

*Issue 4 January 2016*

## Welcome from the Editor

Welcome to our January 2016 newsletter which we hope will convey something of the excitement the Trustees feel at the launch of our first publication, and as the finishing touches are being put to Volume XIII. As usual there are updates on progress on the Cheltenham, Cirencester and Yate and the Sodburys Red Books as well as articles on features which our researchers have found particularly interesting.

My thanks go to all the contributors to this newsletter, including the photographers,

and as usual to John Chandler, our county editor, for the production, and to Jonathan Comber, the Trust's treasurer, who has collated the various contributions for me. We hope you enjoy reading what follows. If you have any comments or further ideas please let me know: [dhaldred@btinternet.com](mailto:dhaldred@btinternet.com).

*David Aldred*  
*Editor*

## Welcome from the Trust

The big event in September was the very successful launch of our first non-digital publication – the long-awaited Yate Short. It took place at the Yate Heritage Centre, which



*Lord-Lieutenant and Patron of our VCH Trust, Dame Janet Trotter, presents a copy of the Yate Short to the mayor of Yate, Councillor Mike Davis at the launch in Yate Heritage Centre (Adam Chapman)*

A biannual newsletter for everyone involved in, or interested in, the progress of the Victoria County History towards its completion in Gloucestershire. The VCH Gloucestershire Academy is the name given to the editors and volunteers who work together researching and writing under the aegis of the Gloucestershire County History Trust. The Trust and the Academy are based at Gloucestershire Archives, Clarence Row, Alvin Street, Gloucester GL1 3DW

was packed out, and our Lord-Lieutenant and Patron, Dame Janet Trotter, very kindly did the honours, acknowledging the vital support given by South Gloucestershire Council in providing the grant which got the work going. Dame Janet paid tribute to Rose Wallis and the many Yate volunteers who had helped her with local source material, and presented a copy to the Yate Mayor, Councillor Tony Davis. The VCH Central Office was represented by Matt Bristow and Adam Chapman. From an initial print run of two hundred, more than half have already been snapped up, and we are considering having some more run off (as it is a print-on-demand title, this is easy to arrange). We presented a number of copies to South Gloucestershire Council for distribution to local libraries. The volume enjoyed a very favourable review in the local newspaper. If you would like to purchase a copy (price £12), please contact John Chandler or Jonathan Comber via the Archives.

After taking stock of progress in Cirencester, and regretfully accepting that Antonia Catchpole would not be able to increase her part-time hours on VCH work, we have now made a new appointment, which we hope will be close to full-time. This is Francis Boorman, who lives in South London but who plans to spend dedicated time in Gloucester and Cirencester as required, both to work on the source material and to engage with our band of Cirencester volunteers. Francis has the big advantage of having worked on a VCH Short himself recently and he has a strong academic record. His contract started on 1 January, and he is keen to get the project underway, and to meet all those already involved.



*Francis Boorman*

All in all, this has been a busy close to a busy 2015, but it is all progress, and we have much to look forward to in 2016, not least the publication of a Cheltenham Short (*see below. Ed.*) and the arrival of our first Big Red Book, Gloucestershire Volume XIII. As soon as we have firm publication dates, we will arrange suitably celebratory launches.

### *STOP PRESS*

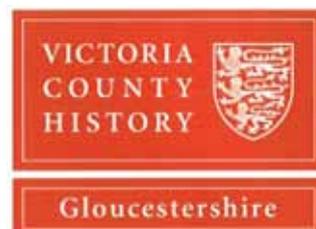
As we go to publication we have just learnt that Alison Alden, one of our Trustees, has been awarded the OBE in the New Year's Honours' List for services to higher education. Many congratulations Alison.

*James Hodsdon*  
*Chairman, GCHT*

## Latest from the County Editor

### **Vale of Gloucester and Leadon Valley**

**T**wyning, the last parish to be written for this volume (XIII), was submitted to Central Office at the end of July, along with texts of all the remainder, revised in the light of the comments received from the referees. There were a few further adjustments to be made, and we identified about ninety subjects for illustrations. Simon Draper had already taken many photographs to illustrate his and John Jurica's parishes, and I took advantage of fine autumn days to photograph mine. The result is a mixture of images, of landscapes, buildings, architectural details, facsimiles of maps and documents, and historic photographs, begged, borrowed but not stolen, new and old, and then enhanced where necessary using cunning Photoshop tools. At the end of November, after a final read through at Central Office, text, images and maps were submitted to Boydell and Brewer, our publisher, for typesetting and page design. The next stage will be proof correction and indexing, which will keep me busy intermittently through the next few months,





*Linda Viner draws attention to a finer point of Cirencester's landscape during the visit of the VCH Academy last summer (Eileen Allen)*

with publication and launch pencilled in for late summer. It should be some party.

