



Friends of Somerset Archives

Snippets - No. 40

December 2016

Welcome to the December edition of The Snippets, which I hope you will find of interest.

In May this year I spent a day at the Eisteddfod for Young People in North Wales. Apart from not understanding a word that was being spoken or sung, it was wonderful to see so many young people - up to the age of 25 - singing, dancing, playing instruments, theatricals, etc. It is fantastic that these traditions are being carried on. It reminded me, on a much smaller scale, of being at primary school and taking part in the Mid-Somerset Musical Festival, held in Bath. (I still feel for the judges having to listen to about 30 little ones playing the same tune on the recorder!!), I wonder if there are any historical records left of these competitions.

I hope you have a restful and happy Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Liz, Editor

The following events have been arranged for 2017 11 January:

Jane de Gruchy *It Never Rains but it Pours* - Weather in Somerset over the ages.

25 April: Visit to the North Devon Record Office, Barnstaple. 30 maximum, the building has been refurbished resulting in funding for three years. Please let me know if you are interested in order for me to know the numbers attending.

6 June: Visit to Bishops Lydeard Mill -Organised by Carol Dimmer. Date to be confirmed.

11 July: AGM followed by a talk by Dr Andrew Butcher on Medieval Somerset Families

11 October: Sue Burne *Publicans and Boatmen* - Research into the Storey Family of Bridgwater and North Petherton". A family from the Levels and how Sue researched them

- Meetings are usually held at 2.30 p.m. If any different you will get a notification by email.

South West Heritage Service - update from Janet Tall and Esther Hoyle

- Janet advised that the Heritage Centre was applying for Archive Service Accreditation. The scheme is run by the national Archives and has importance when asking for funding.
- Current projects include:
 - The Wyndham Estate Archives. Scott Pettit will complete the work on this collection;
 - The Kenyon Photo Archive. All the photos have to be digitised, the glass negatives will have to be protected and then digitised. It is calculated that there are around 58,000 negatives and glass plates.
- The Devon Archives and Record Association have been named as Record Keepers of the Year. This is the first time that this award has been given.
- The North Devon Record office has re-opened with new running arrangements. It has been given guaranteed funding for the next three years. The search room has been transformed and there will be a bespoke photo store.
- **Esther** spoke about the Volunteer Event at which those attending were shown a collection of maps in the Conservation area.
- She also mentioned the visit by Staplegrove Junior School to be held next week; the subject being *Explore the Archives*.
- She said that a successor to the Tithes project had not yet been determined

Wanted - one marriage

I wonder if any reader of Snippets can help me with a query concerning the second marriage of Thomas Carew of Crowcombe Court which took place c. 1743-1744.

He married Mary or Molly Horne, the daughter of John and Ann Horne of Bishopsgate in London and sister of John Horne, an ex-Governor of Bombay. Another sister, Culling or Cullen, had married Thomas Smith, a merchant of London, and that family lived at Hadleigh in Essex.

According to the *Gentleman's Magazine*, the marriage of Thomas Carew and Molly Horne took place on 10 February 1743/44. However, there are two reasons to query this date. The marriage most probably took place by licence; the marriage allegation is dated 8 June 1743 and gives five possible parishes, all in Surrey, where it could take place. These are Kingston, Petersham, Richmond, Maldon and Kew Chapel and, with the exception of Kew Chapel records which the Surrey History Centre does not hold, I have checked the relevant registers with no success.

The second reason to doubt a date as late as February 1743/44 is a letter to Thomas from John Bampfylde of Hestercombe dated 12 June 1743 in which he says '[I] rejoice much to hear you are so soon to be made happy' which I take to be a reference to Thomas' forthcoming marriage in the near future.

The staff at the Surrey History Centre, Essex Record Office, Greater London Record Office and City of Westminster Archives Centre have all been very helpful in answering my queries but no one has managed to come up with the marriage entry.

Incidentally, I cannot find any reference to Kew Chapel registers on-line so if anyone reading this happens to know their whereabouts, or even if they exist, I'd be very grateful if you could let me know via the Editor of Snippets.

