

BASINGSTOKE ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORICAL SOCIETY

BAHS

Newsletter 197

November 2011

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*What is this on a Roman tomb?
One suggestion was a waffle
iron! See page 15.*

OUR ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE

'Archaeology Fortified'

Barbara Applin



Members of Basingstoke Archaeological and Historical Society celebrate the group's 40th anniversary at the Great Barn, Basing House
Pic by Richard Garfield

Richard Garfield interviewed Mark Peryer and took these photos for his Gazette report of the occasion.



Nicola's cake illustrated various aspects of the Society's work over the years:

- *Weaving comb from Viables*
- *Dividers from Ructstalls Hill*
- *How we hoped the Buckskin burial would be, but it wasn't*
- *Roman roof tile (or tegula) from Silchester with the inscription 'Boudicca Adsum'. To show that Boudicca Was Here, as Mike Fulford thinks she was!*
- *The Basingstoke Cursus - still looking for that!*
- *In the trench remembering visits:*
 - Incised bird from Creswell Crags*
 - Cave Canem mosaic from Pompeii*
- *Diapering in the Tudor wall, 40 marked out in vitrified bricks for the 40th anniversary.*

There is general agreement that this was a successful celebration of the Society's 40th anniversary. The main speakers, all with links to the Society, gave us a mixture of erudition and entertainment, while the members allotted 5-minute slots did their best to fit quarts into pint pots. We were sorry that Tim Schadla-Hall was unwell and unable to come, and hope that he recovered quickly – but as one of the 5-minuters I was glad to take advantage of a more relaxed schedule! However, here is a photo from the *Hants & Berks Gazette* of December 1979 to show those who didn't know Tim what they were missing. As Curator of the Willis Museum, he was holding the then recently acquired Deane Cup.



Margaret Porter's rolling display of Society photos sent in by members was a great attraction, in itself a demonstration of the passage of time: "Did I really look like that then?" Displays of fieldwork, Basingstoke Talking History and various Society activities also made good talking points, as well as the "washing line" of posters for lectures.

As well as the Society's publications, the bookstall had other books by members, and a new item was the reprint of **PAST PIECES**, items from BAHS Newsletters which had been produced for our 21st anniversary. This is now available at meetings at the special price of £1, so if you haven't got (or have lost) an original copy, seize the chance!

Fortunately the heavy rain and thunder that could be heard during talks had been reduced to mild dampness by the time of the hog roast, which did its best to warm us up. The Committee had produced an appetising array of salads and fruit, and Mark's chocolate fountain was well patronised. The climax of course was **THE CAKE**, specially commissioned from Nicola Turton, combining so many aspects of BAHS in an artistic – and delicious – work of art. Nicola and Alan had made every brick in their Tudor wall, and everything was edible.

What might not have been evident to members was the planning and hard work of the conference project team consisting of Mark Peryer, Mary Oliver and Marjoleine and Simon Butler. On the day Mark was not to be beaten by the Barn's sound system which tried to upstage ours. His "strong men" brought in chairs, tables, display boards – and staging, which all had to be erected and eventually taken down. Fieldwork must be good for the muscles.

It was great fun – when are we going to do it again?



Christmas Party

7.30 pm. Thursday 8th December
Church Cottage, Basingstoke
£2.00 (includes first drink)

Our seasonal get-together with members and friends, with a glass of wine or soft drink and a finger buffet - followed by our special quizzes and a raffle. Offers to help to prepare or supply buffet food will be very welcome (the Society will refund expenses). Ring Margaret Porter (**01256 356012**) to offer help. You can collect your ticket at the door but please let Margaret know in advance

Fieldwork Report

Mark Peryer

Email: mperver@f2s.com Tel: 01256 780502

We have now started the industrial archaeology project at the former site of the Brickworks at Up Nately. The work started with an initial briefing and a survey workshop on Sunday 16th October at which the team were introduced to basic surveying techniques using a base line and offset.



Locating the precise position and shape of the Oakley mound, using baseline and offset

These techniques should come in handy for recording the findings at the Brickworks. The project is set to continue with some "uncovering sessions" which should reveal the remains of the industrial plant that was in place when the Brickworks were in business

There will be a break for November to allow participation in Debbie's dig, and then we shall continue at the Brickworks if required.

Work continues on the Quarley Down Ancient Environs Project on the Cholderton Estate, which we continue to support. Over the summer a new excavation was completed in the laundry field, which has produced more convincing evidence of settlement. There are a large number of fields and woods on the estate that need to be walked and audited, so there is no shortage of opportunities to get involved. For instance, there are field walks scheduled for the weekend of the 19th/20th November. If you'd like to know more please contact **Briony Laylor on 07766 903896**.

Please remember that Dave Allen has a number of self-contained post-excavation projects relating to our work in and around Basing House over the last few years. The venue for the projects is the weekly volunteer session at Chilcomb House, which runs from 10:00 to 16:00 on Thursdays. If you'd like to enquire further, Dave can be contacted on **01962 826738**.

