



Friends of Somerset Archives

Snippets - No. 26

December 2012

Dear All,

If you have been affected by all the recent flooding you have my very sincere sympathy. We have had such a wonderful summer - with the Diamond Jubilee, Olympics and Paralympics - yet the last couple of weeks are spoiling our memories of 2012.

Interestingly, Somerset has flooded on various occasions through the centuries and it is surprising how much you can find out on the internet.

Since the last edition I have been found by another couple of cousins - one in America and the other in Canada. If only I wasn't scared of flying!!

Wishing you a very Happy Christmas and New Year.

Liz

RESEARCHING WAR MEMORIALS - write-up by Anne Murch

On 10th November Susan Tall gave us a comprehensive and very fascinating talk on the origins of war memorials, their physical appearance and the lives of the people commemorated on them. She had researched her local war memorial in Kenilworth and with a friend written a book on Kenilworth and the Great War. For this talk, as well as drawing on her Warwickshire experience, she had also kindly done extra research on examples of memorials in Somerset.

She began by talking about the origins of memorials. It is only relatively recently that memorials have been made to the dead. Before that memorials were built to celebrate victories, like the monument at Wellington, celebrating Waterloo. Some of the earliest memorials to those who have died in wars were made by individual regiments like the memorial in Taunton to the 144 men who died in the Anglo Burmese war 1885-7.

She then talked about war memorials as physical objects which can be found in a variety of places and forms. Some have the form of a traditional cross often set in the middle of a village or in the churchyard, like those at Mark, Glastonbury and Baltonsborough. Some are obelisks like those at Drayton and West Buckland. Some have statues like the one at Somerton. Some are on plaques inside churches either to all local men who have died in a war or to an individual, like one at St Mary Magdalen Taunton. The latter church has a memorial to Brigadier General Prowse who fought in the South African War and in WW1 where he died on the first day of the battle of the Somme. He is the only person to have a cemetery named after him, Prowse cemetery Ypres salient. Some churches like Chedzoy have memorial windows and Kilve has a memorial lych gate with names in the roof. Memorial hospitals were built and playing fields and parks developed, including one at Keynsham. A very large memorial park in Coventry has many trees with memorial plaques attached which people could purchase for £1-50 for WW1 and £2-50 for WW2. Famous architects like Lutyens were responsible for some memorials.

She illustrated, from her research into the Kenilworth memorial, the sort of information that could be used including how the form of memorial was chosen, how it was financed and how decisions were made and by whom. Originally four possible options were discussed, a public hall, a covered cloister, a playing field and a monument. In the end a monument was the only one that could be afforded and it took from 1919 till 1922 before the memorial was finally dedicated. Raising sufficient money was difficult in the hard times following the first world war. Newspapers were a very good source of information about the twists and turns of the negotiations. www.kenilworthwarmemorial.org.uk.

She told us that the Imperial War Museum is compiling a list of all war memorials www.ukniwm.org.uk and that a charity, the War Memorials Trust www.war memorials.org can give advice, information and small grants to help with repair and conservation.



(In the photograph above, Susan appears twice - on the screen and in the flesh!)

She then went on to talk about researching the names on the memorials which she found particularly interesting. Their memorial had plaques on three sides with names including one woman and these were researched to discover the stories behind where they fought and died, the part they played in the war, who their families were, what they had done before the war, whether they were married and had children and whether photographs of them were available. Since they started their research in 1999 there has been an explosion of new technology to help researchers and she gave a handout of useful websites.

Among the sources they used were the British Legion, the Church memorial book, schools, the census, local directories, baptism records, the Commonwealth war graves website, the website on Ancestry of Soldiers Died in The Great War www.ancestry.co.uk which shows where they were living when they enlisted. Local newspapers provided a wealth of information. There was regular war news intermixed with other local news and advertisements. Information was sometimes gained from wounded soldiers and letters home from the front were sometimes published www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk. The Coventry Herald published photographs of soldiers which made their stories more real. Soldier's records can be found at the National Archives www.nationalarchives.gov.uk and on Ancestry but unfortunately almost 60% were destroyed by bombing in WW2. Another website called The Long Long Trail has regimental information www.1914-1918.net/. Attached to this website is The Great War Forum which is a very useful source where people all over the world make contact with one another. Through them managed to find photographs that she hadn't been able to find elsewhere. To find local relatives she left a list in a local hairdresser and put an article in the local paper.

