



Friends of Somerset Archives

Snippets - No. 36

June 2015

Dear All,

First of all, I apologise in advance for any spelling mistakes or poor punctuation you may find in this edition. Unfortunately Anne is on holiday and I then follow on - so the choice was either to publish or make you wait for another 3 weeks or so.

Since the last edition I have been unable to do much in the way of family research - the end of the financial year and two new Councils starting on 11th May have caused a fair amount of extra work. However, I have found another new cousin in Australia (who emigrated there from Canada) and look forward to meeting her in Somerset in September.

As you may recall, along with my cousin Hanna, I run a website with a large number of records on South Petherton and this includes an excellent book on the Vaux family by Sara Vaux. If you would like further details please let me know.

I know that opinions are divided about the use of Facebook - I keep my privacy settings to family members only which works well. Last week my 88 year old mother said that I knew more about what her cousins were up to in Australia and Canada than she does! It is amazing how one brief sentence on Facebook keeps you close to distant family members.

I still write regularly to one beloved Uncle who is 94 and was able to visit him recently. He quite proudly told me that in his garage he has a petrol can which he started using during WW2, with the words "ROP" on the side. I had no idea what this stood for so ended up spending 30 minutes or so researching its history. I found out that it stands for "Russian Oil Products" - although some people called it "rotten old petrol". My Uncle also described taking my Aunt and her sister up to London for the celebrations on VE Day. He made it sound as if it was only yesterday - but typically I did not have a Dictaphone with me.

I hope you all have an excellent summer - the next edition will be written in September so if you have any article you would like to share with other members please let me know.

Liz

CONGRATULATIONS

I hope you all saw the congratulatory email sent by Malcolm to one of our members - Hilary Bolitho - for being awarded an MBE for services to her village - Broadway, which is near Ilminster.

The Dickinson Papers - Done and Dusted! - by Bob Warren

As regular readers of "Snippets" will know, the FOSA members who had been engaged for several years in the indexing and conservation of this remarkable set of documents finished their part of work at the end of 2014. However, the task was not entirely complete for the archival staff of the South West Heritage Trust. They continued to catalogue and restructure the reference system of the collection well into this year. When they finished, the project had increased the number of boxes in which the papers were stored from 60 to 150 and the catalogue had grown from 85 to 1,710 pages. A remarkable achievement of which the Taunton Heritage Centre can be justly proud, as it now possesses a valuable and well organised resource for future historical research.

To mark the successful end to this major project, the SW Heritage Trust held a celebratory event on the evening of the 19th of May. Among those invited were staff and volunteers who had been directly involved in the work, trustees, FOSA members and some of the inhabitants of Kingweston, where the papers were originally discovered in 1951.

After light refreshments, the visitors were welcomed by Tom Mayberry, Chief Executive Officer of the Trust. He explained the origins of the collection, the way in which it had been acquired, the previous attempts to define exactly what it contained, the way in which the project had been financed and the magnitude of the task that had been undertaken. A series of brief talks then followed. The first was by Mary Siraut, Editor of the Victoria County History for Somerset, who gave an account of the rise and fall of the Dickinson family, their land ownership and trading activities. Then there were three overviews of the cataloguing and indexing work, the first two by Archivists Liz Grant and Graeme Edwards and another by a FOSA volunteer, Bob Warren. Finally, the important topic of the conservation of the documents was covered by Mervyn Richens, Senior Archive Conservator and Ann Leamon, another FOSA volunteer.

We were then invited to look at an extremely well laid out and very impressive exhibition of documents and artefacts from the Dickinson collection, some of which were unfamiliar to even those had worked for years on the project (photo 1 below)



(Photo 1)

It was very evident that a considerable amount of time, effort and expense had gone into the preparation of the display. Several of those present said that such an interesting exhibition should ideally have further exposure, preferably where prolonged access for the general public was possible. Hopefully this may eventually occur.

Following this significant event, sixteen FOSA members and associates visited Kingweston, near Somerton, on the 3rd June, to look at the house (now part of Millfield School), its church and the village in general. We were greeted by John Townson, a relative of the Dickinson family and a trustee of the estate, Trevor Greenhill, Houseparent at the school, and Ashley Maunder, tenant of Home Farm, one of the major properties in the village.