An article by Cynthia Poole, *The Cholderton Estate, Amport, Hampshire* is in *Newsletter 56*, Autumn 2011 of the Hampshire Field Club & Archaeological Society

BAHS FIELD TRIP TO BRITTANY AND NORMANDY, 2012

Mark Peryer and Ian Waite

We are in the early stages of planning a Society field trip to Normandy and Brittany in 2012. The itinerary may include Bayeux, Mont St Michel, Dinan, Rennes, Vannes and Carnac, allowing us to combine visits to the Neolithic monuments of Brittany with sites and places of interest from later periods in history. The trip is likely to be in the late Spring and probably mean about 5-7 days away. Our rough estimate is that the trip is likely to cost somewhere in the region of £500 per person, inclusive of travel, accommodation, food and entrance fees. Those willing to share rooms would be able to cut the per head cost.



We have considered three transport options – taking your own car on the ferry; travelling as a foot passenger on a ferry and then riding in a mini-bus hired in France or flying to France and then riding in a mini-bus hired in France. There are pros and cons to all three approaches, but we were interested to see that the costs came out about the same, so we'd like to hear which you'd prefer.

If you would like to join us on the trip, or find out more, then please contact Ian Waite (e-mail waite52@tiscali.co.uk, phone 01256 330704). We would like to have a reasonable idea of numbers by early January so that we can make some bookings.

Our changing logo

For our logo we have used the dividers and weaving comb (see Nicola's cake). When we acquired a website the domain name BAHS was already in use so we adopted BAHSOC, still in our web address, and this became our logo but we feel now that BAHS looks better.

Remembering our friends . . .

Les Fawcett

Long-standing members will be sad to hear of the death of Les Fawcett at the age of 93. Les was one of our earliest – and very able – chairmen, and took a very active part in the excavation of the Romano-British site at Ructstalls Hill. He could be glimpsed in some of the photos in Margaret Porter's rolling display at the 40th Anniversary Conference. We send our condolences to Bet, who has happy memories of their 70 years of marriage.

Betty Waters

We are sorry also to announce the death of Betty Waters, another past chairman. Although she had many other interests and commitments, Betty gave a great deal of time to our Society and ran the meetings smoothly, keeping a sometimes voluble committee in order.

Family History & Local History Day at the Discovery Centre

Barbara Large and Jo Kelly

On Sunday 9 October a small group of us spent the day representing the Society at this new event, held in the Discovery Centre, Basingstoke – Jo Kelly, Barbara Large, Ginny Pringle and Jan Patterson. There were many interesting displays by what must have been most of the local groups and societies interested in history, many of them representing small villages, parishes or local interests, together with themed displays on genealogy, family history and railways!

BAHS

Basingstoke Heritage Society
Hampshire Genealogical Society
Hampshire Record Office
Alton Papers – Jane Hurst
North Waltham, Ashe & Deane Historical Society
South View Conservative Group
Victoria County History
Whitchurch History Society

We were lucky enough to have a really great spot, two tables opposite the Enquiries Desk, which everyone would see as they came into the Library. Next to us was the Basingstoke Heritage Society, with Ian and Cathy Williams (who are also our members). Other groups were scattered around the main Library floor, with a few in the Conference Room. Ensclosed in there was a table for the Victoria County History, with Dr Jean Morrin, from Winchester University as group leader, Jenny Butler, and various others from that group coming and going throughout the day. (VCH are rewriting the history of Hampshire, starting with Basingstoke and surrounding parishes, and are always looking for volunteers to help out with this fascinating and demanding project!)

Also in the Conference Room was a representative from the Hampshire Records Office, who was able to perform live internet searches, and to answer questions about using that huge and excellent archive. There were also two talks given during the day, Jim Duncan, "Newspapers: how they aid the genealogist", and Len Ruffell, "Hooked on Family History", both of which seemed to be well-attended.

Because our stand was relatively large (2 tables!) we were able to put up a comprehensive exhibit of the Society's activities, together with a section on Basingstoke Talking History, with photographs and quotations. We were also able to display all the books published by BAHS to date, of which we sold two, 'Happy Christmas, Basingstoke' and 'Past Pieces', a little disappointing, but really a major

success in the present climate! The good thing is that we had a sizeable stack of the BAHS information leaflet and the one with the list of talks for this season, and both nearly disappeared!

The early part of the day was a great success, with a good influx of people on opening at 11.00 am, which continued until lunchtime and into the early afternoon. Several routine Sunday visitors to the Library were obviously intrigued by the exhibition. The best part, of course, was talking to people, and listening to their own reminiscences, triggered by the display, particularly the photographs. Contact was made with people asking if they could produce their own photographs to see if we could find out any information about the people or places depicted.

By 4.00 pm, however, interest had waned, and we were ready to pack up and go home. The Discovery Centre staff were really supportive and very helpful, even coming round with coffee in the morning, and helping us in with our "stuff" before opening.

It would be very good if this event were continued every year, since there is an obvious interest in local history and genealogy. Let's hope it does become an annual event!



Report by Barbara Applin

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Most of the Basingstoke Talking History work done since my last report has been on the Co-op book, and on continuing to research back-numbers of the *Gazette*. Because of holidays and illnesses some planned interviews have had to be postponed.