She then illustrated her talk with the stories of three individuals on the memorial. The first was William Hewitt who had been in the territorial army so was called up at the beginning of the war aged only 18 and was killed in December 1914. His younger brother contacted her to say his mother had had a precious tin box which had contained a letter home saying he was sick and tired of the war and hoped it would be over by Christmas. There was also a letter to him from a young woman who had answered a call in the Evening News for people to write to soldiers. She had offered to knit him something.

The second Constance Seymour, a probationary nurse, was the only woman on the memorial. She was the daughter of Lord and Lady Seymour, the former Lord Lieutenant of the county. She died in 1917 having caught an infectious disease from a patient at the Connaught hospital. The third Dudley White was a young man from a local garage who was recruited into the tank regiment. On 9th October 1917 his tank called Damon II was hit by a shell at a crossroads in Poelcappelle and he was buried beside his tank. His commanding officer said that never a braver boy rested under Belgian soil. Twelve tanks were lost in the battle but the village was rebuilt round this tank and it stayed in the village until the Germans took it away

in 1941. She was able to contact a number of his living relatives and went with them to Poelcappelle and visited the spot where they think he is buried. He is remembered on the Tyne Cot memorial.

Susan gave us her own website www.susantall.co.uk.

Following this very enjoyable talk there were a lot of questions and comments which brought up more information about war diaries online, the Western Front Association, plotting a map of where soldiers had lived in a town, Thankful villages (Somerset has more than any other county) www.hellfirecorner.co.uk/thankful.htm, why someone was or was not on a memorial, responsibility for upkeep and railway company magazines.

After the talk Sam Asthill assistant curator at the Heritage centre spoke briefly about the bid being made to the Heritage lottery for a variety of activities in 2014 to commemorate WW1 including a major exhibition at the museum of Somerset and a programme of other events. A number of local organisations are willing to contribute.

THE PARISH OF WHITCHURCH, OR FELTON, OR FELTHAM - WHAT IS GOING ON? BY MALCOLM DANIELS, CHAIRMAN.

I was contacted by a Bob Hoskins from Bristol offering to transcribe the parish of Whitchurch as part of our Tithe Apportionments Project. He had noted from our website that Whitchurch has not been done and, although not a member of the Friends, offered to carry out the task.

I know the area well as I was born and brought up in Bristol. It appeared from my list of Parish Data of Tithe Apportionments that Whitchurch had not been photographed which I did not understand as Ann and Robin Leamon had done such a comprehensive job of photographing the documents.

I knew from my own personal experience of my childhood that my parents used to take me by bus to walk on Felton Common near the A38 south of Bristol. It had stuck in mind that there was a 3 hour church service going on there, as it was Good Friday, whereas we had been to a one hour service in the morning! I had never heard Felton referred to as Whitchurch, however, which again was a place that I went often as a young man. This as far as I was concerned was on the A37 south of Bristol - quite a different place! Since I hold all of the photographs of the Tithes for the Friends Tithe Project, I looked at those listed in our list as Feltham (Whitchurch). The front page of the Apportionment says that it concerns 'Felton otherwise Whitchurch'. I looked at the first edition of the OS map for Felton via the Genuki website, at <http://www.genuki.org.uk/big/eng/SOM/parishes.html>, but could find no mention of Whitchurch at all.

I decided to ring Bristol Record Office and spoke with Matt Coles to find if he had any help that he could give (since I knew that they had some information on the parish of Whitchurch, Bristol).

Matt was most helpful and went to look at the Apportionment. He agreed that he had another copy of the Apportionment (three were made for each Parish) and that it was similar to the one at Somerset Heritage Centre, stating that it was of 'Felton otherwise Whitchurch.' He could not offer any other help other than, the perhaps vital information, that they held a photocopy of the tithe map and that was definitely of Whitchurch, Bristol as it showed Brislington to the North. Although this made it likely that the apportionment was of the same area, it did not prove it.

The plot thickened!

Referring again to the Parish of Whitchurch on the Genuki site, I found a clue:

"WHITCHURCH, a parish in the hundred of Keynsham, county Somerset, 3 miles S.E. of Bristol. It is situated on the road from Bristol to Wells, and includes a forest tract called Fillwood Chase, now enclosed, on the border of which was an old town called Filton or Felton, a little to the N.W. of the present village. The living is a perpetual curacy in the diocese of Bath and Wells, value £200. The church is dedicated to

St. Nicholas." From The National Gazetteer of Great Britain and Ireland (1868) Transcribed by Colin Hinson © 2003

Aha! A little light shed on the situation, perhaps. I went back to my copy of the Tithe Apportionment which regrettably had not been transcribed and looked through the photos of the folios. On folio 22, part of which is reproduced below, I found a list of all the roads of Whitchurch.

