ashley II succeeded his father (who died in 1195), and died childless in 1245, when his sister inherited. She died in 1252. See Welch 1932. Pp 150,152).

Other witnesses included: Humfrido, son of John; also Walter de Lancinges and Gervase de Lancinges, (who very probably are Walter de Lance and Gervase, nephew of William [of Credewell], respectively) who witnessed the gift by Walter I to Cirencester Abbey of a hide of land in Dorset before 1196 [CC II/568]. If this gift of land was, indeed, a quid pro quo for permitting the Chapel in Charlton to be erected the date of the gift might be near the date the chapel was dedicated (1190-1191 or 1193). See Greet 1982, 1983.

(2) Cartulary VI, serial 55. Hawlf's charter was witnessed by Ralph of Chandos and Richard of Veym, knights. The latter witnessed, with Walter I, a charter of Margaret of Bohun c1174-1186. (See Walker, p61) There are earlier charters of Walter I, Serials VI, 53, 54, which conveyed the two half virgates to Hawlf, witnessed by Sir (Dms) Richard of Muzegros and Sir (Dms) Jordan of (Dighton?); Jordan of (Dighton?), Symon of the Ford, Walter of (?)ington, William Paris, Robert of Morin, William of Ham. One Richard Muscegros was Sheriff of Gloucester in 1206-1207. See CC I 267/124, footnote.

(3) Serial VI, 56. The gift was made also for the souls of him, his ancestors and successors. witnesses were William Paris, knight; Symon of Ford; Walter Harolf; gift dated before 1196.

(4) All the details of Llanthony rents and tenants in fifteenth century Charlton came from John Rhodes' summary of the Accounts of the Farmer and Bailiff of Prestbury 1481-2, 1482-3, 1485-6. GRO D1637/M26 485-487. (to be published as an Appendix to "Registers of Llanthony Priory 1457-1525")

(5) Walter Hawlf of Cheltenham appears in both the Cirencester and Llanthony Cartularies as a donor of land in the Cheltenham area; a paper on this is nearing completion. The dates of the documents concerning Hawlf in the Cirencester Cartulary are uncertain, but probably c 1220. Professor Ross gave the dates of CC II 427/458, 428/459, and 430/462 as mid 13th century, and 429/461, 431/463 as before 1233. M. Devine gives the date of CC III 460 as mid 13th century. Mid 13th century seems too late a date to me. Walter Hawlf was witness to two charters issued by Walter, Abbot of Cirencester 1217-1230, (CC I 278/134, 279/136) where Ross suggests the documents date from before 1220. This is consistent with the date suggested by the reference to William de Fonte.

(6) Barbara Rawes suggested this gift later formed part of the Cheltenham Rectory lands. "Rodeweye was the ancient road which ran down Aggs Hill". (See Three Properties of Cirencester Abbey in the Cheltenham Area. Cheltenham LHS Journal I; 1983. Pp 2-3.) The road ran from Tewkesbury Road to Hewletts Turnpike. (See An Ancient Road through Cheltenham; Nigel Cox. Glevensis 14. 1980 Pp 20-22). The 1848 Tithe Map shows TM 113 and 114 as Lower and Upper Roadways, so Walter's land was probably on part of the site of Hewlett's Reservoir. (An Ancient Road CKLHRB 9. 1983. M.Greet. P 49.) See also

references to Upper and Lower Roadway in "Hewletts and the Agg Family" by J.Sale in CLHSJ 5. 1987. pp11-22. There are useful plans of the local fields, including Lordsley, on pp 20-21.

(7) See "Crime in Charlton Kings, 1221"; M.Paget. Charlton Kings Local History Society Research Bulletin 37 (1997) Pp 2-3.

(8) One of 8 acres and one of unknown size. "viiij^o acrarum de Acle sicut Ricardus eis ea dedit et exsartum de Acle sicut Radulfus Butellarius eis illud donavit". See Llanthony Priory, J.Rhodes: Glevensis 23 (1989) Pp 17-19; Charters of the Earldom of Hereford 1095-1201. Ed. D.Walker. p46. *Camden Miscellany* Vol XXII. Royal Historical Society. 1964.

SOURCES:

I am grateful to Mr John Rhodes, M.A. for drawing my attention to the Llanthony Priory Cartulary references relating to the Priory's land holdings in Charlton Kings. These are from Section VI on GRO Microfilm 1104, (PRO C115/77, formerly C115/6683 or A1) He has commented that "for administrative purposes the priors of Llanthony" attached the properties "in section VI to what they called their 'rectory or manor' of Prestbury". I am also glad to acknowledge receipt of a part of the Prestbury Accounts. Footnote 4 above; and grateful for some comments on my draft paper.

M.Greet. 1982. A More Precise Date for the Dedication of the Twelfth Century Chapel at Charlton Kings. CKLHSRB 8 pp 55-56

M.Greet. 1983. Charlton Chapel: Speculation CKLHSRB 9. p32

Mrs M.C.Paget. 1986. A Rental of Cheltenham Manor about 1450; The Charlton Section. (GRO D855 M68). CKLHSRB 15. pp 10-18

C.D.Ross. The Cartulary of Cirencester Abbey. (CC) Volumes I, II. OUP. 1964

D.Walker. Charters of the Earldom of Hereford 1095-1201. pp 1-75. *Camden Miscellany* XXII. Royal Historical Society. 1964.

F.B.Welch. 1932. The Manor of Charlton Kings, later Ashley. Pp 145-165. TBGAS 54.

F.B.Welch. 1935. Gloucestershire in the Pipe Rolls. TBGAS 57. pp 49-109.

MICHAEL GREET

4. GAYBREACHES ADJOINING MOUNTAIN KNOLL

A deed in GRO D7661 Box 5 shows that the name "Mountain Knoll" for the tree-covered outcrop by the entrance to Charlton Common was in use by 1705. On 26 September 1705 Richard Pates of Charlton Kings gentleman mortgaged to Samuel Cooper (of Charlton House) for £30 a close of pasture called Gaybreaches, which had land of John Grevill and his wife called Hawbreach on the east and a piece of ground called Mountains Knoll south, and also several parcels of pasture put together under the name Cambreaches. The usual provisions applied. Witnesses were William Sloper and William French. Mountain Knoll later became part of Charlton Park estate. [The element 'gay' in Gaybreaches may be from the Welsh 'cae' i.e. meadow, but in this hilly position Ekwall's suggestions that it derives from the personal name 'Gaega' or from 'gata' a goat seems more likely.]

JOAN PAGET

5. HISTORY OF OLD HAM FARM - Part II

An architectural study of Old Ham Farm, with a site map, plans and photographs of the house were included in *Bulletin 44*, together with Part I of its history. Further research has enabled us to expand on the previous article particularly with regard to the Goodrich family.

(1) Goodrich:

The main branch of the Goodrich family acquired Ham Court in the late 14th century and sold it to Arthur Packer in 1574. These are the only Goodriches listed in the *Military Survey* of 1522, though there had been a Walter Goodrich in Cudnall about a century earlier (GRO D 7661). The first Goodrich we can place at Old Ham is a Walter, who in 1564 held 67 acres "under the hill" and 24 acres "on the hill". His land included the two Nether Rodways which he was to inclose, and this fixes him (*Bulletin 30* p23). By 1617, when Norden surveyed the manor of Cheltenham (*Bulletin 18* pp 37 & 40), Walter's son Edmund held 2 demesne lands (6 acres), 2 customary messuages (one a homestead called Coltham), the 24 acres on Ham Hill and 79 acres of inclosed land including the two Rodways. He paid 20s 1d rent, 2s 4d for works (indicating that this holding was created while some labour services were still expected though already being commuted; but later than the first half of the 12th century when a Peter's Penny, collected by the lord, was still payable on each house). He paid 2s 4d rent for the demesne land (none of the demesne was directly farmed).

When the Act to change the custom of the manor was proposed in 1625, Edmund Goodrich signed the letter and paid a fine equivalent to 30 years' rent - £30.2.6, with £2.15.2½d to cover charges (D 855 M68).

Between 1617 and 1634, Edmund raised at least £250-£300 by selling short-term leases of his closes (D 855 M9 p88; M9 pt2 p127; M10 f 17v, 50v,88). Probably this money was to pay for alterations to the house: the large chimney (demanded by manorial regulations) and the upper floor; the wing, which included the staircase to the upstairs rooms; and perhaps a new parlour as well.

About the same time, Edmund and his wife surrendered to use of their elder son William the two Rodway closes, Drye Layes, and the Paddock next to Broadseech, heriot 10s (M10 ff 68v-69). Edmund mortgaged a 6 acre close called Coltham and another close of 10 acres called The Harpe adjoining Roger Holder's close The Castles (M9 p94). Some of the cash may have been needed to complete his improvements, some to provide for other children, some possibly because Edmund could no longer cope with farming and took this easy option. He was concerned lest his younger son Walter's claim should be disputed; Walter was baptised on 22 March 1624/5, only a few months before the custom was changed making the youngest son (if born after the Act) no longer heir. So Edmund surrendered the 2 messuages to trustees to hold to Walter's use (M10 pp 148v-149).

Joan, Edmund's widow, was provided for in accordance with the new Act, which empowered the husband to allot dower, up to a third of his property; in default she could have a third allocated to her by a jury. In Joan's case, her husband on 3 August 1636 (M10 f 145v) assigned as her dower "all that chamber in his dwelling-house commonly called the New Chamber" with free access, and 3 parcels of his customary land - not a very generous provision but perhaps a third of the land he had left after his surrenders.

Which was "the New Chamber"? In view of subsequent arrangements, I presumed it to have been the parlour at the south end of the range. There will certainly have been a parlour beyond the Hall in the pre-1600 house - no tenant with 67 acres of land would have lived in a

Hall without a sitting-room. If so, the "New Chamber" of about 1636 was the old parlour rebuilt, and to be rebuilt again about 1816.

Alternatively, Linda Hall suggests that the Wing with a chamber above could have been known as "the New Chamber", for it was added to the existing range when the upper floor was inserted. The wing has no window on either side now, but may originally have had a window on the north wall (where the external door is shown on the plan) - a useful window allowing a view of callers. But the Wing has no heating - no chimney or fireplace - and seems never to have had any. If this were Joan's "New Chamber", she was deprived of an essential amenity. In any case, she had to share cooking facilities with her daughter-in-law - one hopes they got on!

Joan's husband Edmund was buried on 14 November 1647. By the end of 1649 (at least) Walter the son had married (not in Charlton) and had a wife Elizabeth. On 20 March 1649/50 (M 11 f36) it was presented in court that on 10 January last Walter settled the north end of his customary messuage, the adjoining orchard and six closes in Ham to use of himself for life, after to use of Elizabeth, and then his heirs. If my guess is right, he could not settle the south end of the house because it was Joan's for life, he could only settle the north part; and no more than 20s heriot would be due for this on his death. The six closes settled on Elizabeth corroborate the theory that Joan's three were a third of the nine closes still remaining. I think the Wing was regarded as part of the north end of the house, an unheated "summer parlour" for Walter and his wife to use when the Hall got uncomfortably hot, a place where they could be out of the way of the cooking.

