## Rutland Local History & Record Society

# Newsletter

No 1/10

www.rutlandhistory.org

April 2010

## Museum Opening Hours to be Cut

We are all aware of the financial pressure on Rutland County Council during these recessionary times, and it probably comes as no surprise that Rutland County Museum and Oakham Castle have come under the spotlight in the search for savings. Those responsible have worked hard to produce a solution acceptable to the Council whilst avoiding compulsory staff redundancies. The compromise result is a reduction in opening hours.

With effect from 5th April, the start of the new financial year, Rutland County Museum and Oakham Castle will be closed on Sundays and Mondays. Opening hours for both will be 10am to 5pm from Tuesday to Friday and 10am to 4pm on Saturday. However, access to the Society's office at the museum on Mondays will still be possible, preferably by prior appointment.

The Society management consider that the proposal to close the museum and castle on summer Sundays could prove counter-productive to the Council's tourism strategy and a representation is being made in this respect.

### The George Phillips & Tony Traylen Awards 2009

The George Phillips Award is given in recognition of a development which makes a significant contribution to conserving the built environment in Rutland. The 2009 award was presented at Oakham Castle on 10th December by Alan McWhirr, on behalf of Rutland Local History and Record Society and Rutland County Council.

Highly Commended entries were Shuckburgh House, Edith Weston, The Hambleton Bakery, Exton and The Walled Garden, Barnsdale. The winner was a development of new affordable dwellings at Drift Close, off Back Road, Barrowden. The site was very sensitive, being on agricultural land outside the normal planned limits of development of the village. The land rises from the road frontage, and great care was taken to ensure that the dwellings were set into the slope of the land and in keeping with their surroundings. The scale and the choice of materials were designed to complement those of Barrowden's historic buildings. The development not only met the criteria for the award but also provided families and first-time buyers with comfortable homes.



Drift Close, Barrowden - winner of the George Phillips Award 2009



The Manor House, Lyddington, winner of the Tony Traylen Historic Building Award 2009

The Tony Traylen Historic Building Award 2009 was presented to The Manor House, Lyddington, for the extensive research and meticulous care employed in its restoration.

For more information about the George Phillips and Tony Traylen Awards, go to www.rutland.gov.uk and look under Development Control / George Phillips Design Awards. A nomination form for the 2010 competition can also be found here.

The awards ceremony was followed by a talk on *Ketton Stone* by Alan Curtis. The first known use of this 'pink and cream' stone in the county was in the 1200s at Belton in

Rutland Church. Its ability to retain intricate detailing was responsible for its later use in Cambridge colleges, St Paul's Cathedral, Sandringham House and at St Pancras Station.



Left to right: Charlotte Jones (County Councillor for Ryhall and Casterton, and Chair of the RCC Planning Committee). Rosemary and Ian Canadine, owners of The Manor House, Lyddington, and Janine Roger (County Councillor for Cottesmore and member of RCC Planning Committee)

### Who Do You Think You Are?

The November 2009 issue of Who Do You Think You Are? magazine, published by the BBC, included a free 'Rutland Ancestors' CD. The Society contributed Robin Jenkins' 'Rutland Militia' article from Rutland Record 27 and the 'Lost Homes' chapter from The Heritage of Rutland Water. There were also contributions from Langham Village History Group, Leicestershire and Rutland Family History Society and the Record Office for Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland, as well as an extract from Pigot's 1835 Directory for Leicestershire and Rutland.

Back issues are available - telephone 0844 844 0939 or go to www.bbcwhodoyouthinkyouaremagazine.com

### New Local and Family History Reference Library

Visitors to Rutland County Museum may have noticed the new local and family history library and study centre taking shape.

All Rutland books and documents previously held in the Library and in the Museum, including Society books which were formerly housed under the stairs in the Riding School, have now been brought together to form one reference library with enhanced accessibility. Copies of parish registers, census returns, maps, photographs and other documents will be included and computers, microfiche readers and a photocopier will be available for public use.

The library will be supervised by museum staff. There will be a security gate at the library entrance and all books will be security tagged. Valuable books and papers will be kept in locked cupboards but will be available for study on request.

### Joint Meetings Programme

Rutland Local History & Record Society (RLHRS) and the Friends of Rutland County Museum & Oakham Castle (FRCMOC).