This enabled me from my own personal knowledge and indeed from a map to confirm that the Tithe entitled Felton otherwise Whitchurch, was indeed the Tithe referring to Whitchurch just south of Bristol on the A37.

The Tithe Apportionments mentions roads to Dundry, Charlton, Wolland (Woollard), Norton (Norton Malreward) and Stockwood.

The Turnpike Road referred to is presumably the A37.
One half of the puzzle had been solved!

Public Roads		
149	Court Perry Lane	1 1 8
150	Road	1 " 11
256	Old Road at Saltwell	2 3
579	Road	36
583	Turnpike Road	6 1 29
584	Road leading towards Dundry	4 3 "
	Road leading from	
585	Turnpike House to Whitchurch Farm	1 2 10
586	Road leading from Whitchurch to Lyons Court	1 " 16
587	Road	1 24
588	Road leading towards Norton	2 28
589	Road leading towards Wolland	1 " 12
590	Road leading towards Charlton	1 " 35
591	Road	1 28
592	Road to Whitchurch Green	1 2 19
593	Road from Whitchurch Green towards Stockwood	1 24
594	Road from Whitchurch Green to N° 553	2 17
595	Road	2 12
		23 3 32

But what about the parish of Felton, the one on the A38 where I used to walk as a boy? Where were its Tithe Apportionments and Map? Again reference to the Genuki Site gave me a clue:

"FELTON, a tithing in the parish of Winford, hundred of Hartcliffe, county Somerset, 5 miles S.W. of Bristol." From The National Gazetteer of Great Britain and Ireland (1868) Transcribed by Colin Hinson © 2003

All I had to do now was prove that Felton Apportionments were shown with the Winford Apportionments. Again I had the folios on my computer, but again unfortunately they had not been transcribed. No mention of Felton! What now? Nothing for it but to use the 1841 Census.

Trolling through the pages of Winford 1841 Census by courtesy of Ancestry, I managed to identify fifteen farmers. Trolling through the Winford Apportionment, drawn up in 1838, I managed to find no less than twelve of the same farmers and two of the three that I could not find were under 25 in 1841.

I had the Solution to the Puzzle. At least in the Main. Whitchurch as a parish according to the standard work of Phillimore's Atlas and Index of Parish Registers 2nd Edition lists that the Original Registers were deposited for the period 1565 to 1976 at Bristol Record Office. Note that there is no mention of Felton otherwise Whitchurch, but just Whitchurch. There is of course an area called Filwood and this is now in the Knowle West area of Bristol just north of Whitchurch

There is no mention of Felton Parish itself in Phillimore's, something one would not expect, as I now know that the parish of Felton was only formed in 1873. According to the Somerset Heritage Web Site, '*Felton Common Hill, an ecclesiastical parish was formed in 1873 out of Wrington, Winford and Backwell.*'

There is no doubt, however from the evidence above that Felton which has been a parish since 1873 was previously part of Winford and therefore records in general for Felton should be found there.

A curious footnote.

When I was a boy, Bristol Airport was in the Parish of Whitchurch which was the 'Felton otherwise Whitchurch' referred to in the tithe Apportionment. In fact it was referred to locally as Whitchurch Airport.

In 1957, the new Bristol Airport - now Bristol International Airport - was opened at Lulsgate and in 2000 the runway was extended into the parish of Felton on the A38!

Confusing isn't it!

Food in the Archives - by Jane de Gruchy

I have always been fascinated by the history of food, and I've persuaded the Friends to let me do some proper research and write up a talk about it for January.

At the Heritage Centre, we are lucky enough to have a number of lovely recipe books, which I've been looking through recently. Our earliest recipes are from the early 1600s, and several of the books were used and reused for many years. We go right up to the glorious Women's Institute recipe books, via the controversy of the English versus French style of dining, putting on tea parties for 100, how to preserve fruit and vegetables beyond their short seasons, and how to eat well despite rationing.

Sometimes you come across recipes copied into the back of books intended for other purposes altogether - such as the recipe for making chocolate that I found in the back of a volume of special writs addressed to the Sheriff of Hampshire, from about 1650 (DD\HY/14/16/2). Recipes for food, varnish and other household items, ink and medicine (for people and animals) are often all mixed in together. Believe me, some of the medicines you really would not want to taste unless you really had to!

I have also started to look into the mechanics of how cooking was done. The Museum has the national collection of cauldrons and skillets (some of which you can see hung up at the Museum of Somerset), and the West Country was the centre of the industry for centuries. I also discovered that the cauldron and skillet makers were usually also bellfounders.

