

# FRIENDS OF LYDIARD TREGOZ

## CONTENTS

- 3    **The St.John's Huguenot Connection**  
      Mark Aston
- 9    **Lady Luxborough's Poetry**  
      Audrey Duggan
- 13   **St.Johns of Ireland, and St.Johns and Ireland**  
      Peter St.John-Howe and Brian Carne
- 25   **Deborah Culme (d.1695)**  
      Brian Carne
- 29   **The Kinchin Family and the Lydiards**  
      Shirley E. Adams
- 31   **Our War Memorials**  
      Malcolm Titcombe
- 35   **Land Tax Assessments: Lydiard Tregoze Parish, 1780-1831**  
      Brian Carne
- 40   **Portraits, Paintings, and Prints at Lydiard House**
- 47   **The Friends of Lydiard Tregoz, 1967-2005**  
      Brian Carne
- 53   **Shorter Notes**  
      Jane Brown, *My Darling Heriott*  
      Purley manor and church  
      Auction sale in the 1820s?  
      Vale: *The Report of the Friends of Lydiard Tregoz*
- 57   **Index to *Report* nos. 31 to 40**



# THE ST. JOHN'S HUGUENOT CONNECTION

by Mark Aston

The story of Henry, 1st Viscount St. John, has already been told in two earlier *Reports* of the Friends of Lydiard Tregoz: 'Henry St. John the elder and the Estcourt Murder' by Frank T. Smallwood (*Report 5*) and 'John, 2nd Viscount St. John (1702-1748)' by Brian Carne (*Report 33*). These two essays cover in some detail the story of the murder of Sir William Estcourt and Henry St. John's first marriage to Lady Mary Rich, who died in 1678. Some mention is also made of his second wife, Angelica Magdalena Pelissary, and of her offspring.

This paper seeks to shed further light on Angelica Magdalena's origins. Records of her family have been found in Italy, Switzerland, France, Holland, and Britain, so it hardly surprising that the name is spelled in a number of different ways. It appears as Pelissary, Pellissary, Pelissari, and Pellizzari, and the first of these spellings has been adopted throughout this article.

In the early sixteenth century, the Pelissary family were prosperous leather merchants in northern Italy. The earliest record is of a Blaise Pelissary, who was born about 1483 in Vicenza. His son Nicholas was born in the same town in 1505, and moved with his father to Chiavenna, near the top of Lake Como, where he married one of the daughters of Count Balbiani. The Balbiani family hailed from the island of Comacina in the middle of the Lake, and after rising to prominence in Milan they built a castle at Chiavenna in the fifteenth century. The castle still stands, and it is now the home of the Regional Council. Blaise Pelissary is recorded as the 'podesta' [chief magistrate of one of the medieval Italian republics] in the nearby town of Piuro in 1539.<sup>1</sup>

The early years of the sixteenth century were a time of religious ferment across much of Europe. At the same time as Henry VIII was dissolving the monasteries in England, Martin Luther was setting out an increasingly clear challenge to the doctrines of the Roman Catholic Church and the authority of the Pope. And in Paris the teachings of Jean Calvin caused such a stir that he had to flee to Switzerland where his influence rapidly spread across the border into northern Italy. By 1544, the area round Lake Como had become a refuge for Protestant preachers, and about twenty Reformed congregations were established there.<sup>2</sup> As in France, it was often the nobility and the merchants who adopted the new religion first, and the Pelissary family were among its earliest converts.

The Papal authorities were determined to stamp out what they regarded as heresy, and they took various steps to identify those involved and to prevent it spreading further. In January 1563 a load of animal skins addressed to Nicholas Pelissary and one of his brothers was stopped and examined in Como.<sup>3</sup> Underneath the legitimate cargo were a large number of Protestant Bibles, and even more incriminating were several letters between the Reformed communities in Vicenza, Lyon, and Geneva. The Pelissary family's goods were promptly confiscated, and Nicholas and his wife Claire fled with their children over the border to Switzerland.

Settling in Geneva, they joined the strictest of the Protestant congregations. Although Calvin died the year after their arrival, his influence still prevailed. Everything was regulated by the church - work, religious duties, meals, dress, leisure, residence, and conversation. Reading matter was prescribed, light music and gambling were banned, adulterers paid with their lives, and eventually even a smile on Sundays became a punishable offence. Out of this extraordinarily regimented regime grew a breed of hard-working entrepreneurs whose energies and talents would make a major contribution to the emergence of capitalism across Europe.<sup>4</sup>

Nicholas died on 1 September 1572,<sup>5</sup> and by 1585 one of his sons was on the city council in Geneva.<sup>6</sup> Another son, named Claude, is recorded as a silk merchant in the nearby city of Basel around the same time. Other Protestants remained in Chiavenna until July 1620, when six hundred of them were murdered by bandits from Venice and Milan determined to stamp out this small Calvinistic enclave. The killing went on for three days in what we now call the Valtellina Massacre, and the Paravicino family lost sixteen dead, leaving the remaining fifty-five members to flee to Switzerland, Germany, and Portugal, where some became Protestant pastors and one was painted by El Greco.<sup>7</sup>

The arrival of the refugees was good news for Nicholas Pelissary's grandson Claude, who married Elizabeth Paravicino, and moved with her across the French border to Lyons. The French were trying to establish a silk industry in the city, so they welcomed the arrival of merchants with the necessary skills and contacts, and as a result a thriving Protestant community grew up there. In 1631 Claude was probably one of the many merchants of Italian origin who got together to construct a building *où ils pourroient commodément conférer et commercer ensemble* [where they could comfortably meet and do business together]. Because of the death of some of the original sponsors, it was more than twenty years before the building was completed, and in 1803 it was converted into a Protestant church, which is still in use today.

The French had originally banned *la religion prétendue réformée* [the so-called Reformed religion] with the Edict of Châteaubriant in 1551, and as many as 70,000 Protestants are thought to have been massacred on St. Bartholomew's Eve in August 1572. After several decades of civil war, the Edict of Nantes of 1598 afforded Protestants some measure of protection, although certain professions such as the law and medicine remained closed to them. Elizabeth died on 30 September 1638, and Claude followed her to the grave on 31 October 1659.<sup>8</sup> Their son George was probably born in Lyons around 1630, and he was granted French nationality in 1647, the year after he became *Trésorier Général de la Marine du Levant* [treasurer general of the French Mediterranean navy].<sup>9</sup>

When Louis XIV succeeded his father as King of France in 1643, the country's maritime power was at an all-time low, and it was having great difficulty protecting its trade with its colonies. The new King soon set aside £3 million annually to buy masts from Savoy, copper for cannon from Sweden, tar from Prussia, and naval stores from Holland, and under the leadership of a merchant named Jean-Baptiste Colbert a huge shipbuilding programme began. By 1667 France had fifty men-of-war, a number which Colbert succeeded in doubling over the next three years.

When Colbert took office, the navy's finances were organised regionally. There were four *Trésoriers Généraux*, one each for Normandy, Brittany, the Atlantic coast, and the Mediterranean. It was the last of these posts that George Pelissary took up in 1646. With the expansion of the navy, it was clear that whoever controlled it would certainly wield considerable power and might also pose a threat to the King, so Louis XIV took Colbert's advice and embarked on a reorganisation along functional lines, which would limit the influence of the admirals. Separate posts were created covering payment of the crews [*Trésorier Général de la Marine*], the building, maintenance, and arming of ships [*Trésorier Général des Galères*], and the administration and fortification of ports [*Trésorier Général des Fortifications et des Ports de la France*].

George's elder brother Claude converted to Catholicism and bought several of these posts. There are two conflicting accounts of how this came about. The royal archives indicate that the posts were previously held by a Pierre Boucher, whose credit failed in the port of La Rochelle when a number of ship-owners endeavoured to victual their ships for a voyage using letters of credit in his name. According to this version of the story, on 2 April 1648 Claude Pelissary offered the King 200,000 livres on condition that he could take over from Boucher.

The *Fronde* newsletter of 19 August 1650 told the alternate story when it was reported a legal case in Paris in which *un homme d'affaires* [a businessman] named Pelissary appeared alongside Cardinal Mazarin, the successor and protégé of Cardinal Richelieu and *de facto* ruler of France during the minority of Louis XIV. They were taken to court by a nobleman named du Bouchet [*sic.*], who claimed that he had surrendered his post as *Commissaire Général de la Marine* to the Cardinal on the death of his patron, the Duc de Breze. Du Bouchet argued that Mazarin had sold the post to Pelissary, and that it was worth a great deal more than the compensation he had received. Apparently, the court awarded du Bouchet damages of 600,000 livres.<sup>10</sup> Such a fine would hardly have dented the wealth of the Cardinal, who was reckoned to be worth £20 million when he died in 1661.

In any event, the Pelissary family's connection with the French navy did not end at this point, because Claude remained in office until his death in 1662, and when he died George took over his posts and assumed near total control of the new navy's finances. He was the first and last man to hold all of the various offices, and one might wonder how a Protestant managed to acquire them in the first place. Like many of the Protestant minority, George was obviously a highly competent businessman, but he had to resort to the device of getting two of his Catholic subordinates to put their names on some of the official paperwork. Olivier Subleau and Etienne Pavillon would live to regret lending their names for this purpose.

Correspondence survives between the Pelissary brothers and Colbert, and this reveals that the financial planning and reporting systems of the day left a good deal to be desired. One letter of 1 September 1661 describes how Claude had to advance 3,000 livres of his own money in order to allow work on the frigate *Dunkerquoise* to continue, and another of 5 February 1664 has George reporting that construction work in La Rochelle is proceeding so fast that the year's budget will be spent in three months. Following the arrest of Colbert's deputy Nicolas Fouquet, the *Surintendant des Finances* in 1661, new accounting conventions were introduced, which required all expenditure to be reported under twelve separate headings.

George Pelissary's various jobs took him quite naturally to La Rochelle on the Atlantic coast. From there, ships sailed to England, Scotland, Flanders, Spain, Portugal, Canada, and Russia, and the town boasted splendid arcades, wide streets, and many new mansions and churches. The port was a Protestant stronghold, with Bible texts carved in stone above many of its doors and gates, and its inhabitants persisted in the tradition of discipline which had been learned from Geneva. Alexandre Dumas wrote that La Rochelle, which "had derived a new importance from the ruin of the other Calvinist cities, was then the focus of dissensions and ambition. Moreover, its port was the last in the kingdom of France open to the English, and by closing it against England, our eternal enemy, the Cardinal [Richelieu] completed the work of Joan of Arc and the Duke of Guise."<sup>11</sup> What the Cardinal had done in 1627 was to lay siege to the town on the landward side and build a new mole to establish a blockade from the sea. This stopped an English force under the Duke of Buckingham from relieving it, and as a result 20,000 people died.

Among the 5,000 Protestants who survived the blockade of La Rochelle were Jacques Bibaud, who was born there on 6 August 1594 and his wife Louise Gassan. Jacques became a *Conseiller du Roi* [adviser to the King] and was appointed the first *Directeur Général de la Compagnie des Indes Occidentales* [the French West India Company] when this was established by Protestant investors in 1664. To get this post, Jacques had to subscribe at least 10,000 livres, and since his own father was only a *bourgeois et boulanger* [a prosperous baker] in La Rochelle, how he raised the necessary funds remains a mystery. The *Compagnie*'s ships sailed to West Africa and bought slaves with French goods, the price of each male slave in 1670 being eighteen bars of French iron. Those slaves were then shipped to the French West Indies, where they were fed on pea soup, cassava bread, and Irish salt beef, and were made to cultivate cane sugar, which was shipped back to refineries in France.

George Pelissary probably met Jacques professionally, but of course they also shared a common allegiance to the Protestant religion. Either way, he soon cemented their relationship by marrying the *Directeur Général*'s daughter Madeleine, who had been born in La Rochelle on 15 December 1632. Around 1664, Madeleine gave birth to Angelica Magdalena.

The family spent much of their time in Paris, where George was appointed an elder of the Protestant congregation at Charenton to the south east of the city. This huge church had a two-storey interior balcony on all four sides of the building and could hold 4,000 people, some of whom would travel for several hours in order to attend worship there. The Ten commandments, the Apostles' Creed, and the Lord's Prayer were displayed in gold letters against a blue background on the ceiling of the nave, and there were Bible texts on every wall.

The Pelissary's home overlooked the church, and it became well-known for the concerts and operas which they staged there for the capital's literary set. Their guests included the most famous letter writer of the day, the Marquise de Sévigné, who recorded on 5 February 1674 "je m'en vais à un petit opera de Mollien qui se chante chez Pellissari; Monsieur le Duc et Madame la Duchesse y seront" [I am going to a little opera by Mollien which is being sung at the Pelissary's. The King's cousin the Duke of Enghien and the Duchess will be there]. Other regular attenders included the satirical poets the Abbé Cotin and Nicolas Boileau-Despreaux, the lexicographer Antoine Furetière, and the poet, dramatist, and fellow-Huguenot Isaac de Benserade, all of whom were members of the *Académie Française*.

In 1670 George obtained confirmation from the King of his status as noble and armigerous. Many of his friends and acquaintances already owned châteaux on the River Loire, so in 1674 he bought one of his own near the town of Tours. A decree to this effect was issued by the *Palais de Justice* in Paris on 16 June 1674. This acquisition gave George another title, *Seigneur de la Bourdaisière*, and with it he also acquired the neighbouring manor of Thuisseau.

One of George's subordinates, a brilliant lawyer and now largely-forgotten poet named Etienne Pavillon, who later became a member of the *Académie Française*, soon came to stay. He was one of the two Catholics who had allowed George to use his name on official paperwork. The Château still has what Pavillon called a *terrasse à perte d'haleine* [a terrace to take your breath away]<sup>12</sup>, but the Château itself has since been rebuilt, and is now run as a hotel by two French princes. Pavillon also wrote a poem praising *la bouche, le teint et les beaux yeux* [the mouth, complexion, and beautiful eyes] of Angelica Magdalena's sister Julie. His efforts were in vain, because Julie was destined to marry a wealthy Protestant banker from Geneva named Jean-Louis Calandrini.

The acquisition of a Château would suggest that George's finances were in pretty good shape, but when he died his widow was deluged with demands from the French Treasury, who were keen to claw back some of the profits he made during his time in office.<sup>13</sup> On 19 September 1682 the authorities presented her with a bill for 600,000 livres *pour la jouissance de taxations et autres débets* [to settle tax and other liabilities]. This was a common problem for those entrusted with large public funds, even when there was no wrongdoing. As one historian comments, "with so much money passing through their hands, it was inevitable that some of it would stick". Both Pavillon and Subleau got caught in the crossfire and had their assets seized, and on 24 May 1683 Madeleine finally sold the Château to a family friend for 200,000 livres.

By this time Louis XIV had embarked on a programme to convert the 1.5 million French Protestants to Catholicism, which would have cost George his job since they were then barred from holding any public office. In October 1685 the Edict of Nantes was revoked, removing the last vestiges of protection for *la religion prétendue réformée*, and on the 22nd of that month the great Church of Charenton was razed to the ground. The first blow was dealt to the detested structure by two Government commissioners, and then a mob of several hundred threw themselves upon it with pickaxes and

crowbars. In five days not a trace of the vast building was to be seen, and a cross twenty feet high adorned with the royal arms rose in triumph over the ruins.<sup>14</sup>

Dragoons were billeted on those who refused to attend Mass. Protestant schools were closed, and Reformed worship in private homes was outlawed. Those who had converted to Catholicism were even offered tax breaks, and the King expressly forbade *tous ses sujets de la R.P.R. qui sont dans le royaume d'en sortir sous peine de galères pour les hommes et de confiscation de corps et de biens pour les femmes* [all his subjects of the so-called Reformed faith in his kingdom from leaving it under penalty as respects the men of being sent to the galleys, and as respects the women of imprisonment and confiscation of assets]. Under such pressure it is hardly surprising that more than two-thirds of France's remaining Protestants capitulated and renounced their faith. However, many of the most talented refused to bow the knee, and over 200,000 left the country anyway, to the particular benefit of the banking and silk weaving industries in London and the Netherlands. Madeleine was one of those who fled France, and she died in Nijmegen on 3 December 1689.<sup>15</sup>

Four years earlier, Angelica Magdalena had married Philip Wharton, who became Warden of the London Mint on the death of his father Sir Thomas on 30 October 1684.<sup>16</sup> Philip's tenure lasted less than four months, but it saw the introduction of tin farthings with a square copper plug in the middle, among the first English coins with an intrinsic value less than their face value. They were withdrawn ten years later after an outbreak of counterfeiting.

Philip Wharton died on 23 February 1684/5, shortly after Angelica Magdalena was granted British citizenship, which was later confirmed by Act of Parliament. He made her his sole executrix, and left her £6,000 in East India Company stock, which produced an annual income of £600. The young widow joined the Savoy Church which was popular with French Huguenots. All new arrivals had to give *une reconnaissance en présence de tout le troupeau* [a personal testimony in the presence of the entire flock] before being accepted into membership. Soon afterwards she met Sir Henry St. John.

They were married at St. Anne's Church, Soho, on 1 January 1686/7. Henry and his wife divided their time between his house in Albemarle Street and his estate at Lydiard Tregoze. There were also occasional visits to Bath, which was beginning to be popular. When Henry was elevated to the peerage in 1712, Angelica Magdalena became 1st Viscountess St. John.

Only four of their children survived to adulthood, but their marriage lasted for nearly fifty years. It is not known whether they maintained an active connection with the Savoy Church during that time, but when she died on 5 August 1736 her husband sent a donation of twenty guineas for the use of the 'poor of the Protestant Church of the Savoy', and in his own will (1738) he left a further £50 for the same purpose. Angelica Magdalena was buried in St. Mary's Church, Battersea.

-----

## Appendices

### I Extract from the *Fronde* newsletter

Paris 19 August 1650

*La semaine passée on jugea à la Chambre des comptes un proces important en faveur du sieur du Bouchet, commissaire general de la marine, lequel apres la mort du duc de Brezé ayant esté forcé de se demettre de sa charge entre les mains du Cardinal, qui la vouloit remettre à une de ses creatures afin de faire valoir les droictz de l'admirauté dont il jouyssoit soubz le nom de la Reyne, en fit ses protestations pardevant notaire apres en avoir receu 200 mille livres, disant qu'il en avoit esté contraint d'en donner sa demission quoy qu'elle valut une fois plus. S.E. la mit entre les mains d'ung homme d'affaires nommé Pelissary, contre lequel du Bouchet ayant intenté ce*

*proces et ayant faict player l'advocat Gautier pour luy, qui dit mille invectives contre le Cardinal et produit des memoires de toutes les intrigues qu'il avoit avec les officiers de la marine pour faire valoir ses droitz par toutes sortes de voye et faire passer de l'argent en Italie, il y eut arrest par lequel du Bouchet est remis en possession de sa charge et Pellissari condamné solidairement avec le Cardinal de luy en restituer tous les fraitz et emolumentz, et aux despens, ce que ce [se] montera à plus de 600 mille livres.*

## II Etienne Pavillon's poem about the Château de la Bourdaisière

*La maison, les cours et jardins de La Bourdaisiere  
Et sa terrasse à perte d'haleine  
Dont le Cher en passant semble prendre la loi  
Et son gros bâtiment qui règne sur la plaine  
Constituant la seule beauté qui donne de quoi  
Réjouir l'étranger que le hasard y amène.*

### Notes

- 1 J.A. Galiffe, *Notices généalogiques sur les familles genevois*, (Geneva, 1836)
- 2 Thomas McCrie, *History of the Progress and Suppression of the Reformation in Italy*, (Edinburgh, 1827)
- 3 Conradini Bonorand, *Le relazioni culturali tra i protestanti di Valtellina e i protestanti della Svizzera tedesca*, (Archivio Storico, Lombardo, 1966-67), pp.1-9
- 4 Otto Zoff, *The Huguenots, fighters for God and human freedom*, (L.B. Fisher, New York, 1942), pp.34-35
- 5 Galiffe, *op. cit.*, gives this date as 21 September 1572.
- 6 Their names appear in the lists of Huguenots kept by the city of Geneva. Corneille Pelissary was a member of the city's *Hoher Rat*.
- 7 R.W. Staudt, *Zur Geschichte der Paravicini*, (Zürich, 1950), pp.159-167
- 8 Their names and those of their five children appear in the lists of Huguenots living in Lyons in the seventeenth century.
- 9 Much of what follows comes from Henri Legohérel, *Les Trésoriers Généraux de la Marine, 1517-1788*, (Editions Cujas, Paris, 1965)
- 10 From the *Fronde* newsletter, 19 August 1650. The original French text of the article can be found at Appendix I.
- 11 From *The Three Musketeers* (1844). The Duc de Guise was a much earlier persecutor of French Protestants, who brutally put down an attempted *coup d'état* at Amboise on the River Loire in 1560.
- 12 The text of the poem is at Appendix II.
- 13 There is considerable confusion over the date of George Pelissary's death. Some accounts suggest that he died as early as 1676, but Messrs Pavillon and Subleau held their offices until 1677 and 1679 respectively, and George was still the Seigneur de la Bourdaisière in August 1680.
- 14 James A. Wylie, *The History of Protestantism*, published on-line at [www.whatsaiththescripture.com/Voice/Quick.View.Book\\_22.html](http://www.whatsaiththescripture.com/Voice/Quick.View.Book_22.html)
- 15 The scholar and editor Esmond S. de Beer suggests that Madeleine originally moved to London, and later went to Geneva. It is possible that she spent time in all three countries.
- 16 According to The Institute of Historical Research, University of London, the post of Warden was held by a John St.John from 1645 to 1656, and would be occupied from 1696 to 1700 by Isaac Newton.