The amount of land was reduced again on 1 October 1658 when Walter and Elizabeth surrendered their hill ground on Ham Hill "sometime arable but of late turned into pasture" to Henry Mason senior; 2s heriot was paid (M 11 p213). Other lands sold to Mason before 1670 are referred to in his 1670 deed (M 34). Walter also surrendered to his elder brother William a close called Further Drye Laynes of 1½ acres (M 11 p216).

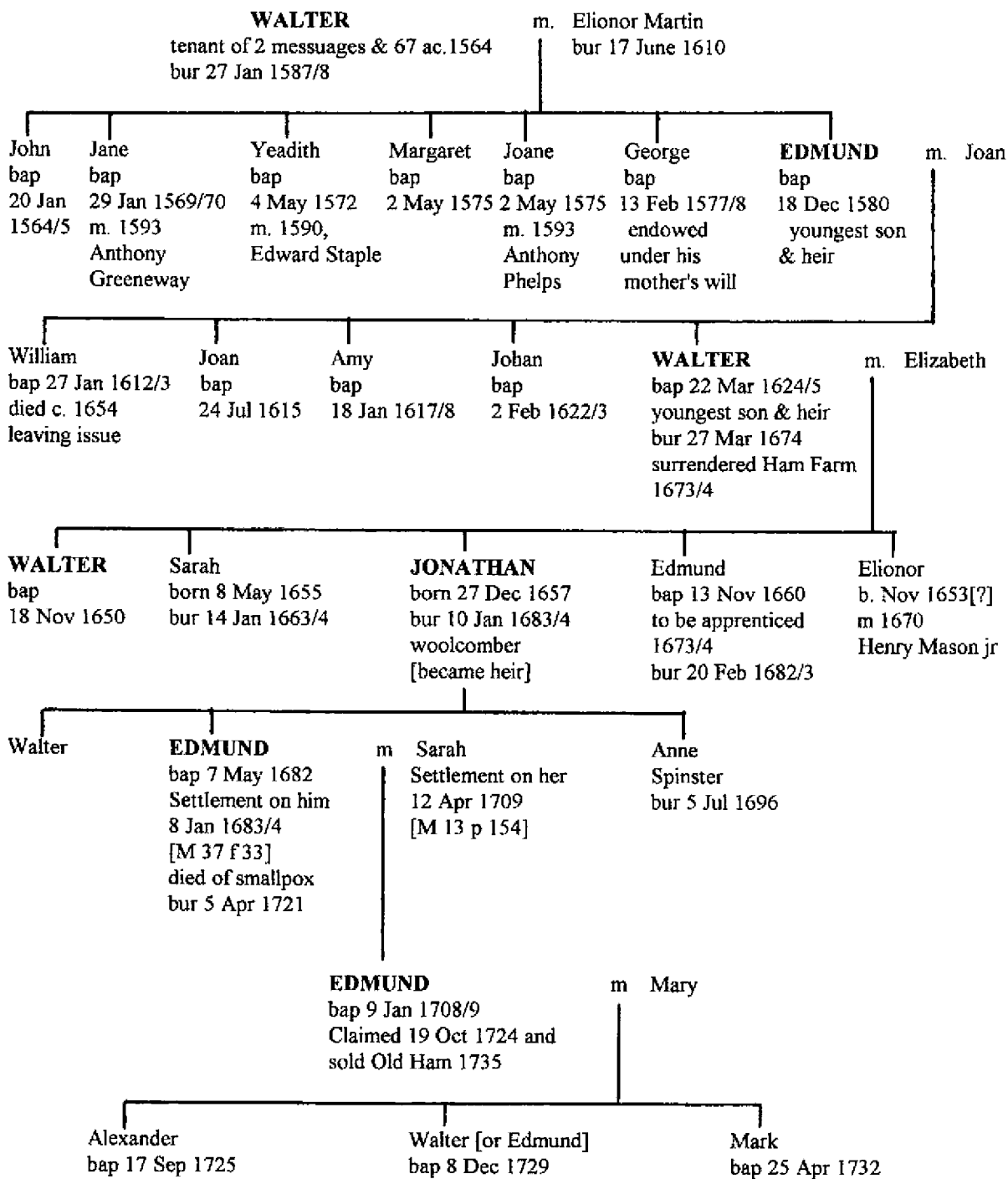
Just before his death, on 21 March 1673/4, Walter surrendered to use of trustees John Buckle junior and Henry Sturmy a close called Upper Summer Leasow (4 acres), the rents to be paid to his wife Elizabeth towards the maintenance and apprenticeship of their son Edmund till the age of 21, and after that for his benefit, unless the next brother Jonathan should pay him £150. A heriot of 7s 10d was paid (M 34). Buckle re-surrendered this to Edmund 30 October 1681, he had come of age.

The first son of Walter and Elizabeth was Walter, baptised 18 November 1650. He claimed as son and heir of Walter Goodrich deceased and was admitted 12 May 1674, paying 22s 6d heriot. On 4 September 1674 he surrendered jointure lands to use of his mother Elizabeth and at the same court surrendered to use of Jonathan Goodrich, his next brother, and his heirs the messuage and adjoining Long Hay, Summer Leasow, High Breach, Shackbreach Meade and the two Orden fields, the Heriot due was 25s (M 34). After this Walter fades from the Old Ham Farm scene.

Jonathan was the middle son, born 27 December 1657, and became a wool-comber - we do not know whether locally or away. We should not know so much but for the burial entry on 26 January 1679/80 of "Jonathan base son of Anne Ballinger single woman and reputed son of Jonathan Goodrich woolcomber" the child had been baptised on 25 June 1676.

Nor do we know who Jonathan Goodrich married, and his eldest son Walter was not baptised or buried here. His son Edmund, baptised 7 May 1682, is described as youngest son in a surrender of 8 January 1683/4 made immediately before his father's death (but the word "youngest", as so often in Jane Austin's books probably means younger).

GOODRICH FAMILY OF OLD HAM FARM
[Tenants in bold capital letters]

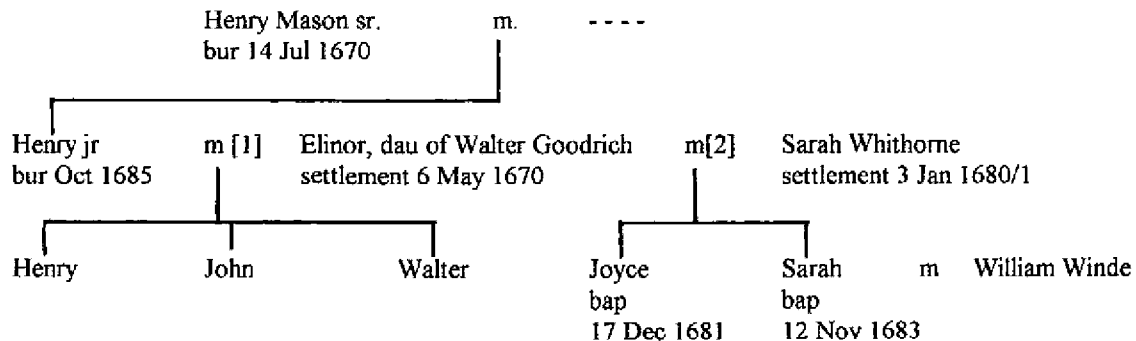


By 1684 it was almost sixty years since the 1625 Act to change the inheritance custom of Cheltenham Manor. Yet Jonathan deliberately surrendered all his customary property in Ham to trustees for his younger son Edmund, with a stipulation that £100 should be paid to the elder son Walter and £20 to the daughter Anne. If Edmund died before he came of age, and Walter inherited, he should then pay Anne £50. We do not know Anne's age, or if she received this. She died a spinster and was buried on 5 July 1696.

The two brothers Jonathan and Edmund died within twelve months - Edmund was buried 2 February 1682/3 and Jonathan was declared his heir 1 May 1683 (M 37 f2). Jonathan, buried 10 January 1683/4, had made a deathbed settlement on 8 January 1683/4 (M 37 f33v).

So Jonathan had inherited Old Ham Farm. His son Edmund, baptised 7 May 1682, had a wife Sarah and made a settlement on her in 1709. He was the Edmund who died of smallpox and was buried 8 April 1721. When his son Edmund claimed on 19 April 1724, the father was said to be "late deceased". That entry includes a reference back to an admittance of 18 April 1684.

By his wife Mary, Edmund had three sons baptised here: Alexander on 17 September 1725, Walter (or Edmund according to the Bishop's transcript) on 8 December 1729, and Mark on 25 April 1732. They were the last Goodriches to be born (I presume) at Old Ham Farm. The parents first mortgaged on 24 March 1732/3 and then sold Old Ham to William Winde of Temple Guiting clerk. On 8 May 1735 it was presented in court that on 24 January 1734/5 Edmund Goodrich had surrendered in consideration of £502 to use of William Winde clerk, his heirs and assigns, all his messuages and lands in Ham. Heriot £1.12.10, fine 17s 10d (M 14 p267). There was already a Goodrich-Winde link through the Masons.



(2) Winde or Wind:

William Winde came from a clerical family, as is clear from references in *Alumni Oxoniensis*, Bigland, and Bishop Benson's *Survey of the Diocese of Gloucester 1735 - 1750* - his father was Henry Wind of Didbrook, clerk. William matriculated at Wadham 15 May 1691 aged 19, became BA 26 January 1694/5, and would have been ordained in 1696-7. In 1702 he became rector of Pinnock and at the same time held Hailes chapelry and Didbrook vicarage. As Benson explains, Pinnock had no church and only two houses so the rectory was united to Hailes chapelry and Didbrook vicarage where no vicar had been instituted since the Civil War. Lord Tracy was patron of all three. A reference given by Findley in his edition of Benson's Survey (GDR 226 A p184), explains that when Winde was instituted to Pinnock he also became the incumbent's curate at Temple Guiting, the incumbent being the Hon. George Talbot. The church in Winde's day was still the part Norman, part late perpendicular structure described by Alan Brook (*Gloucestershire - The Cotswolds* revised ed 1999). But after Winde's death, Talbot paid £1000, according to Bigland, for major improvements.

From 1712, as Benson's Survey shows, Winde was also holding the living of Swindon village "for Mr Morgan's son" and this would only have been till the boy became twenty four. Bigland shows Winde still curate in 1717. It is not clear if, with all these duties, Winde was paid enough to afford a curate himself, but probably he could.