Sue Berry

David Hawkings - Transportation to Australia

David gave us a very interesting illustrated talk about his research into one of his ancestors who was transported. Beginning with the fact that having researched his family tree he wanted to put 'more bones on it'. He was advised to look for criminals! Which he did and succeeded - finding one John who in partnership with another had stolen a sheep. Initially John and his compatriot were sentenced to be hanged! Their sentence was commuted to transportation for life.

It was the story of the research process that David went through in order to move from the committed crime to the new life in Australia for his ancestor.

Just as David thought that he had drawn a blank another area of research was suggested to him by a friendly archivist and so gradually he built up a fascinating story.

Jeni Llewellyn

Researching and Serendipity - from Jeni Llewellyn

There is in St Mary Magdalene a memorial tablet to the men from the Parish who were killed or died in the First World War. On it there is a Private J. Biggs. Who was he? On the CWGC website there did not seem to be any obvious connection to Taunton from the many J. Biggs recorded.

There was one, a John Geoffrey Biggs killed in 1917 who did have a link to Taunton as his Father had married at Holy Trinity Church in 1882. Alas, not him as he had been a Lieutenant in the North Somerset Yeomanry.

So I put it to one side as 'perhaps it will turn up one day'.

Occasionally I am asked to look up research for some one who is unable to attend the Somerset Heritage Centre. On this occasion it was for a Baptism at St Mary's in 1916/17. When my eye caught upon Eric Biggs baptised 13th March 1917, his Mother's name was Kate, a widow. I returned home to search for a J. Biggs being killed between January 1916 and March 1917 to no avail.

Next, searching for a marriage between a J. Biggs and Kate - omitting the bride's surname. I found a John Biggs married a Kate Dore in 1908 at Headington in

Oxfordshire. I also sent for Eric's birth certificate; this confirmed my finding that Kate on Eric's birth certificate was the likely person who had married John Biggs. Renewing my search on the CWGC website I located Private J Biggs of the Royal Berkshire Regiment who had been killed in action on 3rd November 1914. On his list of effects his wife Kate is the sole legatee. John, who was a House Painter and Kate had two children, a son in 1909 and a daughter in 1911.

Clearly Eric was not John's son and what had brought Kate to Taunton? She was born in Cornwall and some recent 'digging' has shown that she had relatives in Taunton. Kate did marry again in 1920 and had further children.

Serendipity indeed!

New Accessions 3 August -5 December 2016

- thanks to Jane de Gruchy

Full catalogue entries of all the catalogued records listed here can be found on the Somerset Archives online catalogue, <http://somerset-cat.swheritage.org.uk/>.

Archaeological records

Cheddar: excavation archives report of Philip Rahtz, 1961-1962 (DD\X\SOM)

Taunton Stop Line: drawings of camouflaged pill boxes, c.1940 (A\DHM)

Somerset: M5 motorway archaeological archive, 1960s-1970s (10 boxes) (A\AWI)

Somerset: archaeological site records for Weston Airfield, Weston super Mare; land at Hainbory Farm, Northover; Crewkerne Gas Watching Brief; Northfield Farm, Somerton; and Kilmersdon Solar Farm, 2012-2016 (A\AWI)

Arts and Music

Butleigh: records of the Dove Centre, including minutes, accounts, membership papers, brochures, photographs and administrative papers, and a BBC Radio Bristol recording of an interview relating to the Dove Centre of Creativity, 1970-2015 (5 boxes) (A\EFV)

Bridgwater: Wessex Actors Company scripts, 1990s-2000s (A\EEO)

Wayfarers' Pantomime Society: minutes, correspondence and accounts, 20th cent, (A\DLT)

Weston super Mare: Knightstone Theatre programmes, 1960s (A\ATH)

Weston super Mare Music Club records, 1924-1970 (A\EGY)

Business records

Brompton Regis: workman's receipt for possession of cottage and agricultural receipts, 1857-1934 (A\DZY)

Taunton: prints of Somerset apples, originally hung on the walls at Taunton Cider, 19th cent. (A\EGH)

Wellington: digital copies of photographs of the interior of Kenyon's photographic studio, Fore Street, 1990s (A\EGJ)