We have plenty of ideas for future interviews and would welcome anyone who would like to help, either with recording interviews, transcribing or doing associated research.

Recently the *Gazette* carried an article about Doug Hawkins when Brian Gurden arranged for him to visit the BAFTA headquarters to see a film called *The Long March to Freedom*. As you can see from my letter to the Editor, we had interviewed Doug Hawkins for **Basingstoke Talking History** and put the transcript on the BBC website WW2 People's War.

Recognition for those who made our history

Sir.-I was interested to see the article about Doug Hawkins on September 22, with his photographs, because one of the members of the Basingstoke Archaeological & Historical Society interviewed him in 2004 for Basingstoke Talking History and found his memories of the Long March very moving.

The recording and transcript are held in the Wessex Film and Sound Archive at Hampshire Record Office, ref BAHS 105 and BAHS 106. They can be consulted there or at The Willis Museum in Basingstoke (or contact secretary@www.bahsoc.org.uk)

We contributed an edited transcript of these recordings to the BBC website WW2 People's War. This was in three parts. Part



● Doug Hawkins

one described Doug Hawkins' experiences as a gunner and prisoner of war in Italy. Part two described his captivity in Stalag 7A/Stalag 344 and the Long March. Part three described going home, and 60 years on.

It was because Stan Wade, mentioned in Richard Garfield's article, came across these pieces on the People's War website that he got in touch with Doug Hawkins and they were able to compare their experiences (Patrick Knox covered their meeting for *The Gazette* on November 12, 2009). I was sorry to learn that Mr Wade has now died.

It is good to see those who endured such experiences are now given recognition.

**-Barbara Applin,
Basingstoke Archaeological
& Historical Society.**

We are still working on the next book about the Co-op in Basingstoke and are scratching our heads for a good title. We want the book to appeal to readers who belong to or are interested in Basingstoke and the interaction between changes in shopping patterns and the growth of the town; to readers who

are interested in the Co-operative movement and its impact on different communities; and to readers who will see our experience in the context of economic and social changes in the country as a whole.

BASINGSTOKE
CO-OPERATIVE
SOCIETY.

*Opening of
New
Premises.*

THE NEW BUTCHERY
—AND—
CONFECTIONERY SHOP,
(Corner of New St. & Winchester St.)
will be Opened on
Tuesday Next, April 9th.

BUTCHERY DEPARTMENT—
Home-killed & Imported Meat of the choicest
quality only, at competitive prices.

CONFECTIONERY DEPARTMENT—
Bread and Cakes, the finest obtainable.

There are plenty of interviews with local shoppers and shop-workers over the years, as well as reports on children's treats, a great variety of advertisements and worthy discourses at public meetings, which point up emerging issues like the place of women and the rights of workers:

One of the speakers 'looked forward to the time when the whole of the industries of this country would be in the hands of the workers themselves (applause); when strikes, with all their attendant wretchedness and misery, would belong to the history of the past and would be remembered only to be regretted; when profits would belong to those who made them; when the workman would receive the just reward of his toil, not as a pittance but as a right; when their children would occupy a better position than they enjoyed today; and when every family would live under their own vine and fig tree none daring to make them afraid; when there would be no spoliation, no robbery; when drones should no longer extract from the hive the honey that had been gathered by the bees; when they who did not work should not eat; when each would work for all and all for each.'
(Hants & Berks Gazette, 9.9.1895)

So we are offering a bottle of wine for the most inventive title sent in. We'll put up suggested titles at the Christmas Social so that you can indicate your preferences.

PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS – have your say!

Our Libraries

There is a public consultation on proposals for the future of Basingstoke Discovery Centre in the light of proposed cuts to Hampshire's Library Service. Basingstoke Discovery Centre has been designated as a key library and it is proposed to cut the opening hours from 64 to 62, which just affects Sunday which will be 12.00 – 4.00. Details are available on www.hants.gov.uk/library with a comment form to be returned by 28 December 2011.

Our Museum Service

The Hampshire County Council is also conducting a three-month review of its museums services for the next five to 10 years and says it will ask for help from volunteers to keep venues open. The full report and comment form are on www.hants.gov.uk/museums. The revised plan will be submitted to Cllr Keith Chapman (the county's executive member for culture and recreation) in January 2012.

Advance Notice ...

A date for your next year's diary. Barry Hedger is organising a group tour of **Strawberry Hill** at a cost of £12.50 per head. Dates are quickly booked up so he's booked us for **Wednesday morning, 8th August 2012**. We need to have a party of 10+ people and let them know numbers by the beginning of July 2012. More details from Barry (barry.hedger@btinternet.com) and in the next Newsletter.

Lady Anne Clifford **Restorer of Skipton Castle, Yorkshire** *Ann Broad*



Last year I wrote an article about my visit to Skipton Castle. Whilst in the gift shop, a book entitled 'The Diaries of Lady Anne Clifford' edited by D.J.H. Clifford caught my notice so I purchased it.

What an interesting lady! Born in 1590 while Queen Elizabeth I was on the throne, she survived two husbands, one adult daughter, five sons who died in infancy and being disinherited by her father on his demise when she was fifteen, eventually dying at the age of 86 years.