The remainder of the 2009/2010 programme:

<u>Thursday 8th April</u> - 7.30 pm at Rutland County Museum

The Search for Bosworth Field

Richard Knox

Richard will talk about the Heritage Lottery funded multidisciplinary survey to find the true location of the famous 1485 battle, which left Richard III dead and Henry Tudor to found a new dynasty.

<u>Thursday 13th May</u> - 7.30 pm at Rutland County Museum **RLHRS AGM** 

Followed by:

H H Stephenson (1833-96) – the life and achievements of Uppingham School's cricket coach

Roy Stephenson

One of the most talented and popular all-round cricketers of his day, Heathfield Harman Stephenson took part in the first overseas cricket tour in 1859 before captaining the first English side in Australia. During the winter months he was closely associated with the exiled French royal family as huntsman. In 1872 he was appointed Uppingham School's cricket coach and settled in the town for the rest of his life (see also Book Reviews below).

Thursday 10th June - 7.30 pm at Rutland County Museum

The cost of community? Anti-social behaviour and neighbourly disputes in the cathedral close at the beginning of the 17th century

James Saunders

The people who lived in the precincts of a cathedral were meant to represent a model of godly, Christian living. But what happens when discord arises and neighbours fall out? James Saunders explores tensions which divided the rapidly-changing cathedral communities of early seventeenth-century England, and the strategies employed to restore order and peace.

Saturday July 24th - 7.30 pm at Oakham Castle

### The Tennants Lecture

Eric Knowles

Director of Ceramics and Works of Art at Bonhams for the past seventeen years, Eric Knowles is a leading authority on the 19th and 20th Century decorative arts, as well as on European and Oriental ceramics from the 17th to the 20th Century, together with the glass of Tiffany and Lalique. But he is probably better known for his regular appearances on the BBC television series 'The Antiques Roadshow', where his genial personality and obvious sense of fun make him a very popular member of the team of experts.

There will be a charge for this meeting and booking will be essential. Further details will be circulated later.

The 2010/2011 program is currently being prepared and will be sent to all paid-up members in August. Details of the first two events in this new programme are now available as follows:

### Saturday 11th September

## Guided Historical Walk - Seaton, Harringworth and the Welland Valley

Start at 2.00 pm. Meet at All Hallows Church, Seaton.

Leaders: Sheila Sleath & Robert Ovens

Terrain: Roads, footpaths with stiles, and fields which may be muddy in places. Well behaved dogs on leads are welcome.

A five mile guided historical walk exploring Seaton, Harringworth and the Welland valley between. We will visit two churches, pass by a former watermill, walk under the longest railway viaduct in Britain, see Victorian railway architecture and earthworks and inspect the tomb of a famous clockmaker. The walk also includes a short section of the Jurassic Way and many opportunities for spectacular views across and along the Welland valley.

Note that booking is not required and that the walk will take place regardless of weather conditions.

### Saturday 18th September

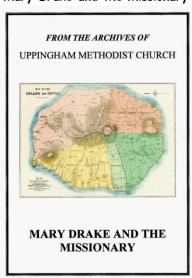
### Village Visit to Whissendine

2.00 pm Whisendine Village Hall

This ever-popular event will include talks, a leaflet guided village walk and an exhibition of old village photographs. There will be a charge for this meeting and booking will be essential. Further details will be circulated later.

### **Book Reviews**

### Mary Drake and the Missionary



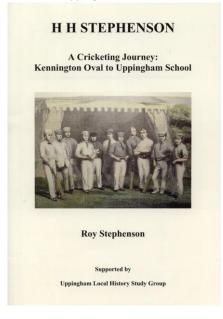
By Margaret Stacey
Published in 2010 by
Uppingham Methodist
Church Council
20pp, with
illustrations.
Price: £2.00 + p&p
Available from
Uppingham Local
History Group
(ulhsg@fsmail.net)

This A5 booklet contains a fascinating vignette of life in the harsh environment - for Europeans at least - of the West Indies in the early nineteenth century, as experienced by Mary Bell (*née* Drake) of Uppingham, who married the Rev John Bell in 1838. The couple went to

Antiqua in a party of Methodist missionaries; their numbers were depleted by illness, and John was soon moved to the small island of Nevis where he too succumbed to yellow fever shortly after the birth of their son John Henry in 1839. Mary and her son were cared for there by George Webbe, and were eventually well enough to return to England. In time Mary remarried, becoming Mrs Field and remaining active in the Uppingham Methodist community for many years; she died in 1901. This essay, which draws on the archives of Uppingham Methodist Church, is a splendid example of the little snippets of information that can come to light as a result of local research: how else would we know that a child had been born to an Uppingham mother on the island of Nevis? Copies can be obtained via the Uppingham Local History Group's contact at ulhsq@fsmail.net.