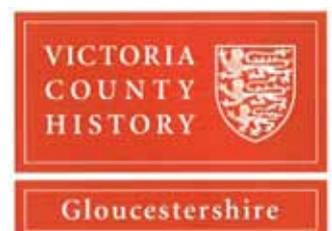
### **Cheltenham before the Spa**

Following the success of our first 'Short' paperback, Rose's account of Yate, we are planning to produce another, which will combine Beth Hartland's and Alex Craven's labours on medieval and early modern Cheltenham respectively, and take the story up to the discovery and development of the spa in the eighteenth century. This is Cheltenham's hidden or secret history, all but obliterated by the Georgian and Regency terraces, and we think that it will prove an eye-opener to many who think they know their town well. Most of the text is written (by Beth and Alex) and sitting in my laptop, where I have begun the enjoyable editorial task of weaving it into a coherent and consistent narrative. Keep a look

out for *Cheltenham before the Spa* within the next year (we hope).

### **Academy Days**

Our monthly third Thursday pattern has continued, with two – sometimes three – speakers, and it would be invidious of me to single out highlights. Except to say that my most enjoyable moments have been sitting at the back thinking what talented people we have among our ranks. But our September 'field trip' to Cheltenham deserves special mention, every bit as illuminating as our visit to Cirencester earlier in the year. Back in the Frith Centre we have explored magistrates, charities, education, chancery records, and the pre-



## The Sodburys (Vol. XIV)

I have been concentrating my efforts on researching and drafting a combined introduction to the Sodbury histories, focusing on topography, landscape and consequent settlement development. Together, the three parishes cover an area of some 4,000 acres, extending about 6 miles east from the Wickwar Ridge to Great Badminton. The Cotswold Scarp, rising 200m. above sea level at its highest point, dominates the landscape. Running north-south through Little and Old Sodbury, it divides the Badminton plateau in the east from the Wickwar vale in the west. Taking advantage of the shelter afforded by the scarp, and the springs that issue from it, the village centres of Old and Little Sodbury nestle at its foot.

This topographical variety informed the creation of three separate parishes. Between the eighth and tenth centuries, Sodbury – as a single estate – was held from the bishops of Worcester. In 903, Bishop Wærferth consented to the sale of the estate to Eadnoth, ending a long-standing dispute over the terms of the original grant made 745 x 774AD. In lay hands, Sodbury was divided in two before 1086. The new estate of Little Sodbury formed a strip parish, running almost the full length of Old Sodbury from east to west, but less than a mile across at its widest point. This elongated arrangement allowed the settlement of a variety of land resources, taking in both the wooded areas of the vale and the more extensive flatlands of the plateau. The siting of Chipping Sodbury, before 1179, likewise sought to take advantage of the landscape. Situated on high, flat ground above Yate and watered by the River Frome, the town was planted on significant routes – the saltway to Droitwich and the road from Bristol to Chippenham – which underpinned its commercial success. Although only a glimpse offered here, the full account of the settlements' development provides an important foundation for the next phases of work on patterns of landholding and production in the three parishes.

Alongside work on the settlements, volunteers have begun research on other sections of the history.



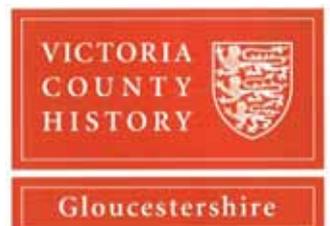
*Members of the academy check the width of a medieval burgage plot in Cheltenham's Lower High Street (John Chandler)*



*Later in the day they visited Francis Close Hall (James Ritchie)*

Norman landscape; and we have had refresher sessions on our database and the internet, and reports on the Cirencester archives project, VCH Herefordshire, and our next Red Book (Volume XIII). Besides home-grown talent, we have enjoyed hearing from Sylvia Pinches (VCH Herefordshire), Simon Draper (VCH Oxfordshire) and Adam Chapman (VCH Central Office). Although there will be disruption in the latter part of 2016 as a result of the redevelopments in the Archives' building, we are planning to continue the monthly academy days on the third Thursday, at least until June.