Anne Clifford was connected to some of the highest in the land, her father was George, 3rd Earl of Cumberland who shortly after her birth became the Queen's Champion and was admitted to the Most Noble Order of the Garter. Her mother, Margaret Russell, was the beautiful and talented daughter of the Earl of Bedford. Early in Anne's life she was taken to London and placed in the care of her 'Aunt Warwick', 'a great lady at court, whose task it was to train the little girl in courtly manners, preparing her for a position in the Queen's Household when she was old enough'.

In one of her earliest writings she noted that she (aged 13) was not allowed to be a pallbearer at the funeral of Queen Elizabeth with her mother as she was not high enough, "...which did much trouble me". I take this to mean not tall enough but perhaps it meant she was not aristocratic enough.

George Clifford's lands, acquired by various means over the centuries, covered a sizeable area of north-west England; he also owned or leased country seats in the south and at least two properties in London. However, when he died at the age of 47 in 1605 Anne was barely 15 years old and, in spite of an entail made by King Edward II to an earlier Clifford which clearly stated that Clifford lands should always descend to the direct heir, whatever the sex, George left the entire estates to his brother Francis. On Anne's behalf, her mother immediately started to contest the will, instigating a very careful search of all relevant papers. So began forty-five years of fighting to reclaim her inheritance.

In 1603 in **The Knole Diary, 1603 – 1619** Anne mentions the Court 'were banqueted with great Royalty by my Father at Grafton where the King & Queen were entertained with Speeches and delicate presents...' Also that '...we went along with the Queen to Althorp, Lord Spencer's House...'

When the Court removed to Hampton Court she writes of deaths from the plague but that her Fever did not turn to the plague but 'within 2 or 3 days I grew reasonably well'.

After the coronation of King James I and Queen Anne (Anne of Denmark) on 25th July at Westminster, Lady Anne and her mother went to Lancilwell, Sir Henry Palmer's house, where they stayed '....as long as the Court lay at Basingstoke...' And then she records 'One day the Queen went from Basingstoke and dined at Sir Hy. Wallop's (Farleigh Wallop) where my Lady, my Aunt (of Bath) and I had lain 2 or 3 nights before and did help to entertain her. As we rode from my Lady Wallop's to Lancilwell, riding late by reason of our stay at Basingstoke, we saw a strange Comet in the night like a Canopie in the air which was a thing observed all over England.'

All her life Anne Clifford was a great traveller: in her youth London, Hampshire, Kent, Manchester, Westmoreland and North Yorkshire. In her later years she travelled constantly between her castles, Appleby, Brough, Brougham, Skipton and Pendragon and Barden Tower in the north of England.

After her marriage in 1609 to Richard Sackville who, two days after their marriage became 3rd Earl of Dorset due to the death of his father, Anne became a countess and mistress of the Sackville family

seat at Knole in Kent. During their marriage Anne gave birth to five children, three sons and two daughters. Sadly the three sons all died young.

It is clear that Lady Anne was a determined young woman, defying both her husband and King James, when asked to give up her struggle for her rightful inheritance and shortly after her Mother's death in 1616, King James procured an order against Anne; her husband signed away his claim to her estates, and royal letters patent were issued, completing her disinheritance.

This did not deter Lady Anne and she continued with her struggle.

In 1624 Richard Sackville died. It had been a difficult marriage with constant bickerings and Anne's ever-nagging anxiety that her husband might well succeed in his endeavours to secure her inheritance. It was quite surprising then that in 1630 she married Philip Herbert, Earl of Pembroke and Montgomery and even at the time her friends and relatives appeared amazed. Their characters were totally opposite. She was studious and fond of reading, devout, stately and solemn; he hardly ever touched a book, was apparently agnostic, flippant, caring only for dogs and horses. Herbert was a violent man, with hardly anything to commend him except perhaps for his good looks. However, Herbert was well-respected at Court and by the time he married Anne he was well in favour with King Charles I and had been created a Privy Counsellor and Lord Chamberlain of the Royal Household.

The first few years of the marriage were spent at the Pembroke seat at Wilton in Wiltshire and seem to have been idyllic in Anne's eyes although she gave birth to two premature babies which did not survive. She immersed herself in the restoration of Wilton being undertaken by Inigo Jones but by 1634 Herbert left Anne at Wilton, preferring life at Court and they hardly ever lived together again.

Towards the end of their 20-year marriage, with Anne now nearing 60, Henry Clifford, 5th Earl of Dorset and her last adversary, died without a male heir and the inheritance she had so long struggled for became hers. However, it was not deemed safe for her to move north to claim her estates until June 1649, some six months after Charles I's execution. '...and by easy journeys on ye road I came to Skypton ye 18th day of ye month into my Castle there, it being ye first time of my coming into it after ye pulling down of most of ye old castle, which was done some 6 monthes before, by Order of Parliament because it had been a garrison in ye late Civil Warre. And I was never till now in any part of ye castle since I was 9 or 10 weeks old.'