-----

### Editor's footnote

We are grateful to Mark Aston for making available for publication this article, which is part of the family history he is compiling. His great-great-great-grandfather, General Sir Edward Paget, married Frances, daughter of the 1st Lord Bagot of Blithfield, Staffordshire, and his wife Elizabeth Louisa St.John (1744-1820), who was a granddaughter of Angelica Magdalena. The article introduces readers of *Report* to Angelica's family background.

## LADY LUXBOROUGH'S POETRY

Margaret Duggan

As received opinion is dismissive of Lady Luxborough's letters, so it is of her verse - a view that is mistaken, not least because, when taken in context, the poems provide us with a clearer understanding of her situation at Barrells where she lived in exile in Warwickshire, and illumine her friendship with the poet William Shenstone.

As a young woman Henrietta had forged firm friendships with two remarkable women: Frances, Countess of Hertford, later Duchess of Somerset, and Elizabeth Rowe, née Singer, the Somerset poet then settled in Frome. Frances, like Henrietta, wrote poetry and was to become a respected literary hostess. She became patron to James Thomson, author of *The Seasons*, and befriended Stephen Duck, the 'thresher' poet from Dorset, a man whose life as an agricultural worker reminds one of John Clare and whose verse she brought to the notice of Queen Caroline.

By the time that Henrietta met Elizabeth Rowe in 1718, the latter was already a widow and an established poet. Her *Poems on Several Occasions* had received a favourable comment and her eulogy to her late husband had been sufficiently admired by Alexander Pope for him to include the lines as an appendix to the second edition of his *Eloise and Abelard*. Such were the women who fostered Henrietta's love of poetry and the arts.

There were lighter moments as well. Frequently the three would communicate their news and their thoughts to each other in doggerel rhyme, a game which, years later, the young John Dalton, tutor to Frances' son Lord Beauchamp, would be invited to join. Amusing lines from Henrietta, written in 1734 to the young clergyman at a time when she was unwell and unable to travel with him and the family into the country:

*No sooner was Adonis fled  
To breathe parnassian aid,  
But I with sorrow dropp'd my head  
And tore my platted hair<sup>1</sup>*

suggest more than a passing acquaintance with *Hamlet* and the First Player's parody of *Aeneas' Tale to Dido*, a moment in which Shakespeare is also enjoying himself.

*But who - ah woe! - had seen the mobbled queen  
.... a clout upon her head  
Where late the diadem stood, and for a robe  
.... a blanket in the alarm of fear caught up<sup>-2</sup>*

There are numerous other similarities throughout Henrietta's poem of which one will suffice. Her lines:

*Deserted Paphos now appears  
The set of silent woe,*

mirror the First Player's description of the empty city.

*A silence in the heavens -  
A bold wind speechless, and the orb below  
As hush as death ....*

None of this is to be taken too seriously - but the point is made to demonstrate that Mrs Knight, as she then was, had the education and the facility to amuse herself and others in this way.

As is well known, Henrietta's relationship with John Dalton - whether platonic or not - was the reason for her banishment to Barrells; a point only relevant in so far as it was here that, with the encouragement

of William Shenstone, much of her poetry was written. Most of her work has not survived. Verses to her secretary, *Lines to Mr Outing*, have not, which is a pity because it was a poem much admired by her circle of friends. However, the poems that we do have are of interest for their themes of loneliness and imprisonment which keep recurring. In her letters these frequently translate into insistent invitations to visit and protestations that travel is difficult without a companion, which it was, and is why Mr Outing was frequently pressed into service.

In her poems the themes are more explicit. *Written to a Near Neighbour in a Tempestuous Night*<sup>3</sup> tells of her feelings of isolation after Shenstone has left:

*But now alone, by storms opprest  
Which harshly in my ears resound.*

Henrietta always dreaded the time when her guests were obliged to leave - for it was then that she felt at her most vulnerable, especially on a stormy night which prevented her from sleeping, and there was:

*No chearful voice with witty jest  
No jocund pipe to still the sound;*

Another of the poems, *Written in Winter*<sup>4</sup>, returns to this theme of loneliness. Described by Shenstone as 'equal to any song in the language', a comment which, if over generous, at least points its merit, the verses describe against a backdrop of winter chill, the isolation felt when a loved one is absent. Both Henrietta and Shenstone dreaded the approach of winter, for then the roads were frequently impassable and visiting impossible. This was a time of year when 'country puts', as her Ladyship charmingly describes country dwellers, were obliged to settle by a lonely fireside.

*Written in Winter* demonstrates an interesting similarity with Shenstone's poem *The Landscape*.<sup>5</sup> Although Henrietta describes a winter scene:

*The hills all white with snow  
Leave me dejected and forlorn!*

and Shenstone's poem is evocative of summer-time:

*Was ever scene so deck'd with flowers?  
Were ever flowers so gay?*

the concern of them both is with the separation of lovers - and her Ladyship's lines:

*The frozen brooks and pathless vales  
Disjoin my love and me:*

can be seen to echo Shenstone's:

*That verdant hill and silver stream  
Divides my love and me.*

And it is tempting to translate Henrietta's conventional use of 'Damon' throughout her poem into 'Shenstone'. When she is left alone, what pleasure is to be found in:

*... birds or brooks  
or any joys thats near?*

A predicament that is made plain in the last two lines of the second stanza:

*Heavy the lute and dull the brooks  
While Damon is not here.*

Her Ladyship and William Shenstone enjoyed a close friendship - one that suited them both. Two lonely people neither of whom either wanted or were able to undertake the commitment of marriage. Henrietta because, technically, she was still married and on her guard against any further hint of scandal; and the latter because whatever her Ladyship's situation, he would seem to have been incapable of making up his mind. But this did not prevent either of them from flirting with the *idea* of

falling in love and the use that both of them make of the traditional Damons, Phyllises and Flavias of the day, can be seen as a means of perpetuating this.

And even if it was the idea rather than love itself that attracted, there is no doubt that their relationship involved, by means of their shared interests - a marriage, at any rate, of minds. Both shared a passion for gardening. It was, after all, in large part with Shenstone's help that Henrietta re-fashioned her own garden at Barrells - and she well understood his aim to work with Nature to create a 'modern', natural-looking garden: one that meandered rather than marched, demonstrating a fluidity of line quite unlike the regimented symmetry of earlier seventeenth-century estates. In her lines *Lines Written at Ferme Ornée* she makes this clear.

'Tis Nature here bids pleasing scenes arise,  
And wisely gives them Cynthia to revise;  
To veil each blemish, brighten every grace;  
Yet still preserve the lovely Parent's face.<sup>6</sup>

Finally, with its theme of imprisonment, there is her Ladyship's *The Bullfinch in Town*<sup>7</sup>, an 'extremely elegant' poem with a poignancy, structure, and choice of language that, arguably, lifts it into the realms of literature. It is a poem which may be seen as a metaphor for her Ladyship's exile at Barrells. She, as the bird in the title, is a 'hapless captive' in a '... well-gilt cage remote from air'. Like the hapless bullfinch with his 'faded plumes', her health, too, has suffered and his 'one dull tone'; replicates her own dullness from want of intellectual stimulation when on occasion, as she writes to Shenstone, she 'might well have been a mole and lived underground.'

Henrietta's poem contrasts the lot of this captive bird, whose imprisonment, like her own, is 'dearly bought'. with the freedom of blackbirds 'in fields where birds unfettered soar', and the verses end with an image of her Ladyship outside in the fields, attendant upon 'the inviting spring'. It is a joyful finale, and one which illustrates how, in spite of her troubles, Henrietta has been determined to overcome them. Her Ladyship's poems are rich in imagery, from the 'opera pinions' of the unfortunate bullfinch to the 'treacherous wildfire' of the poets' overheated brain in *To a Near Neighbour in a Tempestuous Night*.

Submitted by Shenstone, four of the five verses discussed here were included by the publisher Robert Dodsley in the Fourth Volume of his popular *Miscellanies: A Collection of Poems by Several Hands*, described by Byron as 'the best thing of its kind'. The poem is reproduced below as it appeared in Dodsley's *Collection* (1755).

A comment by the publisher concerning the contents of Volume Four makes a fitting ending to any discussion of Henrietta's poetry. The Collection, he maintained, may not have included 'castles and palaces', but it did entertain some 'very pretty cottages'. It is an opinion that would have pleased her Ladyship. For that is what her poems represent - 'some very pretty cottages'.

-----

## References

- 1 Helen Hughes, *The Gentle Hertford* (New York, 1940), p.171
- 2 William Shakespeare, *Hamlet*, Act II, scene ii
- 3 Robert Dodsley ed., *A Collection of Poems by Several Hands* (London, 1755), vol.IV, p.309
- 4 *ibid.*, p.307
- 5 Rev. George Gillfillan ed., *The Poetical Works of William Shenstone* (Edinburgh, 1854), p.169
- 6 Robert Dodsley, *A Collection of Poems by Several Hands*, vol.IV, p.310
- 7 *ibid.*, p.306

*The BULFINCH in Town*

*By a Lady of Quality*

*Hark to the blackbird's pleasing note:  
Sweet usher of the vocal throng!  
Nature directs his warbling throat,  
And all that hear, admire the song.*

*Yon bulfinch, with unvary'd tone,  
Of cadence harsh, and accent shrill,  
Has brighter plumage to attone  
For want of harmony and skill*

*Yet, discontent with nature's boon,  
Like man, to mimick art he flies;  
On opera-pinions hoping soon  
Unrival'd he shall mount the skies*

*And while, to please some courtly fair,  
He one dull tone with labour learns,  
A well-gilt cage remote from air,  
And faded plumes, is all he earns!*

*Go, hapless captive! still repeat  
The sounds which nature never taught;  
Go, listening fair! and call them sweet,  
Because you know them dearly bought.*

*Unenvy'd both! go hear and sing  
Your study'd musick o'er and o'er;  
Whilst I attend th'inviting spring,  
In fields where birds unfetter'd soar.*

-----

## ST.JOHNS OF IRELAND and ST.JOHNS AND IRELAND

[This rather cumbersome introductory heading for two separate but related articles arises from the distinction that needs to be made between those members of the St.John family who settled in Ireland at any time from the twelfth century onwards and founded families there and those St.Johns who, through conquest, office under the Crown, or marriage, gained advantages for themselves in Ireland without founding families. A caveat must be entered here: the division into two separate groups may prove to be incorrect in some cases through not knowing sufficient about the antecedents of the present-day St.Johns of Ireland in order to determine how their forebears arrived in the first place. This article was assembled some years ago: it should have been developed further, but is included in this *Report* with apologies.]

### THE ST.JOHNS OF IRELAND

by Peter St.John-Howe, barrister-at-law

The first Norman invasion of Ireland was in 1170, by Richard FitzGilbert (d.1176), 2nd earl of Pembroke, who was also - like his father - styled Strongbow. The reasons for the invasion are variously stated. The Irish version is that Dermot, the exiled king of Leinster, promised FitzGilbert his daughter in marriage and the succession to the crown if he would help him recover his kingdom. In 1170 FitzGilbert landed near the Danish city of Waterford, which was captured. Dublin and Wexford also fell. At Rouen Henry II committed the custody of Ireland to FitzGilbert. (In 1172 the Pope affirmed Henry II's lordship over Ireland.) In 1174 FitzGilbert invaded Munster. '*Eventually his supremacy in Leinster was undisputed ... He held all the noblest chieftains as hostages, and he effected its subinfeudation among his supporters.*' (G.E.C., *Complete Peerage*.)

Whereas the Vikings never succeeded in gaining control of Ireland, the Normans arrived with greater ambitions. In 1177 Ulster was invaded, and in the 1180s forts such as Carrickfergus were built and cities such as Waterford were strengthened with encircling walls. The Normans were in Ireland to stay, and it may be that St.Johns were among the early settlers. No date has as yet been discovered for the beginning of a St.John presence in Ireland, but that presence is well-authenticated from the thirteenth century onwards.

In the five volumes of the *Calendar of Documents. Ireland.*, which cover the period 1171-1307, there are seventy references to a John St.John, an English civil servant - in holy orders, as was usual - who was sent to Ireland as Treasurer of Ireland and who became bishop of Ferns. He was followed by Geoffrey St.John as bishop. There are other references to Richard St.John, Thomas St.John, John St.John, and Robert St.John - without any indication of relationship between them - for these documents are the business of the king in relation to matters in Ireland. There is also no indication as to whether these St.Johns were 'of' or 'and' Ireland.

In 1212 this John of ( or 'de') St.John, an English clerk, was sent to Ireland with W. Mauclerc to undertake the care of the King's Exchequer of Ireland, and was granted 5 marks to cover the cost of a palfrey (I 442, 443). In 1217 John St.John, Treasurer of Ireland, was granted the manor of Newcastle de Lewan [elsewhere, 'Leuan'] to hold to farm during pleasure at 100 marks a year (I 776). (This was

to recompense him for his work as Treasurer - '*for his maintenance on the king's service*' - and he held it until 1228, when he received £45 a year in lieu of the manor (I 1598.) John St. John's efficiency must have pleased the king, for mandate was given in 1221 - after John had been to London to report to the king - that the archbishop of Dublin should provide him with an ecclesiastical benefice of the king's gift when an opportunity shall offer itself (I 1008).

In 1223 John was elected bishop of Ferns and '*given relief from the trammels of the Court and of the office of the Exchequer he has executed that he may have freer access to the Sovereign Pontiff*' (I 1223).<sup>1</sup> [Does this mean that he travelled to Rome for consecration as bishop? Does the Vatican library keep such records of bishops as would indicate the names of their fathers? As illegitimacy was a bar to ordination and needed dispensation, so the authorities may have required that the name of the father of a candidate was stated.]

As bishop he was granted permission to hold markets on his manors of Senebod - elsewhere 'Senebald' - and Ferles (I 1306, 1429). In 1232 he was replaced as Treasurer of Ireland by Peter de Rivall (I 1981). In 1234 he and others were given letters of safe conduct, presumably to England (I 2113). Such is the efficiency of bureaucrats, he was asked in 1236 to hand over all rolls of the Exchequer that were still in his possession (I 2336). He died probably in 1253, for on 5 November that year the king issued a licence to the chapter of Ferns to elect a new bishop, the previous one being now dead (II 300).

The new bishop of Ferns was Geoffrey St. John, clerk. The election received the king's approval on 16 March 1254 (II 337, 340). Geoffrey did not last long as bishop - presumably he died - for the royal assent was given for the election of Hugh, Treasurer of Ferns, as the new bishop of Ferns in 1258 (II 586). Geoffrey first appears in the *Calendar of Documents* in 1223, when on 27 April, a grant was made to him of the office of Treasurer of the church of Limerick with the prebend attaching thereto on the resignation from that office of John St. John (I 1100). In 1224 the king ratified the collation of Geoffrey St. John, clerk of John St. John, bishop of Ferns, to the church of St. Nicholas, Carrickfergus (I 3076). [In 1228 the archdeacon of Dublin is simply called 'Geoffrey', but in 1231 he is called 'Godfrey', in neither case is there a surname (I 1661, 1896), so we cannot assume that this is our Geoffrey.]. In 1250 Geoffrey St. John was appointed as the king's escheator in Ireland, an office he was still holding in 1253 (I 3079, II 283).

Richard St. John only appears briefly. In 1228, as chaplain of Hubert de Burgh, he was granted the vacant deanery of Penkrige. Two years later it was reported that he had resigned the appointment as the king had accepted that his action was ultra vires (I 1627, 1794).

John, Geoffrey, and Richard are all ordained clerics, and, as such, were not supposed to have descendants, but when we come to the other St. John references we come - with the exception probably of Robert - to laymen who may have had families that survived.

Thomas St. John appears in 1298 and 1299 in the long lists of accounts of money due to the king, in which he is stated to be one of the sheriffs of Tipperary (IV 249, 280). In 1301/2 Thomas had debts remitted to him by the king for his services in Scotland, for which he also receives the king's pools and the fishery of Limerick and a further £15 is remitted of the £30 that he owes (V 14, 15, 30). In 1303 Sir Thomas St. John - this may be same man, and the knighthood may be a scribal error - was one of many appointed to ascertain the services that Otho de Grandison formerly received for a named manor and a named vill (V 446). In the three years 1305-07 Thomas received payments from the king for his services as constable or keeper (1307) of the castle of Limerick (V 486, 572, 639, 671, 691). [And in 1307-08 according to the St. George MS.]

In 1301/2 John de St. John is named as the king's Lieutenant or the king's locum tenens in the county of Galway (V 52, 56).

In 1302 the king directed Brother Robert de St.John of Ardee, constable of his castles of Ardee, co. Louth, and 'Dorenaghmayn', to deliver the castles to the king (V 157). [Robert may be a Franciscan, and as such was celebrat.]

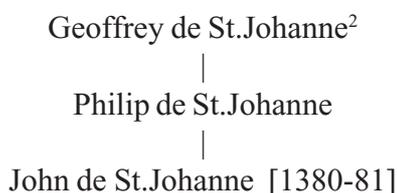
The *Calendar of Documents* mentions a few more St.Johns. In 1254 Robert St.John was with the king in Bordeaux and was one of many witnesses to a grant made by the king there (II 393). Roger St.John was one of many persons in England and Ireland who received a letter from the king in 1265 (II 776). In 1284 a petition was addressed to the Lord Chancellor by Nicholas [no surname], archdeacon of Ferns, who described himself as blind and infirm, concerning the will of Adam St.John, of which he had been executor (II 2361).

MS. 405 in the Library of the Society of Antiquaries is the work of Sir Richard St.George, uncle of Sir John St.John, 1st Bt, of Lydiard Tregoze. There are references to St.Johns in Ireland:

f.4 verso Four extracts from Wexford County records, 4 Richard II (1380-81) and 16 Edward III (1342-43), naming John de St.John, with a three generation St.John of Ireland pedigree, which read in a free translation:

1380-81] One messuage of 400 acres of land with its appurtenances in Tacomshame [Tacumshane, co. Wexford] in the hands of the king by reason of the minority of John de St.Johanne

One messuage of 800 acres of land with its appurtenances in Balicopok et Drunkellin in molrankan which used to belong to Philip, son of Geoffrey de St.Johanne, deceased, and were held of the king in chief and are now in the king's hands by reason of the minority of John, son and heir of the aforesaid Philip

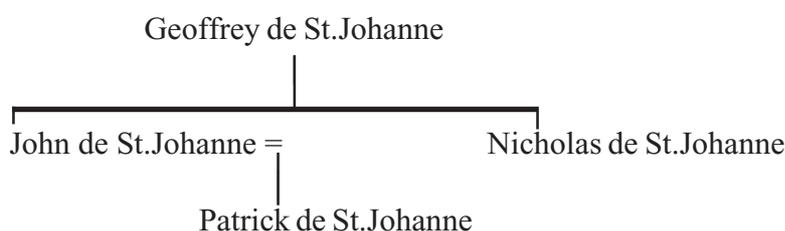


[1342-43] John de St.Johanne granted 20s. of subsidy by the king for expenses in fighting against the Scots

John de St.Johanne, ?sheriff [vicecomes] gave account of 2½ marks for different fines that he had had remitted

Also on f.4 verso is one extract from the Common Pleas, 8 Edward III (1334-35), naming John St.John, with a three generation St.John of Ireland pedigree:

John, son of Geoffrey de St.Johanne, Patrick, son of John de St.Johanne, and Nicholas, son of Geoffrey de St.Johanne fol xij



f.5 recto Six (4) extracts from Common Pleas and other sources, 17 Edward II (1323-24), 1 Edward II (1307-8), 18 Edward I (1289-90), 35 Edward I (1306-7), Henry III, and 1 Henry III (1216-17), involving Milo, Thomas, Galfridus [Geoffrey], and John St.John in Irish affairs.

Wexford, 1323-24] Richard de Burgh, earl of Ulster, opposes Milo de St.Johanne concerning the plea which he gave and 310 acres of heath [Brusti] land in Tagheskin and Seskincoy which the said earl claims as his right against the said Milo etc fol viij

[1289-90] Thomas de St.Johanne was called to reply to the plea by Martin Scadan that he gave to him 1000 libras which he owes to him as he says and the said Thomas at first did not come and at another time made default after it appeared in Court, therefore a distraint for the lands and chattels etc so . . . etc and at length etc and because it is alleged that the said Thomas has goods and chattels in co. Limerick by which it is possible to distraint, therefore it is ordered to the sheriff of Limeric that he distrains him as above fol 28

[1306-7] Sir Thomas de St.Johanne 40d. [compensation] for trouble [Tumultu] [sustained]

[Henry III, 1216-72] Geoffrey de St.Johanne, of the itinerant justices in Ireland during the reign of king Henry, son of king John, *fol. prima*

Edward MacLysaght, *Surnames of Ireland* (Irish University Press, 1973 edn), 264:

***St.John, Singen.*** *This family is in co. Tipperary since the 13th century, and to a considerable extent became hibernicized: one of the name was transplanted as an Irish Papist from St.Johnstown, co. Tipperary in 1656 . . . The name is still fairly numerous in South Tipperary.*

The Ulster-Scot Historical Society has a MS pedigree which included a William St.John of St.Johnstown, co. Tipperary, who died on 7 January 1680. John O.Hart, *Irish Pedigrees* (1976), 86, has a reference to a Peter, son of Edmund Butler (d.1637), who married a daughter of William St.John, of St.Johnstown, co. Tipperary. (The St.John family founded a number of townships named after the family - St.Johnstown.) One member at least was later transported to the West Indies for being 'too Hibernised'.<sup>3</sup>

My interest in the St.Johns of Ireland stems from the fact that my ancestors were in the Van at the time of the first invasion of Ireland. My paternal grandmother was Gertrude Florence St.John, who was born at Athy, co. Kildare, in 1869. I received from her some papers which related to her great-great uncle Thomas. She also gave me a tattered paper bearing an heraldic crest, which I have with difficulty uncovered in an old work on Irish Heraldry in the Library of the Society of Genealogists. It is shown in the armory as being the crest of St.John of Ireland. [Fairburn's *Crests* has for St.John of Ireland: a long cross Gules upon three grieeces (steps) Argent.] The St.Johns of Ireland also have their own differing achievements: my own Arms include three mullets on [?of] the field, and on each side of the shield, a long cross on steps with falcons rising on either side.