Winde's name suggests that he was related to the William Winde/Wynne who was curate at Charlton Kings 1679-1695 and again 1697-8 when his successor died prematurely (*Parish Register III v*). If so, it provides a Charlton link for a man who otherwise seems more connected with the Cotswolds than the Vale, yet married a Charlton girl - Sarah Mason, daughter of Henry Mason junior by his second marriage.

Henry Mason junior, by his first wife Elianor daughter of Walter Goodrich, had three sons: Henry, John and Walter, who were not baptised at Charlton. Henry and Elianor's marriage took place at St Mary's, Cheltenham on 9 May 1670 and a Walter son of Henry Mason was baptised there on 30 October 1670, but no suitable baptism has been found for the other sons. The father may have had a profession or trade in Cheltenham, where the Masons certainly held property as well as farms in Ham. Henry Mason senior left a messuage and land (much of it bought from Edmund Goodrich) in Ham - tenant Thomas Davyes, heriot 23s 6d in 1670 (M34) to his son Henry Mason junior and his intended wife Elianor Goodrich and their children. Later Henry Mason senior left other land to trustees for his own use till 1680 (or his death if it occurred sooner) and then to Henry junior on condition that he paid £100 to his three sons by his first marriage.

After Elianor's death Henry Mason junior married secondly Sarah Whithorne, another Charlton girl, and had two daughters by her, both baptised here: Joyce on 17 December 1681 and Sarah on 12 November 1683, who married William Winde (but not here). As Joyce was buried on 1 October 1689, Sarah alone benefitted (after her grandmother's death) from the messuage and lands left by her grandfather Henry Mason senior in 1670 (M34).

William Wynde and Sarah had seven daughters, the first two baptised at Temple Guiting: Sarah 17 October 1710, Joyce 6 May 1712; then three at Charlton Kings: Paulina 6 February 1713, Anne 23 December 1715, Mary 10 October 1718; then the last two at Temple Guiting Susanna 31 January 1720 and Dorothy 4 July 1723. The first girl, Sarah, probably died young as there is no later reference to her. Paulina, Anne and Mary are entered in the Temple Guiting register as having been born and baptised in Charlton Kings, in Mary's case she was 'born at Ham in the parish of Charlton Kings'. Interestingly they are entered as daughters of William Wynne/Wine clerk, which corroborates the theory that William Winde may have been related to William Wynne, the former curate of Charlton. The fact that these three were baptised here suggests the possibility that the family divided its time between the parishes. This was at the time when the father had duties at Swindon which he could reach more easily from Ham. Swindon had full services, according to Benson.

In July 1723 William Wynde of Temple Guiting clerk and Sarah his wife settled a messuage in Ham, heriot 29s 4d, on themselves for their lives, then on their eldest daughter on condition that she paid her three younger sisters, Mary, Susanna and Dorothy £200 to be divided between them or the survivors (M14 p174). The increased heriot shows that more land had been added, as the Battledown closes had been. However, Sarah Winde did not live to enjoy this settlement. She was buried in Charlton Kings just over a month later. Bigland cited her inscription on a flat stone in the south aisle of St Mary's: 'Sarah, wife of William Winde of Temple Guiting clerk and Daughter of Henry Mason of Ham, junior, was buried August 29 1723, in the 40th year of her Age'. The age given fits with her baptism date of 12 November 1683.

By the time that William Winde bought Old Ham Farm in 1734/5, the girls were of an age to enjoy the amenities of Cheltenham which could be easily reached from Ham. If the Winde family did move to Old Ham in 1735, I would credit William with the creation of a separate kitchen so that the Hall became a dining room. The family must have employed a cook and other domestics. These slept in the chamber over the dairy, which was divided into two rooms till 1937 and had its own stair. There will have been a men's room and a women's room. If not, the house probably kept its 17th century arrangement intact till about 1816.

Four of the daughters married. The Guiting Power Parish Register records the marriage of Joyce to John Reynolds clerk on 27 November 1742 at Farmcott Chapel by licence, Joyce was 'of Farmcott' and John Reynolds was the rector of Aston Somerville. Anne married John Slade/Sleade and Mary's marriage to James Martin took place some time before July 1745. Finally Dorothy married Richard Rice clerk, who was awarded his B.A. from Jesus College 8 March 1742/3 (*Alumni Oxoniensis*).

William Wynde made his will on 18 July 1745. He was living at Farmcott in the parish of Guiting Power at the time, but it is interesting to note that it was witnessed by two Charlton men - Robert Gale and John Whithorne. In his will William left keepsakes to all his daughters and money to Ann, Paulina, Mary, Susannah and Dorothy in full of all demands on their grandmother Mason's account. No property is mentioned but that had already been settled on Joyce in 1723.

So on 12 April 1746 (about a year and a half after his decease) Joyce Reynolds late Joyce Wynde eldest daughter and heir of William Wynde clerk deceased and also grand-daughter and heir of Sarah Mason widow deceased, claimed with her husband's consent all customary messuages and lands which were of William Wynde and his wife or of Sarah Mason, heriot £1.10.4, rent 12s 5d (M15 pp106-7). Then on 30 April 1746 John Reynolds and Joyce his wife surrendered all their customary property to use of themselves for life, children to be begotten between them share and share alike or heirs of the survivor; they also surrendered the same to use of Daniel Newcombe of the City of Bristol DD to secure a loan.

On 30 November 1750 John Reynolds of Somerville Aston clerk and Joyce his wife, as one of the grand-daughters of Sarah Mason widow deceased, re-surrendered all the property previously limited, to use of John and his heirs, heriot £1.9.4, subject to a mortgage to the Rev Dr Daniel Newcombe now Dean of Gloucester (M15 pp 231-2). Bigland tells us that John Reynolds AM was appointed to Aston Somerville in 1742 and gives the inscription on his stone in the body of the church. He had been Rector for thirty two years and died 12 October 1773 aged 57. His wife Joyce died 19 April 1776 aged 63. Benson says the church at Aston Somerville was served every Sunday morning and Reynolds received (with some doubt as to the exact figure) around £77 p.a. He kept a curate.

Old Ham was sold 5 February 1752 by Joyce Reynolds, with her husband's consent and the consent of Pauline Winde spinster, James Martin and Mary his wife, Susannah Winde spinster, Dorothy Winde spinster, and John Slade, husband of Anne now deceased. It is described as "all that messuage in Ham in the parish of Charlton Kings, with outhouses and buildings, courts and yards, gardens and orchards", Little Summer Leasow (3a), Great Summer Leasow (9a), Eyebreach (4a), the Laye (4a), the Meadow (4a), Little Hornfield (2a), Upper Hornfield (3a) "which were formerly the estate of one Edmund Goodrich and afterwards of William Winde" - present tenant Hugh Bradshaw, heriot £1.12.10, work silver 2s 4d (M15 pp282-4). The consideration was £700, paid by William Pope a Cheltenham vintner. The surrender was confirmed on 14 January 1766 by Richard Rice clerk and Dorothy his wife, the youngest of the Winde girls and unmarried at the time of the sale. Some question must have been raised as to her legal right (M16 pp146-7).

The 1752 tenant, Hugh Bradshaw the elder, had moved into Charlton with other members of that family. He was buried 17 August 1769 and his wife Mary not till 1824 (see *Bulletin 22* p 10).

The mortgage on Old Ham was still in being when the daughters sold the house and land. On 7 November 1766, at the request of John Reynolds and his wife, a double surrender vested it in John Beale of Temple Guiting, heriot £.10.0 (M16 pp 91-2). Then on 2 September 1782 this was transferred again to William Prinn. By that time the mortgage was for £1000 (M17 pp 84-5).

(3) Pope, Graham and Burrows:

William Pope surrendered to uses of his will 12 June 1781 (M17) and his son, another William, was admitted 30 March 1789. On 4 October 1802 Mary Pope widow of William Pope late of Cheltenham surgeon deceased surrendered to use of James Graham of Cheltenham esq and his wife Catherine, daughter of William Pope. Graham is described as "Major Graham" on the Charlton Park estate map of 1811 but he need not necessarily have been in the Regular Army. The uses of Mary Pope's surrender were declared separately by deed of 11 October 1802 (D2172/2/6) which tells us that William Pope the surgeon had settled property on his daughter and son-in-law, including Old Ham, then occupied by William and Joseph Bradshaw (two of Hugh Bradshaw's sons) as tenants. Then on 18 March 1816, for £1000 paid to Graham by John and William Burrows of Charlton Kings yeomen, Old Ham was surrendered to them and the £1.12.10 heriot paid (M25 p 271).

The sales of 1802 and 1816 give us two possible dates for the early 19th century alterations to the house. But in view of the unaltered consideration (the value set on Old Ham in 1816 being £1000, no more than it had been in 1782), the Burrows seem most likely to have brought the house up to date after 1816. The window in the rebuilt parlour is of a type popular in Cheltenham houses around that date. The open fireplace may have been blocked and a range put in (not necessarily the one of which an iron fitting still remained in May 2000).

The 1851 census shows William Burrows living at Old Ham and farming 26 acres. He was 67, born in Charlton, with a wife Jane and son William also born in Charlton, aged 34, but not apparently baptised here (though James son of William and Jane was baptised at St Mary's 5 April 1822).

The 1858 Rate book shows William Burrows as the owner with Thomas Fry junior as tenant, rateable value £36.15.0. This William must be the son as William senior was buried on 18 January 1855 and his will requested that after his wife's death his son William was to receive rent from the Homestead, consisting of messuage, farm buildings and 3½ acres of land adjacent at Ham. If William junior had no children then the property was to pass to his younger brother James.

By 1882 the Rate book no. 295 (DA 3 510/1) shows James Burrows as holding the house and 3a.3r.38p land. This James is described (D2025 M49 p101) as of Ham, ex Relieving Officer, only surviving brother and heir of William Burrows late of Charlton farmer, who died intestate without issue on 1 December 1869, William being the eldest son and heir of William Burrows late of Charlton farmer who died 12 January 1855. James was admitted to a parcel of land (1.0.2.), a messuage and buildings called the homestead (to which William Burrows had been admitted 3 August 1858). Some of the land had been sold by the trustees of William Burrows the elder's will. But trustees appointed by Chancery (to replace trustees of John Burrows's settlement and will) claimed Great Summer Leasow (8.2.10), High Breaches (3.3.15), Little Summer Leasow (2.3.24), garden and orchard, cottage and buildings formerly

called The Homestead (0.3.37). They sold the land to Albert Brassey (Russell's mortgagee) for £487, but not the house, on 27 January 1893 and paid 15s heriot (D2025 M50 pp281-4).