*John Chandler*



Karl Keating, our University of the West of England undergraduate intern for the summer of 2015, has been writing up his research on crime and policing in the area. His work for the VCH has been expanded for his final year dissertation, which concerns the operations of the petty sessional bench based at the Cross Hands at Old Sodbury. Volunteers in Yate and Sodbury have started work on the early modern and modern religious histories, and commerce in Chipping Sodbury from c.1800. The latter builds on work published by the Sodbury Vale Family History Group in 2008, tracing local businesses from a survey of the town made in 1795 through to the early twenty-first century. We are very pleased to have one of the contributors working with us. In 2016, another small local group will be tackling the 1940s farm surveys for the area.

*Rose Wallis*

## Cheltenham (Vol. XV)

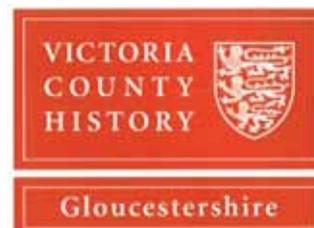
For the last six months, work in Cheltenham has been focused upon perhaps the most crucial period in the town's history, between the founding of the first spa in 1738 and the middle of the nineteenth century. Although the impact of the spa was limited at first, the visit of George III in 1788 was to have a profound effect upon the town. The founding of numerous other spas in the years after the royal visit led to the creation of a Cheltenham season, to complement that of its Somerset rival in Bath. Numerous other institutions and businesses were established within the town to cater for the new genteel clientele which now frequented Cheltenham each year, whilst the farmland that once surrounded the town's single street quickly disappeared beneath the avenues of new suburbs that sprang up to the north and south of the town. The population, still only 3,076 in 1801, boomed during the first half of the nineteenth century, reaching 35,051 by the time of the 1851 census. Cheltenham's rise in importance was recognised nationally in 1832, when it was one of two new parliamentary constituencies created in Gloucestershire by the Great Reform Act.

This rapid transformation of the town poses a challenge to the historian, but

it has also resulted in a far greater volume of material to draw upon than is true for earlier periods. Numerous printed guides and directories for the town, added to the publication of the first accurate maps, will inform the writing of the physical expansion of the town, the creation of its new suburbs, and the erection of the many new public buildings. The founding of six newspapers in Cheltenham during the early nineteenth century leaves us much more informed about the life of its population, their businesses, and their political views, than we have been before. The central rôle that Cheltenham came to play in the social life of the nation is also reflected in the many letters written to family members by visitors to the spas during their stays. It is possible to visit any archive in the country and find letters that had been sent home from Cheltenham, giving a range of personal perspectives upon the social and cultural life of the town during the spa period. Work has begun on writing up this research, and it is intended that drafts relating to the development of the numerous spas in Cheltenham, the growth of its road and rail networks, and the expansion of the town, will all be produced early in the new year.

An enthusiastic group of volunteers has been working under the direction of Sally and Russell Self to catalogue the huge archival collection of the Ticehurst and Wyatt firm of solicitors (Glos. Archives, D2025). (*see below. Ed.*) A prominent lawyer in the town, Roland Ticehurst was the family solicitor for the Agg-Gardners, who bought the lordship of the manor, and Ticehurst also served as the steward of the manor court. The collection contains a vast number of public, private and business papers, and our volunteers have now catalogued more than half of its 250 boxes. These are being added to the Archives' online catalogue as they go, so this work by the VCH volunteers is already available to the wider public. Many of the boxes still to be catalogued do not even have the briefest note of their contents, but they include several boxes relating to the Gardner brewery, a major industrial concern within the town.

We have recently recruited several more volunteers to join us working on the history of Cheltenham, and they will now be working through copies of the



Cheltenham newspapers available online or held at the local studies library in Cheltenham. The VCH is not normally able to work through local newspapers in such depth and this is real value that our volunteers will be adding to the final drafts that are produced. Some of our volunteers are also keen to write draft sections of their own. Following the fascinating discovery of material relating to the early, and at times scandalous, elections in Cheltenham whilst working through the Ticehurst collection, Russell Self has undertaken to write the early history of the constituency. Meanwhile, Sally Self and Sue Brown will be taking on the not inconsiderable task of writing the history of trade and industry in the town up to the middle of the nineteenth century. Others have expressed an interest in writing aspects of the town's religious history, and its educational history.