We were first shown the large house that was built in a typical Georgian style by the Dickinson's between approx. 1780 and 1820. (photo 2 below)



(photo 2)

It was the country home of the family until the end of WW2, when the not uncommon combination of the loss of so many sons in two world wars, changing economic circumstances and punitive death duties, drove the Dickinson's to lease the house to Millfield school and to eventually donate it to them. Trevor Greenhill showed us several rooms on the ground floor which had remained much as they were in the heyday of occupation by the Dickinson's. Their spaciousness and beautiful proportions were impressive, and they were elegantly decorated and in very good condition, especially considering the numerous schoolchildren that must use them daily. [see photo 3 showing the library]. For obvious reasons, we were unable to see the upstairs accommodation, where it is understood that significant modifications have been made.



Photo 3 – showing the library

The church adjacent [see photo 4 below] was then inspected and we were kindly served tea and biscuits by Cherie, Ashley's sister, whilst inside. Like so many modest medieval village churches in the area, it was given a thorough mauling by the Victorians in the 1850's. In this case it was completely demolished and rebuilt, although the odd vestige of the original church does remain, notably the font and one doorway. It has an extraordinarily high steeple that dominates the local skyline. In the photo you can see a series of ladders that a brave soul had recently climbed up to modify the lightning conductor. The interior is compact, elegant in design, and shows excellent craftsmanship. Fortunately it is in good condition and has regular use, partly because of the adjacent school.



Photo 4 -

John Townson
describing the
architecture of the
church

Lastly, we were taken on a walk down the High Street and were able to see many of the properties that were constructed by the Dickinson's during the 18th and 19th centuries, including several farms, barns, specialist workshops and the Dower House. All were built in the local stone and modern improvements that had been made were done with taste and of high quality workmanship. Fortunately, there are no small estates of high density houses that often blight the perimeters of so many West Country villages; the land around being entirely under the control of the Dickinson estate.

This was a very enjoyable visit to a charming and unspoilt village on a delightful early summer's afternoon. It gave a sense of substance to the contents of the documents for those of us who had worked on the Dickinson papers for so long. Before departing some of us engaged in a modest bout of retail therapy at the Home Farm shop. I can personally recommend Ashley Maunder's prime pork sausages!

Sound Archives - from Phil Hocking (Researcher at the Heritage Centre)

I don't know about you but I've been noticing sounds more recently and have been inspired to buy a quality sound recorder. Birdsong is an obvious candidate for recording so I headed out to Thurlbear Woods in the hope of hearing nightingales. Amazingly they were there and I got a couple of tracks of them singing. I was in luck because I have since heard that they were only there for a couple of days. In addition there were dozens of other birds singing away and it occurred to me that our ancestors must have been immersed in this wall to wall sound much of the time. Recently birds have been disappearing at an alarming rate and we must make special efforts to hear them en masse. I have made a CD of 10 tracks and deposited it at the Heritage Centre (reference A/AXN). By having the sounds alone, without the visuals, one is more inclined to pay attention to the details. People who visit the centre to do their family history often say they want to know what life was like for them. I think this is one way in which it was very different.

Still with sounds, but a different subject, one of my favourites is a cassette tape of a horse auction held at Cutcombe in 1985. The auctioneer was Rowley Ford and the recorder was just left running close to the action. Consequently snippets of conversation around about were picked up in addition to the auctioneer's efforts. There are some hilarious comments and at the same time one can form a good impression of what it was like to attend such an event. I have transferred the tape to a CD for convenience. It is very long but I find it fascinating to listen to. The reference is DD/GBW G3067 Box 4 (E 63A)

One can download a free programme called 'Audacity' that can be used to record from a stereo system direct to a computer using just a cable; that is if you still have your stereo system! Should you have any old tapes lying about that might contain some interesting material now is the time to think about retrieving the information before the machines to play it on disappear altogether.

The National Trust is currently inviting people to go out and record the sounds of the seaside. Hopefully people will come up with other ideas and add yet more recordings to our sound archives here at the Heritage Centre. We already have a considerable range of oral history recordings available, and various other recordings for your listening pleasure. Please contact us if you have something that you wish to deposit.