**Thomas St.John** (born about 1750)

From my grandmother I received the originals of his commission as ensign and his surrender to General Washington. I also received the account, dated 1843, for the funeral of Thomas's nephew, Richard St.John.

Thomas's commission as ensign is as follows: [The words in italics are those that were inserted in ink into the *pro-forma* printed commission.]

GEORGE the third by the grace of God King of Great Britain France and Ireland Defender of the Faith etc. *To our Trusty and Wellbeloved Thomas St.John Gent, .....*

Greeting; We do by these Presents Constitute and Appoint you to be *Ensign to that Company whereof*

*Esq is Captain in our Royal Garrison Battalion of Foot commanded by Our Trusty and wellbeloved Lieutenant Colonel Commandant Robert Donkin* You are therefore carefully and diligently to discharge the duty of *Ensign* by Exercising and Well disciplining both the inferior Officers and Soldiers of that *Company* and We do hereby command them to obey you as their *Ensign* and you are to observe and follow such Orders and Directions from Time to Time as you shall receive from your *Lieutenant Colonel Commandant* or any other your Superior Officer according to the Rules and Discipline of War in pursuance of the trust hereby reposed in you Given at our Court at *St.James the eleventh Day of November 1776* in the *seventeenth* Year of our reign.

BY HIS MAJESTY'S COMMAND

*Thomas St.John Gent Ensign  
in the Royal Garrison Battalion of Foot Entered with  
the Commissary*

*General ofMusters*

He embarked for the American Colonies, and in . . . he was appointed Lieutenant by Sir Guy Carleton bart. in his capacity as Governor of New York at the New York City Garrison.

The decisive battle on 19 October 1781 before Yorktown, Virginia, led to the surrender of the British forces under General Cornwallis to General Washington. Cornwallis with a small force had retired to Yorktown in the July. Washington and his French allies moved towards Yorktown. Thomas St.John was captured by the Americans before 19 October. His surrender to General Washington reads:

*I Thomas St.John Deputy Quarter Master General do  
acknowledge myself a Prisoner of War to the United States of America and being permitted by  
His Excellency General  
Washington against [sic.] to the Articles of Capitulation to  
proceed to New York and from thence to Europe as I may  
desire.*

*I therefore promise upon my parol of honour that I will neither  
say nor do anything injurious to the interests of said States  
their Armies or Allies but will in all respects demean myself as  
a prisoner of war ought to do till duly exchanged and I further  
promise that whenever called upon by the commander in Chief  
or Commissary General of Prisoners for the said states to  
repair to such place or places as they or either of them direct,*

*Witness my hand at York Virginia this 4th. October 1781.*

On the reverse of this document is the endorsement:

*Recieved from the American Company of Prisoners James  
Johnson, soldier in the 21st. Regt and William Long of the*

*8th. Regiment my Servants: which is to be accounted for in  
future exchanges between the American and British  
Commissaries of Prisoners Thos St. John*

I understand that Thomas did go to Europe and was in France during the 'Terror'. He later settled in London at Belton Street - now Endell Street, Covent Garden - and was buried at St. Giles in the High Street, off Tottenham Court Road.

Through the kindness of Capt. Smokey Stivers an exhaustive search has been made in America for any information that may have survived about Thomas St. John or about prisoners of war in general. Smokey has established that no official records of prisoners taken or paroled during the American Revolutionary War have survived in either the Library of Congress or the National Archives. He writes, 'Most regrettably, the records maintained by the War Department were lost when in the early nineteenth century a fire destroyed the building in which they were housed.'

### **Richard St. John**

One of the executors of the will of Thomas St. John was his nephew Richard St. John. My grandmother had preserved the bill for the funeral of Richard St. John:

*The exors of the late Mr. Richard St. John Belton St. [now Eldon Street]  
Undertakers bill  
November 11th 1843  
The Executors of the late Mr. St. John  
Dr. to Mr. D. Nealy*

<i>Elm Coffin outside Lead inside lined with Cambric</i>	<i>6- 0-0</i>
<i>Tufted Mattress</i>	<i>0- 5-0</i>
<i>Cambric Sheet/Shirt in do.</i>	<i>0-15-0</i>
<i>4 men taking in lead and down stairs</i>	<i>0- 8-0</i>
<i>Elm case covered with superfine black cloth</i>	
<i>2 rows of black japanned nails</i>	
<i>4 pr Cherubim handles - - -</i>	
<i>Pyramid and Serpent ornaments</i>	
<i>Lead plate inscription</i>	<i>5- 5-0</i>
<i>4 new walking in dr.</i>	<i>0- 8-0</i>
<i>9 Gents best Cloaks</i>	<i>0-13-6</i>
<i>Use of best silk velvet pall</i>	<i>0-10-5</i>
<i>Hearse and pr of Horses</i>	<i>1- 7-0</i>
<i>Duty</i>	<i>0- 3-6</i>
<i>2 Coaches etc.</i>	<i>2-14-0</i>
<i>Duty</i>	<i>0- 7-0</i>
<i>3 Coachmen</i>	<i>0- 9-0</i>
<i>Cloaks and Hatbands do</i>	<i>0- 6-0</i>
<i>Lid of Black Feathers</i>	<i>0-12-0</i>
<i>Feathers and Velvet for hearse and pair</i>	<i>1-14-0</i>
<i>Do. for 2 Coaches</i>	<i>1- 4-0</i>
<i>3 Velvet Hammer Clothes</i>	<i>0- 9-0</i>
<i>2 Mutes to the Church</i>	<i>0-12-0</i>
<i>Silk fittings for do</i>	<i>0- 7-6</i>

The long list continues with gents kid gloves, yards of black crepe, further attendants, all the way to a Vault cleaner. The fee for the vault in St.Giles's church was £5. 15. 6., with 18s. to the vault clerk. The total bill was for over £40.

## THE ST.JOHNS AND IRELAND

by Brian Carne

Certain members of the St.John family derived benefit from Ireland, without establishing a new line there. *Report* 29, 19-34, collects together information about the three marriages of Margaret Beauchamp (d.1482), which brought to her St.John children kinship of the half-blood with Henry VII. Two of Margaret's descendants married successive earls of Kildare.

### Two Countesses of Kildare

The Geraldines - who included the several earls of Desmond and of Kildare - were the descendants of Gerald of Windsor and Nest of Wales. They were part of the original Anglo-Norman aristocracy in Ireland and were prominent in its government. Gerald FitzMaurice (FitzGerald) (c.1456-1513), 8th earl of Kildare, succeeded his father as Deputy of the King's Lieutenant in Ireland, and continued to serve as such under Richard III, Henry VII, and Henry VIII. However, his loyalty to the Crown was not constant. In 1487 he gave some support to the claim of Lambert Simnel to the English throne, and was present at his coronation in Dublin. When Simnel's claim failed, Kildare asked for pardon and was restored. Six years later he was suspected of correspondence with Perkin Warbeck. In 1494 he was tried by the Irish Parliament and attainted of high treason. He took his case to the king, and, the following year, his attainder was reversed by the English Parliament. To mark his restoration to favour, he was reappointed Lord Deputy. To confirm his allegiance he married, in 1496 in England, as his second wife, Elizabeth St.John (d.1516), cousin of the half-blood to the king. Elizabeth was a granddaughter of Margaret Beauchamp, the daughter of Oliver St.John (d.1497) of Lydiard Tregoze and his wife Elizabeth, second daughter of Henry, Lord Scrope of Bolton. As a measure of royal favour, the Earl and his new wife were granted the right to hold in tail male the lands of such rebels in Ireland as they might seize. The Earl played his part in the Irish wars of the time, his greatest victory being that of Knockdoe, near Galway, in 1504, after which he became de facto master of Ireland. In 1505 he became Treasurer of Ireland. Henry VIII made him Lord Justice and confirmed him as Lord Deputy. He died in 1513, and was succeeded by his son and heir by his first marriage.

The 9th earl of Kildare was also named Gerald Fitzgerald (1487-1534). He married a great-granddaughter of Margaret Beauchamp, Elizabeth Zouche in England in 1503. Elizabeth was a daughter of Sir John Zouche by his wife Elizabeth, daughter of Sir John St.John of Bletsoe. She died in 1517 at Lucan, and was buried at Kilcullen. (The influence of Lady Margaret Beaufort may lie behind both these Kildare marriages.)

The 9th earl was High Treasurer of Ireland, 1503-13, Lord Justice 1513, Lord Deputy 1513, 1524/5, and 1532-4. Towards the end of his life, from 1529, there was growing tension between Henry VIII and Rome, and papal authority in England was progressively destroyed. The 9th Earl was frequently recalled to London on suspicion of treason. On his last visit to London, where he was imprisoned and eventually died in the Tower, he left his son Thomas (1513-1536/7) in charge of affairs as Vice-Deputy of Ireland. Unfortunately for Thomas - who succeeded his father as 10th Earl in 1534 - a false report came from London that his father was to be beheaded. Thomas renounced allegiance to the English Crown and began a desperate insurrection in 1534, during which he murdered the archbishop of

Dublin. He surrendered to Henry VIII on promise of pardon, and was imprisoned in the Tower. Evidently Henry VIII did not have his father's patience with the FitzGerald. In violation of the promise, on 3 February 1536/7 Thomas and five of his uncles were hanged, drawn, and quartered as traitors at Tyburn.

### **Oliver St. John, Viscount Grandison and Baron Tregoz**

(See *DNB*, G.E.C., *Complete Peerage*, and *Reports* 11 26, 19 13-30, and 20 70-77.)

Younger sons of families whose lands were entailed had to seek their fortunes where they could - through marriage, in the profession of arms or at sea, in the law or in medicine, in the church or in parliament. The first St. John of Lydiard Tregoze to attain eminence in Ireland was Oliver (1559-1630), second son of Nicholas St. John (d. 1589) and his wife Elizabeth Blount. (Oliver's eldest sister Elizabeth married, in 1575, Sir Richard St. George (d. 1635). *DNB* states, without giving any detail, that their first two sons William and John were killed in Ireland and that their fourth son Sir George St. John settled at Carrick-Drumrusk, co. Leitrim.)

For Oliver St. John, Oxford and Lincoln's Inn were followed by an unfortunate incident that obliged him to leave the country. He served in the Low Countries, and, in 1591, with the rank of captain, commanded Essex's horse at the siege of Rouen. Upon his return to England in February 1592/3 he was elected M.P. for Cirencester and served on a committee for the relief of maimed soldiers and mariners.

New opportunities presented themselves for Oliver St. John, this time, in Ireland. Undoubtedly he was helped towards taking advantage of these opportunities by his relationship, through his mother, with a distant cousin Sir Charles Blount (1563-1606), Lord Mountjoy, who had married Essex's sister and who served as Lord Deputy of Ireland 1600-3.

*Meanwhile Tyrone's rebellion necessitated the presence of experienced soldiers in Ireland, and St. John accompanied Mountjoy thither .... ; he was knighted by Mountjoy at Dublin on 28 February 1599/1600[recte], and was given command of two hundred men. .... On 13 December 1601 he left to carry dispatches to Elizabeth and inform her of the state of Ireland. In November 1602 he was back in Ireland commanding twenty-five horse and 150 foot in Connaught [and was made Vice-President of the province of Connaught in 1610]. .... On 12 December 1605 he was made master of the ordnance in Ireland with a salary of £200 a year, and sworn of the Irish Privy Council. Several of his reports on arms and ammunition in Ireland are preserved among state papers.*

*From this time St. John was Chichester's most trusted adviser. Early in 1608 he was named a commissioner for the plantation of Ulster. .... As an 'undertaker' he had grants of 1500 acres in Ballymore, co. Armagh, and 1000 acres in 'Keernan.' [DNB.]*

From the above account it is clear that the often-repeated statement that this Oliver St. John took part in the battle of Nieuwpoort in the Netherlands on 30 June 1600 cannot be correct: he was campaigning in Ireland in the summer of 1600. There was a contemporary and kinsman of Oliver St. John, also called Oliver St. John, who also served in the English army on the continent and in Ireland. It was this latter Oliver St. John who fought in the battle of Kinsale on 24 December 1601. In 1618 Sir Oliver St. John called Captain Oliver St. John 'a poor kinsman' and tried to secure a pension for him.<sup>4</sup>

Upon the incorporation of the town of Roscommon in 1612 Sir Oliver St. John became one of the burgesses, and in the Irish parliament, 1613-15, he represented co. Roscommon and his younger brother Richard St. John represented Athlone, co. Westmeath. (This is the only reference that I have

been able to discover about Richard's presence in Ireland.) In December 1614 he resigned his office as master of the ordnance, and returned to England in 1615.

1614 was a momentous year. James Carr, Earl of Somerset, began his fall from the favour of James I. The king was on progress in the summer of that year, a progress that included Bletsoe, as guest of the St. Johns there. At Apethorpe he saw for the first time a newcomer to the court, George Villiers. Carr's enemies saw in Villiers an opportunity to supplant the existing favourite. In April 1615 Villiers was named a Gentleman of the Bedchamber. In October 1615 Carr was committed to the custody of Oliver St. John. By January 1617 Villiers had become Master of the Horse, a Knight of the Garter, Baron Whaddon, Viscount Villiers, and a member of the Council, with gifts of land said to be worth £80,000. In 1617 he became an earl, in 1619 a marquis, and in 1623 a duke.

George Villiers was a son of Sir George Villiers (d. 1605/6) of Brooksby, Leicestershire, who married twice. A son by his first marriage, Edward, married Barbara St. John of Lydiard Tregoze and niece of Oliver St. John. (There will be more about Edward Villiers later in this article.) George Villiers was a son by the second marriage: his widowed mother married three times in all, became Lady Compton and Countess of Buckingham for life, and died in 1632.

George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham, obtained what everyone craved - the ear of the king and the patronage of the kingdom. Through his influence and the demands of his mother the Villiers family and their relatives received honours and offices of profit. Monopolies were granted to his brother Christopher, to his half-brother Sir Edward Villiers, and to his brother-in-law Sir Giles Mompesson. (For Sir Giles Mompesson, see *Report 4*, 32-47.) Between 1616 and 1623 Buckingham obtained, in addition to six titles for himself, twelve grants of titles for six of his relatives, including Oliver St. John, his wife's uncle.

Sir Oliver was appointed lord deputy of Ireland. On 3 January 1620/1 he was created Viscount Grandison of Limerick in the county of Leitrim (*sic.*) with a special remainder that, in the event of Oliver having no son to inherit the title, the title would go to the eldest surviving son of his niece Barbara, wife of Sir Edward Villiers. (Why waste a title when the Villiers family could inherit it?) By 1626 Buckingham's enemies were gaining strength. The creation of new English peers could counter their power in parliament, and Viscount Grandison became, on 21 May 1626, Baron Tregoz of Highworth in the county of Wilts. (This title became extinct at his death.)

Oliver St. John achieved high office in Ireland and in England. That he was fitted for the tasks he undertook is without question, considering his military, administrative, and parliamentary experience: it is also not in doubt that he owed his appointments to his links with the Villiers family.

*On 2 July 1616 St. John was appointed lord deputy of Ireland; he received the sword of state on 30 August, and his administration was marked by a vigorous persecution of the recusants. He banished, by proclamation, all monks and friars educated abroad, and thought it would be a good thing if a hundred thousand native Irish could be sent to enlist in foreign countries. He also prosecuted the colonisation of Ulster, and the plantation of co. Longford in 1618 was followed next year by that of co. Leitrim. His 'intolerable severity' against the recusants created many enemies, and the fact that he owed his appointment to Villiers made him unpopular with many of his council. Early in 1621 they urged his recall; and, though James commended him and protested against involving him in disgrace, he was finally commanded to deliver up the sword of state on 18 April 1622. He left Ireland on 4 May.*

*St. John still remained in favour at court. On 28 June 1622 he was sworn of the English privy council. In 1624 he was placed on the council of war, and served on various other commissions.*

*On 16 August 1625 he was made lord high treasurer of Ireland*[and continued in that office until his death]. [DNB.]

In 1630 he made a final visit to Ireland to settle his estates there. *CSPD Ireland* contains the report, received 26 May, that he ‘*had a very bad passage, being three weeks between Chester and Dublin. He was driven into the Isle of Man for a week.*’ He died at his home in Battersea on 30 December 1630. (These Irish estates will be treated later in this article.)

### **Sir Edward Villiers**

Edward Villiers was half-brother to George Villiers, duke of Buckingham. About 1611 he married Barbara, sister of Sir John St. John, 1st bart., of Lydiard Tregoze. The ascendancy of his half-brother is reflected in his own career. In 1616 he was knighted. The following year he succeeded Sir Richard Martin as Master of the Mint. In 1618 he was made comptroller of the Court of Wards. He served in parliament, and went on diplomatic missions to Frederick, the Elector Palatine and son-in-law of James I. He invested heavily in monopoly patents.

In January 1624/5 he was appointed by James I as president of Munster, an appointment which was confirmed by Charles I on 6 May. In August he set sail for Ireland to assume his duties.

*He held the post for little over a year, and was absent for several months during that period; but he created a very favourable impression by his tenure of the office. He died in the College at Youghal [co. Cork] which he had made his official residence on 7 September 1626, and was buried at the east end of the Cork transept of St. Mary's Youghal.* [DNB.]

The article in *DNB* goes on to say that his tomb ‘*is still in good preservation, bears an epitaph in verse, which is also an epigram, and is said to resemble those written by Ben Jonson.*’

A visit to St. Mary's, Youghal, in July 1997, revealed that all that survives of his tomb is a broken and rejoined flat slab, about 6'3" by 3'6", lying with others on the east side of the south transept, which is dominated by a magnificent monument to the Boyle family, earls of Cork. Above the Villiers slab is a modern banner charged with the arms of Villiers and suspended from a tournament lance. The inscription reads:

HERE LIES THE BODY OF  
SIR EDWARD VILLERS WHO  
DIED LORD PRESIDENT  
OF MUNSTER  
ANNO DOMINI  
16—

Munster  
The time that Vilers came  
To make us worse  
By Leavinge such a name  
of Noble parts  
as none can Imitate  
But those whose harts  
are married to the State  
But if they presse  
to Imitate his fame  
Munster may blesse  
The time that Vilers came

## **Oliver St.John's Irish Estates**

(See *Report 2* 1-8.)

*DNB* is quoted, above, in stating that in 1608 Oliver St.John was ‘named a commissioner for the plantation of Ulster’ and that ‘as an ‘undertaker’, he had grants of 1500 acres in Ballymore, co. Armagh, and 100 acres in ‘Keernan’.’ The Ballymore lands were based on Tandragee, which was for centuries the chief seat of the O’Hanlons, who built the first castle there. These lands were confiscated from the O’Hanlons for their part in Tyrone’s rebellion in 1610.<sup>5</sup> A new parish church was built at Tandragee by Oliver St.John in 1622.

Oliver St.John made his will on 26 June and added a codicil on 16 December 1630. It was proved by his nephew Sir John St.John, 1st Bart., of Lydiard Tregoze, on 5 February 1630/1. The will separated completely Oliver’s English from his Irish estates, with separate trustees for each. Oliver’s English estates, principally the manor of Battersea, went to his nephew Sir John, but the Irish estates were left to Oliver’s godson and great-nephew John, Sir John’s second son, and to the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten. In default of such heirs, the estates were to go to his godson and great-nephew Henry, Sir John’s ninth and youngest son. Should Henry inherit and die without heirs male of his body lawfully begotten, then the estates were to revert to the heirs of Viscount Grandison.

## **John St.John (d.1643)**

John St.John was born in 1615/16. In 1637 he was at the university of Leyden. He was in residence at Tandragee when the rebellion broke out in 1641 and quickly spread from Ulster to the rest of the country. In the preface to the printed sermon that the Rev. Laurence Power, rector of Tandragee, preached at the funeral in 1679 of Henry St.John, he wrote of John St.John:

*Captain John St.John elder Brother to Henry, succeeded my Lord[Grandison] in his Irish Estate, and in his Valorous performances, for at the beginning of the late Irish Rebellion, hardly escaping by leaping down from the top of the Battlements of his Castle in his Shirt, with much adoe he got safe to Lisny-Garvy [=Lisnagarvy, now part of Lisburn, co. Antrim], and there with a poor remainder of English Fugitives, not Five Hundred, Attackt by as many Thousands of Irish, yet it so pleased the Almighty to bless their undaunted Courages, hat they obtained a second Victory as memorable as the former [=as memorable as Oliver St.John’s victory at Kinsale], twice their own number of the Enemy being killed upon the place, and the rest totally routed.*

In the 1641 rebellion the parish church at Tandragee was burned down and the castle was recaptured and destroyed by the O’Hanlons. (The crushing of the 1641 rebellion was not completed until 1652, and included Cromwell’s massacres at Drogheda and Wexford, August 1649 - May 1650.) By the end of 1643 Captain John St.John was taking part in the Royalist defence of Newark-on-Trent, and was mortally wounded. His will as of ‘Tanderkey’ is dated 12 December 1643. He was buried in the parish church of Newark three days later.