(4) Wander, Bellinger, Peachey & Davis

Before 1914 Old Ham Farm had been sold to Joseph Wander, and Charles Bellinger was his tenant (Rate Book DA3 510/6). The rates were only £0.6.1 for the land and £1.5.8 for the house (nos 254-5). Bellinger had become owner by 1937 and was thinking of selling. We have the consultants' report on the state of the building and outbuildings, dated 17 June 1937 (D 2299/6167):

The Hall is described as "living room or kitchen about 16ft 6ins x 10ft, exclusive of a recess", with a large open range and stone-flagged floor. The back kitchen with stone and tiled floor had a pump, and there was a "cider cellar" - not in fact a cellar so much as a cider storage place. The remains of a cider press has been found outside the house in 2000, after the bushes and brambles were cleared. The 1937 description speaks of a brick-built cider mill-house containing mill and press, as well as other outbuildings. Inside the house - "Above the Dairy and Entrance passage are Two small rooms which are in a dilapidated state", the floors had collapsed and there was dry rot. The rot seems to have been completely eradicated and the floor in the room over the dairy renewed, but the problem with the floor explains the marks visible on the main timbers in the Dairy. The two pieces of pasture were let to Albert Dowler Mitchell, (formerly of Glenfall Farm and by 1937 of Ham Court) for £10 p.a. The suggested value of the property was £700.

Mrs Barbara Neve has been told that the house was sold in 1937 to Mr and Mrs Peachey. In 1967 Mrs Davis bought it. The modern fireplace in the Parlour, the removal of the range in the Hall and substitution of a small fireplace, and the modern bathroom upstairs were presumably either her alterations or the Peachey's.

I am grateful to Jane Sale for her help in researching the Winde family and Tony Sale for reproducing the family trees.

MARY PAGET

6. CHARLTON KINGS CHARITY ESTATE

David O'Connor has sent us this copy of a notice sent out by Nathaniel Hartland in 1858. He explains how he got hold of it:

After the death of Lady Dixon-Hartland in 1956 the contents of Ashley Manor were sold by auction. The proceedings took four days in all, and afterwards the then Head Gardener, Jack Stadden, collected various unconsidered trifles from the empty building. He took home to The Lodge numerous family photographs and a framed notice calling for bids to be made for renting the Charlton Kings Parish Lands, issued in the name of Nataniel Hartland in 1858. Forty four years after the sale, while David was collecting material for his book on the Dixon-Hartland Family, he was fortunate to be put in touch with Mrs Betty Adams, Jack Stadden's daughter, who provided him with not only photographs and her recollections of Lady Agnes and life at Ashley Manor, but also Nathaniel Hartland's framed notice

CHARLTON KINGS CHARITY ESTATE.

TO BE LET BY TENDER

For Four Years, from March 25th, 1858,

THE FOLLOWING LANDS BELONGING TO THE ABOVE CHARITY:—

Lot 1.--All that **PIECE** of **PASTURE LAND** known as **CUTHAM BUTTS**, now in the occupation of Mr. Gabriel Ballinger, containing by admeasurement about **3A. 2R. 28** POLES.

Lot 2.--All those **FIELDS** known as **UPPER HILL, HYETT'S HILL, & TINKER'S OVEN**, now in the occupation of Mr. Benjamin Rowland, containing by admeasurement about **16A. 2R. 21P.**

Lot 3.--All those **FIELDS** known as **WHITE FURLONG, GOLDFINCH, and BELLACRE**, now in the occupation of Mr. Edwin Chapman, containing by admeasurement about **6A. 0R. 28P.**

Lot 4.--All those **FIELDS** known as **BARLAND and HUDCROFT**, lately occupied by Mr. William Warder, containing by admeasurement **6A. 2R. 21P.** No allowance will be made for damage done in digging Gravel, &c.

Lot 5.--All those **FIELDS** known as **BATTLEDOWNS**, now in the occupation of Mr. John Walters, containing by admeasurement about **7A. 2R. 28P.**

Lot 6.--All that **PIECE OF GARDEN GROUND**, situate at **MORETON VALENCE**, now occupied by Mr. Nathaniel Sims.

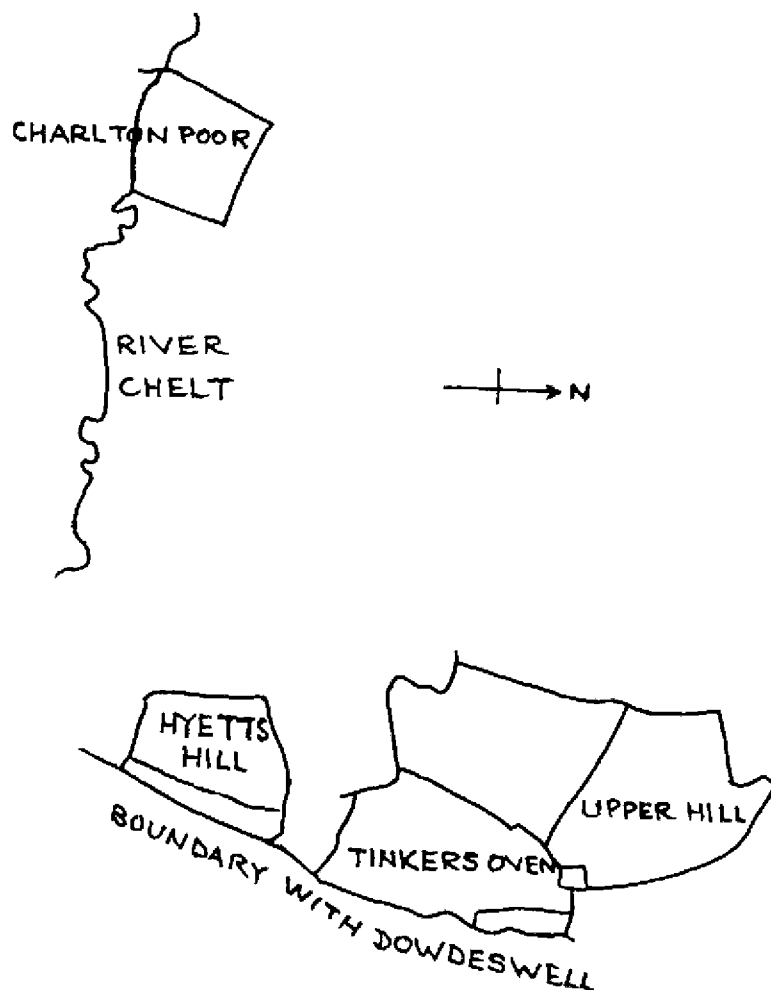
N.B.—The Pasture Land to be Grazed, the First and Third Years, and the Hay to be Spent on the Land. No portion of the above Lands to be Underlet.

Tenders addressed to "N. HARTLAND, ESQ. The Oaklands, Charlton Kings," will be received up to the 5th April, 1858.

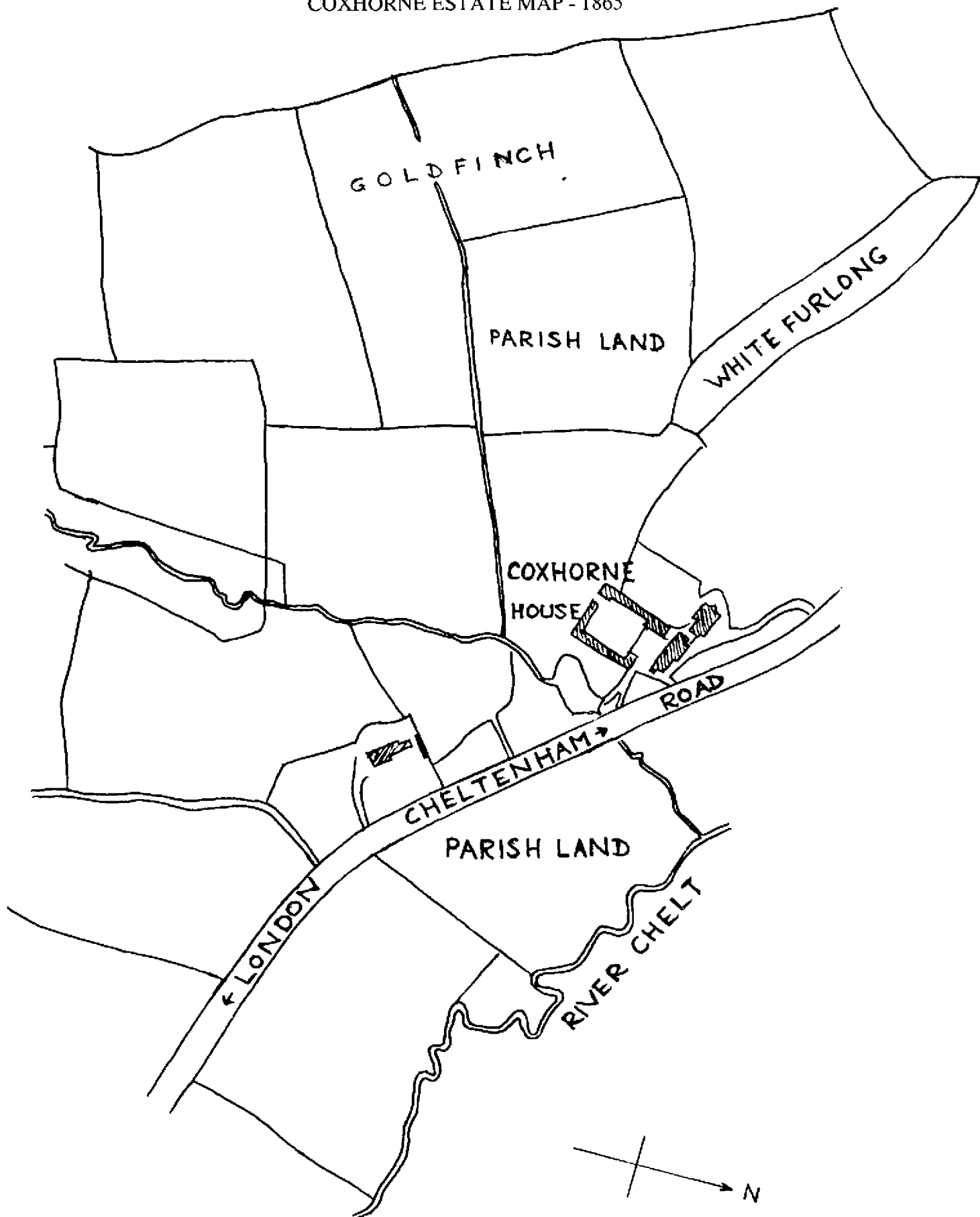
The notice is a reminder of how the poor of the parish were looked after in the past. Over the years land and houses were given to the parish and the rents received were used to assist the poor and sick, pay for funerals, provide schooling and apprentice orphans. *A History of Charlton Kings* has a chapter devoted to this subject, but a few brief notes about the land and its tenants seem appropriate here:

Lot 1. Cutham Butts was given by Samuel Cooper in his will, proved 1743. It lies in the north west of the parish near to Northfield Farm. The tenant, Gabriel Ballinger, is listed in the 1851 as a farmer living at Northfield and again in 1861. By then he was aged 68 and helped by his son Thomas who later took over the tenancy at Northfield.