Clubs', Societies' and Charities' records

Bridgwater: [Masonic] Lodge of Perpetual Friendship minute book, 1897-1916 (A\DLY)

Goathurst Village Hall: minutes and associated papers, 1928-2001 (A\EGP)

Henton Village Hall: minutes of trustees' meetings, 1933-2009 (A\EGX)

Taunton Agricultural Show: minutes, photographs, ephemera, etc., 20th cent. (A\DQG)

Taunton Inner Wheel Club: additional records, 1997-2015 (A\CYL)

Taunton Old People's Welfare Committee: trust deed and deed of variation, 1963-1969 (DD\X\BHS)

Sports clubs

Portishead Cricket Club: records including minutes, scoring books, fixture lists, photographs and newspaper clippings, 1927-2002 (A\EGB)

Wiveliscombe: photograph of the Wiveliscombe Rugby Football Club, 1 XV, 1950-1951 (DD\X\SOM)

Somerset Bowls Association (formerly the Somerset County Bowling Association and the Somerset County Ladies Bowling Association): records including minutes, accounts, handbooks, match results and Annual Dinner Dance menus, 1999-2005 (A\DET)

Deeds, wills and other legal papers

Clevedon: deeds relating to lands in Clevedon, with electronic transcript, 1861-1925 (DD\X\LLY)

Keynsham and Yatton: deeds and documents relating to two properties, 1842-1991 (A\EGC)

Nether Stowey: deeds relating to 6 (formerly 15) Castle Street, Nether Stowey, 1848-1985 (A\EGI)

Ruishton and Taunton St Mary: Valuation and particulars of lands, 1826 (DD\X\BHS)

Shepton Mallet: deeds and associated papers relating to 16 Lower Lane, 1950s-1990s (A\EGN)

Stoke St. Mary: deeds relating to East Stoke Farm, 1828-1913 (A\EGU)

Taunton and Clatworthy: lease of a messuage in Taunton and papers concerning Clatworthy Reservoir, 1680-1961 (A\EGV)

Wellington: deeds relating to property in Holywell Lake, 18th cent.-19th cent. (A\EGE)

Weston super Mare Local Board of Heath: transfer of debentures, 1900; conveyance relating to Nutchells Common, Highbridge, 1892; lease of lands in the manor of Catcott, 1814; lease of New Farm, Priston, 1826, (A\EGG)
Yeovil: deeds relating to various lands in the parish, 1700-1875 (A\EGS)

Family papers and research

Kingweston and Jamaica: additional Dickinson family estate papers including deeds, settlements, tenancy agreements, insurance papers and records relating to the family's Jamaican estates, 19th cent.-20th cent. (3 boxes) DD\DN)
Somerset: diaries of Emily Jane Dunn, 1906-1943 (A\DZY)
Somerset and elsewhere: additional family history research for the Stanley Ransome Wyatt Collection, comprising typed booklets relating to the Wyatt and Rubery families, [1680s]-2000s (A\DDW)
Hinton Blewett: papers of Brian Walker, illustrator, late 20th cent. (A\AUZ)
Taunton: will of Peter Horsey and transcription, 1829 (DD\X\SOM)

Health and social care records

Bishops Lydeard: plan of the layout of Sandhill Park, showing additional military hutments, 1945 (A\BAV)
Hinton St George: photograph album of Mrs Dorothy Maud Hole, a nurse at Hinton House Convalescent Hospital, c.1914-1922 (A\EDM)
Taunton: photographs of East Street Hospital staff, 1930s (A\EFZ)
Taunton, Williton, Watchet, etc.: midwifery case registers, photograph and other records, 1930s-2000s (DD\X\NAS)
Somerset: Somerset Insurance Committee Medical Card, 1925 (A\EGW)
Somerset: hospital records deposited under the Public Records Act, covering Bridgwater, Chard, Sandhill Park and Taunton, 1918-2003 (48 volumes) (D\H\ -)

Local government records

Chew Valley: Act for incorporating the Chew Valley Tramway Company, 23 Aug 1887 (A\EGM)