## **Henry St.John (1628-79)**

John St.John died unmarried. By the provisions of the will of Viscount Grandison, his Irish estates went to his fifteen-year-old brother Henry. In 1645 Henry St.John was at Leyden University; two years later he was admitted to Gray’s Inn. He lived with his only surviving brother Sir Walter in the manor house at Battersea. The two brothers married sisters, Johanna and Catherine, daughters of Oliver St.John, lord chief justice of the Common Pleas. Henry, his wife Catherine, and their two surviving children Walter and Catherine set out for Ireland possibly in 1664. (See *Report 28* 88-89.) In 1679 Henry St.John was ambushed and murdered by members of the O’Hanlon gang. In his funeral sermon the rector of

Tandragee spoke at length of Henry's beneficence. In 1670 he rebuilt the parish church before he repaired his own house. He built '*that sumptuous Market house ... a work so noble that it may better become a great City, than a Country Village.*' Moreover, '*he kept a constant and plentiful Table ... no man entertained his Acquaintance and Strangers with greater freedom and affability.*' '*His charity to the Poor was unspeakable ... every Lords Day he gave more to the Poors Box than the whole Congregation besides.*' He had a '*peculiar nobleness of spirit, which was discernible in his generous dealing with his Tenants, and Followers, in setting them good and easie Bargains.*'

Henry St.John would have been succeeded at Tandragee by his son Walter, but Walter had died about five years previously. The preface to the rector's sermon supplies the details of his death. At the age of nineteen Walter '*went in too eager pursuit of those Villains that afterwards Murdered his Dear Father.*' In the pursuit he '*catcht a Surfeit of heat and cold*' which turned to a fatal attack of smallpox.

In December 1679 administration of Henry's estate was granted to his widow Catherine who outlived him by two years. Their daughter Catherine had married Anthony Bowyer of Camberwell in February 1672/3. In September 1681, after the death of her mother, a further grant of administration of Henry's estate was made to Catherine Bowyer. Bowyer made his will (PCC: Smith 48) in 1707 and named his wife Catherine as whole and sole executrix, without any mention of surviving sons or daughters. It would appear that Henry's line had ended.

The provisions of the will of Oliver St.John were that if there was a failure in the male issue of his two great-nephews the Irish estates would revert to his own heirs. It would appear from surviving records that the estates passed to a nephew of Henry St.John Sir Francis St.John (d.1756), of Longthorpe.<sup>6</sup>

Sir Francis's daughter Mary (d.1793) married, in 1736-7, Sir John Bernard (d.1766), great-grandson of Oliver St.John LCJ by his second wife Elizabeth Cromwell. Sir John Bernard's daughter Mary married Robert Sparrow of Worlingham Hall, Suffolk. Their son Robert Bernard Sparrow (d.1805) of Brampton Park, Hunts., had a daughter Millicent (1798-1848) who married in 1822, as her father's sole heir, George Montagu (1799-1893), Deputy-Lieutenant of county Armagh and afterwards Duke of Manchester.

## Footnotes

- 1 *Calendar of Charter Rolls* Henry 111 (1226-57):  
1230 28 April. Confirmation of a charter to John de Sancto Johanne [*margin* now bishop of Ferns] for compensation for damage to the property of the bishop and chapter of Limerick.  
Dublin National Library. D 104. c.1230 grant by John St.John, bishop of Ferns, to convent of Duiske of all lands at Killaligan at 10s per annum.  
British Library Add. Ms 4793 - collection by Sir J. Ware, formerly Clarendon MS XLVI, includes Canons synod John known as St.Johannes Episcopus Ferns celebratae. John, bishop of Ferns, c.1240.
- 2 St.John Brooke, *Knight's Fees in Wexford Carlow and Kilkenny* (Irish MS Commission, 1950), pp 36, 163, 67n, 19, 110, 133-4, and 136-38 has references to early de Sancto.Johannes and St.Johns (simple). A copy is in the Library of the Society of Genealogists.  
Canterbury Den Ch Ms 1232 Hist. MS Commission Map 5. Geoffrey St.John: land at Thoimagaree in 13th century. [Toomaghera, co. Clare]
- 3 There are many more avenues to investigate, for example:  
Dublin National Library. D 1634. 2 August 1430. Grant by J Fayn to Thomas de Sainte Johanne of messuage and lands at Haltonwrstoun and Balispedigh.  
Dublin National Library. D2388. 1 January 1543. A bond of John St.John.  
Dublin National Library. D3529. 4 November 1612. Appointment by the earl of Ormonde of William St.John as sheriff of the liberty of Tipperary.  
Dublin National Library. D3634. 12 October 1619. Enfeoffment of J Butler and Robert St.John of Rattormond, co. Tipperary.

- 4 *CSP Ireland, 1615-25*, pp.208, 551.
- 5 Belfast PRO D 453 (1-3) Grant by James I to Oliver of lands at Tanregie also Ballymore, co.Armagh, 28 December 1610.
- 6 Belfast P.R.O. D720 Francis St.John. Estate at Tanderagee and Ballymore 1750.  
Belfast P.R.O. D5061. Mrs Francis St.John. Lease of Cargina 1788 Wills Tundagaree.  
Belfast P.R.O. D787 (Sp. lit 142) St.John. Collection of 69 maps of family estate (later owned by the Sparrow family and then the Dukes of Manchester) Tandergaree co. Armagh and Otrina, Portadown 1701-1852.

-----

### DEBORAH CULME (d.1695)

By Brian Carne

It is fitting that this last *Report* should follow up something that appeared in *Report 1*. In that issue there was included the long-lost inscription in Lydiard Tregoze churchyard, as recorded by John Aubrey, to the memory of Benjamin Culme (1582-1657) of Canonsleigh, Devon, Dean of St.Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin, from 1625 until that city was occupied by rebels in 1649. Benjamin Culme married Deborah Pleydell, a daughter of Sir Charles Pleydell (d.1642) of Midghall, by his first wife Katharine Bouchier. (In 1618 Sir Charles married, secondly, Jane St.John, widow of Sir Robert Atye and sister of Sir John St.John, 1st Baronet.) In his will Benjamin Culme referred to 'lands of inheritance' in co.Cavan and co.Meath and lands that he had acquired in the same counties, in co.Dublin, and in Yorkshire, and expressed great appreciation for his wife Deborah's care and pains that a great part of his estate had been preserved. A codicil to the will (1657) increased the portion to his daughter to £1,000, presumably payable at the time of her marriage. Probate of her husband's will was granted to Deborah in London in February 1657/8 and in Dublin in May 1658. In 1670 she presented Lydiard church with an alms dish and a great flagon. (The other flagon was given by her sister Lady Elizabeth Newcomen.) When she was buried Rector Stephen Charman entered in the register '17 November 1695 *The most incomparable Deborah Culme*'.

Two children of Benjamin and Deborah Culme are known: Benjamin and Elizabeth (d.1715), third wife of Sir John Morton, Bt., of Milborne St.Andrew, Dorset. (The registers at Lydiard Tregoze record the baptism on 23 October 1661 of a granddaughter Deborah, daughter of Benjamin Culme, esquire.)

In *Report 1* the hope was expressed that more might be discovered about Deborah Culme who appears to have been an able and well-liked person. It is assumed that she was executor of her husband's will. With the same skill that she managed her husband's affairs, she was entrusted with her son's estate. William Monk Mason, *Historical Annals of the Collegiate and Cathedral Church of St.Patrick* (1820) II p.190, n.f, refers to the power of attorney that son Benjamin gave to her on 28 June 1661 'to demise and settle all his estate in Ireland, for any term whatever, that was by him grantable, and under what rents or conditions she would agree for.'

Among the Pleydell family papers that Vanda Morton holds are ten which shed light on Deborah Culme. These ten deeds have been generously made available for transcription. They show that she was a witness to deeds. We learn that she acted for her son because she had taken responsibility for his debts. Her sister Lady Elizabeth Newcomen and her brother Humphrey Pleydell of Minety considered her a fit person to be sole executor of their wills. And there was the matter of her daughter's dowry. Elizabeth was about eleven years old when her father died, and it was not until 1675, when she was about twenty nine that she married Sir John Morton.

The £1,000 bequest by way of dowry for his daughter could have been locked away somewhere: instead Deborah chose to lend sums of money to people she knew, the money to be repayable with interest. David Jarman has commented by letter on the matter:

*A system of banking existed in Europe from the twelfth century onwards, but failures were common, particularly amongst rural banks in seventeenth- and eighteenth-century England. Such rural banks were small, with a minute geographical base in many cases, and which could therefore not easily resist adverse events. Further, a ‘domino effect’ was not uncommon in the event of a failure. If someone in the provinces had considerable sums of cash to invest in the 1660s there would be a number of ways of investing it - land purchase; lending on mortgage; lending on the security of an IOU, bond, or bill of exchange; lending to a trader for business - all of which might be preferable to a deposit with a local bank, often a goldsmith. If you know the borrower well, you can evaluate the risk more accurately. Further, in case of disaster, you would be able to sue on your security, and would be a preferred creditor instead of being an unsecured creditor of a local bank.*

*Deborah Culme, in lending money, was doing no more than what was common practice at the time for those who held surplus funds. It would be quite acceptable to borrow money within your social circle: your creditworthiness - or lack of it in some cases - would be well-known, and you might even get better terms than from an outsider. Among the transactions that are recorded in document 10 there are several names of families connected by marriage with the Pleydells - Dowdeswell, Nott, and Jenner are certainly in that category.*

Some of these ten deeds are of considerable length. I suspect that readers will be content with the following summaries. They add a little more to our appreciation of Deborah Culme as an exceptional person.

#### 1 Dated 29 March 1658

Charles Pleydell gent., one of the younger sons of Sir Charles Pleydell, recites the agreement made between Sir Charles, Dame Jane [Sir Charles’s second wife], and Sir William Roberts [who married Mary, one of Charles’s sisters] whereby Sir Charles or his executors would provide £30 a year for life to Charles. By his will Sir Charles left £10 a year to Charles. John Pleydell [M.P., d. 1693], eldest son of Sir Charles and his executor has now given £300 to Charles, which Charles has accepted in lieu of the two annual sums of £30 and £10.

The deed is witnessed by St. John Pleydell, a son of Sir Charles by his second wife, Deborah Culme, and Alexander Spackman. The seal bears the arms of Pleydell impaling St. John - evidence that Charles was a son of his father’s second marriage.

#### 2 Dated 20 February 1660/1

Deborah Culme is surety for debts incurred by her son Benjamin Culme of Canonsleigh, Devon, namely:

- £450 to John Pleydell, esq.
- £400 to Charles Pleydell, gent.
- £300 to Widow Cudmore
- £150 to Randell Jowett, gent.
- £ 50 to Joan Clare, spinster, lately married to Abraham Atkins
- £ 60 to Jane Chace, spinster
- £100 to John Frye, gent
- £ 60 to Mary Sandford, widow
- £ 10 to Amy Sandford, widow

**3** Dated 20 February 1660/1

Benjamin Culme of Canonsleigh, Devon, releases his mother Deborah Culme, widow, of all and any legal claim he had on her.

These two deeds, **2** and **3**, have the same witnesses - Richard Dowdeswell, Charles Dowdeswell, William Jeffreys, and Berkely Frye - and also the same arms on the seal, which look like *a fess and in chief three billets*.

**4** Dated 1 December 1662

An unsigned copy of an agreement between Benjamin Culme of Canonsleigh, Devon, who received a property under the will of his father Dr Benjamin Culme, and John Arthur the younger of Wexford, gent., concerning the lease to the latter of the said property, namely a house in Bride Street, Dublin, with its garden and an adjoining house and ground, formerly in the occupation of Philip Peake. The lease is for thirty-one years at an annual rental of £35, and the relevant rights and obligations of the lessee are listed.

**5** Dated 16 November 1663

A declaration by Jane Culme of Canonsleigh, widow and executrix of Benjamin Culme, that, whereas, before her marriage, her late husband and his mother Deborah Culme had agreed together with John Courtney, esq., and John Baker, esq., to provide her with a jointure for life, she now cancels all claims she has on her mother-in-law.

The witnesses are Richard Dowdeswell, Berkely Frye, and John Dowdeswell.

**6** Dated 3 September 1664

A declaration by Jane Culme, widow and executrix of Benjamin Culme, that all claims she may have on her mother-in-law are cancelled.

The witnesses are Henry Hewse, Philip Culme, Henry Upton, and Mary Fry. A later marginal note states that Philip Culme was a brother of Dr Benjamin Culme. This is incorrect as Dr Culme's brother Philip died without issue on 12 January 1637/8. The seal appears to bear the arms of Culme, which are, according to John Aubrey, *Azure, a chevron Ermine between three pelicans vulning themselves*.

**7** Dated 16 January 1668/9

An agreement between John Pleydell esq. and Giles Pleydell, both of Midghall, whereby John Pleydell shall hold the property which was formerly occupied by John Denby, Giles Pleydell receiving £40 a year in lieu.

The witnesses are Edward Hopkins, Gabriel Arman, and Oliver Pannell.

An endorsement, dated 2 April 1670, acknowledges the payment - at the order of John Pleydell - of £40 to Giles Pleydell from his sister Deborah Culme.

**8** Dated 27 August 1672

A declaration by William Jordan of Gloucester, gent., that, whereas Deborah Culme of Midghall was made sole executor of the will of her brother Humphrey Pleydell of Minety but was unwilling to act in that capacity and has passed on to him all relevant papers, he accepts full responsibility in the matter.

The witnesses are Edward Hopkins, Henry Hopkins, and Alexander Spackman. The seal bears the arms, *On a cross five mullets at the ends and centre of the cross with a crescent for difference in the dexter canton*.

**9** Dated 25 February 1675/6 (parchment)

A declaration by Deborah Culme of Midghall, widow, concerning sums of money, amounting to £990, which are owing to her, interest being added to each sum on repayment. (The date of the several bonds is in brackets: unless otherwise stated all the places are in Wiltshire.)

(8 May 1674)

£100 from Edmund Chadwell of Wroughton, gent., and John Mompesson of North Tedworth

(10 September 1668)

£100 from Charles Yorke of Bassett Down and Oliver Calley of Bishop's Lavington. (This money was due to Dame Elizabeth Newcomen, deceased, of whose will Deborah Culme was the sole executrix.)

(16 May 1674)

£100 from John Webb of Charlton, gent., Henry Webb of Charlton, gent., and Thomas Elliott of Wanborough, gent.

(17 October 1667)

£100 from Edward Nott of Braydon, esq., and Edward Nott of Minety, Glos, gent.

(13 January 1673/4)

£100 from John Jenner of Widhill, esq., Epaphroditus Marsh of Hammersmith, Middlesex, gent., and Narcissus Marsh D.D.

(15 December 1669)

£100 Robert Jenner, Rector of Lydiard Millicent, and John Jenner of Widhill, esq.

(30 January 1674/5)

£200 from Sir Edward Hungerford K.B. and Sir James Hayes

(2 March 1670/1)

£100 from Henry Oatridge the elder, Henry Oatridge the younger, and Thomas Waters, gent.

(8 May 1674)

£50 from John Smith of Swindon, baker

(27 March 1674)

£40 from William Sadler and Edward Hopkins, both of Wootton Bassett

Sir John Morton of Milborne St. Andrew, Dorset, is shortly to marry Elizabeth, daughter of Deborah Culme, and £6,000 has been agreed as her dowry. As part of that dowry Sir John is empowered to collect the above sums.

The witnesses are Thomas Fountayne, John Hawles, and ?Henry ?Raeston. The seal bears the possible arms of Culme impaling Pleydell.

**10** Dated 25 February 1675/6

A declaration by Elizabeth Culme of Midghall, spinster, that she cancels all claims against her mother Deborah Culme, widow.

The witnesses are Charles Dowdeswell, James Simpson, and Rebekah Robinson. The seal bears the arms, *Billey, a cross moline on a canton.*

An endorsement in another hand reads, '1675 *The year of her marriage to Sir John Morton.*'

# THE KINCHIN FAMILY AND THE LYDIARDS

by Shirley E. Adams

[This article is derived from the researches of Shirley E. Adams, whose great-great-great-grandfather was Thomas Kinchin (d.1840) of Windmill Leaze Farm. Her reconstruction of her family revealed that she was a second cousin of the writer Douglas Adams. Shirley has very generously made available to the Friends the results of her researches to date. Also quoted is a section from Frances Bevan's *A Tale of Two Parishes*. The dates of baptisms, marriages, or burials are from the table tombs and registers of Lydiard Tregoze church unless otherwise stated.]

**Thomas Kinchin** was born about 1795. (His memorial inscription states that he was 44 when he died in 1840: the contemporary entry in the Burial Register gives that age as 45.) He was the eldest son of William Kinchin (1757-1837) a substantial farmer of Eastbury, Berkshire, who was buried at Chipping Lambourn, and his wife Lucy Pyke (1759-1835), whom he married at Faringdon on 6 September 1790.

Thomas Kinchin was married twice: firstly, at Brinkworth on 8 February 1819 to Maria Coster (c.1790-1837), the mother of his children; and secondly, at Walcot church, Bath, on 21 May 1838 to Martha Withers, daughter of Robert Withers. Martha was born at Rodbourne Cheney (1851 Census) and died in 1867 aged 81 (LT burial register). Thomas Kinchin founded a dynasty which continued in the Lydiards until 1973.

In 1819, the year of his first marriage, he took the tenancy of Marsh Farm, which in 1838 contained 115 acres. He continued there until 1823 when he took the tenancy of Windmill Leaze Farm (290 acres in 1838) which he continued to lease until his death in 1840.

## Children of Thomas and Maria Kinchin

- 1 Thomas Coster Kinchin as eldest son succeeded to the tenancy of Windmill Leaze Farm on the death of his father. The 1841 Census shows that he and his brother William were living at the farm with their step-mother Martha, together with five male and female servants. He died, unmarried, on 26 December 1861, aged 40.
- 2 William Kinchin, baptised 5 December 1824, died 15 December 1898. The 1851 Census shows that William, his step-mother, a farm-labourer cousin, and two servants were living at the farm, which is described as being of 280 acres and employing nine labourers. He married, on 29 April 1851, Catherine Plummer (1818-64), daughter of Richard Plummer of Eastleaze Farm and his wife Mary Sadler. He probably took the tenancy of Windmill Leaze Farm, which he held at least until 1894, at the time of his marriage. (William's step-mother was probably the tenant from 1843 to 1851.) The 1861 Census shows that William, Catherine, and son Thomas were living at Windmill Leaze Farm together with Thomas Coster Kinchin, William's elder brother. William Kinchin was tenant of Windmill Leaze Farm at least until 1895. (For the children of William and Catherine, see below.)
- 3 James Pyke Kinchin, baptised 11 March 1827. In 1850 he married Mary Ann Neville. They emigrated to Melbourne, Australia. There were at least three children - Mary who was born in 1852, married, and had ten children; Kate who was born in 1854; and Martha Jane who was born in 1857 and died on 13 March 1858 - the same day as her mother died at the age of thirty. James died in 1860 at the age of thirty-two.

- 4 John Coster Kinchin, baptised 27 December 1829. On 7 April 1855 at Clifton parish church he married Agnes Louisa Bryant. He became an accountant at Leicester (Burial Register), and died on 8 March 1860. It is from John and Agnes Kinchin that Shirley Adams and Douglas Adams are descended.

### **Children of William and Catherine Kinchin**

- 1 William John Plummer Kinchin, born 18 February 1852. He had property in Blunsdon, and was unmarried and living at Windmill Leaze Farm with his widowed father in the 1891 Census. He and his younger brother Thomas became joint tenants of Brook Farm (50 acres in 1838, with additional acres in Lydiard Millicent parish) and of Wick Farm (150 acres in 1838) in 1881. He appears to have retired after the death of his father, and by 1906 was living at Lydiard House, Ballinacourty, Dungarvan, co. Waterford. He was married by 1911, and died, presumably in Ireland, on 20 June 1923.
- 2 Thomas Richard Plummer Kinchin, born 23 August 1854. Tenant with his elder brother of Brook and Wick Farms. On 24 January 1883 he married Matilda Elizabeth Cole (d.1906, aged 51), known as 'Bessie', daughter of John Cole (d.1885, aged 78) of Shaw, Lydiard Millicent parish. The 1891 Census shows that the family lived at Wick Farm. Bessie Kinchin had two brothers, John T. Sadler Cole and Stephen Eades Cole. They were tenants of Eastleaze Farm, and one or both of them retired to live at Elm Grove, Shaw, a house which was bequeathed to their unmarried nieces Ethel and Hilda Kinchin. Thomas R.P. Kinchin died on 7 September 1911 at South View, Brinkworth, and was buried there. (For the children of Thomas and Bessie, see below.)
- 3 James Henry Pike Kinchin, baptised 18 May 1856 and died 17 March 1857.
- 4 Kate Amelia Emma Kinchin, born 9 February 1859. On 18 September 1901 she married William Rowland Woolford.