Finally, volunteer Renata Mauri has begun work to index and calendar the well-known scrapbooks compiled by the late Alfred Miles. Compiled over many years between his retirement in 1912 from his successful family coach-building business and his death in 1932, the ten scrapbooks comprise a vast range of highly eclectic material relating to local and national history, and include numerous illustrations and press cuttings, as well as

pages and pages of Miles' handwritten notes. Formerly kept at the Local Studies Library in Cheltenham, these scrapbooks have been very well consulted by local historians over the years, and it has been a long-standing ambition to create a new edition to bring them to a wider audience. Now kept at Gloucestershire Archives, it is intended that a digital online edition will be produced of all ten scrapbooks. As well as a treasure trove of information about Cheltenham and its district, the scrapbooks are also a fascinating insight into the mind of an amateur historian in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

*Alex Craven*

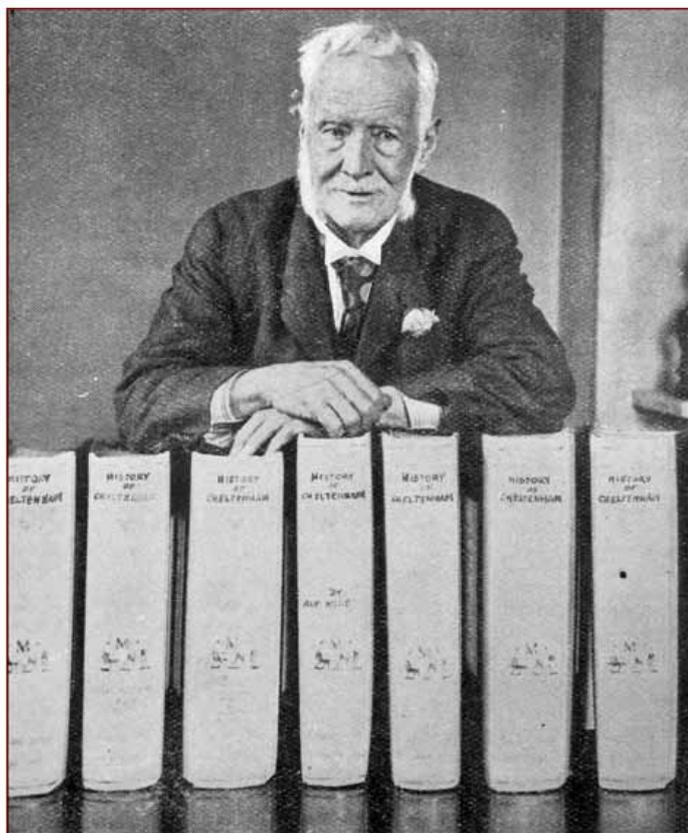
## End of year report - 'You've all done very well'

*(quote from young Mr Grace in television's 'Are you being served?')*

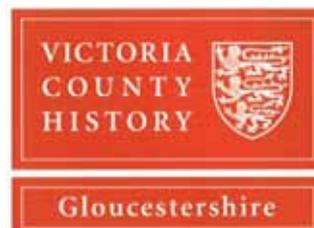
Cheltenham volunteers have had a very good year. Those people cataloguing at the Archives have completed eighty-one boxes of D2025, Ticehurst and Wyatt papers. At an average of eight bundles per box and twenty documents per bundle, this make around 13,000 documents! And some boxes have well over twenty bundles. All the *Excel* spreadsheets have gone to Kate Maisey and have been added to the Archives' CALM database and all those with Cheltenham and surrounding areas connections have also been added to the VCH database. In September, in response to the extension of Alex's contract, we recruited a further band of volunteers, who were willing to work either at home or in the Local Studies Library, Cheltenham. We had a wonderful response and now have seven volunteers working on the *Cheltenham Chronicle*, *Cheltenham Free Press*, the *Looker-On* and the *Cheltenham Journal and Examiner*, for the period 1809 to 1859.

We hope to see all our volunteers again in 2016.

*Sal and Russ Self*



*Alfred Miles*



## Medieval and Earlier Cirencester (Vol. XVI)

There is plenty about Cirencester reported elsewhere in this newsletter, but one other piece of very good news is that Beth has now completed and submitted her work on medieval Cirencester, including an account of Cirencester Abbey (which updates and will replace the article published in Vol. II in 1907). After a certain amount of editing by me, which will include incorporating Antonia's research on the town's development and topography, we shall be able to post a draft text on our website. We are also discussing with archaeologists how to tackle Corinium – Roman Cirencester – but more of that anon.