Lot 2. Upper Hill, Hyett's Hill and Tinker's Oven are on the eastern boundary of the parish, adjacent to Dowdeswell Wood on the north side of the London Road. They were given to the parish in 1819 by William Hunt Prinn in exchange for land previously belonging to the parish which had been let on a long lease to earlier members of the Prinn family and had become incorporated into their inclosed park land. The fields are marked on the 1811 map of the Charlton Park estate, part of which is reproduced below. Benjaming Rowland was farming Old Dole Farm in the 1851 census, but had left by 1861.



COXHORNE ESTATE MAP - 1865



Lot 3. White Furlong, Goldfinch and Bellacre were listed in an enquiry into Chantry endowments made in 1548. By 1617 they had been bought for the parish and can be considered the oldest of the parish lands intended to be used for the relief of the poor. They can be seen marked as 'Parish Land' to the west of Coxhome House on a Coxhome Estate map dated 1865. The tenant, Edwin Chapman, is listed in the 1861 census as living in Horsefair Street and farming 30 acres. The 1871 census shows him as farmer at Little Herberts.

Lot 4. Barland and Hudcroft were included in a list of parish lands set down in the Vestry book of 1700, described as 'two closes of meadow at East End'. They lie to the north-east of the London Road on either side of the Chelt. They are marked on the 1811 Charlton Park estate map as 'Charlton Poor', and the Coxhome 1865 map as 'Parish Land'. Their recent tenant, William Warder, was listed as tenant of Charlton Mill in 1856, but had left by 1858. The gravel extraction would have brought in funds for the Charity Estate, but must have been a deterrent to any tenant wanting to pasture stock on the land.

Lot 5. The Battledowns were part of the endowment given by Samuel Cooper in 1743. They lie at the north end of Greenway Lane, adjoining the Hewletts Gate turnpike house. There was a John Walters living in Oak Terrace on the London Road in the 1851 census, who may have been the tenant. He was a builder employing twelve men, so perhaps he needed pasturage for working horses; or he may have hoped, as sitting tenant, to acquire the land for building.

Lot 6. A piece of garden ground in Moreton Valence. This dates back to an entry in the Vestry book of 1700, showing that £10 had been given by Grace Denton of Cirencester, 'formerly when a child kept by this parish'. For some unknown reason this money was invested in buying land at Moreton Valence, near Frampton-on-Severn. It was eventually sold by the trustees in 1884.

The Charity Estate was managed by a Board of Trustees, one of whom was Nathaniel Hartland Esq. of the Oaklands. For more information about the Hartland family see David O'Connor's *The Dixon-Hartland Family 1832 - 1956*, published by our Society in 2000.

7. TENANTS GOOD AND BAD

A 'Memorandum relative to the Charlton Park Estate' was made in 1839, presumably by a land agent or steward for the benefit of Sir William and Lady Russell. It gives us a 'frank' opinion of some of the tenants of the estate, and is also an indication of the condition of some of the properties.

New Court House - Tenant Mr Hart. The tenant has given notice to quit, in consequence of considering the rent as too high at £80 for a House, Garden & Field. Upon enquiry I find the present Tenant a **Man of low dissipated habits & involved in serious difficulties as to Money Matters**. I would advise that the Notice should be acted upon a New Tenant may be found at perhaps all the rent which from the hasty view I was obliged to take I should think rather too high say £10 per ann. the House as I understand being in bad repair.

Vineyards and Old Dole - Tenant Mr Herbert. By account received of the Tenant, SI Herbert, I most certainly advise that the Notice to be given this day should stand. A **Sporting thoughtless reckless Character and in very serious difficulties as to Money Matters makes a most troublesome Tenant**.

Coxhorn - Tenant Mr Timbrall. 40/- per Statute Acre a full rent the Land has been much neglected and will take two years to be brought round proposed to be let to Mr Dowle at the above rate he offering the Money.

Ham or Ranels - Tenant Mr Burrows. The Rent in particular £180 last half year put up to £200 the Tenant complains bitterly of the rise and also that he has not the quantity of Land under the Plough and Scythe he is charged with.... This Farm is of more value to the present Tenant than it would be to another he having adjoining property of his own and is to all outward appearances an honest hardworking Man with of course a little Craft incident to his Tribe. He ought not to be parted with lightly.

Northfield - Tenant Mr Ballinger. A Hilly rough Farm with hardly Arable sufficient to employ a proper Strength. The Tenant appears to be a very hard working Man and I understand looked up to in Parish Matters.

Ref: D7661 Box 3/10

JANE SALE

8. CHARLTON KINGS FIRE BRIGADE, ITS DISBANDING AND THE BELL

In 1901 the Charlton Kings Fire Brigade was established and its truck situated at the new council yard. This yard had been on the London Road but the yard was moved to Horsefair Street on what is now Horsefair Close. Stables and a foreman's house were also built on the site, with the fire bell hung in a cote on the side of the house, where the foreman could ring it to summon the brigade.

Eric Cleveley (in *Bulletin 23*) tells us that some of the team worked so far away that they had to be fetched by a person on a push bike. In consequence fires were often out or beyond help by the time the brigade arrived. Fred Turner (in *Bulletin 32*) describes the fire brigade truck as having red lamps, a bell and a hose with the crew running alongside. There was a manually operated pump which could be fixed to standpipes.

In the *Echo* of 4 January 1924 we have the following report:

'Small Fire at Charlton Kings - An outbreak of fire occurred at 5 Providence Place Charlton Kings in the occupancy of Mrs Mustoe on Thursday afternoon. Some beams were alight owing to the heat of the chimney. The fire brigade was called out and the flames quickly extinguished.' Providence Place was where the car park is now, well situated for quick attendance by the brigade.

In the Charlton Kings Urban District Council Minutes for 1923, we find £27.10.6 was spent in March on the fire brigade and in April £60 was paid out. In November Mr Forbes, the Clerk to the UDC paid in £3.12.0. In July 1923 a letter was received from Brigade Captain Hewinson resigning his position as Captain of the brigade as he was leaving Charlton Kings. It was decided that the Fire Brigade Committee would appoint a new captain. By August the committee had asked Councillor Harris to take up the captaincy again, with Councillor South as vice-captain, but after some discussion Mr South was appointed captain with the benefit of Mr Harris's experience.

At the same meeting the installation of a telephone at the Fire Station and in the captain's house was discussed. They needed to ask the road foreman if he would be prepared to undertake the extra work of answering the telephone.

This photograph was taken around 1901/2, possibly in the new Council Yard. We note Captain Harris in the middle and the uniforms, which will be little changed from those disposed of in 1924/5. What a pity they were not wearing their helmets.



At the November Council meeting a letter from Cheltenham Town Clerk was read out asking the Council to consider amalgamating their Brigade with the Corporation Brigade. It was considered that the approximate cost to Charlton Kings would be £37 per annum. At the next Council meeting the motion that the Fire Brigade be amalgamated with the Cheltenham Brigade was proposed by Mr Bond, seconded by Mr Peacey and carried.

However not everyone in the village was happy with the situation. In the *Echo* for 9 January 1924, we see '**Charlton Urban Council - More about the Fire Brigade** Councillor South made a further attempt to check the proposed amalgamation between Cheltenham and Charlton Kings fire brigades'. It would appear that Mr South had organised a public meeting in order to gain the view of the ratepayers on this matter.

At the Council meeting on 8 January a letter was received from Cheltenham with a proposed agreement for the Council to inspect. They accepted the terms and proposed that they should run for ten years. In March the Fire Brigade Committee asked Mr J Villar to value the articles to be taken by the Corporation and in April Councillors Harris and Curtis met a representative of the Corporation to arrange a price for the equipment.

Captain Such from Cheltenham came to Charlton Kings Fire Station to inspect the equipment and the following was agreed to: Hose (about 60yds) £15; Truck £5; 2 Standpipes £4; 2 V junctions £2; 2 Spray Nozzles £2; Bar and Key 5s; Saw and Leather Case 10s; Pick and Shovel 5s; Hose Winding Machine £2; 10 Pairs of Boots £7.10s; 14 Chairs £1.15s; In addition the Clerk to the Council was to advertise for sale: Canvas Buckets; 4 Ladders; 2 Lamps; a Saw; 4 Hurricane Lamps; 3 Buckets; 10 Tunics; and 10 Belts.

During May the Brigade Committee met the firemen to explain the situation. Cheltenham were prepared to take four men into their brigade, and two men decided to do so. All the men in the team were to be allowed to keep their helmets and axes.

The accounts for 15 October 1924 shows the sum of £40.5s received from Cheltenham Corporation. By March 1925 a payment was made to Cheltenham Fire Brigade for £37.16s - the first annual payment one assumes. It was suggested that a small hand truck with first aid equipment be kept at the depot or the Police Station. It is interesting to note that at no time was any mention made of the bell. (Ref. for Council Minutes GRO DA3 100/14)

When the brigade was disbanded the bell was moved to the new Cemetery in Horsefair Street, where it was hung on the lych-gate and tolled for funerals. The bell is a heavy object and in time the lych-gate became unsafe, the bell was rescued by the late Mr Fred Baldwin.



Photograph reproduced by kind permission of the Cheltenham Art Gallery and Museum

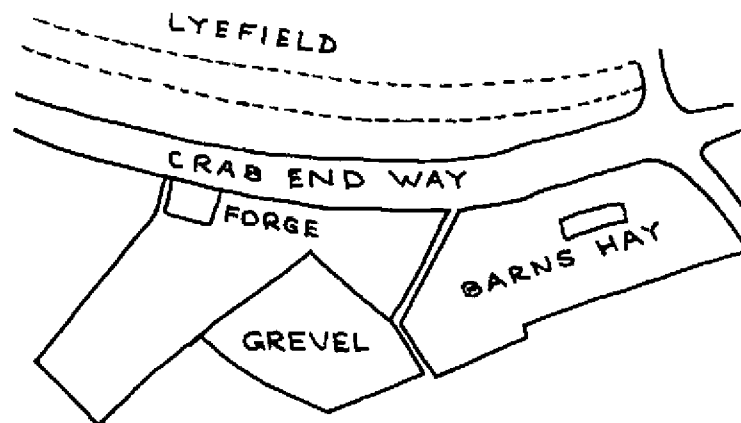
Recently Dr S Blake agreed to take the bell into Cheltenham Museum store for safe keeping and we thank Mrs Baldwin for continuing to look after it over the years. In the future, when the museum is enlarged, the bell will be able to be displayed. Unless of course anyone can come up with a place in Charlton Kings where it can safely be on view.

I am grateful to Tony Sale for tracking down the makers of the bell - Messrs Barwell of Birmingham. He gives us this quote from *The Church Bells of Gloucestershire* by Mary Bliss and Frederick Sharp: 'In 1784 James Barwell established a foundry in Great Hampton Street, Birmingham, but bells were not cast there until almost a century later. Bell founding continued until the beginning of the First World War, but after 1914 no bells more than 20 inches in diameter were cast.'