### **Children of Thomas and Bessie Kinchin**

- 1 William John Plummer Kinchin, baptised 18 December 1883.
- 2 Thomas Stephen Cole Kinchin, baptised 2 June 1885, and known as Stephen. He and his elder brother emigrated to South Australia and settled at Kyabram, 123 north of Melbourne, about 1913.
- 3 Ethel Katherine Matilda Kinchin, born 4 October 1886. She died at Roughmoor, Lydiard Millicent parish, on 10 June 1954. She was unmarried.
- 4 Eleanor Muriel Evelyn Kinchin, baptised 5 December 1888, and known as Muriel. She married Frederick Sutton: they emigrated to Australia and lived at Warragul, 61 miles south-east of Melbourne.
- 5 Annie Elizabeth Elsie, baptised 30 March 1891 with rector Baily's wife as one of her godparents, and known as Elsie. She also went to Australia, but returned to marry and farm at Cotmarsh, Wootton Bassett.
- 6 Hilda Dorothy Kinchin, born 31 December 1892. Lived at Elm Grove, Shaw, the home of her uncle John Cole. She died on 15 July 1973, and was buried at Lydiard Millicent with her sister Ethel. She was a kindly but strong-minded spinster. With her ended the strong links that four generations of Kinchins had with the two Lydiard parishes for 154 years.

## OUR WAR MEMORIALS

by Malcolm Titcombe

I have been asked to provide a transcription of the names that appear on the War Memorial at Hook and in the Memorial Book in St. Mary's church.

As I was copying the names, several questions arose in my mind. Two names, those of Albert Noon, killed at Salonika, and William Titcombe, killed in France in 1918, do not appear on the War Memorial. I wonder why? Percival Edge Smart appears on the War Memorial, but according to the Memorial Book was not killed. Howard James Smart does not appear on the War Memorial, but, according to the Memorial Book, he was killed in 1915. Is the wrong name on the War Memorial or is there a mistake in the Memorial Book? I wonder why Private Ernest John Painter became a member of the New Zealand Regiment, and three or four men joined the 48th Australian Imperial Force.

### **The War Memorial at Hook**

The Memorial at Hook was unveiled by Lord Bolingbroke on Saturday, 4 December 1920. The service sheet, which must have been distributed in advance, has an invitation to all ex-Service men to be present. The invitation is signed by Frederick Leighton, Honorary Secretary of the War Memorial Committee. Three hymns and the National Anthem were sung and there were two addresses, one by Rector Harrison, the other by the Rev. R. Cowie.

The War Memorial reads:

To the Glory of God and in memory  
of the Men of Lydiard Tregoze  
who made the supreme sacrifice  
in the Great War 1914 - 1918

Sergt. Ernest Arthur Townsend  
Pte. Reginald Skull D.C.M.  
Pte. Henry Frank Porter  
Pte. Percival Edge Smart  
Pte. Edward David Embling  
Pte. Charles Barnes  
Pte. Victor Reuben Newman  
Pte. Frank Curtis Webb  
Pte. Wulfred John Parrott  
Pte. Thomas Jesse Lawrence  
Pte. John Thomas Titcombe

“Their name liveth for evermore.”  
ECCLUS XCIV 14. (APOCRYPHA)

Added to the Memorial are two names from the 1939-45 War:

J. Embling  
R. Fisher

In Hook Cemetery, the gravestone commemorating Frederick George Tuck (d.1959) and his wife Mary (d.1954) adds the name of their son Frederick George Tuck, who was killed in action in May 1940.

The November 2006 meeting of Lydiard Tregoze Parish Council took note of the fact that the names on the War Memorial were becoming illegible, and it was resolved that a stone mason should be asked for a quotation to recut the lettering. It was also suggested at the meeting that a member of the crew of the Hercules shot down during conflict with Iraq, and who is buried in Hook Cemetery, might be added to the names on the memorial.

### **The Memorial Book in church**

The book with illuminated lettering is in a display case in church, and reads:

SAINT MARY THE VIRGIN  
LYDIARD TREGOZ

OF THE  
PARISH OF LYDIARD TREGOZ  
IN THE COUNTY OF WILTS  
THESE SERVE THE KING  
IN THE YEAR OF  
OUR LORD  
1914 - 1919

AS DYING AND BEHOLD WE LIVE

1914

August	Private	Richard Titcombe	Reserve, 2nd Wilts. R.
August	Private	William John Woodward	1st Wilts Reg.
August	Private	Frederick Thomas Strange	4th Dragoon Guards
August	Private	Mark Tombs	Sth. Wales Borderers
August	Private	Francis George Howard	Roy. Field Artillery
August	Private	Algernon Edwin Love	R. Army Med. Corps
August	Private	William John Morse	1st Wiltshire Reg.
August	Private	Edward Cecil Sawyer	Roy. Field Artillery
August	Private	Bertie Henry Newman	1st Wiltshire Reg.
August	Private	John Theodore Colledge	Gloucestersh. Yeo.
August	Private	Howard James Smart	1st Wiltshire Reg.
		Killed, March 1915, Neuve-Chapelle.	
August	Private	Egbert Daniel Porter	Roy. Field Artillery
August	Private	Sidney John Porter	5th Wiltshire Reg.
August	Major	Mervyn Nevil Arnold-Forster M.C.	Grenadier Guards
August	Lieut.	Hugh Christopher Arnold-Forster	Royal Navy
September	Gunner	Thomas Tombs	Roy. Field Artillery
September	Private	Frederick Hatter	7th Wiltshire Reg.
September	Private	Percival Edge Smart	2nd Wiltshire Reg.
September	Driver	George Charles Embling	Roy. Field Artillery
September	Private	Frank Ind	7th Wiltshire Reg.

September	Sergeant	Ernest Arthur Townsend Killed, 12 March 1915, Buried near Chapelle.	2nd Wiltshire Reg.
September	Private	John Thomas Titcombe Killed, 17 August 1915, Dardanelles.	Royal Fusiliers
September	Driver	Albert Noon Killed, Salonika.	Roy. Field Artillery
September	Private	Jesse Lawrence Killed in action, Dardanelles.	R. Munster Fusiliers
October	Private	Henry Frank Porter Killed, June 1915.	2nd Wiltshire Reg.
November	Lt.-Comr.	William Edward Arnold-Forster	Royal Naval Vol.Res.
November	Captain	Henry Mildmay St.John	Gloucester Reg.
December	Driver	Albert James Wise	Roy. Field Artillery
December	Private	Edward James Webb	Roy. Wiltshire Yeo.
December	Seaman	Walter Titcombe	R.M.S. Collingwood

1915

January	Driver	Arthur Morse	Roy. Field Artillery
February	Private	Reginald Skull, D.C.M. Killed, 9 April 1917, Buried Neuville Vitase Cemetery, France.	2nd Wiltshire Reg.
February	Trooper	Herbert John Crew	Roy. Wiltshire Yeo.
February	Signaller	Edward Alec Kinch	Roy. Field Artillery
February	Private	Charles Barnes Killed, 18 October 1915, Dardanelles.	5th Wiltshire Reg.
March	Private	Edward David Embling Died of Fever, Persian Gulf.	5th Wiltshire Reg.
April	Corporal	Alfred John Strange	Rifle Brigade
April	Private	Victor Reuben Newman Killed, 3rd September.	9th R. Warwicks. R.
May	Gunner	Albert Victor George Bezzant	Roy. Field Artillery
May	Lieutenant	Charles Reginald St.John	7th Somerset Lt. Inf.
June	Gunner	Alfred George Newman	Roy. Garrison Art.
June	Private	Ernest John Painter	New Zealand Reg.
June	Captain	John Anthony Arnold-Forster	Roy. Field Artillery
June	Driver	William Noon	Roy. Field Artillery
August		Wilfred John Parrott Died in France, 22 February 1919.	Machine Gun Corps
October	Gunner	Ernest Thomas Skull D.C.M., M.S.M.	Roy. Field Artillery
November	Private	Ernest James Titcombe	1st Wiltshire Reg.
November	Private	Alfred John Embling	1st Wiltshire Reg.
November	Private	Joseph Hatter	1st Wiltshire Reg.

December	Private	John Ernest Strange	1st Wiltshire Reg.
December	Gunner	Bertie Thale Strange	Royal Marine Artillery

1916

January	Private	Victor Edward North Woodward	1st Wiltshire Reg.
January	Driver	Sidney Charles Pinnegar	Roy. Field Artillery
January	Gunner	Arthur Hubert Sawyer	
March	Private	Snowdon Henry Love	Australian Imp. F.
March	Private	Edward John Titcombe	Roy. Berkshire Reg.
March	Gunner	Alfred Rudler	Roy. Garrison Art.
April	Corporal	Stanley Painter	Worcestershire Reg.
April	Private	George Henry Cowley	Army Service Corps
May	Private	Wilfred Sidney Tanner	48th Aust. Imp. F.
May	Gunner	Henry William Soule	Roy. Field Artillery
June	Private	William Titcombe Killed, 28 March 1918, France.	Durham Lt. Inf.
June	2nd Lieut.	Frederick William Leighton	Royal Engineers
June	Private	Alfred Henry Curtis	2nd Worcester. R.
September	Private	Francis Tom Titcombe	10th D. of Wellington's R.
December	Private	William James Bezzant	9th Wiltshire Reg.

1917

January	Private	Rawleigh Charles Webb	Australian Imp. Fce.
January	Captain	Herbert Melville Leighton	8th Persian Rifles
March	Private	Gordon James Love	The Black Watch
March	Private	Walter Ernest Howard	S. Lancashire Reg.
March	Private	Roland Ivor Tanner	16th Aust. Imp. Fce.
March	Private	Frank Curtis Webb Killed, 21 March 1918, France.	1st Royal Dragoons
April	Gunner	Harold Tucker Phillips	Roy. Field Artillery
April	Private	Graham Tucker Hollis	1/4 Dorsetshire R.
May	Sapper	Ernest Thompson	Royal Engineers
May	Private	Reginald John Fortune	Duke of Cornwall's L.I.
May	Private	James Mackinnon	7th Dragoon Guards
June	Private	Vernon Henry St. John Viscount Bolingbroke	3rd Dorsetshire R.
July	Private	Ernest Hatter	1st R. Berkshire R.
October	Seaman	Ernest Arthur Baden Trueman	R.M.S. Bamillier
October	Seaman	William Harris Heath	Royal Navy

1918

April	Private	George Hunt	91st R. Warwicks R.
June	Private	Arthur Ind	Wiltshire Reg.
July	Observer	Walter Hughes	Royal Air Force

# LAND TAX ASSESSMENTS

## LYDIARD TREGOZE PARISH, 1780-1831

by Brian Carne

In *Report 23* (1990) Bill Jacob listed the owners and occupiers of the farms in the parish over the period 1839 to 1895 as far as he was able to elicit them from the Tithe Commutation Schedule (1839), the several Census returns, published Directories, and surviving parochial Rate Books. Charlie Walters had started to collate this information, and Bill Jacob took over and finished the task. (The work would have been much simpler for more than half the parish had the Bolingbroke archive of leases and rent books survived.) It was felt that Bill's work should be continued back in time, and one way to do this was to look at the parish returns for Land Tax, which are available in the Wiltshire and Swindon Record Office at Trowbridge. For this article I am indebted to *Land and Property: The English Land Tax 1692-1832*, ed. Turner and Mills (Alan Sutton, 1986) for information about the workings of the tax.

### Land Tax Assessments

Land Tax was introduced in the seventeenth century and was only finally abolished in 1963. A fixed sum was levied on each county and a free hand was allowed to each county administration to distribute the quota among its townships and parishes. The rate of tax was fixed in 1776 at four shillings in the pound, remaining at this level until 1909. It was charged on real estate, property (including buildings as well as land), moveable goods, on salaries from certain public offices (until the introduction of income tax in 1798), and on tithes. The allocation of the quota to each county was based on assessments which had been made somewhat arbitrarily - and therefore not necessarily equitably - before 1690. As revaluations were expensive and complicated, the assessments for counties, townships, parishes, and individual holdings tended to remain the same despite enclosures, urbanisation, industrialisation, and other improvements. In 1798 redemption of the tax - called 'exoneration' - was offered at a price equivalent to fifteen years' purchase of the current tax commitment. As the years went on the tax was neither equitable between counties, between parishes, or even between holdings in a particular parish. The 1798 Act also exempted owners with property worth less than twenty shillings a year.

Parish returns to Quarter Sessions for the period 1780 to 1832 have generally survived because from 1745 in principle, but from 1780 in practice, payment of land tax on freehold property worth two pounds or more annually established voting qualification in parliamentary elections. In effect the Land Tax returns were used as an electoral register. With the passing of the Reform Act in 1832 with its reform of the franchise, the need for the Clerk of the Peace to retain the returns was much reduced.

Commissioners were appointed for each county, and, in turn, 'able and sufficient' assessors were identified for each parish. The parish returns for Lydiard Tregoze that have survived cover the years 1780 to 1831, with the exception of 1781 and 1814. The sum raised by the tax stood at £438 annually for the whole period. The return for 1780 is headed:

*An Assessment made the 3 Day of August by Thomas Anger and Richard Herring of the Money payable to his Majesty by Virtue of an act of parliament for granting an aid to his Majesty to be raised by A Land tax at 4 shillings in the pound in the Parrish of Liddiard Treygooze for the year of our Lord 1780.*

The assessors for the period covered were

1780, 82	Thomas Anger and Richard Herring
1783	Richard Bradford and Richard Herring

1784	John Matthews and John Iles
1785	William Matthews and Joseph Purnell
1786-87	William Matthews and Thomas Locke
1788-95	William Dore and James Matthews
1796-1807	William Dore and Peter Dore
1808-13	William Dore and John Dore
1815	Jacob Matthews and Francis King
1816-17	Cornelius Bradford and Francis King
1818-22	Cornelius Bradford and Matthew Vivash
1823-24	Cornelius Bradford and Bartholomew Horsell
1825	Cornelius Bradford
1826-31	Isaac Woodward Snr and Isaac Woodward Jnr

William Dore of The Marsh served for twenty-five years as an assessor. He, like the other assessors, was a tenant farmer, and, as such, belonged to the relatively small group who served the parish as churchwardens, overseers of the poor, and surveyors of the highways. (A list of churchwardens for this period is in *Report 26*, pp.45-6.) These offices were held both by those farmers who had large holdings and by those who were of lower estate. Cornelius Bradford (*Report 15*, pp.29-30) was tenant of Midghall from 1812. He served as an alderman and as mayor of Wootton Bassett. The 1851 Census shows that the farm consisted of 360 acres, employing twelve labourers. Captain Bartholomew Horsell (*Report 28* p.25) of Peninsular War fame who had a lease of The Marsh, later, of Lower Hook Farm also, was an alderman of Wootton Bassett, and farmed 233 acres in Wootton Bassett Parish.

### **Difficulties in interpreting the returns**

In 1818 the lands which were stated to be owned by Lord Bolingbroke were accountable for 41% of the parish assessment; those owned by Lord Clarendon 27%; those owned by The Charterhouse 10%; and tithes and glebe accounted for a further 5%. How far these assessments accurately reflect the size and relative value of the separate estates can only be a matter for conjecture. Unfortunately the column on the printed return-forms which was for recording the actual rent paid for each holding is invariably left blank. In some cases the name given for the proprietor may not be correct: the name of a copyhold tenant may have been entered in some cases. There is one holding, described simply as 'land' in 1830, with the name of the proprietor given as Mr Smith from 1780 to 1810, as Mrs Smith in 1811, and as Miss Smith from 1812, the tenancy being held by Joseph Weston from 1780 to 1807 and by John Rumming thereafter, which in 1798 was entered as a 'Lifehold Estate'.

Little help is given in the returns about the name of particular holdings. In 1782 and 1784 six fields or farms are named - Spackman's, Copper's, Draper's, Templer's, Franklin's, and Prat's - but this is of little help. They are relatively small holdings, which cannot as yet be further identified. In the returns for 1830 names of farms are given for the first time: eighteen are named, with a further twenty-three holdings described simply as 'land', 'woodland', or 'house'. It is noticeable that no entry appears for Can Court, the property of Pembroke College, Oxford. Could it be that College property was exempt from Land Tax?

Four proprietors - The Charterhouse, Nevil Maskelyne, John Iles, and Elizabeth Walker - took advantage of the possibility afforded by the 1798 Act to 'exonerate' their annual assessment by redeeming the annual tax by a one-off payment.

Although the total assessment for the parish was constant for the parish as a whole, there was some variation in the amounts attributable to certain tenancies. It could be that the particular tenant moved to a different farm or there was some variation in the extent of the tenanted farm. Considerable changes

were made in the 1808 return, possibly due to the death of Simon Crook and the re-leasing of the properties that he had held, and in 1817, when it would appear that Cornelius Bradford and his colleague-assessor brought in a revision of assessments, particularly for some of the Clarendon estates.

### Identification of holdings and tenants

The correlation of every entry in the fifty surviving returns is not possible, but the following list is a tentative interpretation for most of the parish.

Property	Owner	Tenant
?Banners Ash	1780-91 Thomas Calley 1792-1831 Lord Clarendon	1780-91 Bryant Rumbell 1792-1800 Timothy Maskelyne  1801-31 John Sheldon
Bassett Down Farm	1780-88 Mrs Maskelyne 1789-95 Esquire Maskelyne 1796-1810 Nevil Maskelyne 1811-20 Sophia Maskelyne 1821-31 A.M.R. Story	1780-1801 Jacob Hayward 1802-03 Mrs Hayward 1804-20 Jane Hayward 1821-31 A.M.R. Story
Blagrove Farm (? including Whitehill Farm)	1780-1831 The Charterhouse	1780-1807 Francis King 1808-31 John King
?Bolingbroke Arms	1780-94 William Holliday 1795-1816 Lord Bolingbroke 1817-31 Hon. Frederick St.John	1780-90 William Holliday 1791-1807 Joseph Weston 1808 John Rumming 1809-11 John Jefferis 1812-19 Robert Greenwood 1820-22 Samuel Summers 1823-31 Samuel Kerley
Creeches Farm	1780-1831 Lord Clarendon	1780, 82, 84, 1817-31 Philip Philmore
Flaxlands Farm	1780-1831 Lord Bolingbroke	1817 - Hall 1818 John Dore 1819-22 William King 1823-31 Benjamin Hill
Glebe, Tithes	1780-1831 Rev. Richard Miles	1780-1802 John Matthews 1803-07 Jacob Matthews 1808-10 John Dore 1811-13 William Dore 1815-16, 1830 John Dore
?At Hook	1780-1813 Jacob Vines 1814-31 Lord Bolingbroke	1780-92 Thomas Clifford 1793-1831 William Price

Hook Farm	1780-1831 Lord Bolingbroke	1780-1810 Richard Bradford 1811-31 John Rumming
Lower Hook Farm	1780-1831 Lord Bolingbroke	1780-1819 George Ody 1820-30 Thomas Price 1831 Henry Price
Lydiard Park	1817-31 Lord Bolingbroke	1817-21 Thomas Neate 1822 Charles Ind 1823-27 James Edwards 1828-31 John Franklin
Mannington Farm	1780-1831 The Charterhouse	1780-94 Richard Dore 1795-1822 Richard Dore King 1823-25 John Archer 1826-29 Richard Cole 1830-31 Richard Tuckey
Marsh Farm	1817-31 Lord Bolingbroke	1817-18 William Dore 1819-22 Thomas Kinchin 1823-31 James Ellison
The Marsh Farm	1817-31 Lord Clarendon	1817-31 Bartholomew Horsell
Midghall	1780-84 Mrs Pleydell 1785-1831 Lord Clarendon	1780-1811 Richard Bradford 1812-31 Cornelius Bradford
Near the Marsh	1817-31 Lord Clarendon	1817-31 John Hawkins
Padbrook Farm	1780-1810 William Cripps  1811-23 Richard Tuckey 1825-31 William Cripps	1780-84 William Cripps 1785-1809 Thomas Cole 1810-11 Richard Tuckey 1812-31 Richard Sly
?Purley Farm and woodlands	1780-1831 Lord Bolingbroke	1780-87 Mr Clifford 1788-1807 Simon Crook 1808-31 Lord Bolingbroke and others
Quidhampton	1780-90 Mrs Leigh 1791-92 Peter Leigh 1793-1803 Bathurst Pye 1804-5 Bathurst Pye Bennett 1806-19 Mrs Pye Bennett 1820-27 Elizabeth Pye Bennett 1828-31 Thomas Calley	1780-1804 Thomas Neate  1805-28 Robert Hughes  1829-31 Giles Edmonds
Shaw Farm (East Leaze)	1817-31 Lord Bolingbroke	1817-23 Richard Plummer 1824-31 Mary Plummer

Spittleborough Farm	1780-1831 Lord Clarendon	1780-1823 Matthew Vivash 1825-31 Isaac Woodward
Lower Studley Grange	1780-89 Mr Hiatt 1790-1820 John Iles  1821-31 George Mantele	1780-97 Richard Herring 1798-1805 Ann Herring 1806-07 Peter Dore 1808-15 Nathaniel Edwards 1816-31 Thomas Price
Upper Studley Farm	1780-98 Richard Southby 1799-1806 Joseph Walker 1807-31 Mrs Elizabeth Walker	1780-85 Mr Hunter 1786-1800 Mrs Grace Hunter 1801-31 Thomas Price
Toothill Farm	1780-1831 The Charterhouse	1780-88 Thomas Bound 1789-96 Mrs Bound 1797-1800 Mary Bound 1801-06 Elizabeth Bound 1807 Executors of Elizabeth Bound 1808-30 Jacob Matthews 1831 William Plummer
Wick Farm	1780-1831 Lord Bolingbroke	1780-1802 John Matthews 1803-07 Jacob Matthews 1808-13 William Dore 1815-31 John Dore
Wickfield Farm (including Church Hill Farm)	1780-83 Mr Hardyman 1784-1831 Lord Clarendon	1780-85 Thomas Anger 1786-1818 Francis King 1819-31 William Munde
Windmill Leaze Farm (Park Farm)	1780-1831 Lord Bolingbroke	1780-98 Thomas Neate 1799-1800 Mrs Neate 1801-07 William Beames 1808-22 Elizabeth Beames 1823-31 Thomas Kinchin
?Woodshaw Farm	1780-1831 Lord Clarendon	1780 Mrs Woolley 1782 Mr Rudler 1783-86 Mrs Woolley 1787-1815 William Short 1816-31 Alexander Sheldon
Unidentified Lifehold Estate	1780-1810 Mr Smith 1811 Mrs Smith 1812-31 Miss Smith	1780-1807 Joseph Weston 1808-31 John Rumming

It has not been possible to identify Highgate Farm, At Marsh, and Near the Marsh, the property of Lord Clarendon, nor the following properties belonging to Lord Bolingbroke - Bynol Farm, Brook Farm, Great Chaddington Farm, Little Chaddington Farm, Hardyman's, and Adjoining the Park.