Tim Clough

### H H Stephenson - A Cricketing Journey: Kennington Oval To Uppingham School



By Roy Stephenson Published by the author in 2009 at 7 Newtown Road Uppingham LE15 9TR with the support of Uppingham Local History Group Price: £.8.00 **ISBN** 978 0 9540076 6 9 Available from local bookshops

Heathfield Harman Stephenson was one of the great cricketers of the nineteenth century. Born into a middle class background in Esher, Surrey, he rose to become a professional cricketer, playing for both county and country.

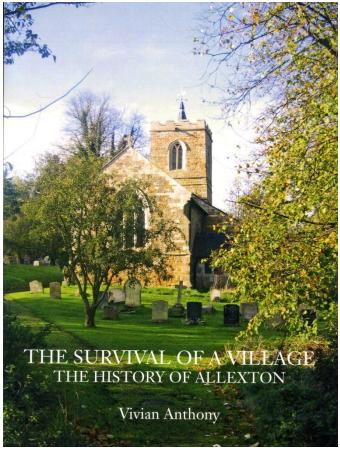
He achieved the first recorded 'hat trick' in 1858, played in Ireland and North America with the first England touring side of 1859, captained the first England team to tour Australia, and played cricket for Surrey as a professional for eighteen years. In 1872 he moved to Uppingham School to become cricket coach, a position he held until his death in 1896.

Stephenson's namesake spent ten years researching this fine tribute to a great cricketer whose achievements have been posthumously eclipsed by the reputations of other contemporaries such as W G Grace. Supported by the Uppingham Local History Study Group of which the author has long been a member, this well illustrated volume concentrates on Stephenson's cricketing life at home and

abroad. However, it does more than adequately cover his latter life at Uppingham as a coach and much respected elder of that then small community.

Well researched and nicely produced by Century Print of Corby, this publication has received plaudits from the cricketing world; it also provides much of interest to the local reader who is interested in one of the most neglected notable people which Rutland's public schools have brought to the county. Hilary Crowden

The Survival of a Village. The History of Allexton By Vivian Anthony



Published by the author in 2009 at Bridge House, Allexton

Printed by and available from Peter Spiegl & Co, Stamford (www.speigl.co.uk)

258pp with illustrations

Price: £.16.50

ISBN: 0 902544 62 4

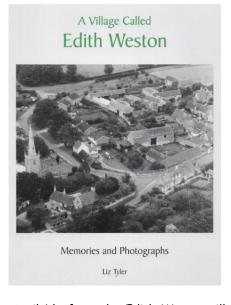
Also available from local bookshops

The little village of Allexton on the Rutland/Leicestershire border is largely overlooked, or more often driven past on the busy A47. The author, a former schoolmaster, has spent ten years gathering together various elements of village history and has self published the result. He crosses and re-crosses the divide between popular and more detailed academic study quite well, given the limited appeal to a wider audience of a subject village with only thirty two dwellings. With 200 pages of text, divided chronologically and by subject, and 57 pages of appendices, this is not a light weight read! It lacks a decent map and a wider editorial hand. There are also some basic factual errors - for example the Belton fire was in 1776, not 1774, and the coronation of George VI was in 1937, not 1936. Some of the illustrations are a little too small and perhaps, despite their charm, fewer should have been drawn from forty-year-old school text books. The author tries to bridge the gap between the lords of the manor approach to village history and a more inclusive exploration of the ordinary village folk. With all the appendices, anyone with ancestors in the area may well find an interesting reference to them in this book. Apart from that, it is nice to see a parochial study made available for a general readership, in a volume that bears evidence of the enthusiasm of the author and the enhanced quality of production by the printer.

Peter Johnson

### A Village Called Edith Weston -Memories and Photographs

By Liz Tyler



Published by the author at Edith Weston in 2008 106pp with illustrations

Available from the Edith Weston village shop, or contact the author by email at book@edithwestononline.co.uk

Like most Rutland villages, Edith Weston has changed almost beyond recognition in the last thirty years. The buildings in the historic core have not changed that much, but the social culture has altered dramatically, with incomers, known as 'bottom enders' now comprising a large part of the population.