YEOVIL AND THE BOER WAR - from Jack Sweet

On 12 October 1899, following years of tension in South Africa, war broke out between the Boer Republics of Transvaal and the Orange Free State and Great Britain. Within a short time, the Boers had British forces bottled up in Kimberley, Ladysmith and Mafeking and for many months bloody battles would be fought as our army sought to raise the sieges and defeat the Boers.

Although the national and local newspapers were full of reports and stories from the battlefields, these actions were being fought thousands of miles away and Yeovilians were little affected; life went on more or less the same. However, as the weeks passed, the news got gloomier following reverse after reverse as the Imperial forces struggled to break through to the towns. In December 1899, the *Western Gazette's* annual concert in aid of local charities was billed as 'A Patriotic Concert' with the proceeds going towards the Mayor's fund for the relief of sufferers in South Africa. The demand for tickets was so great it was decided to hold two concerts and even so both performances were sold out and many townspeople were turned away. The concerts were held in the Princes Street Assembly Rooms on consecutive evenings and on the first night the Mayor and Corporation attended - 'in state and added dignity to the proceedings, whilst the gathering received the patronage of the elite of the neighbourhood.' The *Western Gazette* reported that both performances were a great success and the only fault which could be found was that the programme was too long, going on to 11.30. The reporter commented on the emotion charged atmosphere and described how an old man whose son was serving in South Africa was moved to tears when 'Soldiers of the Queen' was sung, and a mother broke down completely.

At the time the Patriotic Concerts were being held, the British Army was suffering 'Black Week' when defeats were inflicted at Stormberg, Magersfontein and Colenso. The Government put out a call for men of the Volunteer Corps and Yeomanry cavalry to serve in South Africa alongside the Regular regiments and during the coming months thousands would answer the call and sail south.

Amongst the Yeovil Volunteers accepted for service were Privates F. England and H. Adams of Huish, who were given a rousing send off by their comrades in F Company of the Somerset Volunteers. The Company assembled at the Armoury in South Street at 7 o'clock in the evening and then adjourned to the Globe and Crown where the health of the two Volunteers was 'enthusiastically drunk'. Twenty minutes later the Company paraded outside and, led by the Volunteer Band, marched down to the Town Station followed by hundreds of well-wishers. Another large crowd packed the Station forecourt and whilst everyone waited for the 7.40 train to Taunton, the Band played 'patriotic airs.' A few minutes before the train arrived, Captain Trask of the Yeovil Company presented the two men with purses of £3.5s. raised by their comrades and townspeople, a combination knife, a briar pipe and a pound tobacco from the Mayor and Corporation. The *Western Gazette* would report that - 'as the train drew up, fog signals were exploded and as time and train can wait for no man the time now arrived for their departure. At last and not without some effort owing to the dense crush of people the two gallant Volunteers were safely ensconced in their seats, the band played 'Auld Lang Syne,' the final goodbyes to relatives, friends and acquaintances were said,

and the train moved out of the station accompanied by a cheer, the like of which had not been heard in Yeovil for many a long year.' - I cannot find out what happened to Privates England and Adams; I hoped they returned safely to Yeovil.

During the first six months of 1900 the tide of war finally turned in Britain's favour. The sieges of Kimberley, Ladysmith and Mafeking were raised and when Pretoria was occupied by the British Army on 5 June 1900 everyone thought the war would soon be over - but not quite, because a bitter guerrilla war would continue for almost two more years.

On 5 November 1878, James Henry Knight was born in Park Street, the son of Huntley Knight, a cloth weaver, and on 21 August 1900, James who had now changed his first names to Henry James, was serving as a Corporal in No. 1 Company, First Battalion, The Kings (Liverpool) Regiment, 4th Division Mounted Infantry, involved in operations in an area called Van Wyke's Vlei east of Pretoria. Corporal Knight was posted in some rocks with four men covering the right rear of a small detachment of No. 1 Company who, commanded by Captain Ewart, was holding the right of the line. Captain Ewart's men were attacked by about fifty Boers and were in danger of being surrounded and cut off. For nearly an hour, under heavy fire, Corporal Knight held his ground covering the withdrawal of the Captain's detachment, although in the process two of his four men were wounded. When the time came for the Corporal to pull back, he did so bringing the two wounded men, one of whom he left in a safe place and the other he carried for nearly two miles. During the whole of this time the party was under heavy rifle fire. For this act of gallantry, Corporal Henry James Knight was awarded the Victoria Cross.