## PORTRAITS, PAINTINGS, and PRINTS at Lydiard House

(Accession numbers appear in square brackets.)

### Hall

- 1 Henry (1678-1751) 1st Viscount Bolingbroke, Baron St. John of Lydiard Tregoze; by Jonathan Richardson. [Lyd 1992/30]

### Library

- 3 Sir Walter St. John (1622-1708), 3rd Baronet; by Kneller. [Lyd 1993/60]
- 4 Johanna (St. John) (1631-1705), wife of Sir Walter St. John, 3rd Baronet; by Kneller. [Lyd 1993/61]
- 5 Lydiard Park; engraving by J. Smith after a drawing by E. Nash, for *The Beauties of England and Wales*, 1808. [Lyd 1993/80]
- 'Bolingbroke at Lydiard Tregoze', the monument in St. Mary's church to Edward St. John (d.1644); by John Piper, 1940. [Lyd 2003/1]
  - Embroidered panel of boy and two dogs, by Maria (St. John Mildmay) (c.1793-1836), 4th Viscountess Bolingbroke. [Lyd 1992/34]
  - 'A View taken near Battersea church looking towards Chelsea'; engraving by J. Boydell, 1752. [Lyd 2000/9]
  - 'Lord Bolingbroke's Brood Mare in the Grounds of Lydiard Park' by George Stubbs; oleograph. [Lyd 1999/5]

### Morning Room

- 6 Profile likenesses of Henry Mildmay St. John (1820-99), later 5th Viscount Bolingbroke, and four elder sisters; cut by Mr Gapp of Chain Pier, Brighton, 1831. [Lyd 1993/78]
- 8 Anne St. John Mildmay and her sister Maria (c.1793-1836), later 4th Viscountess Bolingbroke; engraving by Schiavonetti, after a drawing by Eldridge, published 1797. [Lyd 1993/67]
- 11 Charles William George St. John (1809-56), the naturalist and author, first cousin of Henry, 4th Viscount Bolingbroke; by H. Wilkins, dated 1845. [Lyd 1992/35]
- The Revd Henry St. Andrew St. John (1796-1874), of the Bletsoe branch; British School. [Lyd 1992/39]
  - Antonia St. John; portrait in chalks, by - Cazinove, 1859. [Lyd 1994/107]
  - Miss St. John (Charlotte Elizabeth St. John on reverse); by J. Hayter, printer W.H. Mote. [Lyd 2001/25]
  - Anne Jane Charlotte (1814-81), aged nineteen, second daughter of the 4th Viscount Bolingbroke and later the wife of Lawrence Robert Shawe. Two portraits: [Lyd 1993/69] and [Lyd 1993/70 in dark dress]
  - Henry St. John, 5th Viscount Bolingbroke (1820-99); photograph. [Lyd 1996/11]
  - '1st September: Partridge Shooting' by Messrs M & N Hanhart after J Hardy; chromolithograph. [Lyd 1993/86]

### Dining Room

- 12 Henrietta (St. John) (1699-1756), Lady Luxborough; English School. [Lyd 1992/18]
- 13 Henry St. John (1628-79), ninth son of Sir John St. John, 1st Baronet; English School, c.1635. [Lyd 1992/11]

- 14 Margaret Whitmore, (Lady Grobham) (c.1576-1637), second wife of Sir John St.John, 1st Baronet; English School, ?Gilbert Jackson, c.1630. [Lyd 1992/23]
- 15 Anne (Leighton) (c.1591-1628), first wife of Sir John St.John, 1st Baronet. [Lyd 1992/13]
- 16 Nicholas St.John (1523-89), painted in 1576; a later copy. [Lyd 1992/14]
- 17 Oliver St.John (c.1584-1646), of the Bletsoe branch, created 1st Earl of Bolingbroke, 1624; a later copy. [Lyd 1992/38]
- 18 Sir John St.John (1585-1648), later 1st Baronet, aged seventeen; English School. [Lyd 1992/15]
- 19 Oliver St.John (c.1598-1673), of the Bletsoe branch, Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas; copy of the full-length portrait by Peter Nason in the National Portrait Gallery, which is signed and dated 1651. [Lyd 1992/4]
- 20 Henry St.John (1678-1751), 1st Viscount Bolingbroke; School of Kneller. [Lyd 1992/3]
- 21 William Villiers (1614-43), 2nd Viscount Grandison; School of Van Dyck, c.1640. [Lyd 1992/31]
- 22 Sir Edward Villiers (c.1585-1626), half-brother to the 1st Duke of Buckingham; by or after George Geldorp, c.1616. [Lyd 1992/16]
- 23 John Wilmot (1647-80), 2nd Earl of Rochester, grandson to Sir John St.John, 1st Baronet; after Lely. [Lyd 1993/53]
- 24 Oliver St.John (1634-88), of the Bletsoe branch, 2nd Earl of Bolingbroke; circle of Riley. [Lyd 1992/50]
- 25 Charles Wilmot (1670-81), Lord Wilmot, later 3rd Earl of Rochester; School of Lely, c.1680. [Lyd 1992/17]
- Oliver St.John (1560-1630), created 1st Viscount Grandison; Cornelius Jansen. [Lyd 1995/10]
  - Section of the St.John polyptch in St.Mary's church; watercolour. [Lyd 1993/8]

### **Drawing Room**

- 2 Holles St.John (1710-38), youngest son of the 1st Viscount St.John, as a child; by Maria Verelst. [Lyd 1993/52]
- Henrietta St.John (1699-1756), two years old, later Lady Luxborough; by Maria Verelst. [Lyd 2001/2]
  - Urn in a landscape setting erected at ?The Leasowes, probably in memory of the poet William Shenstone. [Lyd 2001/24]
- 26 Henry St.John (1652-1742), 1st Viscount St.John; English School. [Lyd 1992/30]
- 27 Anne (Furnese) (1711-47), first wife of the 2nd Viscount St.John in coronation robes; by Isaac Whood, after 1742. [Lyd 1992/7]
- 28 Unidentified female, a portrait belonging to the Lydiard St.Johns; by Enoch Seeman. [Lyd 1992/8]
- 29 Frances (Winchcombe) (1679-1718), first wife of the 1st Viscount Bolingbroke; after Kneller, by ?Charles D'Agar. [Lyd 1992/9]
- 30 Sir Walter St.John (1622-1708), 3rd Baronet; attributed to Jonathan Richardson the elder. [Lyd 1992/24]
- 31 Henry St.John (1652-1742), 1st Viscount St.John, aged 66, in parliamentary robes; a variant of no.37, painted in 1718, after Kneller, by ?Charles D'Agar. [Lyd 1992/1]
- 32 Lucy (Hungerford) (1560-1598), wife of Sir John St.John, Knight; English School, c.1590. [Lyd 1992/26]

- 33 George Richard St.John (1761-1824), 3rd Viscount Bolingbroke; School of Kneller. [Lyd 1992/27]
- 34 Frances (Winchcombe) (1679-1718), first wife of the 1st Viscount Bolingbroke; by Michael Dahl. [Lyd 1992/29]
- 35 John St.John (1702-48), 2nd Viscount St.John; after 1742, School of Jervas, by ?William Aikman. [Lyd 1992/6]
- 36 Johanna (St.John) (1631-1705), wife of Sir Walter St.John, 3rd Baronet; by John Michael Wright,c.1665. [Lyd 1992/25]
- 37 Henry St.John (1678-1751), 1st Viscount Bolingbroke, in parliamentary robes; a variant of no.31, by ?Charles D'Agar. [Lyd 1992/33]
- 38 Johanna (St.John) (1631-1705), wife of Sir Walter St.John, 3rd Baronet; English School. [Lyd 1992/19]
- 39 Angelica Magdalena (Wharton, née Pelissary) (c.1664-1705), second wife of the 1st Viscount St.John; English School in the manner of Kneller. [Lyd 1993/54]
- 40 Marie Claire De Marcilly (1675-1750), widow of the Marquis de Villette and second wife of the 1st Viscount Bolingbroke. [Lyd 1993/55]
- 41 Sir John St.John (1585-1648), 1st Baronet; oak panel, signed 'C J' - Cornelius Jansen - and dated 1631. [Lyd 1992/2]
- 42 Mary Anne (Spanheim) (1682-1772), wife of François de la Rochefoucauld (d.1739), Marquis de Montandre, Field-Marshal. [Lyd 1993/56]
- 43 Henrietta (St.John), Lady Luxborough, sister to John, 2nd Viscount St.John; attributed to Maria Verelst. [Lyd 1993/57]
- [in display cabinet] An officer of a fusilier regiment and member of the St.John family. [Lyd 1993/71]
  - [in display cabinet] ?Lady Margaret Beaufort (1443-1509); miniature portrait in oils. [Lyd 1993/68]

### **State Bedroom**

- 44 Henry St.John (1652-1742), 1st Viscount St.John, in coronation robes. [Lyd 1993/58]
- 45 Sir John St.John (1552-1594), Knight; a later copy, the inscription is taken to be incorrect. [Lyd 1992/10]
- 46 Angelica Magdalena (Wharton, née Pelissary) (c.1664-1736), 1st Viscountess St.John, in coronation robes. [Lyd 1993/59]
- 47 Barbara Villiers (1641-1709), Countess of Castlemaine and Duchess of Cleveland, daughter of no.21 William Villiers, 2nd Viscount Grandison; by Sir Peter Lely. [Lyd 1993/48]
- 48 Johanna (St.John) (1631-1705), wife of Sir Walter St.John, 3rd Baronet; early work by Kneller, c.1678-80. [Lyd 1992/20]
- 49 Sir Walter St.John (1622-1708), 3rd Baronet; near to Michael Dahl. [Lyd 1992/21]
- 50 General the Hon. Frederick St.John (1763-1844), brother to the 3rd Viscount St.John; by or after John Hoppner R.A. [Lyd 1992/28]
- 51 Oliver St.John (1634-88), of the Bletsoe branch, 2nd Earl of Bolingbroke; English School. [Lyd 1992/5]
- 52 John (1702-48), 2nd Viscount St.John, in coronation robes; attributed to Joseph Highmore, 1745. [Lyd 1993/45]
- 53 Anne (Furnese) (1711-47), first wife of the 2nd Viscount St.John; attributed to Joseph Highmore, 1745. [Lyd 1993/46]

- 54 Barbara (St.John) (d.1672), sister to Sir John St.John, 1st Baronet, and wife of Sir Edward Villiers; English School, c.1630, inscription taken to be incorrect. [Lyd 1992/12]
- Wall painting over the chancel arch, St.Mary's church; Henry Gibbs, dated 1837. [Lyd 1993/84]
  - Letters Patent of Charles II restoring rights to Henry St.John (1652-1742), later 1st Viscount St.John, 1684/5. [Lyd 1993/288]
  - Sir William Wyndham, Bart.; engraving by J. Houbraken,, Amsterdam, 1741, 'from a painting of M<sup>r</sup> Richardson belonging to the L. Bolingbroke. [Lyd 1995/139]
  - Henry St.John (1678-1751), 1st Viscount Bolingbroke; engraving by G.J. Stodart after Sir Godfrey Kneller. [Lyd 1992/40]

### **Anteroom**

- 55 and 56 Pair of engravings 'Going to Market' and 'Village Florist'; by P.W. Tomkins, a pupil of Francesco Bartolozzi, after drawings by Lady Diana Beauclerk, c.1870. [Lyd 1993/75 a, b]
- 57 Lady Diana Spencer (1734-1808), wife of 2nd Viscount Bolingbroke; a version in charcoal, signed and dated 1830, of a portrait by Sir Joshua Reynolds by her grandson the Revd George Frederick St.John (1795-1867). [Lyd 1993/47]
- 58 and 59 Pair of prints, copies of engravings by Francesco Bartolozzi after drawings by Lady Diana Beauclerk depicting children/cupids with garlands in their hair. [Lyd 1993/77 a, b]
- 60 George Richard St.John (1761-1824), later 3rd Viscount Bolingbroke; in pastel by his mother, Lady Diana (Spencer). [Lyd 1992/22]
- 61 Three children with a basket of grapes in a glade; water-colour drawing by Lady Diana Beauclerk (Spencer). [Lyd 1993/76]
- 62 George Richard St.John (1761-1824), later 3rd Viscount Bolingbroke, son of Lady Diana (Spencer), as a young man; water-colour drawing by Waller. [Lyd 1993/63]
- 63 Mary and Elizabeth, daughters of Lady Diana (Spencer) and Topham Beauclerk; engraving by Francesco Bartolozzi after a drawing by Lady Diana Beauclerk. [Lyd 1993/442]
- Georgiana Spencer (1757-1806), 5th Duchess of Devonshire; engraving by Francesco Bartolozzi after a drawing by Lady Diana Beauclerk, 1778. [Lyd 2001/4]
  - The Hon. Josiah Child (d.1760), son of the 1st Earl Tylney; pastel, by Rosalba Carriera. The attribution on the frame taken to be incorrect. [Lyd 2001/3.1]
  - The Hon. Maddalena Henrietta (Knight) (1729-63), wife of the Hon. Josiah Child; pastel, by Rosalba Carriera. The attribution on the frame taken to be incorrect.[Lyd 2001/3.2]
  - Three of the nine painted panels in gouache and water colour on paper over canvas by Lady Diana Spencer are also on display in this room. [Lyd 1992/32 a - i]
  - 'Twickenham Meadows, Middlesex'; engraving by Muddiman of a drawing by W.Watts, published 1794. [Lyd 2001/4]
  - [in display case] Lady Diana Beauclerk (1734-1808); oval portrait miniature. [Lyd 1993/64]
  - [in display case] Franz Carl Freiherr von Hompesch Bolheim, father of Isabella, 3rd Viscountess Bolingbroke, wearing the star and sash of the Bavarian Order of St.Hubert; portrait miniature. [Lyd 1993/437a]
  - [in display case] Frederick St.John (1732-87), 2nd Viscount Bolingbroke; portrait miniature by John Smart, signed and dated 1773. [Lyd 1993/437b]
  - George Richard St.John (1761-1824), 3rd Viscount Bolingbroke; portrait miniature c.1790. [Lyd 1993/437c]

- ?Charlotte Collins (c.1759-1804), first wife of the 3rd Viscount Bolingbroke; portrait miniature. [Lyd 1993/437d]
- Mrs Dalyell, née Anstruther, grandmother of Henry Percy St.John; portrait miniature by Kenneth Macleay, c.1831. [Lyd 1993/437e]
- [in display case] Frederick St.John (1732-87), 2nd Viscount Bolingbroke; portrait miniature set in a diamond brooch. [Lyd 1993/74]

### Passageway and Staircase

- Letters Patent creating the Earldom of Bolingbroke, 1624. {Lyd 1993/290}
- Dr John George Taylor (1871-1942), headmaster of Sir Walter St.John's School (1907-32); by Francis Hodge, RA, 1939. [Lyd 1993/49]
- Two copies of a portrait of William Stukeley (1687-1765); British School. Also, not on show, a mezzotint of the portrait by J. Smith after Sir Godfrey Kneller, 1721, and a small framed engraving of the same. [Lyd 1992/36, 37, 44]
- Huntsman and dogs; circle of the Flemish artist Adriaen de Gryef (1657-1715). [Lyd 1993/88]
- Landscape with the Holy Family; circle of Pier Francesco Mola (1612-1666). [Lyd 1993/87]
- Sir Walter St.John (1622-1708), 3rd Baronet; British School. [Lyd 1993/62]
- 2nd Lord Foley; by or after Allan Ramsay, c.1762. [Lyd 1993/94]

### Not on show

- A Performing Bear; watercolour drawing by Lady Diana Beauclerk. [Lyd 2001/15]
- Henry St.John (1678-1751), 1st Viscount Bolingbroke; British School. [Lyd 1993/51]
- His Excellency Jonathan Belcher (1681/2-1757); engraving by M.J. Faber after K. Phillips, 1734. Also a framed mezzotint of the same, and an engraving, 1734, with a seascape background. [Lyd 1992/41, 42, 43]
- The Election Procession in Wootton Bassett, 3 February 1808, the day after the by-election of B. Walsh; a very large print. There is a touch of irony about the presence of this print in Lydiard House. The interest of the St.John and Clarendon families in their 'safe' parliamentary seat at Wootton Bassett was upset by James Kibblewhite of Lydiard Millicent and Gray's Inn, whose candidates in 1807 and 1812 were elected.
- Henry St.John (1786-1851), 4th Viscount Bolingbroke; portrait miniature on ivory. [Lyd 1993/65]
- Maria St.John Mildmay, 4th Viscountess Bolingbroke (c.1793-1836); portrait miniature by S. Hayter on ivory. [Lyd 1993/66]

-----

### Editor's note

The importance of family portraits was fully emphasised by Richard Ormond when he spoke to the Friends in 1971 (5 pp.1-10):

*Family portraits belong to the house in which they were hung. ... They are the only visible record of the people who lived in the house, who made its history, the presiding deities, if you like, of the civilisation that we acknowledge as we pay our 20 or 30 pence to go round.*

Under the terms of the will of Lady Bolingbroke (d.1940) the house and what was left of the St.John estates was entrusted to her executors to sell for the benefit of her family, and the furniture, china, glass, pictures, etc. were bequeathed to Vernon Henry St.John (d.1974), 6th Viscount Bolingbroke. Lydiard

House and the parkland were purchased by Swindon Corporation in 1943. Vernon moved to Ringwood, Hampshire, taking with him what he needed to furnish the house together with probably thirty-six family portraits. He sent several pictures and portraits for sale by Christies in 1943, including the very large pictures (nos. 44, 46, 52, and 53) which he could not fit into his new house. Sir Walter St. John School purchased nos. 3 and 4 in 1944. In 1964 Agnew's were asked to sell no. 47.

Lydiard House was empty except for the bust of the 1st Viscount Bolingbroke when Swindon Corporation took possession. As restoration work on the house progressed, portraits and paintings were borrowed or received as gifts to help to furnish it. In 1966 Lord Bolingbroke responded to David Murray John's suggestion that he might sell some at least of his collection of portraits: thirty-one came back to Lydiard Park by purchase. Although he had resolved never to return to Lydiard alive, Lord Bolingbroke agreed to come for lunch and, with the aid of pre-war photographs of the interior of the house, advised where the portraits used to hang. He also provided in his will for the eventual return to Lydiard House of the furniture, plate, manuscripts, books, and the remainder of the portraits that he had taken with him to Ringwood.

In c.1971 Swindon Corporation purchased no. 57 from Captain Geoffrey St. John. In all probability it hung at Lydiard House, and had descended to him from the Hon Ferdinand St. John.

Over the years there has been a continuous story of very good fortune for Lydiard House. The Trustees of the de Morgan Foundation were persuaded to loan a number of portraits which were either at Old Battersea House or in store. These had been the property of Ethel Raleigh King, most of which had at one time hung at Barrells. They passed to Mrs Stirling, the sister-in-law of William de Morgan. (The collection included two of the full-length portraits - nos. 44 and 46 - sold in 1943). In 2004, authorised by the government, the Museums, Libraries, and Archives Council transferred ownership of eleven portraits (nos. 2, 23, 39, 40, 42, 43, 44, 46, together with Henrietta two-years-old, the Hon. Josiah Child, and the Hon. Maddelena Henrietta Child) from the de Morgan Foundation to Swindon Corporation.

The other two full-length portraits (nos. 52 and 53) had been purchased in 1943 by Derek Sherborn: he presented them as a gift to Lydiard House in 1955. No. 47 had been sold by Lord Bolingbroke in 1964: it went to Lisbon, but the then-owner agreed to sell it to Swindon Corporation in 1982. The Sir Walter St. John School was closed in 1988, and the Trustees of the Sir Walter St. John Educational Trust agreed that nos. 3 and 4, purchased in 1944, should go back to Lydiard on long loan together with the portrait of Sir Walter that had hung for many years in the school hall and the portrait of Dr J.G. Taylor, headmaster of the school.