To whet your appetite for the talk, have a look at the recipes for Christmas Pudding and mincemeat in the photo. These are taken from the cookbook of Mrs. Hilda Bates Harbin of Newton Surmaville House, from the 1910s (DD\HN/3/2/12), which is labelled "reliable recipes". I particularly liked the comment that you need three times the Christmas Pudding recipe if you will be serving men!

Xmas Puddings 3 times this quantity
if men have one

3½ lbs suet, 1 lb. of flour, 1½ lbs. breadcrumbs,
2 lbs Currants, 2 lbs Raisins, 2 lbs Sultanas, 1 lb
Demerara Sugar, ½ lb. Candied Peel, 2 nutmegs, one
dessertspoonful mixed spice, one teaspoonful allspice
and one of cinnamon. 12 eggs, (or less if scarce) mix
with milk to a stiff batter. 4 wineglasses of
Brandy, or Sherry & Brandy mixed. Boil 9 hours

Mince Meat.

3 lbs Beef suet, 3 lbs Apples, 3 lbs Currants, 3 lbs
Raisins, ¾ lb of moist Sugar, ½ lb. Citron, ~~the~~ ½ lb
Candied peel mixed, 2 Nutmegs, ½ an oz salt,
½ oz ground ginger, ½ oz allspice, ½ oz cloves ground.
The juice & peel of 2 lemons. ¼ pt. Brandy ¼ pt Sherry.
Chop suet fine. Mince apples Raisins, Citron, through mincer,
Mix all together put in jars & tie down.

Now, as I will be talking about food, I wondered if a few of you might be willing to help me make and bring along some historical food for us to try. I will provide the recipes if you provide the manpower! As our cooking facilities at the Heritage Centre are limited to a microwave, we might have to concentrate on stews/pottages and cold dishes, rather than anything more elaborate. I am hoping to have a selection of recipes ready in early January, and have a few done already if you would like a sample. If you are interested in having a go, please let me have your email or postal address and phone number by Wednesday 17 January so I can co-ordinate things - you can get in touch with me via 01823 278805 or email jdegruchy@somerset.gov.uk. If you have a particular preference for, say, puddings, or something vegetarian, please say and I will try to match you up with something you'd enjoy.

The talk will be on Saturday 26 January at 2.00pm, at the Heritage Centre. Please come!

DECEMBER WEATHER IN 1889 – from Jack Sweet

One hundred and twenty-one years ago, Mr J W Duncan, of Summerlands, Yeovil, kept a daily weather record and here are his observations for December 1889. Jack leaves it to you to decide if today's weather has changed very much from 1889.

<u>December</u>	<u>Weather</u>
1	Sunny, then hazy and cold
2	Hazy, sunny, cold wind
3	Hazy, sunny, cold
4	Hazy, sunny, dull
5	Dull, a very little sleet, cloudy
6	Dull all day, snow at night
7	Snow melting fast & raining, wind changed to N.E., fine but dull
8	Frost, sunny, light rain at night, wind S.E.
9	Rainy, Cloudy then warmer
10	Cloudy, showery & sunny at times
11	Frosty, cloudy, then sunny all day
12	White frost and fog, then sunny, high wind and rain at night
13	Cloudy, sunny then fine all day
14	Hazy, white frost, sunny, then foggy
15	Foggy, sunny, cloudy
16	Cloudy, sunny, cloudy
17	Cloudy most of day, a little sun, some rain at night
18	Very windy and cloudy, then fine
19	Fog, white frost, sunny, then cloudy
20	High windy and rainy, sunny and showery at intervals
21	Cloudy, sunny, then showery
22	Cloudy, a little sun, then showery
23	Sunny most of day, and warm, stormy at night
24	Rainy, then sunny and fine
25	Sunny most of day
26	Misty all day
27	Misty, then sunny
28	Hazy most of day & cold
29	Foggy, and hazy all day
30	Hazy all day
31	Foggy all day

During December 1889, Mr John Curtis recorded rainfall in Yeovil of 2.01 inches - 1889 was generally a dry year, recording 25.31 inches compared with the previous six years' average of 29.57 inches, the wettest month was October with 4.71 inches.