*John Chandler*

## Cirencester: the Cataloguing Project

As many of you will know, I have spent the last twelve months cataloguing the papers of Cirencester solicitors Messrs. Mullings, Ellett and Co. and Messrs. Sewell and Logie. This project is now very near its end, and aided and abetted by a crack team of volunteers the catalogue is due to meet its target completion date. This should provide an extremely rich resource for researchers. I know a number of the volunteers also research for the Victoria County History projects on Cirencester and Cheltenham, so I hope that their work with the solicitors' papers has provided them with an idea of the breadth of information which may be found in the collection. Some of the quirky items which have come to light in recent weeks include photographs of World War One soldiers, a book of farming stock including names of the cows and horses and a recipe for how New England fishermen treated their leather boots. The final section of wills is also being completed by volunteers. Recent finds relate to fire engines in Lichfield and rights to use an outdoor privy. These curious specimens, alongside more typical examples, should appear online in 2016.

There is also an ongoing project to list the World War One Registration Act

forms in which women living in Cirencester and its surrounding area registered their details and stated which work they were qualified and willing to do. These have included a number of unexpected entries and should provide a very robust view of the town in the early twentieth century.

*Hannah Dale*

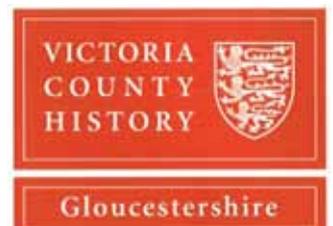


*Ashleworth sign post (John Chandler)*

## From the Archives:

### An Ashleworth Anomaly

Anyone seeking out Ashleworth quay, to see the famous barn nearby or the equally famous Boat Inn, is sent on their way there, at a road junction known as Bricklow, by a fingerpost, a curious



structure with a curious distinction. It is a listed building, Grade II, and was designated in November 1986, when it was described as: 'Probably early C20th'. In fact, as I discovered when examining the parish council minutes for Vol. XIII, it is a replica of an earlier post which it replaced, and was erected in 1972. Thus in 1986 it was a mere fourteen years old, and almost certainly (and illegally) the youngest construction ever listed up to that date. In fact the date is significant, because until a change in legislation the following year no building newer than 1939 was eligible for listing, and even now, when buildings thirty years old, or even ten years old, may be given listed building protection, only the most exceptional are so designated. Bricklow fingerpost, through a misunderstanding therefore, takes its place alongside Coventry Cathedral, Chichester Festival Theatre, Centre Point and the first Severn motorway bridge, and is still the youngest of any of them. A succinct sentence, with a discreet footnote, will hint at this in the Ashleworth account for the forthcoming red book.

*John Chandler*

## Robbery and Murder in Cirencester

*Cirencester Flying Post*, 25 Oct 1742.

Saturday 7-night [sic] Mr Greyhurst a Gentleman of this town was robb'd between Burford and Farmington by a single Highwayman, well mounted who took from him upwards of 50s and a silver Watch but Mr Greyhurst telling him the Watch had so particular a mark on it it could do him no service he immediately returned it again and bid him make the best of his way home. Also robbed a farmer & Mr Greyhurst saw him do so, on the other side of the hedge as he rode along the road. [It seems the highwayman had been in the area for some time and had been arrested at Tetbury but had escaped.]

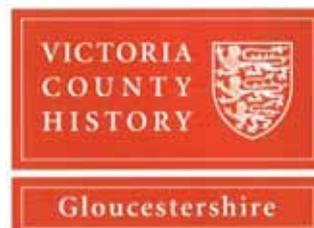
*Cirencester Flying Post*, 31 Oct 1743.

