



Friends of Somerset Archives

Snippets - No. 27

March 2013

Dear All

Welcome to the first edition of Snippets for 2013 - One of my "new" cousins came to stay last week - he is from my Mother's side of the family - my Great Grandmother and his Great Grandfather were siblings, which makes us third cousins. Their parents died within a couple of years of each other and the younger members of the family were put in Liskeard Work House - a couple of whom were sent out to Canada by the "Callington Trust". The families have kept in touch fairly haphazardly so it was good to learn of the family in Chilliwack. Life in British Columbia was quite difficult in the late 1890s/early 1900s. One story Charlie told me was on his paternal side. His 3 or 4 x Great Grandfather was in the Navy but jumped ship in the States so that he could take part in the Gold Rush. He lost all his money - due to an unsavoury Bank Manager - but wasn't able to work his passage back to England as he had been a deserter. He heard about the Gold Rush in Canada, which was later than the American, and walked all the way there. He didn't make a fortune (in money) but he ended up with a family and a farm. Charlie was quite surprised that we didn't have coyotes roaming free and that my family don't go hunting for bear, deer, elk or fish for salmon. It explained why he needs three freezers - he was most surprised I had just the one!!

I hope you enjoy the articles in this edition - thank you to all the contributors. As usual we welcome any articles for the next edition (June) and any comments are always greatly appreciated.

Liz (Editor)

Chairman's Report

Programme of Events

Since we had to cancel Jane de Gruchy's talk on Food in the Archives due to bad weather, we have had to rearrange our programme of events for 2013. This is the rearranged timetable:

Saturday, 23rd March 2013, 2pm. at Somerset Heritage Centre, Taunton
Food in the Archives,

A talk by Jane de Gruchy of Somerset Archives and Local Studies

This will be something really special as there will be historical recipes to taste!!

Thursday, April 18th 2013, 2 pm. at Somerset Heritage Centre, Taunton

Tithes - Maps and Apportionments. We are repeating this very interesting and successful talk and demonstration as we were well oversubscribed at last year's event and we have been asked by many who could not attend to put on another session.

May 11th 2013, at Somerset Heritage Centre, Taunton.

Fairfield House, the Aclands and Palmers and the Archives of the Fairfield Estate. Still in the planning stage at the moment - watch for more details.

May 23rd 2013, at Fairfield House

Following the meeting on May 11th, a visit to Fairfield House and Estate. Again, still in the planning stage with more details to come.

Wednesday, 17th July at The Learning Room, Somerset Heritage Centre

An introduction to Photographic Restoration -

A Talk with hands on practical session to take the first steps in repairing and restoring old photographs on a computer. There are only twelve or so places on this course so it will be first come first served! Book early! (Members will be given priority at this session due to the small number of places available.)

October 19th 2013 at Somerset Heritage Centre

The Friends of Somerset Archive's AGM more details to be announced later.

More events are planned and they will be announced later. If you wish to book a space for any of these meetings, then ring Bev or Helena at the Heritage Centre on 01823 278805 or email archives@somerset.gov.uk and say that you would like to book for a Friends of Somerset Archives meeting.

With thanks for all our member's support and looking forward to seeing you all at one of our events in the future,

Malcolm (chairman@friendsofsomersetarchives.org.uk)

Membership Secretary's Report

The Current Membership Status is as follows:

Life Membership 25

Ordinary Membership 45

Family Membership 24 (which for counting purposes we take as 48)

Affiliated Societies 2

This makes the current membership 120

Membership Details

As from this year, the membership will run from 1st March 2013 until 1st March 2014. The Charges are now £8 for a regular membership, £14 for a Family or Affiliated Society Membership, £100 for a one person Life Membership and £150 for a Family Life Membership. Anyone who paid from the first of January need not worry as the membership payment will cover fifteen months until March 2014.

Members were sent an updated Standing Order form by email around Christmas and this should be sent to your Bank to ensure that your membership continues. For those who need another copy of this, a copy is included as the last page of this edition.

THE LIMINGTON WAR MEMORIAL - by Jack Sweet

Limington, is not a large village, in 1911 the population was 189, but nine of its sons died in the service of their country during the First World War 1914-19, and another six during the Second 1939-45.

On Sunday afternoon, 3 April 1921, Limington honoured its dead when the village war memorial was unveiled in the churchyard, and where it stands 85 years later as a symbol of remembrance to lives sacrificed in two World Wars. The Ham Stone memorial is a plain Celtic Cross surmounting a pillar resting on a two-tier base bearing the following inscription:

To our Glorious Dead, who fell in the Great War 1914-1919

Lieut. W. Knight, R.A.F.

Sergt. V. Smith, 9th Can.

Corpl. W. Brown, S.L.I.

Rifleman H. Clark, K.R.R.G.

Priv. A. Day, 1st Wilts.

Priv. F. Howard, S.L.I.

Priv. W. Saunders, 5th R. Warwicks

Priv. W. Tewkesbury, 5th Dorsets

Sergt. R. Marshall, 47th Canadians

In the church, the service of remembrance was conducted by the Rector, the Rev. F G Carr, and commenced with the hymn 'For all the Saints', the 130th Psalm was sung and the lesson read by the Rector. The service concluded with the hymn 'Abide with Me', following which the clergy, choir and congregation left the church and walked in procession to the memorial draped with the Union flag, to await its unveiling by General E J Phipps-Hornby, VC, CB, CMG, a relative of Mrs Cunninghame of Limington House. General Phipps-Hornby had been awarded the Victoria Cross for saving guns under heavy fire in March 1900 during the South African War.

Before unveiling the memorial, the General addressed the congregation and said that they were here this afternoon: - 'To unveil a memorial to the gallant men of the parish who had laid down their lives in the Great War 1914-1919, the men who stood between them and what might have been, had the Germans won, a terrible catastrophe. It was the only way they had of showing their gratitude and rendering their sacrifice immortal. They were under great obligation to them and the ex-Servicemen, whose heroism had brought them triumph. They should not forget their comrades who were living, naturally their thoughts were first of those they had lost, they mourned them and longed for them to come back, but there was no need to pity them, as was often done, because they had reached a haven of perfect happiness and peace. Memorials were being erected in all parts of the country, and they were tokens of their gratitude and thanks to those whose memory they recalled. Those memorials would be a reminder to generations to come, of the glorious deeds done by the men of England during the war. He was sure that the people of the parish ought to be proud when they remembered how well and splendidly the men of Limington had carried out the tradition of their country. He said that the greatest and noblest duty of every loyal citizen was the service to his country.'