World War 2 - Holidays at Home

If you recall, the last Snippets included an article on "Holidays at Home 1943", written by Jack Sweet. I decided to ask my mother, Mary Hebditch nee Peach, to write down her memories of "Holidays at Home" - she was born in 1928 and lived in Chard for most of the war years. She writes:

We were very lucky to live in Chard during the war. The Council turned the reservoir in Chaffcombe Road into something for everyone. Tons of sand were brought to the edge of the water back to the road edge. They built a jetty going out into the water with a few boats tied up to it for us to use. There was a diving raft built out where the water was deep enough for people to dive safely. It was definitely not allowed to dive from the jetty, as it was not deep enough there. On the newly made beach there was plenty of sand for the kids to build sandcastles, etc. Further back there was a medical hut staffed mainly by the Red Cross and St John's Ambulance Services, a cafe, where we could buy food etc., and plenty of drinks, both

hot and cold. I can't remember any alcohol being sold. There was always life guards on duty so we all felt very safe.

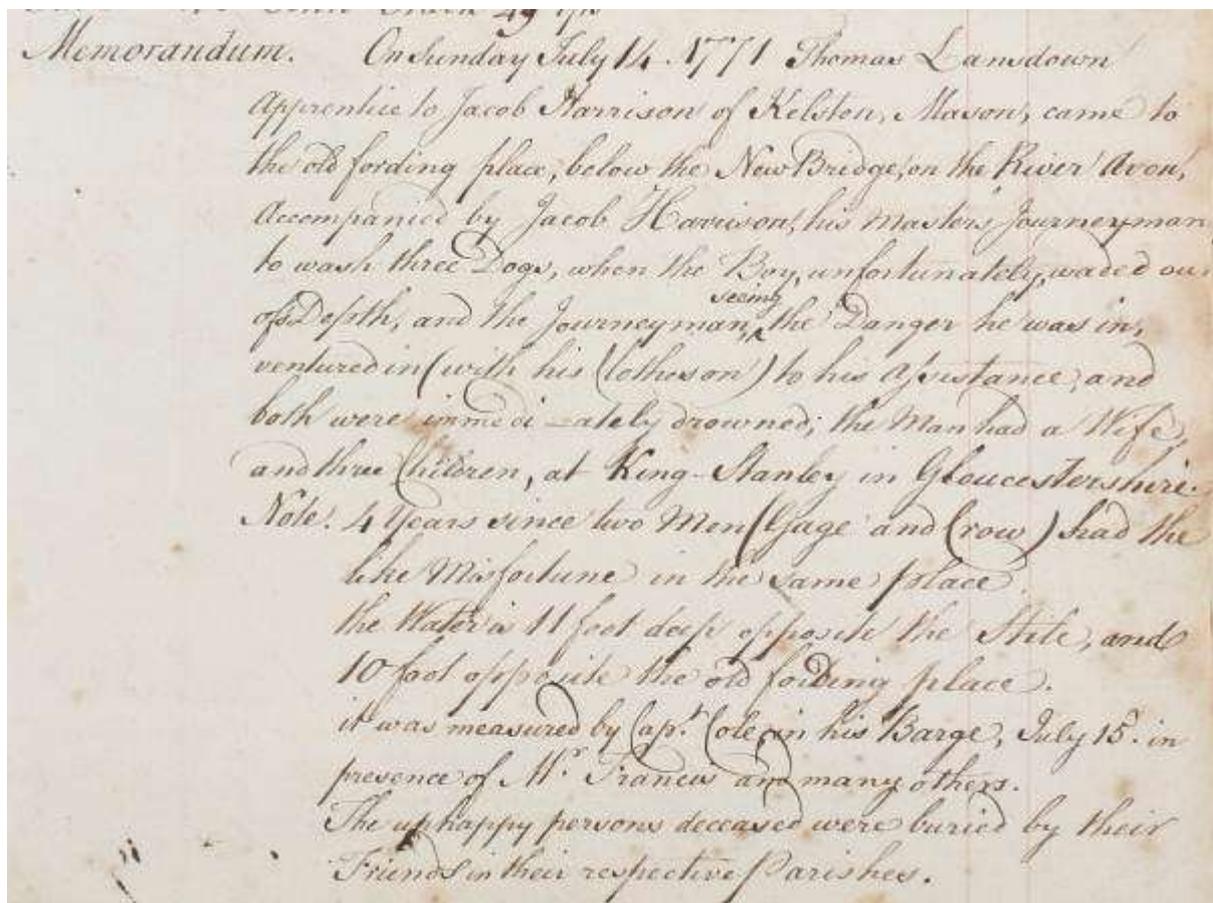
I learnt to row there and we used to hire a boat to go much further out on the reservoir. I also learnt to swim there, being stupid and jumping out of the boat when we were a fair way out - only to find everyone in the boat couldn't swim either. Trouble started when I wanted to get back in and every time I tried the girls panicked. I ended up by giving up and trying to swim. Luckily I did swim all the way back to the jetty and the panic was over. We used to leave home about 9 a.m. with sandwiches etc., some money (not very much) and often didn't get home until well after 8 p.m. I can't remember exactly when but the whole place was shut up by 9p.m. We were all well looked after and our parents never had to worry about us. My mother did her fair share of Red Cross duties.