Before all knowledge of old village life was lost, Liz Tyler, and other Edithwestonians, got together and organised village reunions for descendants and those who had moved away. These proved a great success, and the resulting accumulation of memories and old photographs gave rise to this book. It is a wonderful collection of well produced photographs, information and anecdotes from the last eighty or so years. It could be a model of how to pull together disparate information and record it for prosperity. However, it does lack an index and seems to

flow sporadically from photograph to text as the reader is drawn around the village, and there are no chapters or headings to help the reader. But the overall result from this muddle works well in recording life and buildings in Edith Weston. Without the efforts of the author and friends, much of this information would have been lost. A commendable effort.

Hilary Crowden

### Lyddington Manor History Society

The first committee meeting of this new Rutland society was held on 22nd January 2010. It was decided that the name of the Society should be Lyddington Manor History Society to make it clear that it was not just for the village of Lyddington but included all the villages in the manor, namely Caldecott, Stoke Dry, Thorpe by Water and the deserted medieval village of Snelston.

With an initial membership of about 40 and a programme of talks and other activities already in place it promises to be a successful society. An early objective is to apply for a large grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund for a community project. The aim of this three year project is to involve the local community in discovering the physical and social development of the manor. The starting point will be the tree ring dating of timbers in selected representative properties. The results will then be linked to information gained by researching the extensive collection of documents relating to these and surrounding properties at Burghley House, and in other local and national archives.

The main project output will be a quality publication which will be available to all at a reasonable price. Associated outputs will include guided historical walks, and displays showing the progress and final outcome of the project. A leaflet for the local community and visitors is also envisaged. For further information, contact Rosemary Canadine by email at rosemary@canadine.co.uk.

### Sir Thomas Barker and the Order of Little Bedlam

A Lincolnshire lady appeared on a recent programme of Antiques Roadshow with a very fine portrait of an eighteenth century gentleman whom she named as Sir Thomas Barker of Lyndon Hall, Rutland. Being very interested in Thomas Barker, 'Father of English Meteorology', who lived at Lyndon Hall from 1722 until his death in 1809, I sprang to attention.

She went on to explain that the portrait had been painted because Sir Thomas was a member of the Bedlam Club, based at Burghley House. Apparently all members of the club had their portrait painted and acquired an animal logo. Sir Thomas's was the ram. She added that there was a similar portrait 'in Rutland'.

I checked with Edward Conant of Lyndon Hall, who said they did not have a portrait of Sir Thomas at Lyndon Hall. Then, I contacted the Curator of Burghley House, Jon Culverhouse, who kindly confirmed that Sir Thomas was a member of the Club and furnished further details of membership which I include here. He knew of the portrait

owned by the lady but Burghley did not have a similar portrait. However, a portrait of Sir Thomas is owned by Sir John Conant.



Portrait of Sir Thomas Barker (Sir John Conant)

I consulted *Weather Journals of a Rutland Squire*, published by RLHRS in 1988 and found from the family tree that Sir Thomas was a distant relative of Thomas Barker. He succeeded his father, Sir Abel Barker, as squire of Lyndon Hall in 1679 when he was 32 years of age. He died in 1708 and it was then that Lyndon Hall passed into another branch of the family, namely Samuel Barker of South Luffenham, who was father of Thomas Barker, the meteorologist.

The Club had been set up by John, 5th Earl of Exeter, in 1684 but lapsed on his death. Later, on 10th May 1705, it was reconvened by John, 6th Earl when he called a meeting of members 'near at hand' in order to 'renew and continue' the Club. The membership is interesting and will repay further research.

A document at Burghley records details of the club in 1705:

'The Honourable Order of Little Bedlam

Whereas the Rt. Honble John Earl of Exeter lately deceased did in the Year 1684, (in the Reign of James 2nd) constituted a Society called, The Honble Order of little Bedlam at Burghley: And, "Whereas no Chapter or Assembly of the members had been held since his Decease - There are to give Notice, That the Rt Honble John (now)

Earl of Exeter intending to renew and continue the said Honble Society, did upon the 10th Day of May 1705 (in the Reign of Anne) call a chapter to be held at Burghley by some Members of the Society who were near at Hand, And, as great Master of the Order, did take upon himself the Title of Lyon - At which Chapter were elected and admitted into this Honble Society.'