General Phipps-Hornby, then unveiled the memorial, saluted it, the 'Last Post' sounded, the hymn 'O God our Help' was sung, followed by the 'Reveille' and the National Anthem. Sadly, none of those present on that Sunday afternoon in the Spring of 1921 could have known that in less than twenty years, another World War would break out and six more names would be added to the memorial.

Cpl. A. Dale, A & S Highlanders

Sgt. D.J. Day, 7th L.I. Para. Regiment

Pte. B. Harwood, S.L.I.

Pte. A.R. Day, Hampshires

Pte. C.E. Day, Hampshires

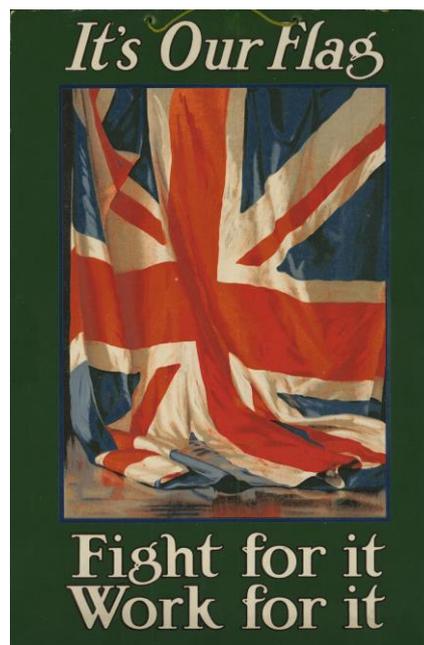
LAC W. Baker R.A.F.



' General Phipps-Hornby VC unveils the Limington war memorial.'

Somerset Remembers: The First World War - from Liz Grant, Archivist

August 2014 will mark the centenary of the outbreak of the war to end all wars; in January 2013 the Somerset Heritage Service received £66,500 from the Heritage Lottery Fund to help us mark this centenary. Drawing on this poignant moment in national history the Somerset Remembers project will explore the impact and long-term legacy of the conflict on the county of Somerset. The project is themed around 'remembering' and will look at the many ways in which Somerset people and communities have remembered the Great War.



At the heart of the project is the ambition to connect Somerset of today with Somerset 100 years ago, providing people with the opportunity to commemorate and learn about the war that changed Somerset forever.

The highlight of the project will be a six month exhibition at the Museum of Somerset, opening in August 2014, with events such as a memorial football match, diary readings and open days running alongside it. We also aim to create a Somerset Remembers Online Community Archive, where people can share their stories and research. Finally we aim to digitise a number of records held at the Somerset Heritage Centre which relate to Somerset's role in the conflict.

However, **WE NEED YOU**, to make this project a success. We are looking for volunteers to help us research what was happening in the county during the war. Much of this research will involve reading contemporary newspapers and creating an index to war related articles and photographs. We also need volunteers to help us digitise and transcribe some parish returns, which detail the war effort of 170 parishes. Finally we need a group to research the archives held at the Heritage Centre, to help us better understand the impact of the First World War on Somerset. Some of this research will need to take place at the Heritage Centre, whilst newspaper research can be carried out in various libraries across the county and the transcription can be carried out at home.

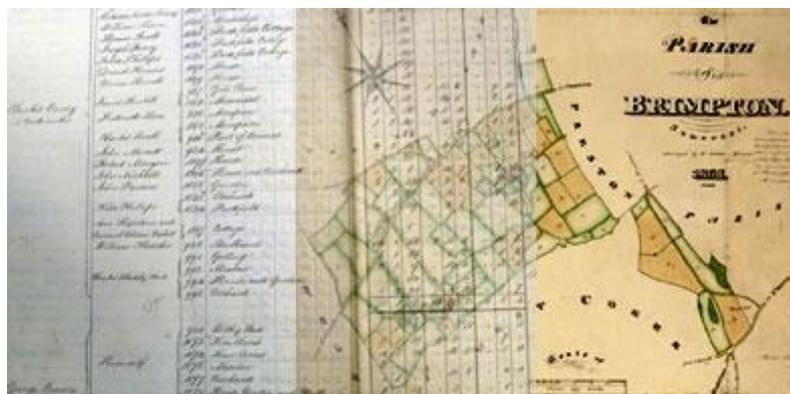
If you would like more information on the project or to volunteer please contact Liz Grant at the Somerset Heritage Centre, by email: archives@somerset.gov.uk or by phoning 01823 278805.

Tithe Apportionment Update - from Jenni Llewellyn

The Tithe maps are now available electronically in the search room at the Heritage Centre.

Of the 480 Parishes that I have on the list as the Friends project, 216 Apportionments have been completed, copies of which are in the Heritage Centre awaiting digitising. Malcolm tells me that 80 Apportionments have been transcribed in the past year. There are 43 Apportionments currently in the process of being transcribed by members at home and abroad. Bath and North East Somerset Record Office volunteers are making great inroads into the Parishes around that area. We are very grateful to all our transcribers for their hard work.

This leaves us with some 221 parishes that need transcribing.



If anyone not already involved is willing to do the odd parish (or several!) we would be pleased. The more people who help, the sooner the project will be completed and available for researchers. Perhaps two friends might like to work together on one parish and therefore share the task. If you have an interest in a particular Parish and it has not already been transcribed consider doing it.

I send out guidance notes, exemplar templates and blank templates for the transcribing to all new volunteers. Any queries are dealt with by myself or Malcolm as soon as possible.

tithes@friendsofsomersetarchives.org.uk

"Team Dickinson" - An Update from Bob Warren

You may recall in the last edition of Snippets that the project of cataloguing, indexing and conserving this very large and important collection of family papers was well under way and that it was proving to be a very interesting and rewarding experience for the FOSA volunteers involved.