For the next 27 years until her death at the age of 86 in 1676 Anne travelled between her five castles and Barden Tower in Yorkshire, Lancashire and Westmoreland repairing and rebuilding. Friends tried to dissuade her from this activity, suggesting that it might be safer to wait until the political climate had stabilised. It was possible that she could have incurred Cromwell's wrath which could have damaged her properties further but she would have none of it. 'Let him (Cromwell) destroy my Castles if he will, as often as he levels them I will rebuild them, so long as he leaves me a shilling in my pocket.'

Anne spent 'thousands of pounds of her own money on a complete refurbishment programme, not only of the castles, which were successively her homes, but also of local churches, bridges and schools.'

The Kendal Diary covers the years 1650 – 1675.

On a personal level she kept in touch with her two daughters and grandchildren who travelled from the south of England to stay with her in various of her castles. In her diaries she notes who came to stay, where they stayed and in which rooms, how long the visit lasted and whether they journeyed to another castle to see the latest renovations. Lastly she would note how long their homeward journey had taken.

But her obvious love of her daughters and grandchildren seems many times to have been tinged with sadness.

Of the visit in August 1660 of her younger daughter Isabella with her two eldest children, William and Anne, she writes, 'And this 6th day of August was the last time I ever saw these two Grandchildren of mine.....for she (*Anne*) dyed the 14th of December following and he (*William*) dyed the 18th September in 1661, just 9 months after his sister's death, to my unspeakable grieffe and sorrow. And it was likewise the last time I saw their Mother, my Daughter.' It was also the first time she had seen her grand-daughter.

In August 1661 Anne's eldest daughter Margaret, Lady Thanet visited her for the fourth time, journeying from London with her three youngest daughters whom '.. I had not seen.....since the 28th Julie in 1656 till this time.' But in October of this year Anne's younger daughter, Isabella, ...'my Daughter of Northampton'... died six months after being safely delivered of her third daughter and sixth child.

In 1662 the only surviving son of Lady Anne's daughter Isabella, '...my Deare Grandchild James, Lord Compton, died in London, ...being but 3 yeares and three monthes and 16 daies over at his Deathhis dead Bodie being first open'd and his lungs found much annoyed with glandols sticking to his Ribbes.'

On the same day that she heard of Lord Compton's death she received a letter from Margaret telling her of the death of 'William Coventrie who was the third Sonne to my Grandchild ye Ladie Coventry...being about a yeare old.'

In 1663, '...did my Grandchild Mr. John Tufton come from his journie from London hither into this Barden Towre to mee, where I now kiss'd him with much joy a little before suppre....'

November 1665 brought yet two more deaths. '...(to my unspeakable grieffe), dyed my dear Grandchild the Ladie Frances Draxbeing then in labour of her first Childe which was a Sonne of whom she could not be delivered, for the Childe was dead within a few houres before her owne death.'

So many deaths with more yet to come, but not all was sadness, Lady Anne chronicles more visits of grandchildren whom she greets with kisses and 'unspeakable joy and comfort' and reports on their progress through life.

Lady Anne Clifford died at Brougham Castle on 22nd March 1676. Her own horses drew the hearse on her last journey to St. Lawrence Church in Appleby and the chief mourner was her favourite grandchild, John Tufton. Mr Clifford says, 'It is recorded that a vast retinue of local gentry, friends and tenants attended the hearse...' An old friend, Bishop Edward Rainbowe of Carlisle preached the sermon and his text was from Proverbs: 'Every wise woman buildeth her house'.

Mr. D.J.H. Clifford ends his edited book of Lady Anne's Diaries with an anecdote which he feels illustrates how much the spirit and the memory of Lady Anne still lingers.

'Not long after the Second World War Lord Hothfield offered to install electricity for the first time in the almshouses in Appleby which Lady Anne had founded some three hundred years before. His proposal was politely declined, the reason being given that, "Lady Anne would not have liked it".'

Note: It is interesting to note the number of sons who died at an early age in three generations of the family. Lady Anne had two older brothers who died in infancy, she herself had three sons with her first husband and two sons with her second husband who died in infancy, her daughter Isabella had three sons who died young and her cousin Henry on her Father's side had three sons who died in infancy. In each marriage the daughters usually survived to adulthood. However Lady Anne's eldest daughter gave birth to six sons (and five daughters) and all survived into adulthood.

*Ann Broad adds that she recently visited Farleigh House on their Open Garden Day. This is where Lady Anne and her aunt had helped to entertain the Queen on her visit to Sir Henry Wallop (the book *En suivant La Vérité: a History of the Earls of Portsmouth and the Wallop Family* by Alison*

Deveson is available at our meetings). We assume that the mention of 'our stay at Basingstoke' refers to Basing House, but Lancilwell was rather a puzzle until we asked one of our members, Peter Head, if this could have been an earlier name for Lance Levy. This guess was confirmed by this entry in the Victoria County History for Hampshire, Volume 4, page 104 – footnotes there give sources of information. Presumably Palmes and Palmer were different versions of the same family name.