In Fore Street, at the side of the Rugby Club, there was a large British Restaurant built. Anyone could go. The cost as far as I can remember was 9p for children. We often had Woolton Pie, made principally with carrots and potato. It tasted good and there were other things on the menu as well. I used to go about twice a week and it was run by the WRVS.

From the Ed - my mother lived at Park Terrace in Chard, only a few doors a certain Michael Aspel was evacuated. In an article he wrote that my mother was the most beautiful girl in Chard. Years later, when a broadcaster, he heard of an actress called Mary Peach. "I thought: Is it the same one?" he says. "Sadly, it wasn't."

New Accessions 24 August-22 November 2012

Not all of these collections have been listed, but they are all available for research at the Heritage Centre. If you cannot find the details on our online catalogue (www.somerset.gov.uk/dserve), please get in touch and we can give you more information.



Newton St. Loe - 1760-1844 (DIP\new.s./2/1/9) - entry relating to a accidental drowning in the river in 1771

Parish and diocesan records

Alcombe: registers of service, 1987-2010 (D\alc)
Beercrocombe: Marriage register, 1980-2012, and PCC minutes, c.1900s-2012 (D\beer)
Blagdon: parish copy of tithe apportionment, 1843-1921 (D\blag)
Chedzoy: banns register, 1920-2011, faculties and other records, 1920-2011 (D\chedz)
Chipstable: marriage register, May 1994-July 2012 (D\chips)
Churchstanton: churchwardens' accounts, 1981-2005 (D\chu)
Curry Rivel: copy of the tithe map, 1841, PCC minutes and accounts, 1955-1974, baptism register, 1956-1990, service registers, 1977-1999, and photographs, 1993-1995 (D\cur.r)
Dulverton: banns register, 1877-2007 (D\du)
Hemington: marriage register, 1994-2000 (D\hem)
Newton St. Loe: registers (baptisms and burials 1760-1844), churchwardens' accounts (1685-1966), Overseers' accounts (1739-1836), vestry and PCC minutes and correspondence, etc., [1538]-1969 (D\new.s.l)
Northmoor Green: marriage registers, 1967-1994, and service registers, 1924-1977 (D\nor.g)
Pawlett: marriage registers, 1837-2002, and burial register, 1905-1992 (D\pawl)
Wellington: parish magazines, 1916-1923 (D\wel)
Wiveliscombe: vestry minutes, Apr 1860-Mar 2011 (D\wiv)
Wookey: PCC minutes, 1973-1998 (D\wook)

Articles of enquiry and quinquennial reports from the Archdeacons of Bath and Taunton, 1970-2010 (A\ALF)

Nonconformist records

Christians Together in Martock: minutes, 1955-1964 (A\DNH)
Montacute Baptist Church: marriage registers, 1899-2003 (D\mon.b)
Taunton and South Sedgemoor Methodist Circuit: miscellaneous documents, 20th cent. (D\tsmc)
Tiverton and Wellington Methodist Circuit: photographs, minute books, newspaper cuttings, etc., 1961-2001 (D\twmc)

Parish register and other transcripts

Electronic copies of transcripts of Bab Cary parish registers, 1704-1800 (A\CQY)
Transcripts of Bleadon, Kenn, Uphill, Wick St Lawrence and Worle parish registers, 1738-1912 (A\CQY)
Transcripts of burial register and monumental inscription for Dunster, [1813-1980] (A\BTV)
Transcripts of Winsham Independent Chapel registers, [1791-1926] (A\CQY)

Local government records

Somerset County Council: copies of photographs showing the construction of the second building of County Hall, Taunton, c. 1960s (A\CLA)
Somerset County Council: Education Department, schools opening/closures and school reviews, 1990s (C/EDSA)
Somerset County Council: Emergency Planning, relating to Hinkley Point, flood and disaster plans, 2000-2004 (C/EMPL)
Somerset County Council: photographs showing workforce involved in the refurbishment of Taunton Library. 2012 (C/Lib)

Bridgwater Borough Charter confirming the Mayor, Alderman and Burgesses of Bridgwater, and Midsummer and St Matthew's Fair, 1587 (D\B\bw)

Middle and West Chinnock Parish Council: minutes, 1959-2002 (D\PC\chin.w)