Tuesday continues to be "Dickinson Day" and the team of five indexers: Sarah Baddeley, Rosanna Barton, Meriel Thurstan [relatively new to the Team], Ted Ewens and myself have an exclusive block booking for a very convenient room where we are able to spread out our laptops, reference books and the original documents on a very large table and, as and when necessary, discuss problems of interpretation without annoying any other researchers. We are supervised by Archivists Liz Grant and Graeme Edwards, who are working on the cataloguing of individual papers, as distinct to our work of indexing the letter books. After a particular document is catalogued by Liz or Graeme it is added to the archive online catalogue

(www.somerset.gov.uk/archives collection reference DD\DN). There is considerable discussion between the Archival staff and volunteers, much to our mutual advantage. The indexing work is, with one exception, upon the letter books of the redoubtable Graffin Prankard, who was very active as a Bristol merchant in the first half of the eighteenth century. He was father in law to possibly the most significant of the Dickinsons, Caleb of Kingweston, and self evidently had a strong influence over the way in which the family fortune was created and their later transition to country gentleman status. Down the corridor in the Conservation Room, Anne Leamon and Martin Cooke, supervised by Mervyn Richens, have been making steady progress on archive storage and conservation of the papers and have now completed the key "red starred" documents and it has been decided that they will continue to work on the remainder of the archive. In the opinion of the full time staff all aspects of the work are going along at a very satisfactory pace and no further volunteers are at present required.

As was mentioned in the previous article, indexing is far from being a boring and tedious affair, but has turned out to be a surprisingly interesting and often challenging exercise, often akin to detective work. A major problem is the semi illiteracy of many of the clerks employed by Prankard. The indecipherable scrawls, gross misspellings, often of place names, are frustrating and occasionally highly entertaining! We continually stumble across new topics and terms which require research to properly interpret. After a Tuesday session we often give ourselves "homework" and then there ensues a flurry of email exchanges during the week as discoveries are made. Recent examples have been the Fountain Inn in Taunton [Prankard stayed there for a while during a court case at Taunton Assizes], whether one of the Dickinson brothers married his housekeeper in his later years [shock, horror, scandal and apparently untrue!], Hotwells water, callamy and the Westport Canal. Useful email correspondence has been had with academics who have worked on the Dickinson papers. One minor but very charming discovery was a small caricature, about the size of a 2p piece, which was found on a page of Prankard's letter

book and no doubt drawn by a bored clerk in a moment of idle fun. It was produced with a single flourish of the quill pen, and shows the head of a man, perhaps a likeness of Prankard himself.



As this detailed immersion in the life of a fascinating Somerset family continues, their characters continually emerge from the centuries old documents. The relationship between Caleb, Vickris and Ezekiel Dickinson, both personally and commercially is a fascinating topic which would be worthy of at least a university dissertation

The work on the Dickinson Papers has great momentum, there is much more to do and it provides, for me at least, a fascinating weekly insight into the eighteenth century world.

Clothes of the rural Georgian poor - by Anne Murch

Many of us have poor rural ancestors who lived in the 18th and early 19th centuries. Few examples of their clothes have survived because their clothes, unlike those of the rich, would have been worn until no longer of use and the remaining material would no doubt have been put to some other use. Paintings, prints and sketches of the poor give us some idea of the style of their clothing but some of the best descriptions of their clothes are the contemporary poor law overseers' accounts. These accounts often detail which clothes were given to specific individuals, the materials used, the amount and the cost. They include reference to specific people paid to make up garments, the cost of this and the cost of ready made items. The records also show how often an individual received clothing. These details are fascinating for family and local historians.

There is plenty of evidence that the clothes provided for people on regular poor relief or in temporary need were basically the same as those worn by the working poor at the time. Although the giving of clothing under the old poor law was discretionary, the poor in many villages were treated reasonably generously by the standards of the time and given similar clothing to that which they were wearing before they were sick, elderly or fallen on hard times. It would reflect well on a village that their poorer inhabitants, who were their neighbours and members of the local community, should appear decently clothed, particularly at church on Sunday. Moreover the scriptures, with which people were well acquainted, exhorted them to "clothe the poor". The amounts spent by overseers on individuals and families are comparable

with what a labouring family would spend, sometimes possibly more. In towns and cities there are written accounts of people in rags and shoeless and some literature describes ragged agricultural labourers but the evidence from the Somerset accounts largely paints a different picture. The clothes given would have been fairly plain, serviceable, durable and respectable but, unlike the clothes of the inmates of Victorian workhouses, no more uniform than that of the poor not on relief.

For men they provided shirts (sometimes referred to as "changes"), smocks, reeches, waistcoats, jackets, small clothes, coats, hats, gloves, stockings, boots and shoes. Women were given shifts, (also called changes), gowns, frocks, skirts, petticoats, stays, kerchiefs, stockings, aprons, coats, cloaks, mantles, waistcoats, bedgowns, hats, caps, nightcaps, pattens, boots and shoes. Children were given similar clothes to adults in a smaller size, with the exception of babies who were given baby clothes, whittles (long flannel petticoats with an open front and tapes, worn until the children were "shortened") and bonnets. Children sometimes had pinafores rather than aprons and frocks rather than gowns. When pauper children were apprenticed they were usually given a set of new clothes to go to their new master or mistress though, in one parish, I found an entry to the effect that the parish had unusually decided to stop this practice.

Shoes appear very frequently in the records both bought new and being mended, usually from a shoemaker in the village. They would have been a heavy expense for labourers and for any rural dweller who had to walk everywhere on rough roads and tracks. A labourer could get through several pairs in a year. They were made of leather, usually brown or black. Alternatives to shoes for men and women were boots, sometimes described as half or quarter boots costing 4s3d and 4s. Pattens were sometimes provided, a kind of overshoe with a wooden sole mounted on metal to keep feet out of mud. The cost of shoes varied from 1s6d, 2s6d, 4s6d to 6s3d, sometimes the lower price for women and less again for a child which would be reasonable given that less leather would be needed for smaller sizes. This should be compared with the day labourer's pay of about 1s to 2s a day. Mending shoes varied from 8d to 1s8d to 2s6d. Interestingly in one village a man was given leather and a last by the overseers but it is not clear whether this was for personal use or to enable him to be a shoemaker.