Peace finally came on 31 May 1902, and was met with great relief and rejoicing. On Monday 2 June at 6 o'clock, a thanksgiving service was held in St. John's Church followed by a concert given by the Town Band in Sidney Gardens. The Salvation Army Band marched through the streets accompanied by - 'young men singing patriotic songs.' At dusk a bonfire was lit and a fireworks display was given in Sidney Gardens by - 'the Pierrot Masqueraders who had previously paraded the town with large Chinese lanterns.' Houses, hotels, pubs and shops were decorated and illuminated and the Mayor's residence, the Mansion House in Princes Street, was lit up by coloured lamps spelling the words 'Peace' and 'SA'. At the Half Moon Hotel in Silver Street about 70 locals sat down to a Peace Proclamation Dinner. The Volunteer Company, led by the Cycle Section and the Band paraded the streets.

The Boer War cost Great Britain and her Empire 5,774 killed, 16,000 died of wounds or disease and over 22,000 were wounded; the Boers lost about 7,000 dead. One of the British dead was 27 years-old Charles Dycer Gawler, the son of a former Mayor of Yeovil. He had gone to South Africa in 1897 and was employed as a Civil Conductor conveying stores to the 7th Company Army Service Corps at Kaal Raal in Cape Colony. On 31 May 1902, the day the peace was signed, he was shot and fatally wounded; Charles Dycer Gawler from Yeovil was almost certainly the last man to die in the Boer War.

In Yeovil Cemetery there is a headstone at the bottom of which there is the following memorial:

'CHARLES DYCKER GAWLER who giving his life for King and Country fell in action mortally wounded at Kaal Whaal May 31 1902 being in all probability the last killed in the South African War of 1899 to 1902'

New Accessions 1 April-23 June 2015 - from the Heritage Centre

Not all of these collections have been listed, but (unless they have access restrictions) 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.

Business records

Bicknoller: account book, sales particulars and correspondence, 1908-1976 (A\DVX)
Bristol & Exeter Railway: minutes of the third half-yearly meeting of the directors of the line, 1838 (A\DGZ)
Chard: Mill Hayes payment book, 1830-1836 (A\CSD)

Clubs', Societies' and Charities' records

Women's Institute, Somerton branch: committee minute books and monthly minute books, 1990-2005 (DD\WI)
Wambrook: minute book of the Bewley Down Flower Show Committee, with printed and bound transcription, 1914-1939 (A\EAY)
Somerset Bowls Association: tour programmes, competitors' handbook and photographs, 1988-2015 (A\DET)

Deeds, wills and family papers

Axbridge: Demise for the Angel Inn, Market Place, 1804 (D\B\ax)
Bishopsworthy: deeds and abstracts relating to a cottage and garden owned by George Denning, 1832-1912 (A\EAV)
Bridgwater: programme for the funeral service of Dr Peter Ellyatt Cattermole, 8 April 2015 (A\CYJ)
Burnham: deeds relating to lands in Burnham, 1795-1796 (A\AUS)
Burnham: diaries of Theodore Crane Dupuis of Burnham, 1830-1909 (A\DIF)
Clevedon: sales particulars, deeds and abstract of title relating to properties and land in Clevedon, 1775-1904 (DD\X\LLY)
Malet family: additional papers concerning Allan Arthur Grenville Malet and Elizabeth Ann Malet, 1881-2014 (A\DYS)
Norton Fitzwarren: Deeds for Laburnum Cottage, 1894-2003 (A\AUS)
Stocklinch: inventory and valuation of the contents of Ottersay House, the property of Guy T. Crosland, June 1930 (A\EAS)
Taunton: bundle of deeds and correspondence relating to Stepwater, Wellington Road, 1895-1900 (A\EAL)
Taunton: notes and research relating to Alfred Coombe of Taunton (1791-1850), solicitor, c.2000s (A\DGZ)
Tickenham: conveyances, sales particulars and correspondence relating to Stone Edge Batch Farm, 1917-1923 (A\EAL)