Selworthy Parish Council: minutes, 1894-1998 (D\PC\sel)

Magistrates' Court records, predominantly for the Axbridge, Bridgwater and Bridgwater Borough divisions, but with individual records for Frome and Shepton Mallet. Including court registers, minute

books, accounts and licensing records, 1903-1981 (D\PS\abs; D\PS\bw; D\PS\bw.b; D\PS\fr; D\PS\sm)
(66 volumes, 1 bundle)

Axe Brue Drainage Board: minute books and ledgers, 1881-2000 (A\DGG)

Business records

Langport: records of Kelways Plants Ltd. Includes correspondence, invoices, catalogues, brochures, account books and other papers, 1930-1988 (A\DHH)

Foot Anstey solicitors: probates, 1884-1994 (DD\AY) (2 boxes)

Military records

Photographs of Private D J Chedghey, member of the Somerset Light Infantry, in China and Hong Kong, c.1920s (A\DNQ)

Somerset Light Infantry: Photograph album of Private Eyre, detailing service in Malta, North China and India, 1908-1913 (DD\SLI)

Photographs of Captain W H Bond during WWI and three certificates for gallant and distinguished service, 1914-1919 (DD\SLI)

Somerset Light Infantry: papers of Regimental Sergeant Major Charles Edward Sampson, including photographs, service records and newspaper clippings, 1920s-1970s (DD\SLI)

Somerset Light Infantry: enlistment and discharge registers, 1920s-1950s; Research and administration files including Freedom of Cities, Conflicts, VC's and GC's; correspondence re. the formation of the SCLI; requests for information files and misc. photographs, diaries and albums, 19th cent.-21st cent. (DD\SLI) (27 boxes)

Archaeological records

Glass plate negatives relating to Arthur Bulleid and the Glastonbury Lake Village, 1905 (A\DNT)

Completed archive and copy of excavation reports from Fairfield House, Stogursey and South Petherton, 2004-2009 (A\BHF)

Papers and correspondence relating to professional career and publications of Mick Aston, 20th cent (A\DMW) (18 boxes)

Final report and field notes of archaeological excavation at St Margaret of Antioch Church, Tintinhull, 2012 (A\BHF)

Watchet: architectural survey of Watchet Paper Mill chimney stack, 2012 (A\DOI)

Deeds and Family papers

Blagdon: deeds and associated documents relating to Hannah More House, 1737-1970 (A\DOW)

Exford: History of Stetfold Rocks Farm, [1689]-2012 (A\BJT)

Fivehead: copy deeds relating to Tudor Cottage, with vernacular architecture report, 1864-1984 (A\DNL)

Frome: documents relating to the Singer family, including sketch of family tree and account of family history, A\DNO ([1595]-1851)

Horton: deeds relating to Thatch Croft, 1877-1992 (A\DOD)

Merriott: family history for the Sweet family, 18th cent. (A\DNZ)#

Waterrow: deeds relating to Rock Cottage, and sale particulars for various West Somerset properties, 1954-1990 (A\ADI)

Somerton: rental accounts book and associated documents from the Pinney family, 1900-1954 (A\BZF)

Winsford: records relating to Oldrey or Aldworthy Farm, and to the Heywood family, 1848-1944 (A\DOC)

Wiveliscombe: Papers of Sidney Woodbury, including record relating to his time with the Scouts, local sporting teams, army service, his career and personal life, 1930s-1950s (A\DNU)

Deeds relating to land and settlements in Yatton, Kenn, Newton St. Loe and others, late 19th cent. (A\DOS)

Clubs and Societies' records

Bridgwater: minutes of the [Masonic] Lodge of Perpetual Friendship (no. 135), 1757-2000 (A\DLY)

Hutton Village Hall Management Committee minutes, accounts and associated papers, 1977-2005 (A\DOT)

Provincial Grand Lodge of Somerset: minute books, 1817-1999 (A\DLY)

Provincial Grand Lodge of Somerset: treasurer's accounts, payments book and members and dues records, 1855-1960 (A\DLY)

St Andrew's Conservation Trust: records of grants towards restoration of church fittings, etc., 2008-2011 (A\CAI)

Somerset Federation of Women's Institutes: county scrapbooks, millennium scrapbooks, minute books and associated documents, 20th-21st cent. (DD\WI)

South Somerset Agricultural Preservation Club: Yesterdays Farming programme, 1974 (A\AUS)

South West Fire Control Limited: records, 2006-2012 (A\DJU) (3 boxes)