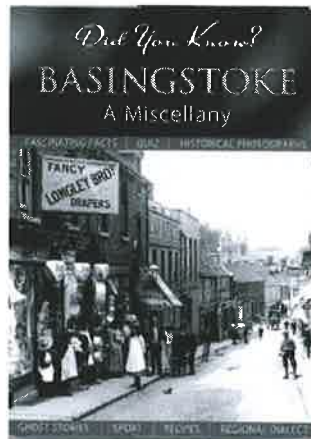
SHERFIELD UPON LODDON At Lancelevy Farm, to the east of Sherfield, are the remains of a moat. This farm is now included in the Sherfield Manor estate. The house formerly stood within the moat, but was rebuilt in its present position about two hundred years ago. The house is of the Queen Anne description, and takes its name from the Warwickshire family of Launcelevy. The estate, which is sometimes called a "manor", belonged during the 17th century to the family of Palmes, and the house was once occupied by Sir Frances Palmes, whose daughter Anne married Sir Hampden Paulet. Sir Francis married Mary, the elder daughter of Stephen Hadnall, a Privy Councillor of Queen Mary, who acquired land in Sherfield in 1578 from Richard More. The Mores had been in possession of land in Sherfield, apparently the Lancelevy estate, in 1496 and before.

Peter Head kindly invited Mark Peryer, Bob and myself to visit his home at Lance Levy Cottages, showing us the site of the moat as well as a nearby field where he has found pottery and tiles. Bob found pieces of pot, despite the field being full of sweetcorn. We have contact details for the owners and hope to organise a fieldwalk there.

Barbara Applin

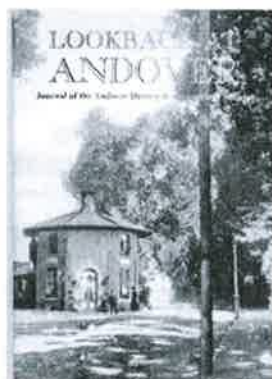
Did You Know?
BASINGSTOKE
A Miscellany

Review by Bob Applin



A small book (53 + iv pages) compiled by Julia Skinner has been published by *The Francis Frith Collection*, price £3.99 at Milestones and other outlets. It is a nicely produced collection of 'then and now' photographs of Basingstoke from the Frith Collection. None of the 19 'then' photos are new to collectors of Basingstoke photos. The accompanying text gives a very broad brush history of the town from AD 700 to the present making reference to the photos and giving additional background information where appropriate. Two errors have been made: Thorneycroft (which should not have an 'e' – a common mistake), and as far as I can find out Fairfields Board Schools never took boarders as claimed. The book would make a good stocking filler.

LOOKBACK AT
ANDOVER



In exchange for our Newsletter the Andover History & Archaeological Society have sent us the 2011 edition of their long running Journal. It will be available for loan at our Society meetings.

TWO UNANSWERED QUESTIONS

Bob Clarke

Here are some extracts from 18th century newspapers about events that took place locally, which raise questions, the answers to which we'll never know.

On Wednesday the 16th, a Maltster at Winslead near Basingstoke, in Hampshire, murder'd his Wife, by giving her several Blows about the Head, &c that she immediately expir'd: And on Monday the coroner's Jury sat on the Body, and brought in their Verdict, Wilful Murder; but while the Jury was sitting, the Husband made his Escape.

Universal Spectator, July 26, 1735

WHEREAS Samuel Prince of Winslade near Basingstoke in the County of Southampton, was on Monday the 21st Instant found guilty, upon the Coroner's Inquest, of the Wilful Murder of his Wife, and has fled from Justice: Her Majesty, for the better discovering and apprehending the said Samuel Prince, in order to the bringing him to Justice for so heinous a Crime, is graciously pleased to promise a Reward of One Hundred Pounds, to such Person or Persons who shall discover the said Samuel Prince, so that he may be apprehended and convicted thereof. HOLLES NEWCASTLE

Samuel Prince, above mentioned, is a lusty Man, of a fresh Complexion, stoops in his Shoulders, near Six Foot high, above Fifty Years of Age, had pretty long Legs, not large for his Height, and remarkable long flat Feet. He had on, when he left his Dwelling-House, a black Coat with close Sleeves, buttoned, a black Waistcoat and Buckskin Breeches, a light Wig pretty much worn, and good Hat: He has a smooth Face for his Age, having never had the Small Pox.

London Gazette, July 29, 1735

They write from Basingstoke, that Samuel Prince, the Farmer, who stands charged upon the Coroner's Inquest, with the Murder of his Wife at Winslade, had just before the Inquest met, wrote a letter to the Coroner, offering him a round Sum of Money to be serviceable to him in his Enquiry: but the Gentleman rejected it, and did his Duty.

Daily Gazetteer, August 1, 1735

Did they ever catch him?

The Gentleman who hired a One Horse Chaise, at the Maidenhead-Inn in Basingstoke, Hants, on Friday the 21st of October last, for six Days at the most, is hereby desired to send a Line when the Chaise shall be returned.

General Evening Post, November 5, 1743

Did the landlord get his horse and chaise back?

An Australian Enquiry: Bayley House

Bob Applin

We recently had an enquiry from Dr Anne Hurley, in Victoria, Australia who wanted to know where Bayley House was in Sherborne Road, Basingstoke. Her great grandfather was William Henry Bayley, a solicitor in Basingstoke and according to the 1881 UK census he lived with his large family in Sherborne Road. Her grandfather was Trevor Bayley, one of the sons who emigrated to Australia in 1890. After searching through our records (and consulting Debbie Reavell of the Basingstoke Heritage Society) this is my report.