Wells: transcription of letters from John Gifford to his family in Wells, 1840-1863 (A\EAZ)

Westonzoyland: deeds, planning orders and correspondence relating to 4 School Road, 1804-2006 (A\EAN)

Wiveliscombe: estate papers of the Hancock family, 1940s-1950s (A\EAR)

Health and hospital records

Local government records

Parish and Town Councils

Nunney Parish Council: additional records, including minutes, financial statements, annual returns and order of service, 1917-2012 (D\PC\nun)

Portbury Parish Council: minutes and agendas, 2011-2015 (D\PC\ptb)

Weston super Mare Town Council: bound Acts of Government relating to Weston super Mare, 1842-1934, and bound copies of signed minutes, April 2006-March 2013, 1842-2013 (D\PC\wsm)

Wookey Parish Council: minutes, 1999-2006 (D\PC\wook)

Borough and Rural and Urban District Councils

West Somerset: electoral roll for West Somerset District Council, 2013 (Q/RER)

Somerset County Council

Somerset: Footpath diversion orders for footpaths in Wedmore, Keinton Mandeville, Pitminster, Batcombe and Mells, 2015 (C/GP/HF)

Somerset Libraries: photographs of new branches, alterations and general views, 1940-1990 (C/LIB)

Somerset Libraries: photograph albums, reports and statistics, 1975-2010 (C/LIB)

Somerset Libraries: newspaper cuttings relating to Somerset Libraries, c.2000s (C/LIB)

West Somerset Coroner: Inquest files for 2004 (4 boxes) (CLOSED) (C/CR/W)

Military records and records relating to the World Wars

Somerset Light Infantry

CD copy of book: *Records of the Prince Albert's Somerset Light Infantry* by Arthur Close Borton, [c.1890s] (A\EAI)

Letters and documents relating to Private J Durham and Private Fred Morely, c.1910s (DD\SLI)

Miscellaneous records and poster relating to the First World War, 1914 (DD\SLI)

Photographs of Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery, Rangoon, including the grave of J Stidolph, 2013 (DD\SLI)

Other military and World War records

Bridgwater: research, correspondence and copy photographs compiled for *Memories of my life in the Land Army* by Renee Stone, [1940s]-2011 (A\EAW)

Minehead: memoirs of Mr K. Astell and his life during World War II, [1927-1946] (A\EAK)

Stogursey: postcard of dedication of war memorial, April 1920 (A\BAV)

Taunton: Memoirs of Ron Hooper Bunnett, regarding his time in the Home Guard in Taunton, [1939-1945] (A\EAP)

West Somerset Yeomanry: Paper and digital copy of the diary and photographs of RQMS F. G. Cousins, [1912-1919] (A\EAU)

Yeovil: World War II documents, including air raid casualties, civil defence plan, war book, fire service plan and invasion committee records, 1940s-1960s (D\B\yeo)
Files and CDs of information relating to Somerset born casualties of WWI and WWII, [c.1910s-c.1940s] (A\COA)

Nonconformist records

Castle Cary Methodist Church: minutes, 1987-2008 (D\N\smc)
Lindon Road Methodist Church, Clevedon: Cradle Roll, baptism registers and marriage registers, 1880-2005 (D\N\cl.lm)
Meare Independent Evangelical Church: marriage register, 1969-2003 (D\N\me.ie)
South Petherton and Crewkerne Methodist Circuit: finance, minutes and property details for Broadway Hill Methodist church, 1953-2011 (D\N\sp.c)
West Somerset Methodist Circuit: additional records from Alcombe, Bossington, Brendon Hill, Minehead, Porlock, Roadwater, Washford, Watchet, Williton and Brompton Regis, 1928-2009 (D\N\wsc)