The document continues, 'and amongst other things, it was also ordered that the former rules should stand, and that the register should give notice hereof to all such members as were formerly admitted, to know whether they are pleased to continue in this Honourable order and to give notice to the Register at Burghley (Daniel Clark) before the 15th day of May 1706 otherwise that their pictures would be taken and that the Great Master would proceed to a new election to fill up their places that the society might be kept full - and for this Notice and List to pay a Fee of 5s to the register.'

Members:

John Earl of Exeter, Great Master - Lyon

Earl of Denbigh - Tyger

Lord Lexington - Lamb

Lord Howe - Hare

George Crook Esq - Wolf

Sir Thomas Barker - Ram

Hon. John Vemey - Pardus [asterisked to indicated Male Panther]

Henry Nevile - Fox

Samuel Tryon Esq - Terrier

Sir Godfrey Kneller - Unicorn

Richard Sherard Esq - Mule

George Leafield Esq - Guineapig

Sir Thomas Mackworth - Badger

Charles Tryon Esq - Otter

William, Duke of Devonshire - Leopard

Baptist Earl of Gainsborough - Greyhound

Anthony Palmer Esq - Elephant

Hon. John Noel - Wtld Horse

Hon. Charles Bertie - Stag

Hon. James Griffin - Wild Boar

Hon. William Cecil - Panther

Thomas Hatcher Esq - Bear

Signior Antonio Verrio - Porcupine

Sir James Robinson - Buck

Timothy Lanoy Esq - Antelope

Hascard of Windsor - Cock

Hon, Charles Cecil - Bull

Note: All Peers placed first then all others as they were admitted

I went to the nearest source in time, namely James Wright's *The History and Antiquities of the County of Rutland* (1684) and found many members mentioned therein. There are famous names: Sir Thomas Mackworth of Normanton; Richard Sherrard of Stapleford and Whissendine; the Tryons; the Noe1s; the Cecils; Nevilles; Charles Bertie of Uffington and the Earl of Denbigh with connections to Martinsthorpe. John Verney was a lawyer of the Middle Temple, George Crook was described as a

Knight and Judge Several members had been Sheriff of Rutland in the 1660s, 70s, and 80s - Thomas Mackworth, Thomas Barker, Anthony Palmer; others were Knights of the Shire in Parliament, for example, Baptist Noel, John Noel and Sir Thomas Mackworth.

One of the most interesting entries is Signior Antonio Verrio (c 1640-1707), Italian decorative painter brought to London by Charles II to work on Windsor Castle and to paint the equestrian portrait of Charles which was in the Chelsea Hospital. Also, he worked for William III at Hampton Court and elsewhere. Verrio painted the staircase at Uffington Hall (now demolished) for the Bertie family in the 1680s. He painted the ceilings in the State Rooms at Burghley. It is likely that he also painted some of the portraits for the members of the Bedlam Club.

However, Verrio died only two years after the reestablishment of the Club. It is likely that he was a member of the earlier foundation. Sir Thomas Barker died in 1708 at the age of sixty-one and so he was a member of the reconstituted club for only three years. It would be interesting to find out if his membership was continued by anyone else from the Barker family.

This little insight into the Bedlam Club is a reminder of the network that existed in an area between notable families and outstanding personalities. Sometimes such associations were for pleasure and social pursuits. Other times it was for academic or scientific reasons, such as the Gentlemen's Society of Spalding which had such eminent members as Sir Joseph Banks. Further investigation of such links and connections would reveal a great deal about eighteenth century society at the regional level.

Grateful thanks to the Curator, Burghley House, and to Edward Conant for their kind co-operation.

Bryan Waites

### Oakham Bowling Club Centenary

Last September we received the following by email from John Hornsby, the current Men's President of Oakham Bowling Club:

'Next year, 2010, we celebrate 100 years bowling in Oakham. Part of our programme will include the publishing of a booklet about events since its formation. We have taken our 'start date' from May 1910 when a match was played to celebrate the opening of the first Clubhouse. We do know that some bowling occurred before that date but not as a club. In 1910 the whole area where the club is and now known as The Vale was in a large field known as 'Lime Kilns' where cricket was played in another part of the field nearer the town and the remainder being pasture land.