MARY SOUTHERTON

9. THE EARLIER HISTORY OF BARNS HAY

Barnshay, where the Baptist Church now stands, has a very well documented history.



It appears to have been a plot of about half an acre. The material relative to its later history came to hand first, in title deeds for Wakefield's shop (now the Vine see *Bulletin 15*) and now a small bundle of deeds, part of the new large collection from Stokesay Court (GRO D7661 Box 3/2) gives much information about its earlier history.

The name seems to come from Robert Barne who was assessed at £7 for goods in the 1522 *Military Survey* (ed. R.W.Hoyle, p46)

The first deed in D7661 is dated 1581 when John Kemett yeoman of Charlton Kings in consideration of £7 conveyed to Henry Yates or Yeates yeoman of Charlton Kings "one parcell of a certain close called Barnhay lying and being in Charlton aforesaid, divided and separated by metes and bounds and lying next near lands of Giles Grevell gentleman, Lord of the Manor of Charlton aforesaid, and now in the occupation of a certain Nicholas Kemett on the south side and from the land of the said John Kemett both on the west and on the north and by a common lane [now known as Grange Walk] on the east side, which said close called Barnshay the said John Kemmet acquired for him and his heirs by gift and grant of a certain

Barnshay the said John Kemmet acquired for him and his heirs by gift and grant of a certain Edward Dowdeswell otherwise Wheeler of Charlton aforesaid". John Kemmet issued a deed poll (1) to make the transaction known and accompanying it a bond of quiet possession and a quit claim. No mention is made of any building, which suggests that the land in 1581 was quite undeveloped. But it mentions charges on the land, one peppercorn due to the lord of the manor on the feast of the Archangel Michael and one penny on the same feast to John Kemmet and his heirs.

Barnshay was held by Henry Yates or Yeates and his family for the next seventy seven years. They developed it to suit their needs.

The next document dated December 1658 does at least give reason why the then owner, another Henry Yeates, conveyed it to Thomas Diggerson. Henry Yeates had inherited Barnshay from his father William Yeates, but this Henry, described as husbandman, lived at Keeswell in the parish of Kempsey in Worcestershire, and so had no use for a small property in Charlton Kings. Therefore "in consideration of the sum of thirty nine pounds of current English money" he "bargained and sold ... to the said Thomas all that his cottage house or tenement with one orchard close of ground thereto belonging ... by estimation half an acre or thereabouts be it more or less". Now half an acre was not a viable agricultural holding. Thomas Diggerson was not a husbandman but a 'narrow weaver' and the house which can have had no more than two hearths (since it was exempt from Hearth Tax) gave him all he needed - a half an acre of garden and orchard to grow vegetables and keep a few hens and perhaps a pig - many villagers kept a pig or so behind the house. At this time most of Diggerson's family were probably living at home.

When Thomas Diggerson made his will in 1684, his wife had died and he had five surviving children. The eldest was Jane baptised 12 March 1640/1, next came William baptised 10 February 1644/5, then Edith baptised 11 January 1647/8. No baptisms for younger children appear in the parish register because they were born during the Commonwealth when church baptism was forbidden. It is to these two that Thomas left the bulk of his possessions - William the eldest son was left forty shillings; Jane Burrows the eldest daughter also received forty shillings; Edith Fluck for some reason received only five shillings. Joyce his youngest daughter was not married and by the terms of his will it looks as if the father did not think she would be. Probably she kept house for him and he made proper provision for her. She was to have "two rooms at the East end of the house where I live, one below and one above the same". In *A History of Charlton Kings* (1988) p 53, and on the cover of *Bulletin 30*, is a drawing of Barnshay by Powell made in 1824, which clearly shows an addition to the house which exactly fits the bequest. Joyce was also to receive "one garden plot adjoining at the east end of my garden as it is now divided with meer stones with two (sic) ingress egress and right of way through the little gate, all this for her lifetime". She was to have one pair of hempen sheets and his second best brass kettle. Lastly Thomas wrote "I give and bequeath all the rest of my house and tenement, garden, orchard backside wherein I now live with all and singular their appurtenances unto my said son John Diggerson and his heirs for ever."

Thomas Diggerson was buried in 1687 and John Diggerson succeeded him. The bundle of deeds contains nothing for the years immediately following Thomas's death. But the parish register shows that John was married and had two sons who reached manhood. The elder of these two was another John baptised 11 October 1689. The younger was Roger baptised 12 February 1692/3. There is nothing to show what the father did for a living but it is not impossible that he too was a weaver. The elder John was buried in January 1706/7 and his son John followed him on 10 March 1710/11. He died without issue, so his younger brother Roger inherited Barnshay.

Roger Diggerson is described as yeoman. In December 1737 he mortgaged his property to Thomas Reade of Cheltenham yeoman in consideration of the sum of Ten Pounds of Lawful money of Great Britain. The lengthy description of the property which follows shows no real change from before. The money was paid in the presence of Rebecka Stephens and William de la Bere. It could be redeemed for £10.10.0

The final deed is dated 11 June 1742 when Roger Diggerson released the property to Samuel Sloper and William Prinn in trust for Edward Wills in consideration of £27. All documents relating to Barnshay were to be handed over to the purchasers; and that is why they came to form part of the Prinn family collection D7661 available for our study.

(1) A deed poll gets its name from its shape. It is 'polled', cut straight across the top, unlike an indenture. Its purpose is not to show the terms of an agreement but to give public notice of some change which had already been made - hence its common use to bring to public knowledge a change of surname.

JOAN PAGET

NOTE: In *Bulletin 15* p28, I showed the strips which (as M J Greet discovered) made up this part of a common field c1403, when John Dowdeswell the weaver's garden occupied land to the west. Later we know the Dowdeswells of Cudnall who were wheelwrights and farriers held The Forge - they sold it to Crumpe in 1600.

It looks as though Robert Barn in the early 16th century did not acquire strip 1 next to Crab End Way (Church Street) but that c1700 it was used to widen the road. (See *Bulletin 28* p30). I corrected the date of the house in *Bulletin30* p5, but was still some fifteen years too early.

What we cannot yet do is to make the link between Edward Wills and his trustees in 1742 and Thomas Hall who acquired the house and half acre within the next five or ten years.

STONE COTTAGE - I was mistaken in associating this with the Randall family (*Bulletin 15* pp29-30). It now seems more likely that it was used by the owners of Barnshay house as a brewhouse - that would explain why it had no window on to the lane, but a good one with stone mullions on to Barnshay garden, and a large fireplace which originally had a stone beam over it.

MARY PAGET

10. WILLIAM HARRISON - THE MYSTERY BENEFACTOR

Those of you who read the article on Thomas Robins in *Bulletin 44* will remember that his career as a painter was largely due to his good fortune in being able to work as a boy with the fan painter, Jacob Porteret. How Porteret came to be living in Charlton Kings is still a mystery, but it seems to have come about through the good offices of a certain Mr William Harrison.

What then do we know about this gentleman? Mary Paget, writing about various houses in Spring Bottom, relates how Harrison bought a house from members of the Ballinger family. (1) The deed, dated 26 January 1716/17, described him as 'Mr William Harrison of Charlton

Kings, gentleman'. From this we can deduce that he was already either the owner or tenant of a property in the parish, and a person of some status.

The earliest known reference to him occurs in January 1710/11 when, together with John Prinn senior, he witnessed a deed concerning the purchase of land in Charlton Kings by John Prinn junior.(2) In March of the same year he again acted as a witness, this time to a memorandum concerning John Prinn clerk taking services at Shipton Sollars.(3) It seems, therefore, that he was an acquaintance of the Prinn family, who were the owners of The Forden, later to be known as Charlton Park.

This is confirmed by an entry in a Prinn expenditure account, dated 21 June 1711: 'pd for slatting Mr Harrison's Dovehouse', implying that John Prinn, as the landlord, was paying for repairs to his tenant's property.(4) But which one? Where was there a dovehouse other than John Prinn's own at The Forden? The most likely answer is at New Court, which had been purchased by Prinn in January 1696/7 and let by him after he acquired The Forden in 1701.(5) We know that this property included a dovehouse at that time, as it is specifically mentioned in a mortgage deed of 1678 and later in a Marriage Settlement between John Prinn clerk and Mary Percival dated 19 September 1732.(6)

The next mention of Harrison occurs in the Parish Registers of St Mary's - '24 August 1712 Alice, wife of Mr William Harrison, was buried.' This is the only mention of Harrison's wife and no children were baptised here. Note the use of the title 'Mr' - a significant indication of Harrison's status in the parish. He does not appear to have been a landowner at this time, so was presumably a member of a profession - a lawyer perhaps? Records of the Middle Temple show that a William Harrison, son and heir of Edward Harrison of Rugby, Warks. esq, was admitted in 1687. Could this be 'our' man? Is it just coincidence that in the same year John Prinn senior was mentioned in records for the Inner Temple?

During the few years following his wife's death, Harrison must have decided that being tenant of a property was not enough, he wanted to own a part of Charlton Kings. In 1716 he bought 3 ridges of land in Ryeworth Field from Thomas and Ann Mansell and another ridge in the same field from Robert and Mary Gale, then in 1717 the house in Spring Bottom from the Ballingers. This property also included 1 acre of land in Ryeworth Field adjoining his previous purchases.(7) The house, together with the acre of land, cost him only £36, and at that price must have been in a very poor state and would have needed considerable improvements before making it a fit home for a gentleman. It is doubtful whether Harrison ever actually lived in the Spring Bottom house, as he was shortly to move to London. It is more likely that he bought it to let, or possibly to provide a home for his friend Jacob Porteret.

The link between the two men became apparent when Harrison witnessed the will of Germain Porteret, the father of Jacob, at Germain's house in the Liberty of the Tower of London in April 1715. How the link was forged between the two families remains unknown, but it seems that Harrison must have been spending time in London - perhaps, like John Prinn senior, he combined country living with a London law practice.

At about this time Harrison commenced training for ordination. The Ordination Registers for the Diocese of London list him as becoming Deacon on 6 January 1720/21 and Priest on 10 January 1721/2. On both occasions he is listed as 'Guilamus Harrison Literatus' - the designation 'literatus' applied at this time to someone who had attended one of the universities but who had left before taking a degree, but it was also used by the Church of England to describe a non-graduate priest.