Staplegrove Village Hall Management Committee: minutes and photographs, 1974-2007 (DD\X\SVH)

Weston Super Mare: records of the Milton Probus Club, 1988-2005 (A\DNJ)

West Coker Women's Institute: minute books and photo albums, 1954-2006 (DD\WI)

Wiveliscombe: research relating to the history of Wiveliscombe Rugby Football Club, [1872-2003] (A\DOP)

Research papers

Bawdrip: transcript of parish records and history of various properties in the parish, [1242-1885] (A\DOJ)

English Heritage advisory note on Churchyard Fives in Somerset, 2005 (A\DOZ)

Midford Castle: electronic copies of transcripts of wills associated with the castle, [1827-1896] (A\CJD)

Norton Fitzwarren: *Norton's Fallen Heroes* by Nicholas Dyer. Research into men listed on the war memorial, 2012 (A\DNI)

Somerset Levels landscape history research by June Carter towards a Masters Degree in Landscape History from Reading University, 1992 (A\DNQ)

South Stoke: histories of the vicars of the parish, [1210]-2010 (A\CJD)

Taunton: PHD dissertation: "Somerset County Hall, Taunton 1928-1935, Architect: E Vincent Harris" by Nick Holmes, 2012 (A\DNM)

School records

Backwell School: school prospectus, postcard and log books, 20th cent. (A\BYC)

Bridgwater: Robert Blake Science College: minutes and reports, 1972-2004 (A\DOY)

Taunton: photograph album of sponsored ships from Askwith School, Trinity, c.1950s (A\DOF)

Taunton: log books of Priory Boys' Secondary School; postcards; photograph of Van Heusen Shirt Factory; George VI Coronation poster, 20th cent. (A\DPA)

Photographs and postcards



Oliver Chalker of Keinton Mandeville, photographed here aged 91 wheeling along ten half-cwts in a wheelbarrow. He claimed aged 92 that he was the strongest man in England of that age. He attributed his longevity and strength to abstinence from alcohol, having drunk nothing stronger than milk and water for the past 75 years. He died in 1940, aged 101. (A\DOR/1)

Photographs and postcards

Bridgwater: Photographs of British Cellophane, Bridgwater businesses, people and miscellaneous photographs, 20th cent. (A\DEZ)
Brue Valley: copies of photographs showing life on the turf moors, 1938 (A\DNR)
Holcombe: postcard showing celebrations to mark the coronation of King George V, 1911 (A\DJG)
Keinton Mandeville: postcard of Oliver Chalker, 'strongest man in England', c.1930 (A\DOR)
Mells: two postcards showing the unveiling of the war memorial, 1921 (A\DKI)
Taunton: photograph of zeppelin over Denmark Street, c.1930 (A\CHD)
River Parrett: photograph album and scrapbook from River Parrett Works, c.1930s (A\DOX)
Negatives, slides and photographs of Mendip/Somerset caves and caving, 20th-21st cent. (A\DON)
CD: British Railway Book Photo Index, 2012 (A\DNP)

Other records

Chiselborough: map, with OS numbers and landowners, 20th cent. (C\PSCS)
Glastonbury and Street: copy of a map showing Glastonbury and Street Tramway, [c.1870] (A\DNY)
Maperton: Oral history recording relating to the history of Maperton, [1984] (A\DOE)
Montacute: map of the parish, scrapbook and family album of portraits and studio views of the Phelps family, 19th cent. (A\CFH)
Nunney: historical booklet, photographs and translation of the Nunney Fair Charter, c.1260, 2010 (A\DNW)
Staple Fitzpaine: documents relating to Sir William Portman Almshouse, 1821-1826, (A\DOA)
Street and vicinity: presentment regarding the illegal grazing of geese in Meare, 1740; Street Heath proposed management system, September 1975; Street Silver Jubilee programme of events, April-July 1977 (A\DOB)
Weston super Mare: photographs, negatives, film rolls, playbills, minute books, correspondence, newspaper cuttings, enclosure award, tithe apportionment, deed, miscellaneous Weston super Mare documents, cartoons, 19th cent.-20th cent. (A\AKH) (10 boxes, 4 oversize bundles)
Documents regarding the navigation of the River Tone, and the Great Western Railway, 1880-1927 (A\BLG)
Music CD and lyric sheets composed by Les Beresford, 2003-2012 (A\DMO)

From the Committee:

At the AGM in 2011 it was agreed that the membership subscriptions should be simplified and increased. Subscriptions are due on January 1st 2013.

The agreed subscriptions are:

£8 for a single membership

£14 for a family membership

£14 for a group or affiliated membership.

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