Men, women and children wore stockings which came up over the knees, often made of worsted or woollen thread/yarn costing variously 7d, two pairs for 9d, three pairs 3s6d (for children three for 2s) and one pair 1s9d. They may have been one of the items to be bought ready made later in this period but in 1703 for example people are paid 6d and 1s for knitting stockings.

Shifts for women and shirts for men were basic garments worn next to the skin under more substantial clothing. The shift, which appears very frequently in the accounts, was a long, calf length, loose, all purpose garment with a low neck and usually elbow length sleeves. The neck could have been drawn up with tape. They could be made of linen (9d - 1s2d a yard), cotton (1s a yard), canvas (7d a yard), brin (a stout linen cloth sometimes containing cotton), calico (7d a yard), dowlas (a coarse linen or calico 9d to 1s a yard). An adult shift took about four and a half yards of fabric. Cost was about 3s6d. They were made up sometimes by women in the village for a small payment. Quite often two changes were given to one woman as these were garments most frequently washed.

Shirts were longish, coming down to the thigh, had long, full sleeves and were made of linen, cotton, calico, dowlas or fustian. They could cost from 2s6d for a boy to 3s6d, 4s, 7s for a man. As with shifts, men were sometimes given two.

Men, women and children were given coats, greatcoats and waistcoats. The latter were worn regularly by both sexes, sometimes sleeved. Women were sometimes given a cloak (cost 7s6d), jacket or mantle (also called a whittle) rather than a coat. Coats and waistcoats were made of wool cloth (2s 1d a yard), linsey-woolsey (mixed wool and flax or inferior wool), fustian, shag, druggat (wool or half wool), kersey (a coarse, narrow, woollen cloth 1s3d-2s a yard). Coats cost variously 4s8d, 7s6d, 8s6d, 10s6d, 12s2d to 14s6d (less for a child 5s6d). A woman's coat took four and a half yards but a mantle is described as taking only one and a half yards of shag. Waistcoats cost 3s 10d, 4s, 4s11d, for cloth and making 2s10d. There are also references to underwaistcoats made of linsey 3s1d.

Smocks, also known as smock-frocks, for men and boys were made costing about 7s. One reference is specific that it is a carter's smock 7s8d., another a kittle smock. They were made of strong material, possibly linen or Russian duck. Having thick pleating at the top helped keep out the weather.

Women wore aprons most of the time, no doubt to protect clothes which were not washed very frequently. They cost about 2s, could be plain, checked or floral, sometimes blue or green as well as white. They would have been made of a large piece of material possibly gathered at the top with a tape and would have been tied with strings. We still use the phrase "tied to his or her mother's apron strings".

Petticoats (3s6d) were used over the shift, sometimes several at a time. They were made of flannel at 10d and 11d a yard, linsey-woolsey or chambra/ chambery (a lightweight woven cotton fabric easily washed). They were sometimes coloured and would be gathered at the waist with tape.

Bedgowns of cotton or linsey-woolsey are sometimes mentioned, a loose garment shorter than a shift, not just for night wear.

Gowns could be made of serge, a durable woollen fabric and could take 8 yards at 1s1d a yard plus 1s 2d to make, 6 yards of camlet (a combination of wool, hair, cotton or linen) costing 6s, a new gown and making 9s4d, a serge gown 15s4d. One reference is to an upper body for a gown and several references to body lining for a gown. Gowns were often mended, for example for 1s3d.

Skirts could be worn over the petticoats and be made of wool, linen or cotton.

Breeches were worn by the men, tied or buttoned just below the knee and made fairly generously behind to allow for vigorous movement. Costs vary between 3 pairs of boys' breeches 5s, one pair boy's 2s6d, one pair 3s4d, 3s10d, 4s, 4s6d and 9s6d. Breeches were mended for 1s.

Hats were worn by men, women and children, sometimes made of felt, round shaped and soft brimmed (8d, 11d, 1s3d, 1s10d for a woman's) and women also wore linen caps 7d, sometimes under a hat. A mob cap cost 5d.

Handkerchiefs, which we would now call kerchiefs, costing about 1s, were worn round the neck and shoulder area and appear in pictures sometimes tucked into a gown. They would have given warmth in winter and kept the sun off in summer. They were sometimes specified as a check handkerchief. What we now call a handkerchief was then a pocket handkerchief. Neckcloths were also bought for 1s7d and 3s.

Stays (3s and 10s6d) and bodices appear, particularly in the earlier and middle part of this period. Stays required tapes. Occasionally pockets are mentioned which were made separately from clothes.

Quite often a large number of items were given at one time, for example to a widow with four children four pairs of shoes, three coats, three jumps(a support garment), and three aprons and 19 yards of serge (the latter material shared with another woman). A girl was given shoes, caps, necks and aprons, two changes, a gown and a coat. Children in one family were given two gowns, two coats, two changes, two pair of stockings and two bodies costing £1-13-11, plus 8s for mending their shoes.

A final item of clothing was a shroud, paid for with other funeral expenses by the overseers. These cost about 4s6d to 5s. For much of this period this had legally, following the Burial in Woollen Acts 1666-1680, to be of woollen and there are references in the accounts to the affidavits sworn to this effect. The reason was to protect the wool trade. Although not repealed until 1814, in the latter part of the 18th century and early 19th the law was not always observed. Sometimes a woman might be buried in a shift.

Clothes seem usually to have been made up by village women, sometimes themselves on relief, but one large village, Butleigh, seems to have had several men making clothes. Typical costs for making up were for a gown 1s3d, 1s8d, a coat 8d, a change/shift 7d, a waistcoat and a change 11d. Tape (sometimes referred to as inkle), thread (usually linen), laces and buttons (sometimes of leather) appear regularly in the accounts, costing a few pence. A tape weaver was called an inkle weaver. They worked so closely at a loom that it led to an expression "as thick as inkle weavers". As well as making the clothes, women in the village were paid for mending and washing clothes.

Occasionally, before people became dependant on the parish, they had pawned their clothes. The overseers paid to redeem them, which was presumably cheaper than reclothing them. One example cost the parish 8s1d.