Parish and diocesan records

Bruton: baptism marriage and burial registers, 1876-2002 (D\P\brut)
Clevedon Christchurch parish records: baptism register, marriage register, service register and papers regarding the church and patronage, 1955-2005 (D\P\cl.cc)
Pawlett parish records: PCC minutes, register of banns and service registers, 1920-2010 (D\P\pawl)
Puriton parish records: burial register, marriage register, banns register and service register, 1838-2012 (D\P\pur)
Sandford: marriage register, 1886-2012 (D\P\sand)
Swainswick, Swainswick with Langridge and Swainswick with Woolley parish records, including: marriage registers, service registers, parish magazines, records relating to the churchyard and school, financial records, PCC minutes, quinquennial surveys and faculties, 1855-2009 (4 boxes) (D\P\swk)
Taunton St James: PCC minutes, with annual reports and accounts, 2013 (D\P\tau.ja)
West Chinnock: baptism and marriage registers, 1862-2014; faculties and associated papers, c.1990s (D\P\chin.w)
Winscombe parish records: confirmation, banns and service registers, 1895-1990 (D\P\winsc)
Winsford: document listing 'The Four Men' and 'The Eight Men' assisting the churchwarden, 1558-1925, 1925 (D\P\wins)
Woolley parish records, comprising visitation articles of enquiry, faculties, records relating to church restoration, records regarding churchyard monuments and quinquennial surveys, [1971]-2004 (D\P\wooly)

Photographs and postcards

Congresbury: photographs of Cadbury House, 1960 (A\EBA)
Norton St Phillip and Beckington: two postcards, mid 20th cent. (DD\X\WI)
Taunton: photograph albums and loose photographs, taken and compiled by Mr F G Bettles of Taunton, early 20th cent. (A\EAX)
Taunton: photographs of the entrance to Taunton Museum, Caffè Nero and the Old Municipal Buildings, 1955-2005 (A\EAH)
Taunton: portraits of Taunton Deane worthies, including mayor, secretary, ministers etc., from Queen's visit to Taunton, c.1986 (A\EBF)
Somerset: photographs taken by Blizzard and Morley, c.1865-c.1870 (A\BAV)

Somerset: photographs by John Baliol Bentley relating to industrial archaeology, railways, roads, etc., c.1980s (A\BTS)
Norton St Phillip and Beckington: two postcards, mid 20th cent. (DD\X\WI)

Research papers and transcripts

Brendon Hills: records including printed ephemera, correspondence, etc., 19th cent.-20th cent. (A\CUV)

Bridgwater and Elworthy: scrapbooks and research notes, 20th cent. (5 boxes) (A\DIF)

Clevedon: disks of information relating to Clevedon, 1901 census and the Poulett Surveys, 2014 (DD\X\LLY)

Clevedon: report on the building survey undertaken in the north-western gardens of Clevedon Court, North Somerset [with CD copy], March 2015 (A\EAM)

Creech St. Michael: NADFAS Church record, 2015 (DD\X\NDS)

Easton: Village History Archive CD, [18th cent.]-2015 (A\EBD)

Ethelbert Horne papers: correspondence, notes and research transferred from the library of the Somerset Archaeological and Natural History Society to the archive, 1915-1950 (6 boxes) (A\DWX)

From Middlezoy to Stoke St Gregory: The War History of John Pocock, 1780-1824, [1780-1824] (A\EBB)

Low Ham: NADFAS church record for The Church in the Fields, Low Ham, 2015 (DD\X\NDS)

Taunton: research notes, transcripts and local studies ephemera, 19th-20th cent. (34 volumes, 18 files, 2 rolls) (A\DIF)

West Somerset: research papers of Hilary Binding concerning Minehead, Dunster and the surrounding areas, including photographs, unpublished publications, sale particulars and deeds, 17th cent.-20th cent. (6 boxes) (A\ANV)

Withycombe: Local interest and personal interest papers of Derrick Fowler, including parish magazines, parish council newsletters, weather summaries, burial and graveyard plans and sundial papers, [1605]-2014 (A\EBG)

Somerset: miscellaneous scrapbooks, illustrations and press cuttings, 19th cent.-20th cent. (A\DIF)

Somerset Vernacular Buildings Research Group: vernacular architecture reports and research papers, including plans, initial surveys and photographs, 1970s-2000s (16 boxes) (A\EAQ)

School and education records

Cossington Primary school: governing body minutes and associated papers, 2003-2015 (A\EBE)

Taunton School: Photographs of a whole school group and a group from the Officers Training Corps, 1923-1925 (A\AUS)