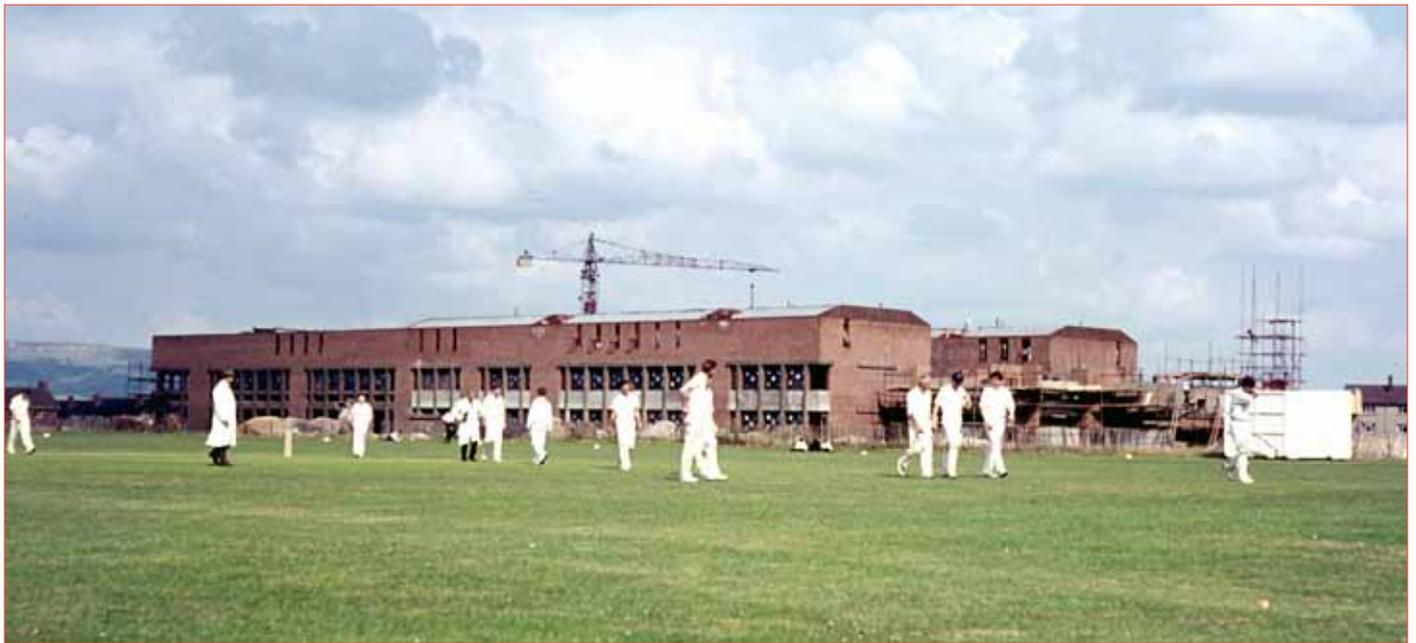
Last Tuesday evening between six & seven o'clock, the House of Mr James Millington, who keeps the Bowling-Green,

about Half a Mile from this Town, was robb'd of a Considerable Sum of Money, and several Things of Value. The Family were alarm'd by their Dog's barking, and opening the Door to learn the Meaning of it, three fellows rush'd in, who, without any Ceremony, told them, that Money they came for, and would have, otherwise every one of them should be kill'd; two of the Villains accordingly then undertook to rifle the House (obliging Mr. Millington to go with them and shew 'em where his Money, Etc. were to be found) while the other kept Guard over the Rest of the Family, with Pistols, having his Face all over flour'd to prevent his being known, tho' he had the Folly and Impudence to tell Mr Millington that he very well knew, and was known by him. – Mr Millington's Daughter, who is a pretty lusty Woman, had the Courage to collar one of the Rogues, but (tho' with some Difficulty) he releas'd himself, and then knock'd her down, but she presently recover'd herself, and flew at him again and it's thought would have overcome him, had not his Companion come and put an End to the Matter by cutting her Arm almost off with a Bill. – The Fellows being at one Time all together in some Part of the House, Mr. Millington found Means to slip out at the Door, and went in order to alarm the People at a Mill, a small Distance from his House; but before he could return with any Assistance, the Villains miss'd him, and therefore thought proper to make off. They were arm'd with Pistols, Reaping-Hooks, a Bill, and Butcher's Knife, which last, and one of the Reaping-Hooks they left behind them. They behav'd in a most cruel Manner to all the Family, dangerously wounding Mr. Millington with a Reaping-Hook, and stabbing his Wife in the Breast, of which Wound she died last Friday. The Coroner's Inquest sat on the Body, and brought in their Verdict *Wilful Murder, against Persons unknown*. The Fellows carried off to the Value of 30£ in Money, etc. among which were several remarkable Pieces, as mention'd in the Advertisement.

### *Advertisement*

Whereas on 25th October the house of James Millington who keeps the Bowling Green in the parish of Cirencester was robbed ... by law reward of 40£.





*The 1965 grammar school under construction (David Aldred)*

There were three persons concerned ... one was a black bull fac'd man with strait hair about 5 feet 4 inches fresh coloured & had on brown cloaths.