Particularly in the early part of the period, women were sometimes given a spinning wheel (a turn), possibly to enable them to earn money to keep them off or reduce their relief.

The Heritage Centre online catalogue has the references for overseers' accounts for many Somerset villages, usually in the parish documents, starting D\P followed by the village abbreviation and 13/2. While they do vary in the amount of detail individual overseers in different villages or at different times included about their discretionary or extraordinary payments for clothing, many do have the kinds of informative details mentioned above.

The Somerset Manorial Documents Register Project - from Jane de Gruchy

The Somerset Heritage Service has recently received funding from The National Archives to create online access to Somerset's Manorial Document Register (MDR).

This is the national statutory register of the surviving manorial records for England and Wales. Established in the 1920s, it is now maintained by The National Archives. Originally, the index was kept on paper slips, but since the 1990s various counties' information has been updated and

The survival of records varies greatly, but typical types of manorial document include court rolls, maps, rentals, surveys and terriers.

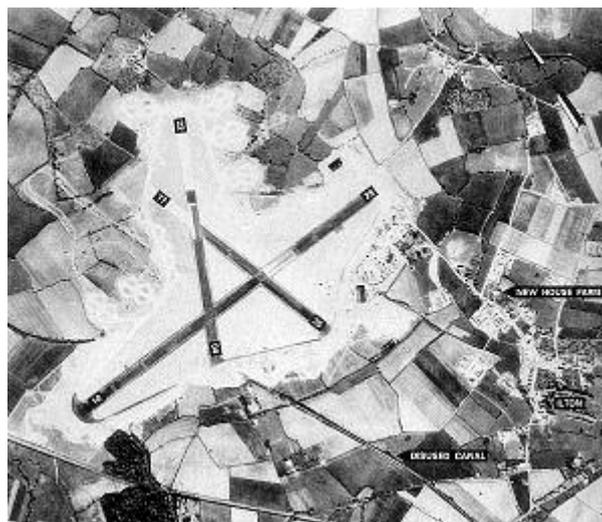
If you are interested in volunteering or would like to know more about the project, please contact Jane de Gruchy at the Somerset Heritage Centre - tel. 01823 278805, email archives@somerset.gov.uk.

RAF Burials at Ilton Cemetery, Cope Lane, Ilton - by Susan Law

Just before Christmas we placed wreaths on my parent's grave in the "new" cemetery at Cope Lane, Ilton. This year I also photographed the eight graves marking the resting place of RAF Pilot Officers. I have been familiar with the graves since childhood, and knew they were linked with Merryfield airfield that dates from WW2, but the burials took place in the 1950s. The common belief was that some of the men buried were South African, I decided this year I would find out more, and set about seeing what I could find. In this edition there are details of four of the men, details of a further four men will be printed in the next edition. Above each photograph is what I could find from general sources, below each photograph is further information from a book by fellow Iltonian Peter Forrester - entitled "Wings Over Somerset: Aircraft Crashes Since the End of World War II, published by History Press. Peter has kindly given his permission for his work to be used in this article.

Plane crashes appeared to be so common that my parents never commented on them, there seemed to be regular crashes all through the 1950's, not only at Merryfield but also at Weston Zoyland and Yeovilton, Tricky Warren seems to have been disused in that period.

USAAF Station 464 was opened 9 February 1944, it has also been known as RAF Merryfield, RNAS Merryfield and HMS Heron II. Deserted after the war, it was reopened in 1951 at the start of the Korean War as an advanced Pilot Training establishment. It was later used by the Royal Navy for training but was deserted again in 1961, it remained so until 1971 when the Royal Navy reopened it as RNAS Heron II and remains operational still.



Merryfield 1945

Pilot Officer A HARVEY RAF

Died 28 August 1952 Age 19

Birth Alan Harvey 1933 Mar Qtr Bedwellty 11a 86 (Willetts)

Death Alan HARVEY 1952 Sep Qtr Bideford 7a 250



D H Vampire F1. Serial Number VF312 from the advanced flying school number 208 RAF Merryfield Ilton 28 August 1952. The plane crashed after diving into the ground near Bagbear Farm two and a half miles from Great Torrington Devon. Pilot Officer Alan Harvey aged 19 was killed. He was born on 1 January 1933 Abertillery, Monmouthshire and is buried at Ilton. (Official records)

Pilot Officer B A ROBERTS RAF

24 Jul 1953 Age 23

Birth Brian J ROBERTS Sep Qtr 1930 Romford 4a 798 (Goode)

Death Brian J ROBERTS Sep Qtr 1953 Chard 7c 103



Two planes collided on the runway at Merryfield on landing due to a mistaken signal.

D H 100 Vampire FB5b serial number WA438 and D H 100 Vampire serial number W456 from number 208 both based at the advanced flying school RAF Merryfield. Both Pilots were killed; 4090854 Pilot Officer Richard Barrie Lane is buried at Abingdon Northants. 4095331 Pilot Officer Brian John Roberts aged 23, was born on the 13 June 1930 in Goodmayes Essex, and is buried at Ilton. (Official records)

Pilot Officer W B PARRY RAF

18 Sep 1953 Age 23

Birth William B PARRY Dec Qtr 1929 Ulverston 8e 879 (McPhillips)

Death William B PARRY Sep Qtr 1953 Yeovil 7c 305



D H Vampire FB 5, serial number VZ312 from no 208 Advanced flying school Ilton. The aircraft apparently went into a spin at 8,000 feet and crashed in Long Forehead Field, Tintinhull, Yeovil. The pilot bailed out at 300 feet but his parachute failed to open. 2607893 Pilot Officer William Brian Parry, aged 23 was born on 13 October 1929 at Coniston Lancashire and is buried at Ilton. (Western Gazette)

Pilot Officer D V REYPERT RAF

27 Oct 1953 Age 21

Birth Derek V REYPERT 1932 Sep Qtr Richmond Yorkshire 9d 1033 (Phillips)

Death Derrek V REYPERT 1954 Dec Qtr East Glamorgan 8b 283

Supplement London Gazette 8 Sept 1953

The undermentioned Cranwell Flight Cadets-

Derek Victor REYPERT 607359



D H Vampire F B 5 serial number W618 from number 208 Advanced flying school Ilton. During cross country training the pilot refuelled at RAF Valley in Wales, shortly after take off his port fuel tank fell off and hit church railings at Rhymney Wales. The plane went into a steep climb, then a shallow dive before crashing between Rhymney and Dowlain Glamorgan at approximately 4.25 pm killing the pilot.