Other records

Bridgwater: election posters, church slides and photographs, 19th cent.-20th cent. (A\DIF)

Chard: Papers of John Stringfellow, aviation pioneer, and James Gillingham, specialist in amputees, 1843-1960 (A\DWX)

Coxley; photographs, survey notes and architectural drawings for Coxley House, c.1960s (A\EAJ)

Enmore and Goathurst: copies of Enmore and Goathurst Magazine, 2013-2014 (A\EAG)

Leaflets and town plans of Bath, Frome, Taunton, Bridgwater, Wells, Weston super Mare and Yeovil, c.1950s (A\EBC)
Thurlbear: audio recordings of birdsong at dusk, Thurlbear Woods, May 2015 (A\AXN)

New Additions to the Local Studies Library, April-June 2015

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

Glastonbury Abbey: a concise history of the establishment, growth and confiscation (T 726.7 GLA) (D)
GWR: portrait of an industry (T 385 GWR)
Little History of the West of England (942.3 LIT)
Medical Directory 1915 (610.69 1915) (Q)
Misterton Remembers: their young men who died in action in WWI (T 940.467 MIS) (D)
Parish at War: Carhampton, Rodhuish and Blue Anchor in WWI (T 940.3 PAR) (D)
Roll of Honour, Nailsea, 1914-1921 (T 940.467 NAI) (D)
South West Way: complete guide to the coastal path (T 796.51 SOU)
Beardon, *Robert Blake* (T 920 BLA BEA)
Bellenger, *200 Downside Monks: a photographic record* (T 92 BEL)
Berryman, *Action Stations Revisited 4: South West England: the complete history of Britain's military airfields* (387.736 BER)
Body, *Any Muddy Bottom: a history of Somerset's waterborne trade* (T 386.3 BOD)
Boyd, *Kickback* (T 823 BOY) (fiction)
Boyd, *Swansong* (T 823 BOY) (fiction)
Bray, *A Field Guide to Exmoor's Early Iron Industry* (T EXM BRA)
Brock, *Mendip Mystery* (T 823 BRO) (fiction)
Brown, *Just Another Day: songs from Minehead* (CD) (T 781.6 BRO)
Cammack, *West and Middle Chinnock Village Hall: the first 80 years 1934-2014* (T 726.9 CAM) (D)
Chaney, *Our Weights and Measures* (389.1 CHA)
Clayden, *Our Common Land: the law and history of common land and village greens* (338.14 CLA) (Q)
Cotton, *South West Mountain Biking: Quantocks, Exmoor, Dartmoor* (T 796.63 COT)
Cox, *Durotrigian and Romano-British Pottery of the 1st Century found at Ilchester* (T 930.2 COX)
Crockerne Pill & District History Society, *Memorials and Pill & Easton-in-Gordano, Somerset* (T 940.467 CRO) (D)
Dorling, *Bewley Down Flower Show 1914-1939* (D)
Dowding, *Toll-houses of Somerset* (T 388.122 DOW) (D)
Farbrother, *Shepton Mallet: notes on its history, ancient, descriptive and natural* (T SHE2 FAR) (D)
Fedden, *Bristol Byways: stray sketches* (942.39 FED)
Gibbins, *A Quiet Country Town: a celebration of 100 years of Westland at Yeovil Green, The Last West Country Cheddar Cheese Makers* (T 641.5 GRE) (D)
Gwyther, *Those Your Best Boots? A rambling wartime reminiscence* (GO/7/D)