Somerset County Council

Somerset: public path diversion and extinguishment orders, 2016 (C/GP/HF)
Nyland: plan of proposed division of the Nyland Estate, 1912 (C/PSCS)
Taunton: photographs of County Hall prior to the erection of 'B' Block, c.1940s (C/PL)

Magistrates' Court records

South Somerset: Magistrates' Court records, including court registers, enforcement registers and licencing registers for the Petty Sessional divisions of Crewkerne, Frome, Ilminster, Mendip, Somerton, South Somerset, Wincanton and Yeovil, 1915-2008 (1009 volumes) (D/PS/-)

Maps and plans

Bishops Lydeard: plan of the layout of Sandhill Park, showing additional military hutments, 1945 (A\BAV)

Taunton: two 1:500 OS maps of Taunton district, 1888 (A\EFW)

Military records and records relating to the World Wars

Somerset Light Infantry (and associated regiments)

Afghanistan: lithographs and engravings of views of Afghanistan, India and others, 19th cent. (DD\SLI)

Photographs and other papers relating to the Somerset Light Infantry and other units, 19th cent.-20th cent. (DD\SLI)

Papers relating to Private E D Palmer and Captain Henry Bridges, 1861-1919 (DD\SLI)

Photographs and certificates relating mainly to the Somerset Light Infantry, c.1890s-1947 (DD\SLI)

Photograph of Sergeant William Henry Dunn of No. 2 Platoon 'A' Company, 12th (West Somerset Yeomanry) Battalion, Nd., 1914-1918 (A\DZY)

Somerset Light Infantry and North Somerset Yeomanry: photographs of soldiers, 1914-1937 (DD\SLI)

Photo-postcard of a platoon of the 8th Battalion, 1915 (DD\SLI)

West Somerset Yeomanry: photo-postcard of a group from the West Somerset Yeomanry, c.1915 (DD\SLI)

Pay and personal papers of Private Ronald John Baker, 1918-1940 (DD\SLI)

Miscellaneous papers relating to the Home Guard and the Somerset Light Infantry, 1920-1970s (DD\SLI)

Papers of George Poulter, 7th Battalion, containing 'The Little Bible' with diary entries, photographs, notes on George Poulter's army service and 'The Story of the Seventh battalion' by Captain Meredith, 1930s-1940s (DD\SLI)

West Somerset Yeomanry: copy photographs of the West Somerset Yeomanry (55th Field Regiment) during World War II, [1940s] (DD\SLI)

Miscellaneous photographs, newspaper cuttings, maps, etc., relating to Malaya and elsewhere, 1940s-2000s (DD\SLI)

Other military and World War records

Bridgwater Borough Council: poster advertising official celebrations of the cessation of hostilities in Europe, Nd., 1945 (DD\X\SOM)

Exton: research notes regarding crash of RAF Stirling bomber at Exton, [Jan 1944] (A\EGD)

Shepton Mallet: First World War papers of Jack and Vasco Hodges, c.1910s (A\EGR)

Somerset: photographs and details on French and Belgian Commonwealth War Cemeteries with Somerset war graves, [1914-1918] (A\COA)

Nonconformist records

Stoke St Gregory: CD of photographs of restoration of Stoke St Gregory Baptist Chapel, 2016 (D\N\sto.st.g.b)
Stoke St Mary Congregational Church: accounts and other papers, 1998-2015 (D\N\sto.st.mc)

Oral History records

Voices of Axbridge Oral History Archive: 105 oral history recordings, transcripts of recordings and licences, 2004-2016 (A\EGA)