607359 Pilot Officer Derek Victor Reypert aged 21 was born on the 11 July 1922 at Scotton, Nr Richmond Yorks and is buried at Ilton. (Official records)



Vampire T11



Gloucester T11

So with a little effort I gained some basic facts about these men, and enlarged upon those with Peter's excellent book, it reflects how useful old newspapers can be in researching the past as well as other works and official records. None of them proved to be from South Africa, although one was of Dutch extraction from Ceylon. Newspaper archives can be consulted at The Heritage Centre and I obtained Peter's book through the Somerset Library service for 80p, well worth it. There are apparently some burial in St Peter's Churchyard, so I will have to investigate on another visit.

In the next issue - Pilot Officer R W MIALL RAF, Pilot Officer T J PENDERGAST RAF , Pilot Officer G M CARTHEW Age 21 RAF and Pilot Officer M L JONKLIASS RAF

New Additions to the Local Studies Library, November 2012-February 2013

*Items marked Q can be found in the Quickref section.
Items marked D were donated to the Local Studies Library*

ApSimon, *Brean Down Roman Temple* (T BRE 1)
Aston, *Shapwick: Interpreting the English Village* (D) (T SHA)

Bellenger, *Downside Abbey: an architectural history* (726.7)
 de la Bere, *The Understanding of Jenner Ransfield* (fiction) (T 823)
 Bourne, *Jael* (T823 BOU)
 Boyce, *Tyntesfield in WWII: the story of an American army hospital 1943-45 and the Tyntesfield 'Village' 1946-60* (T 362.11)
 Bucks, *Rights of Way: restoring the record* (D) (388.12 BUC)
 Carden, *The Foxton Inclined Plane: a history of the 'Thomas' canal barge lift* (D) (627.135 CAR)
 Cersano, *In the Prayse of Writing: early modern manuscript studies* (D) (091 CER)
 Cheney, *A Handbook of Dates* (2 copies) (942 CHE, Q)
 Collins, *The Guru Game* (fiction) (823 COL)
 Coredon, *Dictionary of Medieval Terms & Phrases* (2 copies) (909.07 Q)
 Coward, *The Story of Hutton - book and CD-Rom* (D) (T HUT COW)
 Derriman, *Chancel Repair Liability: how to research it* (354.7 DER Q)
 de Gex (ed.), *Pilton People: past and present in their own words* (T PIL DEG)
 Gibson, *With Magic In My Eyes: West Country literary landscapes* (T 808)
 Gilchrist, *A Morning After War: C.S. Lewis & WWI* (940.53 GIL)
 Gilchrist, *Medieval Life: archaeology and the life course* (930.3)
 Haggett, *The Quantocks: a biography of an English region* (T QUA HAG)
 Hawkings, *Bound for Australia: a guide to the records of transported convicts and early settlers* (364.68 HAW)
 Heathcoat-Amory, *Confessions of a Euro-sceptic* (T 920 HEA)
 Heywood, *A Singular Exmoor Man: Hector Heywood* (T EXM)
 Hickley, *An Illustrated History of Bleadon: the chronicle of a Somerset village* (T BLE HIC)
 Hindle, *Roads & Tracks for Historians* (388.14 HIN Q)
 Hodges, *Firetrap* (fiction) (T 823)
 Hogg, *Diaries of Tyntesfield* (929.2 GIB)
 Holt, *A Necessary End* (fiction) (T 823)
 Jones, *The Brendon Hills Iron Mines & the West Somerset Mineral Railway* (622.66 JON)
 Kelly, *Charters of Glastonbury Abbey: Anglo-Saxon Charters #15* (T GLA KEL)
 Keene, *Fishing for Life: a collection of fly fishing recipes from Exmoor* (D) (T641.692 KEE)
 Latham, *Revised Medieval Latin Word-List: from British and Irish sources* (470 LAT Q)
 Lockyer, *Somerset Cricket: The lorry Years 1973-1987* (796.358 LOC)
 Macdonald, *Blood Lies* (fiction) (T 823)
 Milne, *History of Frome Wesley Methodist Church* (287.1 FRO)
 Moss, *Wild Hares & Hummingbirds: the natural history of an English village* (T MAR1)
 Moules, *Tin Hats & Gas Masks* (fiction) (T 823)
 North, *Illustrated Encyclopaedia of Uniforms of World War I* (355.14 NOR)
 Ordnance Survey, *Explorer Sheet 141: Cheddar Gorge & Mendip Hills West 1:25,000* (S/R Desk)
 Ordnance Survey, *Explorer Sheet 142: Shepton Mallet & Mendip Hills East 1:25,000* (S/R Desk)
 Parker, *The Last Veteran: Harry Patch and the legacy of war* (940.3)
 Patten, *Shops and Trades of North Curry* (D) (T NOR4)
 Payne, *Working Memories: Frome workers tell their stories* (D) (T FRO)
 Pipe Roll Society, *Wardrobe Accounts: Henry III 1224-1272* (B/170)
 Playfair, *Jewels of Somerset: stained glass in parish churches from 1830* (748.5 PLA)
 Raymond, *Wills of Our Ancestors: a guide for family and local historians* (929.3 Wills Q)
 Rippon, *Making Sense of an Historic Landscape* (930.1 SOM)
 Sage, *Second World War 1939-45: as far as the people of Batcombe were concerned* (D) (T BAT1 SAG)
 Sallis, *Five Farthings* (fiction) (T 823)
 Sly, *A Grim Almanac of Somerset* (T9)

Somerset: The Summer Land (DVD) (T9 SOM)
Stewart, *A Time To Dance* (fiction) (T 823)
Summers, *Long Shadows* (fiction) and *Distant Horizons* (fiction) (both T 823)
Sweet, *Yeovil's Years* (T YEO1 SWE)
Tanner, *Seagull Bay* (fiction) (T 823)
Tate, *The Parish Chest* (250 TAT)
Taylor, *Beautiful Creatures* (fiction) (T 823)
Wallis, *Somerset Through Time* (T9 WAL)
Ward, *Six Feet to Land's End* (fiction) (823 WAR)
Weldon, *Puffball* (fiction) (T 823)
Woodford, *The Thistle Clockmakers of Somerset 1765-1899* (D) (681.113)

New Accessions 23 November 2012-26 February 2013

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.