Hambey, *Chard During the War Years 1939-1945* (T CHA4 HAM)
Hardy, *Trampwoman's Tragedy* (T 821 HAR) (poetry)
Johnson, *Alas Poor Johnny* (T 630.109 JOH)
Johnson, *Stanley, I presume* (T 920 JOH JOH)
Knight, *St. Andrew's: a short history and guide of Backwell Church* (T 726.5 BAC) (D)
Knight, *Bronze Age Metalwork of South Western Britain: a corpus of material found between 1983 and 2014* (T 930.15 KNI)
Langport Rural District Council, *Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1914* (T 353.6 LAN) (D)
MacDermott, *Devon and Somerset Staghounds 1907-1936* (T 799.2 MAC)
MacPherson, *The Black Box: a story of Monmouth's Rebellion and the Blood Assizes* (T 823 MAC) (fiction)
McLeod, *Managing Electronic Records* (025.84 MCL)
Moore, *Wellington Choral Society* (T 781.7 MOO) (D)
Orbach & Pevsner, *The Buildings of England: Somerset: South and West* (general office) (D)
Pearce, *More Memories of Castle Cary and Ansford* (T CAS PEA) (D)
Perry, *Our WW2 Boys (and a Girl): the Second World War casualties listed on Wellington War Memorial* (T 940.467 PER) (D)
Rabson, *From Somerset to the Pyrenees: in the steps of William Arthur Jones, geologist and antiquary* (T 920 JON RAB)
Randell, *The Life and Times of Hugh Sexey of Bruton: auditor to James I* (T 920 SEX RAN) (D)
Simpkin, *Despatch Rider on the Western Front 1915-1918: the diary of Albert Simpkin*
Siraut, *Victoria County History of Somerset, volume XI: Queen Camel and the Cadburys* (T9 VIC & general office)
Sivier, *Bridgwater: personality, place and the built environment* (T BR11 SIV)
Somerset County Council, *Somerset Levels and Moors: consultative report of survey 1981* (T 333.76 SOM)
Somerset County Council, *Somerset County Development Plan 1953* (T 711.33 SOM)
Somerset Health Authority, *Report on the State of Health of the People of Somerset in 1986* (T 362.1 SOM)
Sparkes, *Dark Summer* (fiction) (T 823 SPA)
Stokes, *Parlour Games* (T 821 STO) (poetry)
Surton, *South West Wings: a diary of aviation incidents in W. Somerset & N. Devon* (T 387.7 SUR)
Sweet, *Jack White's Gibbet* (T 364.152 SWE)
Talboys, *A Victorian School* (T 378 WEL)
Todd, *South West to A. D. 1000* (942.301 TOD)
Tracy, *Britain's Medieval Episcopi Thrones* (726.6 TRA) (oversize)
Turner, *Making a Christian Landscape: the countryside in early medieval Cornwall, Devon and Wessex*
Verney, *Going to the Wars* (T 823 VER) (D) (fiction)
Vernon, *Ingleside and Wayside Musings* (T 242 VER)
Webb, *London Livery Apprenticeship Registers volume 45: Turner's Company 1604-1800* (929.3 WEB)
Webb, *London Livery Apprenticeship Registers volume 46: Butchers' Company 1604-1800* (929.3 WEB)

Webb, *London Livery Apprenticeship Registers* volume 47: *Skinner's Company 1604-1800* (929.3 WEB)
Wellington & District Oral History Group, *Workers' Tales: the oral history of a Somerset town's industries* (T 338.094 WEL)
Wingfield, *Prehistoric Sacred Sites of Wessex* (930.1 GEN)
Wollaston, *Winter in England: a traveller in his own country* (914.23 WOL)
Wood, *Songs in the Night* (T 242 WOO)
Woollands, *Wheal Eliza Murder: the true story of the cruel slaying of Anna Maria Burgess* (T 364.152 WOO)
Wright, *Memories: Backwell, Nailsea, Tickenham and Wraxall in WWII* (T 940.53 WRI) (D)

Dates for your diary:

The Friends Annual General Meeting will be held on **October 10th at 2 pm**. After the AGM David Greenfield will give a talk about Isambard Kingdom Brunel (one of my heroes of history)

On 3rd November at 2 pm. Sue Berry will give a talk on Crime and Punishment

Don't forget to look at our website -

<http://friendsofsomersetarchives.org.uk/index.html>

From the Diary of Benjamin Hebditch:

1839 *Tremendous Weather*

June 20th *This Evening about 7 o'clock the Thunder was one continued rumble and the lightning was so awfull that the element seems opening every half minute until about 9 o'clock when the Hail Storm came on with such violence that the panes of glass was broken by hundreds, the standing beans and potatoes stalks broken to atoms. I cannot describe one thousandth part of the dreadful storm. Judgement day appeared to be come on us all = May we never no never forget it.*

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