The house in Sherborne Rd where William H Bayley lived in 1881 with his large family and five servants is what is known now as Sherborne House. There is no record that we can find of a Bayley House anywhere in Basingstoke. That is not to say that it was not known as such whilst the Bayley family lived there. It is the only large residence in Sherborne Rd. The photos on page 15 show what it looks like today. It has been converted to apartments.

It stands on almost the highest point of the land on the north side of the Loddon valley in which Basingstoke originated. The Loddon is now culverted for most of its route through the town and is a shadow of its former self due to water abstraction to help supply a town of 100k+ population. The land rises fairly steeply on both sides of the valley and the town mainly grew up the southern slope. In 1838 the railway from London to Southampton was built across the northern slope on the then outskirts of the town. It was only from the 1870s onwards that building on the northern slope above the railway started – mostly middle class detached and semi-detached villas.

A possible reason for the house being built in what was then a fairly isolated position – a good half mile from the town and a quarter mile from the nearest habitation, (except for the nearby St Thomas's Diocesan Home for Fallen Women – a refuge for pregnant girls where they were trained for domestic service or laundry work), is that from the 1860s Basingstoke suffered several outbreaks of Typhoid due to the water supply coming from contaminated wells in the valley and the Borough Council's unwillingness to provide the money for proper sewerage. The Medical Officer of Health made repeated attempt in his annual reports to get the Council to take action, but those on the Council who agreed with him were always outvoted by those opposed to raising the rates. Sherborne House when built almost certainly would have had its own well providing pure water, as it is on the same level as the town reservoir and there would have been insufficient pressure to supply the house.¹

From the census its history is:

1861 Sherborne Rd is not listed. It is just a lane leading to the village of Sherborne St John 2 miles north of the town.

1871 Sherborne Rd is listed but no Sherborne House. What is listed is **South View** occupied by a 29yr old 'Farmer out of business', his 23yr old wife and two young boys with 3 servants. Also a '**house under construction**'. This is the South View in Vyne Road which WH Bayley rented before he built Sherborne House. This has been demolished and a block of sheltered accommodation built on the site.

Debbie Reavell of the Basingstoke Heritage Society told us that Hampshire Record Office has a document **HRO 40M74/E/T3** of **22/8/1894** which is a land tax issue. In it, W H Bayley swears about South View House (in Vyne Road) that he has known J B Soper since he [Soper] purchased and laid out [the house] in 1867. Then 'that he resided for sometime at South View House and that 'I resided at Sherborne House, which was built and belonged to me'. John Burgess Soper was a major land owner in the area who was selling off building plots (hence Burgess Road and Soper Grove).

1881 In Sherborne Rd, in an unnamed property, but in the right place in the census enumerator's perambulation is William H Bayley, his wife, 10 children (he is 42 and Sophia his wife is 39), his brother and five servants. Obviously a big house, which is why we think it is Sherborne House.

1891 In Sherborne Rd, in an unnamed property, but in the right place in the census enumerator's perambulation is Charles Steevens, Retired Agricultural Engineer, with 3 servants.

Charles Steevens was a partner in Wallis & Steevens, Agricultural Engineers – the major employer in the town at that time. The company biography written soon after the company closed in the early 1970s records that Charles left Sherborne House to the Wallis family on his death and that one of the sons, Francis Ashby Wallis, lived there.² The Hampshire Record Office has two documents relating to the Wallis family's ownership of the House.³

At some point, probably after WWII, the house was used by Middlesex County Council as a residential home for problem children. It was later used as a nursing home for mentally infirm geriatrics before being sold for housing development in the 1990s.

William H Bayley

This photo sent by Dr Hurley is definitely not Sherborne House and Debbie Reavell thinks it is not South View House, so it may be The Elms. Hook Street, Newnham, where Bayley was living in 1891, a widower with 8 of his children, his sister-in-law and three servants. Presumably he was commuting to Basingstoke by rail from Hook. Newnham is a small village about a mile from Hook which is on the railway about 5 miles east of Basingstoke. His sister-in-law was presumably acting as Housekeeper.



By 1901 he had moved to the centre of Hook, probably to be nearer the Rail station, with four children still at home, his sister-in-law and three servants.

He was an important person in the town's relatively small professional community (see below for the offices he held). One of the town's major employers, Thomas Burberry - founder of the Burberry Company - also lived in Hook (he commuted by horseback), so there may be an element of "keeping up with the Joneses" in the choice of Hook.

He had at least one partner, Percy Dowsland Jones, practising as Bayley & Jones, with his practice finally becoming Bayley Mant & Kingdon which was still in existence in 1974. We do not know when it ceased to exist.