The collection of pictures was briefly surveyed by Jacob Simon of the National Portrait Gallery in 1999 and by Sir Oliver Millar, Surveyor Emeritus of The Queen's Pictures, in 2002. These surveys have been invaluable in trying to determine and express meaningfully the attributions that are given in the list. For many years nos. 3 and 4 were attributed to Mary Beale, c.1680, not so much on stylistic grounds but on likely provenance. Mary Beale's husband Charles added a list of 'Pictures begun by my Dearest Heart upon a profitable Account since the 1st January 1676/7' in an interleaved copy of a printed almanac of 1677, William Lilly's *Merlini Anglici Ephemeris* (Bodleian Library 8° Rawl.572). His list includes, '20 Sept, [1677] S<sup>r</sup> Walter St. Johns'. It would appear that, on stylistic grounds, nos. 3 and 4 are not the work of Mary Beale.

Previous issues of *Report* have dealt with aspects of the collection and its formation, particularly **11** pp.31-54 and **18** pp.13-21. Swindon Corporation is to be congratulated on its acquisition of the portraits and its systematic programme of conserving them. What has been achieved far exceeds the most sanguine hopes that must have been felt in the late-1940s when the house was empty.

This listing of portraits, paintings, and prints stands alongside similar listings of the furniture, of the books, pamphlets, letters, and ephemera, and of the porcelain, silver, and *objets d'art* that are in the House. It is a great success story - thanks to the many gifts from members of the extended St. John family and their friends, and to the grant-making bodies who have enabled purchases to be made. Lydiard House and its archive are in good shape - and ready to receive and preserve additional items.

Subsequent to the publication of *My Darling Heriott*, Jane Brown has shown convincingly that the painting in the Drawing Room of an urn in a landscape setting represents one that was probably in the garden at The Leasowes erected in memory of Somerville or even Thomson. The urn at Barrells was decorated with a French horn and a laurel wreath. The urn in the painting shows Shenstone's alternative design of pan pipes and a lyre.

# THE FRIENDS OF LYDIARD TREGOZ

1967-2005

by Brian Carne

Some information about the history of the Friends has already appeared in two issues, **22** (1989) and **26** (1993), of our *Report*. The first of these gives an account of our twenty-first anniversary meeting, at which Mrs Lizzie Harman recited her poem about Lydiard, a quartet from Olveston church sang a madrigal by Dr Robert Cooper (d.1530), rector of Lydiard Tregoze, and their musical director played part of the Overture to the opera *Ile de St.Marguerite*, the libretto of which was written by the Hon. John St.John (d.1793). The meeting ended with the singing of the Sir Walter St.John School Song, which was well received because at the time there were a number of old boys of the school in our membership. *Report 26* marked our twenty-fifth anniversary with a fuller account of the formation and growth of the Friends.

The Friends was formed in 1967 to respond to the perceived needs of those days by having an annual meeting at which there would be a speaker and a tea, followed by Evensong, and also by producing an annual magazine of articles which was called, for want of a better title, the *Report* of the Friends.

Membership numbers have always been about the 100 mark, which is just as well as seating accommodation at Lydiard Park is limited to about 70. The annual meetings have been occasions when friendships have been made and renewed. The composition of the membership has altered with the years, but it is very gratifying to note just how many did remain in membership for a considerable number of years. As already mentioned, a number of former pupils of Sir Walter St.John's School used to be members because of the influence of Mr Smallwood: only Reg. Bottomley and Canon Noon remain of that number. The population of the parish steadily grew over the years with the westward expansion of Swindon, and so did the welcome proportion of 'locals' in our membership. Not everyone has been able to attend every meeting, but three members - Bob Hatch, Malcolm Titcombe, and myself - did not miss a meeting. (Joan Rummung would be the fourth had she not, unavoidably, missed one meeting.)

## Officers and Committee

There have been four Presidents: Lord Methuen (1968-1973), Mr Smallwood (1973-1982) who had already served as a Vice-President from 1968, Dr A.J. Taylor (1983-1986) who served as a Vice-President (1980-1982 and 1986-2002) and was a grandson, son, and brother of successive headmasters of Sir Walter St.John School, and Mr H.G.M. Leighton (1986-2005).

David Murray John wrote an obituary note, *Report 7* pp.92-3, when Lord Methuen died:

*The death of Lord Methuen cannot be allowed to pass without recording his great interest in Lydiard Park and the all-important part he played in saving the house.*

*When it became known that the Swindon Corporation had purchased the house and 150 acres of parkland and pasture, Lord Methuen telephoned the Town Clerk and came over to Swindon without delay. His first anxiety was that the Corporation might be intending to demolish the house and, when assured on this point, he did not lose interest but gave most generously of his great knowledge and talents in aiding the task of restoring the house.*

*Lord Methuen paid numerous visits to Lydiard Park, met senior members and officers of the Swindon Council, and pointed out with an artist's perception the great distinction of the*

*architecture and embellishments of the house. Perhaps most important of all, in a practical sense, he guided and supported the Council in their application to the Historic Buildings Council for a grant towards the cost of restoration, which resulted in the Council receiving one of the first and largest of the grants made by that body.*

In addition to Mr Smallwood and Dr Taylor, there have been three other Vice-Presidents: A.R. Dufty (1973-1993), David Murray John (1973-1974), and Field-Marshal Sir Roland Gibbs (1995-2004). The important post of Secretary and Treasurer was held by Jim Jones (1968-1978), Charles Walters (1978-1985), and William L. Jacob (1986-1992), who also undertook a great deal of research for the Friends. When Mr Jacob resigned, he was succeeded as Secretary by Sarah Finch-Crisp (1992-2005), and as Treasurer by Richard T. Clarke (1992-2000), Diana North (2001-2002), and Janet Porter (2003-2005).

The Society has also been generously served by the members of the Committee, the longest serving member of which was Arthur Flack (1968-1993), the former Deputy Borough Architect. The second longest was Thelma Vernon (1968-1983), and the third longest was Douglas Perry (1968-1981). Successive priests at St.Mary's church joined the committee - Michael West (1969-1975), Jim Free (1975-82), John Flory (1985-1990), Tony Price (1990-1992), Rob Burles (1992-1997), and Ann MacKenzie (1998-2004). Eight others served as committee members - Tom Hassall (1994-1998), Ernest Heath (1983-1994), Denys Hodson (1990-1992), Bob Hook (2000-05), Kenneth Rogers (1983-1986), Russell Weymouth (1994-1999), and Anthony and Sonia St.John (2000-2005).

### **The annual meetings**

One 'need of the day' in 1967 was quite simply that little or no work had been done on the history of the parish. Several people felt that something ought to be done - an endeavour which David Murray John, Swindon's Town Clerk, strongly supported. The need was also felt for bringing together on one Saturday afternoon as many as possible of the people who were interested in the House and church, both those who were living locally and others, living elsewhere, who had an affection for and interest in Lydiard.

An excellent tea was always a feature of our meetings. For many years Connie Large organised it: her mantle descended on her second-in-command, Joan Ruming, who supervised the occasion thereafter. Each of them was helped by a most able body of ladies, all very good cooks.

Each annual meeting has concluded with said Evensong with hymns in the parish church. Succeeding clergy at the church have normally led the service, but occasionally it has been led by a member of the Friends:

1968 The Rev. St.Andrew St.John, of the senior, Bletsoe, branch of the family

1970 The Rev. James T. Wharton, MA, former Headmaster of Sir Walter St.John's School

1971 The Ven. F.S. Temple, MA, Archdeacon of Swindon

1973 and 1980 The Rev. P.E.Bird of Aldbourne, former pupil at Sir Walter St.John's School

1990 The Rev. Prebendary Walter Raleigh King, a descendant of Robert Knight, Earl of Catherlough

### **Speakers at the annual meetings**

At our meetings we have been privileged to listen to excellent speakers who have enlarged our knowledge and understanding of our field of interest. The list below shows the quality and authority of the speakers and the breadth of the topics they explored.

1968 Elizabeth Crittall, MA, FSA: 'The preparation of the parish history for the *Victoria County History of Wiltshire*'

- 1969 A.R. Dufty, CBE, FSA, ARIBA, Secretary to the Royal Commission on Historic Monuments (England) and Master of the Armouries, H.M. Tower of London: 'Mansions of the Middle Ages and the building of Lydiard Park'
- 1970 Brigadier Peter Young, DSO, MC, MA, FSA, FRHistS, FRGS, lecturer in military history at Sandhurst, author of books on the battles of the Civil Wars, and founder of The Sealed Knot: 'The St.Johns in the Civil War'
- 1971 Richard Ormond, MA, FSA, Assistant Keeper at the National Portrait Gallery: 'Portraits as Historical Documents'
- 1972 Maurice Rathbone, ALA, Wiltshire County and Diocesan Archivist: 'The function of Archivists'
- 1973 J.P. Brooke-Little, MVO, MA, FSA, Norroy and Ulster King of Arms: 'Heraldry and the Heralds'
- 1974 Dr E. Clive Rouse, MBE, MA, FSA: 'English Wall Paintings'
- 1975 D.M. Archer, MA, FSA, of the Victoria & Albert Museum: 'The 17th-century glass in the Church and House'
- 1976 A. Scott Anderson, of the University of Leicester: 'Excavations in the Toothill Area'
- 1977 F.T. Smallwood, MA, FSA: 'The Iconography of the 1st Viscount Bolingbroke'
- 1978 Hugh Collinson, MA, ARCA, FSAE: 'The links between families and houses in England and the St.Johns'
- 1979 John Green, ARCA, FRSA, AIIC: 'The Conservation of the Tomb of the 1st Baronet'
- 1980 Canon J.M. Free: BD, AKC, rector of the Lydiards: 'The changing face of the Lydiards'
- 1981 Panel consisting of F.T. Smallwood, MA, FSA; Peter Dewar, RD, FSA(Scot.); A.R. Dufty, CBE, PSA, ARIBA, and the Rev. Brian Carne, B.Com, FSA: A discussion on various aspects of the Heraldry in the Parish Church
- 1982 Walford W. Jones: 'The interiors of Lydiard Mansion in the early Nineteenth Century'
- 1983 Pauline Plummer, BA, FSA: 'Discoveries in the conservation of the Triptych'
- 1984 Kenneth Rogers, BA, FSA, Wiltshire County and Diocesan Archivist: 'The development of Towns in Wiltshire'
- 1985 Denys Hodson, CBE, MA, Director of Arts and Recreation, Borough of Thamesdown: 'The Park at Lydiard - its landscape and scope for development'
- 1986 Canon Brian Carne, BCom, FSA: 'The making and development of the Triptych'
- 1987 Stella Mary Newton, OBE, former lecturer in the Department of the History of Dress at the Courtauld Institute: 'Dress and Fashion in the Portraiture at Lydiard Tregoze'
- 1988 Twenty-first Anniversary celebration: A programme of readings and music associated with the St.John family, Lydiard Tregoze, and the Church of St.Mary
- 1989 Mrs G.M. Foster, Secretary of the Middlesex Heraldry Society: 'St.Mary's, Battersea, and the St.John Family'
- 1990 Philippa Glanville, MA, FSA, Head of the Department of Metalwork at the V & A Museum: 'Sixteenth- and Seventeenth-Century English Silverware'

- 1991 Canon Brian Carne, B.Com, FSA: ‘The Fabric and Fittings of St.Mary’s church’
- 1992 Sarah Finch-Crisp, BA, Keeper at Lydiard Park: ‘Lydiard Park under the Council’s wing’
- 1993 David Evans, DipLA, BA and Russell Weymouth, of the Borough of Thamesdown: ‘The historic development of the landscape at Lydiard Park’
- 1994 John Heward, of The Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England: ‘The Pulpit and the Pews - a recent survey of the fittings in St.Mary’s Church’
- 1995 John Heward: ‘From Cellar to Attic: a new Survey of Lydiard Park’
- 1996 Canon Brian Carne, B.Com, FSA: ‘Sir Walter St.John (1622-1708)’
- 1997 Friends travelled by coach to Battersea for the annual meeting. Dr Arnold Taylor conducted us round Sir Walter St.John’s School, in which there were talks about Battersea and the St.John family by Terry Shaw of Wandsworth Library and about the Spencer family archive by Dr Frances Harris of The British Library. We then moved to St.Mary’s church for a conducted tour, an excellent tea, and Evensong.
- 1998 Symposium on the conservation of the two St.John hatchments in the church: H.G.M.Leighton, MA, FSA, spoke on the purpose and development of hatchments, Canon Brian Carne, B.Com, FSA, on the persons commemorated, and Seonaid Wood, Senior Painting Conservator for the Area Museum Council for the South West, on the process of conservation.
- 1999 Claude Blair, OBE, MA, DLitt, FSA, formerly Keeper of Metalwork at the V & A Museum: ‘Richard Hewse, Gunsmith, Locksmith, and Clockmaker of Wootton Bassett, patronised by the St.John family and Oliver Cromwell’
- 2000 Michael Gray, BA, DipARCH RIBA: ‘Lydiard Park, Analysis and Architectural Assessment of a Palladian Country House’
- 2001 Carola Hicks, MA, PhD, Director of Studies in the History of Art at Newnham College, Cambridge : ‘Lady Diana Beauclerk’
- 2002 Léonie Seliger, of the Cathedral Studios in Canterbury: ‘The Conservation of the Abraham van Linge glass in the House and the Church’
- 2003 Sarah Finch-Crisp, BA, Project Officer: ‘The £6m Lydiard Park Project’
- 2004 Canon Brian Carne, B.Com, FSA.: ‘The St.John Polyptych in St.Mary’s church’
- 2005 Illustrated talk on recent developments in Lydiard Park by Simon Bonvoisin, Lead Consultant on the Restoration Project, and Sarah Finch-Crisp

### **Report**

This fortieth issue of our journal completes the series. It has been well received. In the early 1970s Dick Sandell, then the Honorary Librarian to the Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Society, complimented the Friends on producing what he considered to be the best local history journal in the county. In 1987 Charles Evans, at one time Librarian of the Charterhouse and editor to the Harleian Society, wrote, ‘*I consider it one of the very best of all the family history journals.*’ In 1996 Bruce Coplestone-Crow wrote, ‘*I am most impressed with the scientific nature of the reports published by the Friends. This is clearly a standard-setter that many other societies (many of them county-wide as well as local) would do well to copy.*’

The undeclared main reason for launching our *Report* was that Mr Smallwood, having completed forty-four years on the staff of Sir Walter St. John School, was engaged in his retirement with writing a tercentenary history of the school. From time to time he had diverged from his main aim to investigate some aspect of the St. John family story. These investigations were not immediately useful for the school history but were worthy of an article in some other publication. He agreed to submit at least one article a year for inclusion in our *Report*. He also had articles printed in the publications of other societies. In this way the fruits of his researches were not lost.

The aim of our *Report* has been to bring together as much information as possible about Lydiard Tregoze and other related matters.

Permission was received from publishers for extended sections to be reprinted from books and periodicals. (The relevant issue of *Report* is in bold in the following lists.) The authors whose work was used in this way were:

Vernon, 6th Viscount Bolingbroke **8, 16**  
 Sir Hugh Casson **4**  
 William Cobbett **9**  
 Michael Eastham **12**  
 Sir Stephen Glynne **19**  
 Christopher Hussey **5**  
 Richard Jefferies **7**  
 Janet Lilly **36**  
 John Maynard Keynes **26**  
 E. V. Lucas **8**  
 David Lambert **27**  
 James Lees-Milne **18**  
 Isabella St. John **31**  
 Alan Turton **37**

Some of the annual lectures re-produced:

A. Scott Anderson **7, 10**  
 Michael Archer **15**  
 A.R. Duffy **10**  
 Michael Gray **33**  
 Stella Mary Newton **21**  
 Richard Ormond **5**  
 Pauline Plummer **19**  
 Maurice G. Rathbone **6**  
 E. Clive Rouse **8**  
 Brigadier Peter Young **4**

Articles for *Report* were specially written by

Mark Aston **40**  
 Janet Backhouse **34**  
 Sidney T. Ball **1, 23, 28**  
 Brigadier Charles Barker **30, 32**  
 A.E. Barnes **13**  
 Frances Bevan **39, 40**  
 Claude Blair **37**  
 Sidney D.A. Bowler **16**  
 Arthur E. Carden **24, 39**  
 Canon Brian Carne *passim*  
 Guy Chamberlain **21**  
 Mark and Lorraine Child **32, 33, 39**  
 Richard T. Clarke **22**  
 Antony Ayliffe Cole **12**  
 Theresa Collis **19**  
 Sarah Finch-Crisp **23-38**  
 Bruce Coplestone-Crow **29**  
 Tom Daish **2, 3**  
 Norman J. Dowden **2**  
 Audrey Duggan **39, 40**  
 Philip Dunthorne **29**  
 Charles Evans **15**

Arthur W. Flack **1**  
 The Rev. John Flory **17**  
 Canon J.M. Free **11, 12**  
 Olga M.I. Fry **36**  
 Joe Gardner **34, 35**  
 R.J. Gingell **11**  
 Gertrude E.M. Gough **10**  
 Marilyn Harrison **31**  
 Ernest T. Heath **17, 18**  
 Nathaniel Hiscock **4**  
 Peter St. John-Howe **40**  
 William L. Jacob **19-29**  
 David Jarman **28**  
 Irene Jay **20, 34**  
 David Murray John **7**  
 Kate Woodgate-Jones **6**  
 Harold Kay **3**  
 The Rev. Walter R. King **26**  
 Deputy the Hon. John Tooke Kirby **18**  
 Joan Lane **31**  
 Joan Lawrence **22**  
 Gerard Leighton **35**  
 Catherine McLean **8**

Nell Marshall **36**  
 John Masters **8**  
 Lt.Col. John G. Moncrieff **24**  
 Elizabeth Mullins **8, 14**  
 Marjorie Newman **17**  
 Margaret North **30**  
 R.W. Painter **32**  
 Stella Pates **35, 36**  
 Douglas J. Payne **34**  
 Sally Payne **37**  
 Bernard Phillips **35**  
 Denis Pitcher **33**  
 Mark Crispin Powell **31**  
 Ellie Pridgeon **36**  
 Alec Robbins **29**  
 George Rose **9**

Sonia St.John **39**  
 Elizabeth St.John (Tricker) Salazar **20, 37**  
 Léonie Seliger **36**  
 Canon Maurice Sharp **6**  
 Frank T. Smallwood **1-15, 19, 20, 35, 37**  
 Norman F. Smith **11**  
 Patrick Montague-Smith **16, 17**  
 Tony Spicer **34**  
 Alice Strange **18, 19**  
 Arnold J. Taylor **13, 19, 22-24, 27, 28**  
 Kate Tryon **32**  
 Charles Walters **13, 15**  
 The Rev. James T. Wharton **3-6**  
 John and Nene Whittaker **33**  
 John Williams **28**  
 Peter Yardley **36**

In 1968 Mr Smallwood suggested that material might be found for seven or eight issues of *Report*. In the event 101 people have contributed articles for forty issues. The greatest claim to fame for *Report*, apart from Mr Smallwood's extensive and original research, came through the generosity of Sir Roland Gibbs. Sir Roland's grandmother had allowed Dr J.G. Taylor to have access to some St.John family papers, from which he quoted in *Our Lady of Batersey* (Chelsea, 1925). When they eventually came into Sir Roland's possession he allowed me to transcribe everything (**27-29, 39**): they will remain a highly valued resource. For a number of years I had hoped to obtain access, sadly, without success, to the last part of the Elmore Court archives, which contain some letters from Oliver St.John (d.c.1625) of Lydiard Millicent. Such letters would have been an interesting addition to the article in *Report* **7**.

The first twenty-six issues were mainly typed by Edith Harris and Margaret Hewitt, the separate pages being duplicated on a Gestetner machine and collated by hand. For issue twenty seven and thereafter, a word processor was used, Paul Stephens did the desk-top work, and it was commercially printed by Telecottage of Cinderford, Gloucestershire.

The proposal has been made that the forty issues should be reissued, in perhaps four volumes. The duplicated pages cannot be scanned, and volunteer typists, members of NADFAS, have commenced the formidable task of retyping issues 1 to 26.

Much has been achieved to meet the needs of the 1960s. The annual meetings have been most enjoyable, the speakers have been without exception excellent, and our *Report* has done something to raise the profile of the House and the church. Lord Methuen's encouragement in sending that first £5 subscription certainly bore lasting fruit. The decision to merge our Society into the newly-formed Friends of Lydiard Park was unanimous. There are now new resources to be drawn on to tackle new spheres of work. It is most gratifying that Lydiard Park has been selected by The Countryside Agency as a national pilot project to explore best practice and a renaissance for country parks. The new Society is structured to meet new challenges and is worthy of every bit of encouragement that members of the former Friends of Lydiard Tregoz can give it.

## SHORTER NOTES

### **Jane Brown, *My Darling Heriott*, (HarperCollins, 2006)**

We are greatly indebted to Jane Brown for sharing with us her very considerable knowledge of gardening history and of contemporary poets and poetry as the setting for her consideration of the life and achievements of Henrietta, Lady Luxborough. The book enables the reader to enter into the joys and sorrows of her life and to see, in context, the significance of her vision for the garden at Barrells and of the different friendships that were so important to her throughout her life. It will be required reading for anyone who looks at the portraits at Lydiard Park and wants to know more about the personalities who are there represented and to find out how they reacted to each other. In particular, the small painting of the urn, erected in memory of William Somerville, takes on a new and poignant significance.