Another was about 4 feet and half high, wore his own hair & had on a Linen frock. And the other man was about 5 feet and a half high, had short hair, with a cap over it & wore a light drab-coloured Coat. They were all supposed to be about the Age of between twenty and thirty.

They took away in money, to the value of £30, inc. 2 Three pound twelve Portugal Pieces, 2 Crooked Half Guineas, a French Crown Piece, eight Queen Anne Half Crowns. Likewise two Gold Rings, 2 Ston'd Rings. Also a light coloured great Coat, with remarkable long Button holes, which are rang'd quite down to the Bottom of the Coat and a Gun with a black Barrel five feet all but an inch long with an half stock and a black old fashioned lock.

*Cirencester Flying Post*, 7 Nov 1743.

**T**homas Camberry, Thomas Teptoe, and John Curtis taken on suspicion of murder & robbery at Bowling Green House. Teptoe confessed – said the others were accomplices which they denied – committed to Gloucester Gaol. Teptoe held in Bridewell in Cirencester until the next Assizes.

*Linda Viner*

It used to be called 'Ex. Inf.'...

... **B**ut now it's just 'Information from'. Scan through the footnotes of any VCH volume and you will find references to named individuals who have provided historical information. I used to think they must have been well-informed but incredibly aged local inhabitants with elephantine memories. It therefore came as a bit of a shock when I realised that during the past twelve months or so I had been witness to two events which each closed an important chapter in Cheltenham's history fifty years ago.

First, Cheltenham Grammar School had been founded by Richard Pate in 1571. It was rebuilt on the same site in the High Street in 1887-79 and it was here I first entered in 1959. The last day there was 17 December 1964 for we moved into the new buildings in Hester's Way on 6 January 1965. These buildings, in turn, were replaced in 1996 by the present buildings a little to the west of the first site. At the time of writing the replacement buildings in the High Street are being demolished in the redevelopment of the Brewery centre.





*St James station (David Aldred)*

Secondly, St James railway station had been opened in St James Square in 1894. I was there on the evening of 1 January 1966 to witness the departure of the 22.15 train to Gloucester which marked the station's closure. Today Waitrose stands on much of its site.

Education and communications are ever-present themes in VCH accounts. If the editors can't find the information anywhere else, they now know whom to call!

*David Aldred*

## The Bathurst connection to Bolsover

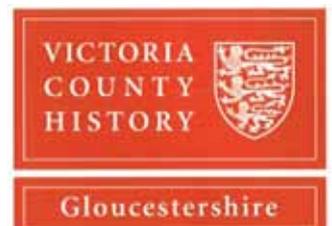
The Bathurst family is well known in Gloucestershire for their connections with Cirencester, especially Allen Bathurst, the first Baron Bathurst, who created the famous landscape garden at the family seat of Cirencester House, as well as the fourth and sixth Earls who served as MPs for the town. However, what is perhaps less well known is that when Allen Bathurst married Sir Peter Apsley's daughter and heiress, this led to the family acquiring land in Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire, with the Nottinghamshire lands being retained until 1884 and the lands in the manors of Whaley and Scarcliffe in Derbyshire being held until 1943, when they were sold to the Chatsworth Estate Company.

Within the Whaley estate were lands in

the parish of Bolsover which was researched as part of the England's Past for Everyone project – the Heritage Lottery funded scheme that also led to the two books on the history of Ledbury and Bristol's *Ethnic Minorities and the City 1000-2001*. This article is mainly based on the Bolsover book with a little bit of internet research, although the records of the Bathurst estate in Bolsover are held in the Gloucestershire Archives.

In 1780 on the enclosure of the open fields of Bolsover, Lord Bathurst received 378 of the 1,592 acres of the lands enclosed, a total only surpassed by the Duke of Portland who received 557 acres. The Bathurst lands were very close to the site of Langwith colliery. The first shafts were dug in 1876 and closed around 1980. The houses for the miners were built in Bolsover parish on a site originally to be called Bathurstville after the ground landlord but was quickly renamed Whaley Thorns after some woodland immediately to the north. Between 1875 and 1900 138 houses were built with more added to the settlement in the inter-war years. Earl Bathurst provided free of charge a site in Whaley Thorns for a church to be built which originally had 200 sittings but by 1908 was increased to 320. It is thought that the Bathurst family funded the whole of the £1,500 required to build the church.