We would like, in the booklet, to refer to the original owner of the 'Lime Kilns' field for his generosity in allowing bowling on his land. This did continue until the early 1970s when Oakham Town Council bought the land (bowling club, tennis club and car park).

Word of mouth is that in 1910 the local printer Charles Matkin (1852-1924) owned the 'Lime Kilns' field. BUT we do not have any confirmation.

Can you tell us how to find this information please? John Hornsby (One of two members doing the research).'

Although we were unable to confirm ownership of the 'Lime Kilns' field, Tim Clough provided guidance on ideas and locations for research.

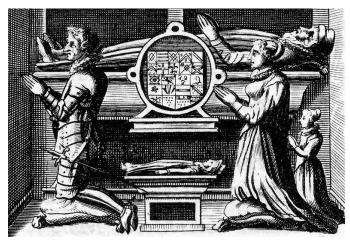


Oakham Bowling Club members in 1910 (www.oakhambowlingclub.co.uk)

### Lady Ann Harington Charity

The Lady Ann Harington Charity was founded in 1616 to support the poor of the parishes within the original Harington estate in Rutland. In more recent years it has helped a number of local worthy causes, including supporting an OAP parcels fund in Oakham. The original bequest now generates insufficient bank interest to meet the requirements of the charity and a decision was made in January by the trustees to close it. The trustees making the decision included representatives from All Saints' Church, Oakham, and Oakham Town Council.

The charity's remaining capital of nearly £1,460 was handed to Churches Together in Oakham for the specific use by The Centre Project. This project seeks to support the vulnerable or lonely in the town with fellowship, food and advice, thus maintaining the spirit of the original charity.



Sir John and Lady Ann Harington on the Kelway monument at Exton Church (James Wright, History of Rutland, 1684)

Lady Ann Harington was the daughter of Sir Robert Kelway, lawyer and Surveyor of the Court of Wards and Liveries, and wife of Sir John Harington of Exton, who succeeded to his father's estate in 1592.

In the south transept of Exton Church is a large coloured marble monument with the recumbent effigy of Sir Robert Kelway, who died in 1580, It was erected by Ann and her husband John, who are represented by kneeling figures on either side of a small altar tomb at the base of the monument.

James Wright (*History of Rutland, 1684*) records the establishment of the charity as follows:

'And here . . . ought to be remembred the Exemplary Charity of Pious Ann Lady Harrington, Wife to the first Lord John . . . , which Lady surviving her said Husband, did in the year 1616 (14 Jacobi) purchase the Grant of a Rent charge of one hundred pounds per An. to be issuing out of the Mannour of Cottesmore in this County, to the said Lady Ann her heirs and assignes for ever, payable at the four usual quarter days, in the South Porch of the parish Church of Oakham, by even and equal portions, which Grant being made in due form of Law, and dated the 20th of June . . . . '

The £100 per annum rental income was to be distributed for the following 'pious uses':

£25 to the Vicar and Overseers of the poor of Exton Church, to be distributed to the poor of the parish for ever.

£2 to the Vicar and Overseers of the poor of Exton Church, for the employment of a poor man for the keeping of the Kelway and other tombs in Exton Church.

£10 to the Vicar and Overseers of the poor of Burley Church, to be distributed to the poor of the parish for ever.

£32 to the Vicar and Overseers of the poor of Oakham Church, to be distributed to those poor of the parish who are tenants or under tenants of Lady Harington.

 $\pounds 10$  to the Vicar and Overseers of the poor of Hambleton Church, to be distributed to those poor of the parish who are tenants of Lady Harington.

£16 to the Parson and Overseers of the poor of Cottesmore and Barrow Churches, to be distributed to the poor of the parishes for ever.

 $\pounds 5$  to the Parson and Overseers of the poor of Market Overton Church, to be distributed to the poor of the parish.

These payments were to be made in quarterly installments by the Trustees within ten days after the receipt of the rent charge.

Surviving account books, now at the Record Office for Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland (ROLLR), indicate that separate accounts were kept for each parish. For example DE 3214 is Lady Ann Harington's gift to the poor of Exton from 1621 to 1761, and DE 3513 is the accounts for the charity in Hambleton from 1616 to 1989. Some records also survive for 'Lady Harington's Dole' in Burley in the 18th century, but most other records are missing. Robin Jenkins at ROLLR will be very pleased to hear from anyone who can help locate the missing accounts.