Soon after his ordination as a priest Harrison made a will, dated 22 September 1721, a copy of which is among a collection of Prinn papers (8). In it he describes himself as 'William Harrison of Charlton Kings in the county of Gloucr. clerk', thus confirming that the ordination details do refer to 'our' Harrison. He goes on to devise the Spring Bottom house together with one acre of arable land in Ryeworth field 'to my beloved friends Jno. Prinn clerk and Samuel Cooper both of Charlton aforesaid' as trustees to permit Jacob Porteret, then of Charlton Kings, to have the use of the house for his life. There is no mention of any family in the will and Harrison left all his other goods and chattels to Samuel Cooper and appointed him sole executor. The fact that Porteret was described as 'then of Charlton Kings' suggests that he may well have been living in Harrison's house already.

The will went on to direct that after Porteret's death the house was to be 'to the use and benefit of the poor of the parish of Charlton Kings'. Obviously Harrison had no plans to live in it himself, even if he did outlive Porteret. At some stage before Harrison's death, Porteret paid him the full value of the house and on 31 March 1737 he wrote to the trustees asking them to convey the house to Thomas Robins. This was not officially carried out until 31 August 1750 (9).

Thomas Robins had, in fact, 'entered and been in possession' of the house since Porteret's will was proved on 28 March 1745. At that time the house was considered to be worth about £200, a very considerable increase from the £36 pounds paid in 1717. By then it had a Hall, Great Parlour, Little Parlour, Kitchen, Buttery and Brewhouse and four upstairs chambers (10). Improvements must surely have been carried out, but whether by Harrison or Porteret is not known.

We shall probably never unravel the mystery of why William Harrison came to live in Charlton Kings, why he bought the house in Spring Bottom, or why he left it to Jacob Porteret, but we can certainly be thankful that, as a result, the young Thomas Robins had the chance to learn the art of fan painting.

Ref: (1) *Bulletin* 42 pp 11-18. (2) GRO D1224 Bundle 41.
(3) GRO D7661 Box 7/30. (4) GRO D7661 Box 3/1. (5) *Bulletin* 9 pp 27-28.
(6) *Bulletin* 9 *ibid* and GRO D7661 Box 10
(7) GRO D7661 Box 4/11 and Box 7/11. (8) GRO D7661 Box 9/4. (9) GRO D7661 Box 1/11
(10) GRO Inventory 1745/1

JANE SALE

11. MORE ABOUT MOBLEYS

Bulletin 40 included a few notes about the history of a cottage in Ham, previously known as Mobleys, but now forming part of Ivy Cottage. At the time of writing we knew that there was a parcel of land called 'le Moblies' in 1648, but it had no building on it then. Now Mary Paget has found an entry in the Cheltenham Manor Court records dated 16 April 1684, which shows that by then a house had been built on the land: 'John Probert, eldest son and heir of Roger Probert late of Charlton, claimed all that dwelling house or tenement called the Moblies with garden, orchard and backside, rent 1d and heriot 4d' (D855 M34).

Our Parish Register Transcript II shows that Roger Probert senior was buried on 17th December 1683. Roger Probert was the grantee in the 1648 entry, so it appears that he was responsible for building the cottage some time between 1648 and 1684.

12. THE GARDEN AT HAWTHORNS



We are very grateful to Mr G Husband for sending this copy of a water colour sketch done by Samuel Holland Healing when he owned Hawthornes between 1910 and 1930. See *Bulletin* 42 for more about Hawthornes, or Kings House as it is now known.

13. CHARLTON KINGS MEMORIES

I was born in Croft Road 1908. And something I did not expect was that I would come back again (June 1999). This was due to my Wife's health. But how things have changed.

Our playing fields were the Beeches. But now it has altered so much with new estates etc. We used to go along the side of the Cemetary through allotments, then over a little brook along a path which used to come out opposite Hearne Road. That is no longer there. I still remember going through those allotments with My Pal (Jack Humphries) and we saw a pig being killed. It was strapped to a little stool. And after catching the blood in a jug, they put straw underneath and set it alight to burn the bristles not a very good sight for two schoolboys to look on. What a good thing that would not be allowed today. At the top corner of the Beeches was a little pond where we used to catch tadpoles. That is no longer there now. One of our favourite walks was up over Bull Hill and back over Timbercombe Wood. Sometimes we would continue over to Vineyard Farm. How it has changed now. But the hills and scenery are the same. I still enjoy seeing all that and wish I could still do the same.

I also was in the Boy Scouts and often we camped up on the hill at "Ham" on weekends. We had to take our tents and gear on a truck, some pulling and some pushing. That was hard work. But we did enjoy those times. I notice that the Scout Hall is still there.

PERCY BRIDGMAN

Mr Bridgman also told me that most of the so-called 'cider mills' in Charlton Kings, especially the one at Coxhome, used more perry pears than apples. M.P.

14. THE CHAPEL PEOPLE AND MEMORIES

Although both my great grandparents and my grandmother were buried in the St Mary's churchyard adjacent to the New Street boundary, for reasons unknown to me, we were never 'Church goers'. As I wrote in *Bulletin 13* our first introduction to religious instruction was via Miss Kitty Marshall and her crocodile of little East Enders.

My recall of the minister of the Chapel is very hazy, a tall lithe man, but it must have been W.R. Wilson 1926-1935 (see p136 in *A History of Charlton Kings*). Also I have a vague picture of a baptism service with a total immersion in a sunken pool beneath the floor in front of the altar. Was this a figment of my imagination? Although the *History of Charlton Kings* makes reference to the duties of the Chapel keeper in this respect (p135). [In fact the pool was in the schoolroom. M.P.]

With the Chapel as in most things my memories are of people especially in the growing up days. When we arrived under Kitty Marshall at the Chapel gates, Mr Ryland father of Ben and George would be there, as Superintendent of the Sunday School. Alongside him would be Ben. He was a manager or 'The' manager of 'Geo.Bence & Sons Ltd' builders merchants of Fairview Road, Cheltenham. He seemed to tower over his father. My abiding memory is a large rotund man, dressed in a dark three piece suit and across the waistline of his waiscoat a magnificent Prince Albert watch chain. He was very much involved in the young mens Brotherhood. Then Mr Sadler of Croft Road or Gardens. He was involved in the weekly running of the Sunday School, and had a son of about my age who was a pupil.

Another family were the Carters of Croft Avenue, Bill, Jack, Olive and Sylvia. Bill and Jack were older, it was either Bill or Jack who were as we said 'going out' with Kit Neather. My memory tends to favour Jack but perhaps someone will correct me. Olive we identified as

'going out' with Pip Sealey of Grange Walk. Then there was Sylvia, 'who was Sylvia what was she?' as the early Edwardian/Victorian ballad went. I have a memory of standing behind her on the platform of Charlton Kings railway station. This was the occasion of the annual Chapel trip to 'Denleys' leisure gardens at Bishops Cleeve. What was I then 9 or 10 or less? She did not speak - I doubt if she knew I was there but I keep the memory alive today. 'Such is the stuff of History'.

Mrs Protherough and her family were also a family of Chapel stalwarts, also Mrs James of Little Herberts Farm with her daughter Joan. I can still visualise them rushing round the corner from Skinner's shop. Mrs James had a lovely soprano voice and her high notes were always identified in the hymn singing.

Finally old Mrs Tuffley who came to Chapel service with Mrs Fred Neather (senior), dressed in black long skirt, shawl with white blouse and black bonnet. I remember her because of her remark to me one Sunday morning in the Autumn of I think 1930. It was following my recovery from meningitis in the August of 1930 and only during the Autumn was I able to walk with some difficulty back to school and Chapel Sunday school. Whilst waiting to enter the Chapel gates Mrs Tuffley put her hand on my head and said 'We prayed every Sunday for you to get well'. It has been a thought I have carried down through the years and now 70 years on it is one thing I still have as a defining moment that relates me to Charlton Kings Baptist Chapel.

REG SEABRIGHT

15. MEMORIES OF THE 1940s

This delightful photograph of two of our members, Edgar and Joan Stickley, was among the possessions of the late Mavis Prout. Her father, Ron Adams, had been a friend of Edgar's from an early age. The photograph was taken in Cheltenham at Easter 1947, on the occasion of their engagement. Edgar had joined the army in 1942 and been demobilised in August 1947 after serving in India. He and Joan (nee Middleton) were married at Pershore Abbey on June 25th 1949.



16. DEMOLITION OF HOUSES ON THE BATTLEDOWN ESTATE

It seems likely that 2001 will see the demolition of two of the older houses on the Battledown Estate, Battledown House in Ashley Road, and Temple Garth in Oakley Road. Neither are listed buildings and both have been neglected in recent years to the point where they cannot sensibly be restored.

Battledown House: Battledown House pre-dates the Estate's establishment in 1859. We have not been able to determine its date of origin but it was not shown on Faden's map of 1810 and was definitely occupied by 1851. It was originally owned by the local landowner and barrister Samuel Higgs Gael, though it was normally let while Higgs Gael lived at the nearby The Knowle (now Battledown Manor). As can be seen from the accompanying photographs, the House is not architecturally impressive; it has extensive vaulted cellars and, though it was rumoured that it was once a tavern or beerhouse, it is more likely that the cellars may have served a farmhouse. A plan of the House and photographs of it in 1925 appeared in *Bulletin 25*, published in Autumn 1991. The land on which the Estate was formed was bought from Charles Cooke Higgs and Lot 8, on which Battledown House stands, was reserved in the original Estate Plan for a new church; the House was then to become a vicarage. However, the development of the Estate was so slow that Cooke Higgs built his Holy Apostles Church down where it is, and we were deprived of the sight of a spire on the top of Battledown Hill dominating the Charlton landscape.