He held many official positions. This was before the Town council had a permanent staff of any size. The lawyers in the town seemed to share the jobs between themselves, although at any one time one or other of them appears to have most of the jobs. In directories⁴ of the time WH Bayley is noted as:

- 1875** Town Clerk
Clerk to Urban Sanitary Authority
Perpetual Commissioner (we do not know what this position was)
Clerk to Charity Trustees
- 1895** As above plus:
Clerk to Burial Board
Clerk to Aldworth Trustees
- 1903 & 1907** with offices in Basingstoke, Odiham, Hook & Winchfield
Clerk to Charity Trustees
Registrar
High Bailiff of the County Court

Also in Basingstoke at this time was David Bayley, who may or may not be related, but the spelling is unusual. From 1895 to 1915 he was Weights & Measures Inspector, 1911 -1915 also Official Sampler of Fertilizers and Feeding Stuffs to the County Council under the Fertilizer & Feeding Stuffs Act 1906.



The front of Sherborne House, from a brochure



The back view today

Footnotes:

1. The Making of Basingstoke, Eric Stokes, BAHS, 2008, pp 98 et seq. (Note the WH Bailey referred to as Town Clerk is WH Bayley)
2. Wallis & Steevens – A History, RA Whitehead, Road Locomotive Society, 1983
3. **HRO 63M83/B1/342** Draft abstract of title of surviving trustee of the will of Charles James Steevens
4. The Directories consulted were: 1875 Post Office; 1895,99, 1903, 1907, 1915 Kellys

Debbie Reavell contributed the photo of the front of the house and the following:

We know that Bayley first lived in South View House because he did a Land Tax Declaration for Soper, saying so. It has all the hallmarks of a Soper building: the tower and the stone staircase. Then I guess that he built Sherborne House and moved there. That is a good survivor of a 'gentleman's house'. I understand that the house has some nice stained glass with children's stories such as Aesop but it is flats now, still called Sherborne House..

Sophia died 1882 and I have a note that the Gazette did her obit on 11th November 1882. She appears to have died around her 10th childbirth. Their 9th daughter was called Nona, which seems to suggest that they were a bit desperate. WH died 6th August 1907 and he and Sophia are buried in South View [cemetery] as well as is Nona who died in 1902, aged 22.

I think WH may have been clerk to the Queen Mary School Governors too but as Town Clerk I suppose he was a big cheese. I am not aware of any stables at Sherborne House and I think that if you didn't have a horse, then you lived within walking distance of the town. The house was built after St Thomas's [in Darlington Road] so wasn't all by itself – the land was, I think, part of Whiteditch.

Bayley House is the name of one of the new blocks of flats built east of Sherborne House. I was asked for suggestions for names on the new development, so I was pleased that they did use Bayley.

? Mystery object ? from page 1

*This was over the door of a tomb of the Voconios family in "Los Columbarios" burial site in Merida, Spain (seen during our Andante holiday in the Roman province of Lusitania). It is a semi-bas-relief of military decorations acquired during an extensive military career: two torques, two armbands (armillae) in the form of a serpent, and between those a framework of leather strips which serve to support the nine medals (phalerae), typical military rewards for a soldier risen from the lowest ranks to become a centurion. Incidentally, the Andante trip was superb and Andy Fear an excellent tour guide. **Barbara & Bob Applin***

2011-12 DIARY DATES

BAHS

BASINGSTOKE ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MEETINGS *On Thursdays at 7.30 pm Church Cottage, Basingstoke*

Thurs 10 Nov **CELTS FROM THE WEST** Prof Sir Barry Cunliffe

Thurs 8 Dec **Christmas Social Evening**

2012

Thurs 12 Jan **SOURCES FOR LANDSCAPE AND GARDEN HISTORY AT HAMPSHIRE RECORD OFFICE** Jane Harris

Thurs 9 Feb **THE STAFFORDSHIRE HOARD: ART, WEALTH AND POWER IN THE 7TH CENTURY AD** Hon. Prof. Leslie Webster

FIELDWORK – *see page 3*

November **Debbie's dig**

19-20 Nov **Cholderton field walk**

POST-EXCAVATION WORK *at Chilcomb House - see page 2*

Thursdays **10 am to 4 pm**

Secretary: Ginny Pringle Tel: 01420 550028
Email: secretary@bahsoc.org.uk

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FRIENDS OF BASING HOUSE

At 7.30 pm, Basing House Education Centre, The Street, Old Basing

2012

Tues 10 Jan **THE NEWPORT SHIP**, Morwenna Perrott

FRIENDS OF WILLIS MUSEUM

At 7.30 pm Willis Museum, Basingstoke

Thurs 17 Nov **THE PORTALS OF THE PAST** Dave Stone

Thurs 16 Dec **CHRISTMAS PARTY** and **CHRISTMAS REMEMBERED** led by Barbara Applin

HAMPSHIRE FIELD CLUB

www.fieldclub.hants.org

Sat 19 Nov Archaeology Section and AGM **A BODY OF EVIDENCE: human remains from Prehistory to post-Medieval.** *Peter Symonds Science Lecture Theatre, 10 am*

HAMPSHIRE RECORD OFFICE

Lunch-time lecture, free, 1.15-1.45 in the cinema, Hampshire Record Office

Thurs 24 Nov **A LITTLE LOCAL FESTIVAL OF BRITAIN 1951: films of regional events from Wessex Film & Sound Archive** presented by David Lee

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