Parish and diocesan records

Ash: banns and vestry book, 1845-2012 (D\P\ash)
Berrow: parish registers, service registers, parish magazines, deeds, accounts, correspondence, charity records, faculty papers, quinquennial papers, electoral roll, photographs, school minutes, publications and other records, 18th cent.-21st cent. (6 boxes) (D\P\berw)
Brean: parish records, [1880s]-2000s (D\P\brn)
Burnham on Sea: records of St Andrews, St Peters and Edithmead mission church, including PCC minutes, accounts, articles of enquiry, tithe redemption certificates and correspondence concerning the repair of the church, 1896-1981 (D\P\b.on.s)
Chedzoy: papers relating to the Candle Auction, a new lighting scheme, the churchyard, insurance, quinquennial survey and graves, 1924-2012 (D\P\chedz)
Chewton Mendip: service registers, PCC minutes, banns registers and marriage registers, 1957-2015 (D\P\chewt.m)
Coleford: marriage registers, banns register and register of service, 1973-2010 (D\P\colefd)
Corfe: PCC minute, 1996-2014 (D\P\crf)
Emborough: burial register, 1813-1992 (D\P\emb)
Farleigh Hungerford: marriage registers, 1996-2013 (D\P\fa.h)
Henton: additional records, including PCC minutes and PCC annual meeting minutes, 1994-2010 (D\P\hent)
Holcombe: marriage registers, service registers, PCC minutes & confirmation registers, 1920-2004 (D\P\holc)
Long Load: additional records, including baptism registers, monumental inscriptions and visitors' book, 19th cent.-20th cent. (D\P\l.ld)
Long Sutton: baptism register and registers of service, 1899-2016 (D\P\l.sut)
Martock: parish magazines and related material, 1893-1974 (D\P\mart)
Martock: marriage registers, service registers, faculties and ephemera, 1925-2015 (D\P\mart)
Martock: marriage registers, 1999-2008 (D\P\mart)

Mells Benefice: Village and Church News for the parishes of Buckland Dinham, Chantry, Great Elm, Mells with Vobster and Whatley, June 2013-August 2016 (D\P\mls)

Muchelney: baptism, marriage, burial and banns registers, register of services and account book, 1894-2015 (D\P\much)

North Stoke: poor rate books, school records, monumental inscriptions, cash payment book, church repairs, transfer of patronage records and other papers, 19th cent,-20th cent. (D\P\sto.n)

Norton St Philip: marriage registers, 1968-2012 (D\P\n.ph)

Pitney: baptism register, 1880-2015 (D\P\pitn)

Portishead: marriage registers and photographs of St Peter's Church prior to the removal of pews, 1979-2014 (D\P\pthd)

Portishead St Nicholas: marriage register, 2007-2014 (D\P\pthd.nls)

Rode Major: marriage registers, 2002-2013 (D\P\rod.m)

Sampford Arundel: church log book and service register, 1976-2007 (D\P\sa.a)

Wells St Thomas: banns registers and service registers, 1967-1999 (D\P\w.st.t)

Wiveliscombe Deanery Magazines, 1926-1938 (A\DZY)

Photographs and postcards

Blagdon: colour copies of an illustration of Coombe Lodge that appeared on a Player's Cigarettes card, [Nd., early 20th cent.] (A\EGK)

Glastonbury: photographs and postcards of the Abbey Barn, c.1870s-20th cent. (DD\X\SOM)

Sedgemoor: black and white print of a portrait of The Right Honourable Lewis Earle of Feversham, [late 17th cent.] (A\ECH)

Taunton: postcards, 1900s-1990s (A\EGF)

Taunton: Photographs of Fore Street, prior to the construction of the Old Market Shopping Centre, c.1980 (A\EFY)

Research papers and transcripts

Blagdon: research article on William Henry Wills, Baron Winterstoke of Blagdon, 2016 (A\EGK)

Minehead: 'An Illustrated History of the Plume of Feathers', c.2016 (A\EAK)

Minehead: 'Minehead: How We Became a Holiday Resort', 2016 (A\EAK)

Somerset: notes on brass chandeliers in Somerset churches, [18th-19th century] (A\EGO)

Somerset: research notes and published articles relating to Somerset folklore, 1990s (A\EGQ)

School and education records

Taunton: Cricket score book for Huish's Grammar School, 1946-1963 (A\EFX)

Wellington School: register of services, 2005-2015, and photographic scrapbooks, 1900s-2015 (A\DKH)

Somerset Archaeological and Natural History Society records
SANHS council minute book, 1975-1988 (DD\SAS)

South West Heritage Trust records
Supporters Welcome Pack, 2016 (DD\SHC)

Other records

Chapel Allerton: editions of Chapel Allerton Home Words, and special edition of Wells Journal, 1881-1893 (A\EGT)