BATTLEDOWN HOUSE - January 2001



Main Entrance on Left Hand Side



Secondary Entrance on Right Hand Side
Added When House Divided into Two Dwellings



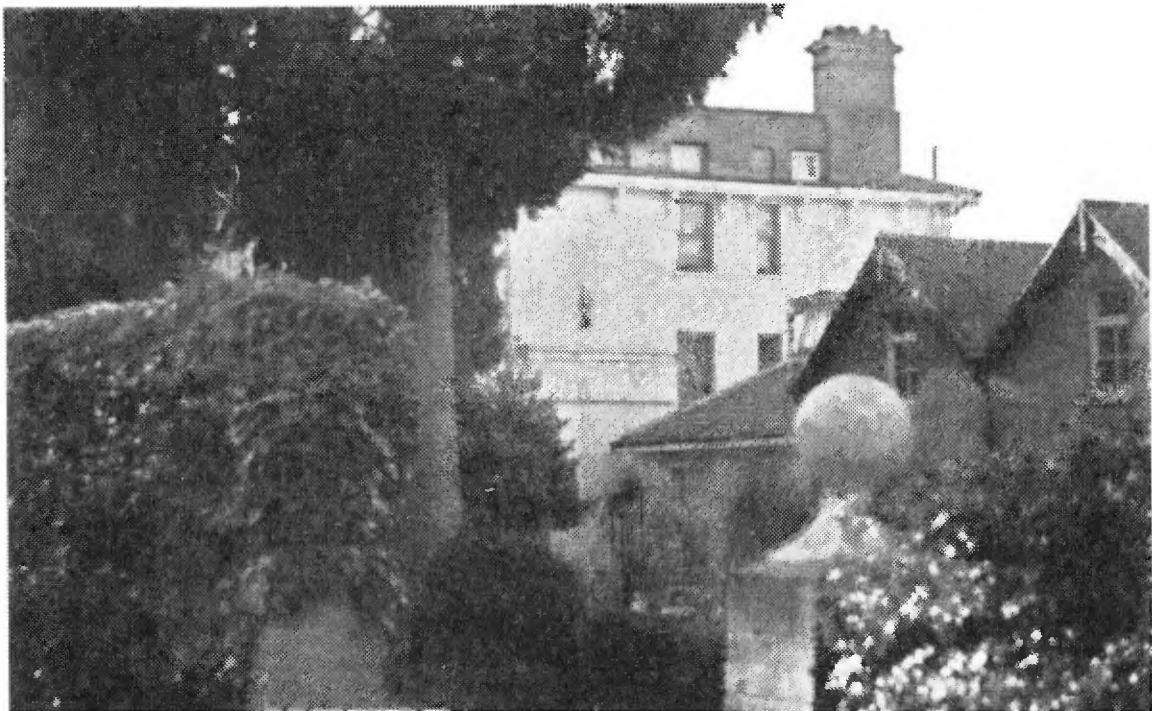
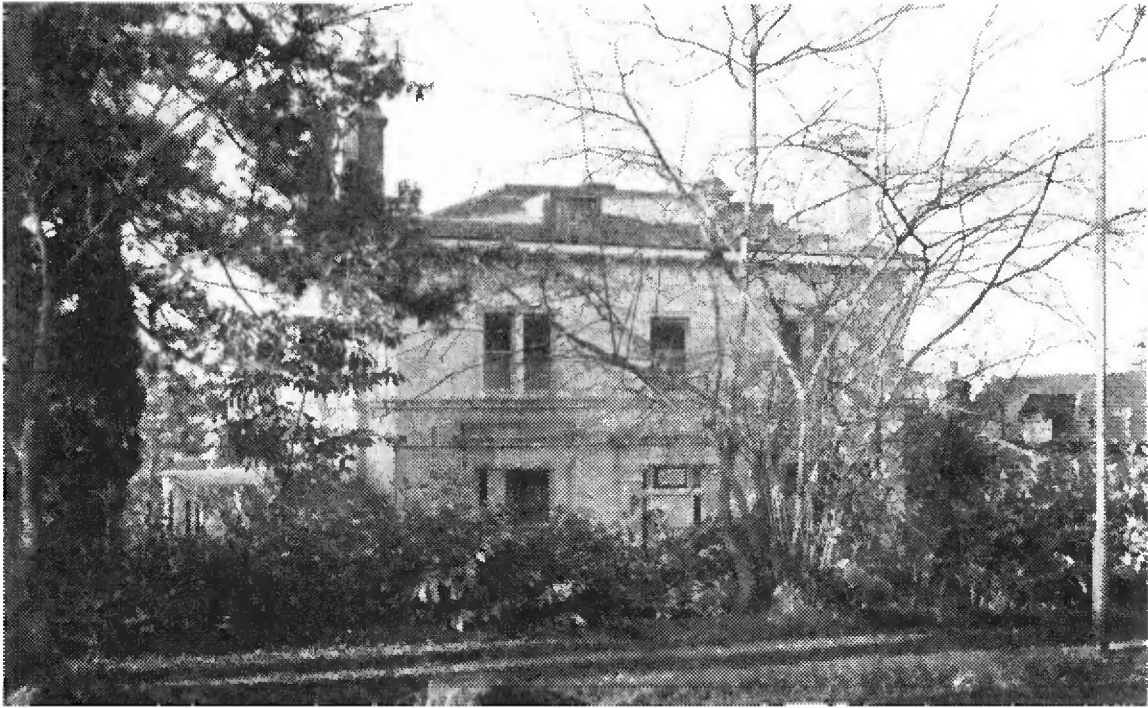
Temple Garth: Temple Garth began life in 1871 as Femclyffe and was the home of Richard Rogers, dental surgeon and later five times Mayor of Cheltenham; however, it was let for long periods. Rogers lived there with his wife Jane nee Humpris and her two spinster sisters; they had no children but his butler, Winstone, compensated with five. In 1930 the house was bought by the Reverend Ernest Clapin Wilson, who re-named it Hornby, after the parish of the same name in Lancashire that he had just left to become rector of Daglingworth. The photograph taken in 1935 shows the rear of Hornby in immaculate condition, with its pitched-roof brick coach house visible to the left. Architecturally, it is typical of many in Cheltenham. One feature is an external bell on the wall nearest the coach house, by which the coach could be summoned from inside the main residence. The name of the house was changed to Temple Garth in 1965.

Temple Garth in 1930

Rear Aspect with Coach House on Left



Temple Garth - January 2001



Coachman's Bell on side of House, Billiard Room and Coach House

DAVID O'CONNOR

17. LICENSEE OF WORKING MEN'S CLUB

We are grateful to Mr Douglas Wilkins for passing on this photograph of Mrs William Pearce (nee Sarah Ann Day), of Ivanhoe, Copt Elm Road.

In the 1891 census Sarah and William were living at 2 Horsefair Street. Sarah was aged 27, born at Pendock in Wores. and listed as 'stewardess at W.Men's Club'. William was aged 30, born at Elkstone, a 'domestic gardener'.

By 1900 they were living at Ivanhoe.

We think the photograph dates from the World War I period.



18. AT CHELTENHAM SPA or GEORGIANS IN A GEORGIAN TOWN

This is the title of a book written by Edith Humphris and the late Capt. E C Willoughby and published in 1928. Starting on page 173 is the following:

'... the opening months of 1815 were eventful for Cheltenham. At the Charlotteville party which was held on 10th January, the guests were decorated with garter-blue ribbons bearing the motto in lettering of gold "God Bless the Princess Charlotte". These ribbons were worn by the ladies on bandeaux, scarves or sashes, and by the gentlemen across their shoulders or round one arm. The guests were received by the Colonel in full-dresses Highland uniform, the tartan sumptuously embroidered with gold lace.

The ball was opened at half-past ten by Mrs Mcleod and the young laird Mackinnon who were followed by about sixty couples ... The company, after a squeeze *comme il faut*, sat down to six tables, covered with every luxury the season could produce, with French wines etc sparkling briskly in unison. When the din of voices had a little subsided, the Colonel arose, and, amid a profound and respectful silence, in a voice that well bespoke his loyal feelings, gave the health of his royal patroness, the Princess Charlotte of Wales with long life, health and prosperity. This was received as usual with God Save the King ... When the tumult had in some degree subsided Colonel Mcleod gave the King, HRH the Prince Regent and the Duke of York, the Army and Navy etc.'

The authors did not know which house in Charlton was called Charlotteville in 1815; they suggested Charlton House. We know it was No 2 Cudnall Street, a new house built in 1807 on an old site (see *Bulletin 33* pp 19-28). The guests will have entered by the drive from the old Cirencester road, a steep cut down the bank of c1797 leading into the old road (which, after the new turnpike of 1826-7, became the back drive of Charlton Park). For the drive and sweep, and the original lay-out of the house, see the sketch plan in *Bulletin 33* p22.) The guests will have admired the delicate plaster mouldings (*Bulletin 33* pp20-21)

This account of one of Colonel Mcleod's famous parties for Princess Charlotte's birthday, based on newspaper reports, probably doubles the number of guests. There could perhaps have been sixty including chaperones, there could not have been sixty couples in those rooms. Six tables seating ten at each could just possibly have been arranged.

The princess was born 7 January 1796 and married Leopold of Saxe-Coburg on 2 May 1816. She died 6 November 1817 in childbirth, leaving the Royal Family with no clear line of succession after her bachelor uncles - Queen Victoria was the result of one consequent marriage.

I am grateful to Mary Southerton for lending me the book from which the extract is taken. It gives a wonderfully vivid picture of life in Regency Cheltenham. (earlier periods must be read with caution!)

MARY PAGET

19. NOTES AND COMMENTS

(i) Ian Harris would like to add a name to those in "Notes on Doctors in Charlton Kings" in *Bulletin 43* - that of Dr Barrett Cardew.

Dr Arthur Barrett Cardew, OBE, MC, FRCS, MB, opened a surgery at 37 Lyefield Road West, conveniently next door to the chemist, in 1926 and it remained his surgery until 1963.

He did not live in Charlton Kings but his home was at 77, London Road - the house on the corner of London Road and Old Bath Road. This house, a listed building, is currently being converted into flats and a terrace of town houses are being built in what was the garden. Prior to this development the house had been a hotel and the garden a car park.

Ian remembers Dr Cardew as his family's doctor, who performed a minor operation on him as a small child. 'I lay on my back and the nurse placed a metal frame over my nose and mouth over which she placed a cloth. The nurse then poured a liquid on the cloth and I went to sleep. I assume the liquid was chloroform. The treatment was carried out in our home.'

(ii) Charlton Kings Parish Council have asked our Society to record the planting and naming of an oak tree on the triangle of grass near the Hewlett Reservoir. The planting was carried out at the beginning of February 2001, and the Council have named the tree Josh's Oak, in memory of Councillor Ray Wilkinson's much loved black labrador.

20. REVIEWS:

First I would like to draw attention to two books which, though not referring to Charlton Kings, may yet be of interest to members.

(1) *Frocester, a Romano-British Settlement*, Eddie Price (2000), Vol I The Site, Vol II The Finds, £35 from the author at Frocester Court. For anyone interested, who hasn't time to read two volumes, there is a very adequate Summary in *Current Archaeology* 169, pp 11-19.

Recent finds have reinforced the suggestion of a Romano-British site in Cheltenham and it would not be surprising if some evidence turned up here, though we should be incredibly lucky to find an Eddie Price to spend years in studying it.

(2) *American Lady of the Manor, Bredon's Norton. The Later Life of Victoria Woodhall Martin 1901-1927* Owen Stinchcombe (2000), £8 including postage from the author.

The problems Victoria found, social and educational, in Bredon's Norton were not those of Charlton but form an interesting contrast. An American's approach to them makes a vivid study.

Next two books which do concern Charlton Kings:

(3) *The Church at the Crossroads - A Holy Apostles Millenium Celebration*.

This booklet, especially the extracts from the School records, is fascinating reading. I would myself have preferred more about the working of Holy Apostles as a church instead of eight pages of introductory matter available elsewhere.

(4) *A Chronology of Cheltenham* Stephen E Osmond (2000).

Some dating errors on pp 1-2, e.g. date of accession of Henry I and date of Charlton Chapel consecration will strike members - but after the 17th century this is going to be a very valuable reference book to which we shall all turn.

MARY PAGET