An example from the Hambleton account book is shown here (ROLLR DE 3513). It is for Michaelmas 1788, the

second of two payments made in The that year. signatures indicate that the 'dole' was administered by the Vicar, Churchwarden and the Overseer of the Poor. John Reeves. Richard Robarts. Widow Swanson, Henry Broome and Richard Weldon were all of Nether Hambleton and all received payments from the charity over a number of years. Richard Weldon was the father of Richard William who were hanged in 1789 for the murder of John Freeman of

Mich. 1788	
Tho Nathang -	0 = 8 = 0 X
Geo Clemanto -	0=2=6+
Widow Hales	0= 5= 0 X
Widow Twantson	0=7=61
Un? Rever	0 = 3 = 0 /
Widow Walker	_ 0 = 6 = 01
Widow Wadhen -	_ 0=1=61
Mortin Carter -	_ 0 = 2 = 6X
Tho. Tomblin	0 = 3 = 0X
Widow Tomoson	- A - V
Widow Vines	0:9:01
Vae Toon	0=4=0*
Hen Broom -	0 = h = 6x
Var. Thorpe	0=3=01
Widow Bully -	0=5=01
Val Tyres -	0=6=6X
W" Scott	0 = 6 = 6X
Vn. Pawlet -	0= 1= 6X
Rich Welden -	0:0:01
Vn. Woodcock -	0:5:01
an 2010	0:5:00
Toin #110 -	_ 0.3:0X
your sury	5:0:0

Oho Exton Churchwarden
Wor Torget Over seer of the poor
Roll Thom I mon, vican.

Edith Weston and their gaoler, Henry Lumley. Their bodies were suspended on a gibbet within sight of the family home.

More recently, the *Victoria County History* (VCH) Volume II, published in 1935, records that the poor in all the original parishes were still receiving the same payments from the Charity, mainly in gifts of coal and clothing. Examples include:

'Lady Ann Harington's Charity . . . is regulated by a scheme of the Charity Commissioners dated 2 November 1915, which appoints a body of trustees . . . The income . . . consisting of a rent-charge of £32, is distributed in varying amounts among 80 poor persons primarily of Oakham Lordshold.'

'A sum of £25 per annum is received by the vicar of Exton, and is distributed by him and his co-trustees in coal to 60 poor inhabitants.'

'A sum of £16 per annum received for poor people of Cottesmore and Barrow is applied in clothing to 65 beneficiaries of Cottesmore and 25 beneficiaries of Barrow.'

James Wright (1684) also records details of the Lady Harington Library:

'Also the said Lady Harrington, about the same time built a convenient place for a small Library in the Parish Church of **Oakham**, and furnisht it with about two hundred Latin and Greek Folio's, consisting chiefly of Fathers, Councils, School-men, and Divines, for the use of the Vicar of that Church, and accommodation of the Neighbouring Clergy; most of which Books have been curiously bound, the Covers adorn'd with several guilded Frets (commonly call'd the Harringtons Knots) and:

Ex Dono Dominæ Annæ Harringtonæ Baronessæ. Printed and pasted in the Title Pages.'

VCH (Vol II, 1935) adds a little more detail:

'The library given in 1616 by Anne Lady Harington of Exton . . . is housed in two handsome Jacobean oak presses in the vestry: it consists of an interesting collection of about 200 volumes on theology, history, and canon law.'

This library is now located at Nottingham University.

### Guided Historical Walk 2009



The 12th September coincided with an 'Indian Summer', so we had wonderful weather for our 5 mile walk round the former medieval hunting park at Ridlington. More than 40 enthusiastic walkers joined us to explore the park which was owned by the Crown for more than four centuries until it was sold by James I about 1624.



As well as inspecting what remains of the park pale and enjoying superb views we also visited Park Farm, the site of the former Park Lodge. Here we were greeted by Maggie Mortel who provided much needed cold drinks.

Sheila Sleath and Robert Ovens

Thanks to all the contributors of this issue of our Newsletter. If you would like to make a contribution to, or suggest an idea for the next issue, please contact me by email at rfovens@yahoo.co.uk, or by telephone on 01572 822529. I would particularly like to know about new local history publications, and the activities of Rutland village history groups.

Robert Ovens