There was also a Bathurst main colliery (otherwise known as Batty's Main) in Scarcliffe which the Bathursts owned but was



## Richard Reece's research papers

worked by William Arkwright. This Arkwright was a cousin of Francis Arkwright who in turn was the great-great-great grandson of the famous Richard Arkwright who invented the Spinning Jenny. It is not clear when the mill opened but production continued on a small scale until 1891 when it was abandoned. However there is anecdotal evidence that it was worked during various miners' strikes up until 1972, when there are reports that coal was wound up to the surface using an overturned motorcycle as a winding engine! There was also a Bathurst Firestone and Brick Company which owned a brickworks in the area. This, according to an 1893 auction notice, was capable of producing 120,000 bricks a year.



*St Luke's parish church, Whaley Thorns, which was financed by the Bathurst family (Dave Bevis [CC BY-SA 2.0], via Wikimedia Commons. Accessed 2.1.16.)*

Thus it can be seen that the Bathurst family were not only a family of landowners in Cirencester and adjacent parishes but had interests elsewhere in the country of a more industrial nature.

*Jonathan Comber*

[NOTE: But in case anyone is wondering, the Bathurst Basin, part of the industrial heart of Bristol's dockland, was named after an MP for the city (1796-1812), Charles Bathurst, who was only distantly related to the Cirencester family, through his mother – *John Chandler*]

Richard Reece is well known as a Roman Archaeologist and numismatist, but his lifetime of research encompasses many aspects of the archaeology and history of Cirencester and neighbouring parishes.

Hard copy will be deposited in Gloucestershire Archives and appropriate libraries as Volume V of his *Cotswold Studies*, but electronic copy can be downloaded from the web. It is necessary to register for an academia.edu account before the articles can be accessed but this is a fairly straightforward process.

A general search via Google for 'Richard Reece archaeology' will reveal a number of articles and reviews. Add the following titles to Richard Reece and you will find chapters on a diverse range of topics relevant to Cirencester:

**Lady Chapel Register.** A register of 1460, with details of properties, locations and tenants, sometimes going back several generations. Personal and family names are listed in alphabetical order.

**John Jones Trust.** Set up in 1513, the John Jones Charity, consists of six properties with their locations and tenants listed from about 1680 onwards. Some details of John Jones himself and transcripts of his will.

**Alexander Gregory,** vicar of Cirencester, 1628-1662, outlines his life and (troubled) times.

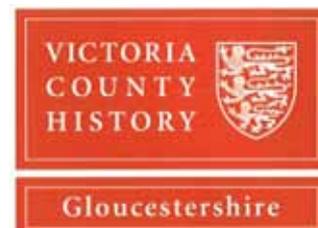
**Jeremiah Gregory,** his son, vicar of Cirencester from 1676 to 1689, and his correspondence with 'The Pious Robert Nelson'.

**Tar Barrow,** Cirencester, myths and details.

**Cotswold Hedge Survey.** A survey of 1882 roadside hedges within a 6-mile radius of Cirencester. Maps show exact locations and tables of lists of species in each hedge (in 1996).

Also available, via the website academia.edu, is Richard's individual account of *My Roman Britain*, first published in 1988 (*Cotswold Studies III*) as well as a paper on Roman towns.

*Linda Viner*



## Books, Books and more Books For Sale

As mentioned in previous newsletters, we have a number of books for sale. Firstly, copies of the history of Yate, which was launched in September, are available for £12 each. Secondly, as mentioned in the previous newsletter, copies of any red volume in print (excluding those published in the last three years) are available for £28 including postage. For this offer I need a minimum of 5 volumes to place an order but based on experience over the last year or so, this has usually been achieved every couple of months. The Gloucestershire volumes available are: Vol. II covering Ecclesiastical History, Religious Houses, Social and Economic History, Industries, Agriculture, Forestry, Sport and Schools; Vol. IV (Gloucester), VII (the Churn, Coln & Leach Valleys), VIII (Tewkesbury and the Northern Vale), X (Westbury & Whitstone Hundreds) & XII (Newent & May Hill).

Finally the Herefordshire Trust have a number of copies of *Ledbury: people and parish before the Reformation* at a discounted price of £10 as well as the history of Eastnor which is in the same format as Yate at £7 a copy.

For any of these books, please contact our Treasurer Jonathan Comber preferably by e-mail to [Jonathan.Comber@easynet.co.uk](mailto:Jonathan.Comber@easynet.co.uk) or by phone to 01684-577134.

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*Rose and James celebrate  
the launch at Yate (Matt  
Bristow)*