Archaeological records

Archaeological survey completed at Lydeard Down Cottage, Lydeard St Lawrence, 2010 (A\CQD)

Shapwick Project papers, including charts, plans, correspondence and draft copies of final text, 1980s-2000s (A\CKK)

Business records

Ash, Martock: Register of milk records and sales particulars for Lower Farm, Witcombe, Ash, 1956-1963 (A\DPE)

Records of Foster Yeoman Ltd (quarrying), including ledgers, minute books and personal records, 1913-2009 (DD\YEO) (46 boxes) - deposited as part of the *Quarry Faces* project.

Nether Stowey: wheelwright's ledger, building plans and sales notices, 19th cent.-20th cent. (A\DQC)

Taunton: account book of William Smith, master broiler and tin plate maker, Jan 1830-1856 (DD\X\FMM)

Charity records

Draycott: Papers relating to the Charity of John and Joseph Card, and the Card Educational Foundation, 1995-2003 (DD\X\CRD)

Luccombe/Porlock: records of the charity of William Hole and the Byam Charity, 1901-2012 (A\DQA)

Somerset: deeds, etc., relating to charities in Castle Cary, Crowcombe, Curland, Dinder, Staple Fitzpaine and Winford, 17th cent.-20th cent. (DD\C)

Clubs and Societies' records

Bridgwater Industrial Co-operative Society: scrapbook, 1891-1913 (A\DPM)

Bridgwater Inner Wheel Club: minutes, accounts, correspondence and photographs, c.1970-c.2012 (A\DPK)

Bridgwater: records from the [Masonic] Lodge of Perpetual Friendship (135), 1820-2005 (records closed) (A\DLY)

Cossington: papers of the Cossington Concert Trust, including posters, programmes, newsletters, promotional material, correspondence and accounts, 2002-2012 (A\DPG)

Norton Fitzwarren: papers relating to the Young Wayfarer's Training Home, 1933-1935 (some records closed) (A\DQE)

Taunton: records of Taunton Agricultural Show, including photographs, newspaper cuttings and official ephemera, 1987-2000 (A\DQG)

'Masonic Miscellanea': a collection of documents relating to Masonic lodges in Somerset, [1875]-1965 (DD\X\SKG)

Somerset: Scouting records for Weston super Mare, Blagdon, Kewstoke, Axbridge, Cheddar and East Harptree, including registration forms, directories, newsletters and photographs, [1917]-1995 (A\CVB)

Court records

Bridgwater Court: Correspondence, minutes and publications, including documents relating to proposed closure, 1993-2012 (D\CC\bw)

Frome County Court: records, including court files, bundles of legal papers and associated documents, 1909-1979 (DD\X\WI)

Deeds and Family papers

Sampford Arundel: deeds and other documents relating to Chitterwell Farm, 1943-1964 (A\DPU)

Skilgate: documents relating to the Leigh Barton Estate, 1797-1917 (DD\X\WBB)

Spaxton: confirmation of grant of land in Spaxton to Walter Hakeball, early 13th cent. (A\CGS)

Taunton: Papers of Laurence Henry Dopson, Secretary of Mary Street Unitarian Church, 1924-2012 (A\DPB)

Wedmore: deeds relating to properties in Stoughton, 1833-1956 (A\DPN)

Wellington: deeds relating to cottages in Row Green, 1774-1800 (A\CSD)

Wellington: deeds relating to properties in Mantle Street and The George Inn, 1810-1901 (A\ABC)

Coombes/Mullins family: correspondence, 19th cent. (A\AFH)

Leigh family: copy of family tree, following branches of the family in Bardon, Somerset and Ridge, Devon, [893-1957] (A\DPT)

Sherrin family: correspondence, photographs and notebook, c.1900-1918 (A\DPY)

Tudway family papers and Kibby family (East Harptree) deeds, 17th cent.-19th cent. (DD\X\WI)

Wade and Billington family histories, 1706-2012 (A\DPL)

Local government records

Somerset County Council: Environment and Property Department: analyses and reports from surveys and questionnaires carried out in Somerset, 1965-1976 (C\ENPR)

Somerset County Council: Education (Building and Development) files relating to choosing sites for schools and erection of school premises, 1970s-1990s (C/EDBD)

Definitive Map: rights of way survey for Lydeard St Lawrence, 20th cent. (A\DPR)

North Somerset Council: slides and negatives from North Somerset Council Sites and Monuments Department following digitisation project, 20th cent. (A\CAZ)

North Somerset Council: electoral registers 1997, 2012 and 2013 (Q/RER)
Sedgemoor District Council: unedited copies of electoral registers, 2012-2013 (Q/RER)
Taunton Deane Borough Council: register of electors (unedited edition), 2013 (Q/RER)

Lydeard St Lawrence and Tolland Parish Council documents: parish minute books, account book, papers re. Tolland Village Hall and Tolland Relief in Sickness Charity, 1894-2005 (D\PC\l.st.l)
Ruishton and Thornfalcon Parish Council: minutes, 2000-2010 (D\PC\ruis)

Papers concerning the Bridgwater Charter Trustees, 1975-1985 (D\B\BW)
Byelaws of the Borough of Taunton with respect to Hackney Carriages, 1951 (A\AUS)

Papers of Wansdyke Council, Norton Radstock UDC minute book, town/county guides, 1976 election (Conservative) material, etc., c.1970s-c.1990s (A\DPQ)
Papers of David Wilshire relating mainly to Wansdyke District Council, including correspondence, newspaper cuttings, election campaign leaflets, copies of minutes, etc., 1970s-1980s (some records closed) (A\DPQ)