Chard: photograph albums of sporting teams, drama productions, cadets and the opening of the Edith and Mary Halls, newsletters and publications relating to Chard Independent School, 1930s-2010s (5 boxes) (A\AYU)

Frome and Taunton: colour copies of plans of buildings taken from a volume of architectural plans and notes compiled and collected by John Edmund Halliday, [1821-1834] (T\PH\vch)

Somerset: letter from L Jenkins (Leoline) to John Pigott, High Sheriff of Somerset, concerning the Rye House Plot, 27 June 1683 (A\EGL)

Somerset: survey of Lynch Cottage, Timsbury; deeds for lands at Meare; letter to Alexander Hood, 1849-2016 (A\COV)

Somerset: five marriage licences, 1844-1850 (DD\X\PLY)

New Books August -December 2016 - thanks to Jane de Gruchy

Items marked D were donated to the Local Studies Library

Items marked Q can be found in the Quickref section

Items marked 'fiction' or 'poetry' can be ordered from the strongrooms

Details of all books can be found on the online library catalogue

at <http://library-cat.swheritage.org.uk/>.

ADAMS: Hunting Somerset Dragons: **S 398 ADA**

BOYD: Death Sentence (Fiction): **B 823 BOY**

BRIDGWATER CIVIC SOCIETY: Bridgwater & District's Civic Society's Blue Plaques: celebrating some of our fascinating history (D): **S BRI1 BRI**

BUTT: Weston-super-Mare Through Time: **S WES19 BUT**

CHAPMAN: My Archipelago: the story of a family (D): **S 920 CHA CHA**

GRAVES: Ramblings of a Rustic Railway Clerk (D): **S 920 GRA GRA & GO/8/D**

HORROX: The Black Death (D): **S 616.909 HOR**

MCDOWELL: Darlingest: Milverton in the war (D): **S 940.53 MCD**

OSBORN: Yeovil in Old Photographs: **S YEO1 OSB**

OWEN: Wellington in the Great War: **S 940.3 OWE**

PARFITT: South Stoke Parish Wills 1467-1899 (D): **S 929.33 SOU4 O/S**

PARFITT: Church of St. James the Great, South Stoke: vicars and church officers 1210-2016 (D): **S 929.33 SOU4 O/S**
PARFITT: Johnson Family of South Stoke 1792-1843 (D): **S 929.2 JOH O/S**
PASSMORE: The Light in My Mind: **S 362.11 PAS**
SHORT: West Somerset Railway: country walks from our stations: **S 796.51 SHO**
SMILES: Envisioning the past: archaeology and the image (D): **S 930.1 GEN**
STEPHENS: Living Dangerously (D): **S 920 STE STE O/S**
TASSELL: Bottom Corner: a season with the dreamers of non-league football: **S 796.334 TAS**
WIVELISCOMBE CIVIC SOC.: A Century Apart: the impact of the Great War on the children of Wiveliscombe: **S 940.3 WIV**
WOODFORD: Thomas Pyke of Bridgwater, Somerset England: an 18th c. innovator, clock dial maker and industrialist: **S 920 PYK WOO O/S**
WOOD-LEIGH: Perpetual Chantry in Britain: based on the Birkbeck Lectures, 1954-5: **S 264.025 WOO**
WRAY: Somerset Underground: a history of the GHQ auxiliary units in Somerset 1940-1944: **S 940.53 WRA**

Contact Information

Chairman - position vacant

Vice-Chairman and Tithes Awards project: Jenni Lewellyn -

tithes@friendsofsomersetarchives.org.uk

Treasurer and Membership Secretary: Ann Leigh -

membership@friendsofsomersetarchives.org.uk

Newsletter Editor: Elizabeth James - editor@friendsofsomersetarchives.org.uk

Deputy Newsletter Editor: Anne Murch - anne@amurch.plus.com

Minutes Secretary: Carol Dimmer - carol.dimmer@btinternet.com

Web-master: Malcolm Daniels - web@friendsofsomersetarchives.org.uk

Any articles in this Snippets are the responsibility of their individual authors. The Editor and Deputy Editor of the Friends of Somerset Archives newsletter cannot be held responsible for any inaccuracies or omissions.