Military records

North Somerset Yeomanry: photographs taken by P. Jeff Harbutt of Bath. Mainly late 1920s and Second World War (Egypt and Palestine), c.1927-c.1941 (A\DPJ)
Somerset Light Infantry: Additional records, including order books, photographs and personal papers, 19th cent.-20th cent. (DD\SLI) (9 boxes)
Somerset Light Infantry: Copy photo-postcard of the arrival of the 1st battalion at Windsor, [1908] (A\DPP)
Somerset Light Infantry: Two photograph albums of Private Phillips [1st Battalion], with photographs of Hong Kong, Malta and India, c.1930s (A\DPV)
Somerset Light Infantry: papers of Private William Charles West of Paignton, Devon, 1940-1985 (DD\SLI)

Nonconformist records

Sherborne and Yeovil Methodist Circuit: documents relating to various churches on the circuit, 1874-1970 (D\N\yeo)
Somerton: West Street Methodist Church: roll book, committee minutes, cradle roll, deeds, etc., 1939-1999 (D\N\som.m)
Taunton Baptist Church: CD-Rom containing records relating to building work, 2012 (D\N\tau.b)
Wellington Congregational Chapel: meeting books and list of congregants, 1833-1900 (D/N/wel.ur)
West Somerset Methodist Circuit: miscellaneous documents, including hymn diaries and newsletters, 1949-2012 (D\N\wsc)
West Somerset Society of Friends: members list and acceptance & removal forms, 1837-c.2000 (DD\SFR.w)

Parish and diocesan records

Backwell: baptism, marriage and burial registers, 1901-2002 (D\P\back)
Fivehead: marriage register, 1983-2002 (D\P\fv)
Ilminster and District Team Ministry Youth Trust papers, 1996-2012 (A\DPZ)
Ilton: marriage register, 1991-2007 (D\P\ilt)
North Cadbury: marriage register, 2007-2011 (D\P\cad.n)
St. James, Preston Plucknett: marriage registers, Aug 1979-Feb 2012 (D\P\pres)
Rode: Churchyard maintenance book, 1917 (D\P\rode)

Rode Hill: Church repairs book, 1962-1991 (D\P\rod.h)
Rode Major: Banns, register of graves, church faculties, register of service and marriage register, 1940-2005 (D\P\rod.m)
HMP Shepton Mallet Chaplaincy records: baptism register, confirmation register and service registers, 1979-2001 (Q/AGS)
South Stoke: marriage register, 1838-1991 (D\P\sto.s)
Staplegrave: NADFAS record of church furnishings, 2012 (DD\X\NDS)
Woolverton: graveyard record, churchyard plan and register of internments, 1837-1996 (D\P\woolv)

Parish register and other transcripts

Parish register transcripts for Bleadon, Yatton, Locking, Weston super Mare, Kingston Seymour and Worle, [1837-1912] (DD\X\WFHS)
Priddy and Rodney Stoke: parish register transcripts, [1654-1910] (A\DQF)
Weston-super-Mare parish register transcripts, [1837-1912] (DD\X\WFHS)

Transcript of Q/SCA/1-220, calendars of prisoners for the Assizes, 1810-1905 (A\BBC)

Monumental Inscriptions; Kingston St. Mary, Cothelstone, Cheddon Fitzpaine, Broomfield, Enmore, Stoke sub Hamdon, Curland, Goathurst, Durleigh, Wemdon, St. John's Cemetery Bridgwater, St. John's Parish Church Bridgwater, Mid Lambrook U.R.C., [1433]-2011 (DD\X\MDT)

Photographs and postcards

Taunton: slides and photographs of Taunton and surrounding area and the Bagwell family, taken by Mr. G. G. Bagwell, 1950s-1970s (A\DKW)
Wiveliscombe: photograph showing the opening of the recreation pavilion, 11 Apr 1935 (A\CZV)
Somerset: Photographs of churches and notable buildings, 1960s (A\DPC)

Records transferred from museums and libraries

Downside Monastic Library: Conservation Management Plan, 2013 (A\DQD)
Museum of Somerset: photographs of Glastonbury Grace Cup, copy of map of Mendip (including mines) and plan of Poole Brick, Tile and Manure Works, Wellington, [17th cent.]-20th cent. (DD\X\SOM)
Museum of Somerset: photographs of displays, stores, staff, exterior of the museum and school groups, c.1990s (DD\X\SOM)
North Somerset Museum: Photographs, slides and transparencies, including interior and exterior views, collections, galleries and events. Transcripts of interviews for the 'Then and Now: Teens through the Timewarp' exhibition, 1970s-2000s (A\ATH) (5 boxes)
Taunton Museum: photographs and newspaper cuttings scrapbook, 1959-1987 (DD\X\SOM)

Research papers

Photocopies and transcripts of solicitors' papers for research on the Brendon Hills, 1841-1925 (A\CUV)
Clevedon: transcript of residents and visitors taken from the Weston Gazette newspaper, 1855-1859 (DD\X\LLY)

School records

Babcary Council School: minute book, 1929-1945 (A\DPW)
Weston-super-Mare: infants' school photograph, c.1900 (A/CXH)

Other records

Glastonbury: love letter to an American G.I. and a newspaper clipping of the discovery, 1944, 1976 (A\DPF)

Hestercombe: photographs of HRH Prince Charles viewing the garden's restoration work, 17th May 2002 (DD\X\LIL)

Hinkley Point A Power Station Environmental Statements and associated documents, 2002-2003 (DD\TBL)

Long Ashton Children's Home: Admission and discharge registers, punishment books and register, 1921-1988 (records closed) (D\DC\n.som)

Documents relating to Shepton Mallet: including the re-development of the town centre, Methodism in Shepton Mallet and information guides, c.1950s-c.1990s (A\DPI)

Taunton: records collected as part of the *Sensing Our Past* project concerning Musgrove Park Hospital. Includes photographs, papers, oral history recordings, etc., 20th cent.-2012 (A\DPH)

Taunton and elsewhere: registers of title deeds of hospitals and homes in Taunton, Bridgwater and elsewhere, [1720s]-1980s (D\H\ta)

Somerset Vernacular Architecture reports, for properties in Aller, Chard, Chilthorne Domer, Churchill, Dowlish Wake, East Coker, Lydeard St. Lawrence, North Cadbury, Taunton, West Buckland, Winscombe and Wootton Courtney, 2011-2012 (DD\V)

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