The unfortunate thing about the book is that the author did not take advantage of the many articles in *Report* which would have saved her from repeating what have been shown to be fictions. Mr Smallwood read carefully what writers such as Walter Sichel (*Bolingbroke and His Times*), Lady Hopkinson (*Married to Mercury*), Mrs Stirling (*Merry Wives of Battersea*), and Dr J.G. Taylor (*Our Lady of Batersey*) said about the St. John family and their activities. He took the trouble to look up every reference that was cited in such works, and he corresponded with everyone he could find who was engaged in related research. As a result, Mr Smallwood wrote about the origins of the family (*Report* 6) and showed that the earliest members of the St. John family who could be traced with any certainty appeared in this country in the reign of Henry I: Jane Brown tells us (p.xviii) that the St. Johns entered British history in 1066.

R.A. Griffiths, 'The Norman Conquest and the Twelve Knights of Glamorgan', *The Glamorgan Historian* III (1966), showed that the involvement of a St. John in the conquest of Glamorgan in 1093 was a fiction, but Jane Brown repeats it (p.5) as though it were true. Indeed, the first page of her 'The St. John Family Tree' has to be read with great caution.

Jane Brown wonders whether Johanna St. John was married in her father's new house, Thorpe Hall. On p.238, n. 12, she calculates the date of the marriage as 1649: Thorpe Hall may have been occupied from 1653 but was not completed before 1656.

Lady Johanna (d. 1705) wrote her own will shortly before she died. In it she identified certain items as being 'in her own House'. This was interpreted by a number of writers to indicate that she was living at the time of making her will, not in the Manor House at Battersea which had been home to her and Sir Walter for all of their long married life, but in the newly-built (1699) Terrace House, Battersea, now called Old Battersea House. This interpretation is repeated by Jane Brown (pp.29, 224 n.). Mr Smallwood (*Surrey Archaeological Collections* LXIV (1967), LXVI (1969), and *Notes & Queries* (September 1969)) showed that this interpretation was untenable. He suggested the more plausible view was that her 'own House' was her suite of rooms in the Manor House itself.

On p.19 it is stated that the future first Viscount Bolingbroke was born at Battersea. It is not known for certain where he was born, but the facts are that he was born on 16 September 1678. His mother's coffin plate states that she died two days later - where we do not know - and was buried in Lydiard Tregoze church on 2 October. Baby Henry was baptised at Battersea on 10 October. Mr Smallwood, 'Bolingbroke's Birthplace', *Wiltshire Archaeological & Natural History Magazine* 60 (1965), argued that he was born and his mother had died at Lydiard. Had she died at her home in Bury Street in the West End, it would seem likely that she would have been buried at Battersea where three of her children had already been buried.

Henry was baptised at Battersea, and we read (p.10 n.) that his half-brothers were also baptised there. *Report 14* pp.19-20 lists Henry's twelve half-brothers and half-sisters. The baptisms of only six of them have been traced - in the registers of St.Anne's, Soho, and St.Martin's-in-the Fields. On p.1 we read as a fact that Henrietta was born (15 July 1699) at Lydiard, and the only supporting evidence for this is the statement (p.10 n.) that her birth 'was the only one when the family were sure to be at Lydiard for the summer'. But Walter was born on 13 June 1688 and was baptised at St.Anne's, Soho, on 27 June 1688, and Johanna was born on 25 June 1704 and was baptised at St.Martin's-in-the-Fields on 3 July 1704. The fact is that it is not yet known where Henrietta was born.

Jane Brown makes much of the alterations that John, 2nd Viscount St.John, made to Lydiard Park. She describes it as being 'rebuilt' as a 'grand new house', and one which Henrietta would hardly have recognised, so much had the house been changed that she knew as a child (p.2): it had been altered 'beyond recognition' (p.142). Michael Gray (*Report 33*) has shown that the remodelling of the house 'was to create the impression of a great house of wealth and fashion with the minimum of expenditure'. It is true that, at first sight, the south-west and south-east elevations made it look like a new house, but the internal arrangement of the rooms was unchanged except for the service passage, and Henrietta would have felt 'at home' with what had survived of the work that her father had commissioned in the Drawing Room and Library before she was born.

We read on p.82 that Henrietta and Robert Knight were 'married on 10 June 1727 at the fashionable St.George's church in Hanover Square'. There is no record of such an event in the registers of St.George's Hanover Square. *Our Lady of Batersey* p.223 quoted from the registers of St.Mary's Battersea for 20 June 1727 'Robert Knight Esqr of the parish of St James Westm' in the County of Middlesex and the Hon<sup>ble</sup> Henrietta St.John were married by Special Licence from the Archbishop'. Also, on p.90, we read that Leuven is to the west of Brussels rather than to the east.

It could be argued that the above comments - and others that would require longer explanations - amount to nothing more than nit picking in what is otherwise a really splendid book. My reply is that errors such as these detract from the palpable authority of the book and are liable to be repeated in other works in the future.

Copies of *Report* are widely available. The many articles apparently need to be better known. It is, therefore, reassuring to know that plans are afoot to reprint the entire series. Already volunteer typists from the Kennet branch of NADFAS have begun the enormous task of retyping the first twenty-six issues, which were produced on a duplicator and so cannot be scanned into a computer. It will be a long time before the work is completed, but it will be well worth the effort, especially if some fictions can firmly be laid to rest.

Brian Carne

### **Purley manor and church**

There was some account of Purley manor, acquired by the St.John family through marriage in the sixteenth century, in *Report 25* (1992) pp.48-54. Since then an interesting note came from Robert Cooles of Battersea, who played a part in obtaining funding from the Millennium Commission Bells Project for the restoration of the bells in Purley church tower. In 2000 Robert took a party of ringers from Battersea to Purley. The bells were at least in part the gift of the 1st Viscount Grandison who gave the tenor bell in 1629. In 1787-88 the fifth bell was recast and a new treble added by Thomas Janaway, the well-known bell founder of Chelsea, who recast six of the Battersea bells and made two new ones when the church there was rebuilt in 1777.

Robert Cooles suggests that Janaway may have been commissioned for the work on the Purley bells following the death of Philip Worlidge of Battersea (d.1783) who is commemorated with his wife (d.1772) by a memorial tablet in Purley church tower. Worlidge was probably the lessee of the manor.

The inscription on the memorial tablet states that it was erected ‘*to express the gratitude, affection and the sorrow of a surviving friend*’. That friend may have been John George Libenrood, who commissioned the new treble bell in 1788.

A major error needs to be corrected. *Our Lady of Batersey* p.92 n.120 states that George Richard, 3rd Viscount Bolingbroke, ‘*was compelled to part with the manor of Purley. In 1789 he sold it to Sir Robert Mackreth, Proprietor of White’s Club, Usurer, and Book-maker*’. This statement was repeated in *Report 25*, and is incorrect.

George Richard’s father, Frederick (d.1787), was a dissolute spendthrift. For the last six years of his life he suffered increasing disability of body and mind. It is likely that Purley was conveyed by Frederick to Robert Mackreth in settlement of gambling debts. John Titterton, in ‘The Perambulation of Purley-on-Thames, Berkshire, 1786’, *The Local Historian XXV* no.2 (May 1995), pp.88-94, quoting BL Add. MS 28672 fols.179-81, describes an extra-ordinary perambulation of Purley parish in October 1786 which was ‘*probably occasioned by the arrival of the new lord of the manor, Robert Mackreth, or his plans to dispose of it*’. Further information is needed, but the statement in *Our Lady of Batersey* needs to be corrected.

### **Auction sale in the 1820s?**

The death of George Richard (d.1824), 3rd Viscount Bolingbroke, seems to have been followed by an auction sale. His widow received, under the terms of his will (1820), *inter alia* ‘*All my household Goods and Furniture Books pictures and prints of every kind plate Linen China Wines Liquors Horses Carriages and Harness*’ and his executors were required to sell what was left of his woodlands. The information that there was a sale comes from *Anecdotes of Painting in England with some account of the principal artists; and incidental notes by the late Mr. George Vertue; digested and published from his original MSS. by the Honourable Horace Walpole ... with considerable additions by the Rev. James Dallaway*, (John Major, Fleet Street, 1827) **IV** (5th edition), p.187, where we read:

*Besides numbers more, Rysbrach[sic.] executed the monument of Sir Isaac Newton ... Rysbrach made also a great many busts, and most of them very like, as of Mr. Pope, Gibbs, Sir Robert Walpole ... Lord Bolingbroke.*

A footnote on that page reads:

*This bust was taken to Lydiard Tregoze, Wilts. When the furniture of that mansion was disposed of by auction, an old servant of the family, during the night, hid this bust in the vault of the church - from whence it was restored to light in due season.*

Bill Jacob’s curiosity was sufficiently aroused by this reference to a sale of furniture that he spent a great deal of effort following every possible clue at The British Library and the Westminster Fine Arts Library. At The Victoria & Albert Museum he found a catalogue for a sale by Mr Shirley at his Rooms, 21 Old Bond Street, to be held on Thursday, 18 May 1826: ‘*A Catalogue of the valuable collection of Italian and Dutch Pictures, the property of the late Viscount Bolingbroke with a selection from the gallery of the Baron d’Ammon at the Hague*’. There is no mention of any furniture in the catalogue, nor is there any indication of which pictures belonged to Lord Bolingbroke.

It may be that the sale of furniture did not take place after the death of George Richard. The Bolingbroke bust may have come to Lydiard after the death of Bolingbroke (1751) or when Frederick, 2nd Viscount Bolingbroke, sold Battersea (1763). Frederick died in 1787. His executor brother John renounced the execution of the will, as did his elder son George Richard. Claims by creditors apparently more than accounted for the whole of Frederick’s personal estate. There may well have been a sale of furniture to meet Frederick’s debts, and we do know - see *Report 23* (1990) p.47 - that Frederick had himself sent pictures for sale in 1780.

In the matter of the woodlands, Bill Jacob had greater success. *The Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette*, 15 September 1825, p.1 column 4, advertised the sale of approximately 558 acres of highly important and valuable coppice or wood lands in the parishes of Lydiard Millicent, Lydiard Tregoze, and Purton for sale by Mr Gould by order of the Trustees and Devises of the late Lord Viscount Bolingbroke, at the Bell Inn, Swindon, on 27 September 1825, to be viewed on application to the Auctioneer or to Mr Henry Eveleigh at Lydiard Park.

### **VALE: The *Report* of the Friends of Lydiard Tregoz**

The Friends of Lydiard Tregoz was incorporated, by unanimous vote, into the newly-established Friends of Lydiard Park in May 2005. It was agreed that the accumulated funds should be transferred to the new body, with the request that they should cover the cost of producing a transcription, *St. John Papers from America*, published in November 2005 at £5 a copy and obtainable from Lydiard Park, and two further issues of *Report*. With this issue the series of *Report* has come to an end.

Editor of *Report*: Canon Brian Carne, B.Com., F.S.A.  
Whitehouse, English Bicknor, Coleford, Glos. GL16 7PA

Those who have collected the **Reports of The Friends of Lydiard Tregoz** will be aware of their importance in contributing to the knowledge of Lydiard Park and the people connected with it. All unwanted back copies are always welcome here as there is a steady public demand for them.

#### **Copies of *Report* have been deposited with:**

The British Library  
Bodleian Library  
Cambridge University Library  
Earl Gregg Swem Library, College of William & Mary, Williamsburg, USA  
The College of Arms  
The Society of Antiquaries of London  
The Society of Genealogists  
The Council for the Care of Churches  
English Heritage  
Battersea Library  
Wiltshire Archaeological & Natural History Society  
Glamorgan Record Office  
Wiltshire Record Office  
Wootton Bassett Historical Society  
Swindon Public Library  
Swindon Museum  
The Lydiard Park archive

## SELECT INDEX TO *REPORT* 31-40

- ADAMS, Shirley E. Contributor: *The Kinchin Family and the Lydiards* **40** 29-30  
ALEXANDER, rector **38** 44  
ALFRED of Marlborough **37** 3  
*Angel, For the Love of an* **33** 52-54  
APSLEY, Sir Allen, Extract from the Will of **37** 63-64  
ARMADA, Spanish **37** 36  
ARNOLD-FORSTER, Nigel **32** 11  
ASTON, Mark. Contributor: *The St. John's Huguenot Connection* **40** 3-8  
ATHERESTON, William de, rector **38** 45  
ATYE, Sir Robert (d.1612) **37** 40  
AUBREY, John **35** 52-65
- BACKHOUSE, Janet. Contributor: *An Elizabethan Girdle Book* **34** 3-5  
BAILY, Henry George, rector **34** 27; **38** 60-62  
BALDWIN, Samuel, Stone-carver of Gloucester **35** 70-72  
BANNERS ASH farm **40** 37  
BARKER, Brigadier Charles. Contributor: *The Mystery of the Beauchamp tomb in Worcester Cathedral, Margaret Beauchamp - First Marriage* **32** 51-52. *Obituary* **32** 55  
BARRELLS **35** 68; **36** 15, 32; **39** 9-12  
BARTON, Charles, George, Robert, and Edward **39** 33-34  
BASSETT DOWN **36** 51-54; **40** 37  
BATTERSEA **31** 47-48  
- , church east window **35** 28  
- , engraving of view from church **40** 40  
BEAUCHAMP Tomb in Worcester Cathedral **32** 51-52  
- , Margaret (d.1482) **32** 52, **36** 41  
- , family **37** 4; **38** 43  
BEAUCLERK, Lady Diana (d.1808) **40** 43-44  
- , Mary **39** 30; **40** 43  
BEAUFORT, Lady Margaret (d.1509) **40** 42  
BELCHER, His Excellency Jonathan (d.1757) **40** 44  
BENEFICE, Value of **38** 65-68  
BENTELE, John de, rector **38** 45  
BEVAN, Frances. Contributor: *The Ody Family* **39** 13-28  
BLACKBURNE, William, rector **38** 50  
BLAGROVE farm **39** 25; **40** 37  
BLAIR, Claude. Speaker at 1999 Meeting **33** 61  
- , *The altar rails in Lydiard Tregoze church* **37** 65-66  
BOLINGBROKE ARMS **40** 37  
BOLINGBROKE CLOSE, Hook **32** 53  
BORTON, Robert, rector **38** 45  
BRADFORD, Cornelius **38** 27  
BRAYDON farm **39** 17,19  
BRINSDEN, Charles, rector **31** 49-51; **38** 54-55  
BRIDGES, Giles **37** 34  
BRODRICK, Sir Thomas (d.1641/2) **37** 60  
BULLOK, Richard, rector **38** 46  
BURLES, The Rev. Rob. **31** 47  
BYNOL manor **37** 60

CAN COURT **37** 28

CARDEN, Arthur. Contributor: *Bolingbroke's Gardens at La Source and Dawley* **39** 47, *Oliver St. John in Ireland* **39** 47-50, *My Darling Herriott: A Preliminary Review* **39** 50-51

CARNE, Brian. Contributor: *John, 2nd Viscount St. John (1702-1748)* **33** 29-51, *The Decline and Fall of the St. Johns of Lydiard Tregoze* **34** 34-55, *John Aubrey and Lydiard Tregoz* **35** 53-65, *George Richard (1761-1824), 3rd Viscount Bolingbroke and his Families* **39** 29-46, *St. Johns of Ireland, and St. Johns and Ireland* **40** 13-25, *Deborah Culme* **40** 26-28, *Land Tax Assessments: Lydiard Tregoze Parish, 1780-1831* **40** 35-39, *The Friends of Lydiard Tregfoz, 1967-2005* **40** 47-52, *Jane Brown, My Darling Herriott* **40** 53-54

CAVE, Lady Eleanor **37** 35

CHADDINGTON, Great, farm **37** 26  
 - , Little, farm **37** 27

CHANDOS, James Brydges, Earl of **31** 49-50

CHARMAN Stephen, rector **38** 52

CHILD, Hon Josiah (d.1760) **40** 43  
 - , Hon Maddalena Henrietta **40** 43  
 - , Mark and Lorraine. Contributors: *George Strange and the Strange Family of Hook* 32 23-25. *For the Love of an Angel* **33** 52-54. *Wick Farm, Lydiard Tregoze, and some of its inhabitants* **35** 32-37

CHOLMONDLEY, Joanna **36** 30

CHURCHES HILL famr **39** 27; **40** 37

CLARENDON, Henry Hyde, Earl of **38** 49-51

CLARK family **35** 33-35

CLERKE, Abel, rector **38** 53

CONYNGTON, Robert, rector **38** 46

CONVENTION PARLIAMENT **35** 61-62

CORRIGENDA and ADDENDA **30**, **31** 52, **34** 56, **37** 63

COTES, Francis **31** 8

COVENTRY FAMILY **31** 5-15

CREECHES farm **36** 46-50; **40** 37

CRICKLADE AND WOOTTON BASSETT UNION **35** 66-68

CULME, Benjamin **35** 59-60, 63-64  
 - , Deborah **40** 26-28

DALYELL, Mrs **40** 44

DAUBENEY, Giles, rector **34** 11-15; **38** 57-60  
 - , News item in *The Gloucestershire and Wiltshire Standard* **35** 66-68

DAWSON, Eve. Author, *Garsington before Enclosure* **35** 70

DEWELL, Timothy, rector **38** 50-52

DUGGAN, Audrey. Contributor: *Lady Luxborough's Letters to William Shenstone* **39** 8-12, *Lady Luxborough's Poetry* **40** 9-12

EASTLEAZE farm **40** 30, 45

EDDOLLS, Rawleigh **37** 25, 27-28

EGIOCK, George **37** 60

ELIZABETH I **31** 3

ELIZABETH II **31** 4

ELLANDUNE, The Battle of **34** 6-10

ELLISON family **37** 25-30

ELYOT, Walter, rector **38** 45

EWYAS, Harold of **38** 45

FARTHING, Cecil (d.2001) **36** 56  
 FERSHAM, William, rector **38** 44  
 FINCH-CRISP, Sarah. Contributor: *Swindon Borough Council Newsletter* **31** 45-46, **32** 49-50, **33** 61, **34** 57, **35** 73-74, **36** 55-56, **37** 66-67, **38** 74-75  
 FLAXLANDS farm **39** 18, 22-24; **40** 37  
 FOLEY, 2nd Lord **40** 44  
 FOOT, William **37** 47  
 THE FRIENDS OF LYDIARD TREGOZ. Officers, Membership, and Accounts **31** 52-54, **32** 54, 55-56, **33** 62-64, **34** 58-59, **35** 74-75, **36** 56-57, **37** 67-69, **38** 76-77  
 - , go to Battersea **31** 47-48  
 - , *The 1999 Annual Meeting* **33** 61  
 - , *The Friends of Lydiard Treoz, 1967-2005* **40** 47-52  
 - , *Vale: The Report of the Friends of Lydiard Tregoz* **40** 56  
 FRY, Olga M.I. Contributor: *Creeches Farm, Hook, and some of its inhabitants* **36** 46-50

GARDNER, Joe. Contributor: *Giles Daubeny (1796-1877), the Cricketing Rector of Lydiard Tregoze* **34** 11-15  
 GARSINGTON **35** 70  
 GIBBS, Sir Roland **38** 3-4  
 GLANVILLE, Francis (d.1645) **35** 72; **38** 37n, 51  
 GLEBE farm **39** 20; **40** 37  
 GORHAM, Richard (d.1670) **37** 47  
 GRANDISON family **35** 42-45; **37** 4; **38** 42-43  
 - , The Ancestors of Sybil **35** 68-69  
 - , Bishop John **35** 38-45, Author of *Piers Plowman* **35** 69-70  
 GRAY, Michael. Contributor: *Lydiard Park, Wiltshire. An Analysis and Architectural Assessment* **33** 1-28  
 GRYNDEHAM, William, rector **38** 45  
 GUNNING, Maria and Elizabeth **31** 5-13

HALE family **36** 46-49  
 HARDYMAN, Thomas **37** 5, 47  
 HARRISON, Alexander Herbert, rector **38** 64  
 - , Marylin. Contributor: *Companions of the Yew* **31** 48-49  
 HASSALL, Tom. **34** 56  
 HATCH, Bob. **34** 56  
 HATCHMENTS **32** 3-8  
 HAYES, John, rector **38** 46  
*Heriott, My darling* **39** 50-51, **40** 53-54  
 HEWSE, Richard, clockmaker of Wootton Bassett **33** 61  
 HICKS, Dr Carola. Speaker at Annual Meeting 2001 **35** 66  
 HIGHGATE farm **39** 25  
 HILLE, John, rector **38** 45  
 HISCOCKS, Edward **34** 27  
 - , Nathaniel **34** 53-55  
 HITCHCOCK, Norman **34** 28  
 HOOK burial ground **39** 24  
 - , farm **34** 27-30; **39** 24; **40** 37  
 - , school **34** 28  
 - , War Memorial **40** 31-32  
 HOOK, Robert. **34** 56

HOLT, John of, rector **38** 44  
 HOWARD family **34** 52-53  
 - , Lord Charles **37** 36  
 HUNGERFORD, Lucy **34** 3-5  
 - , Sir Walter **37** 35  
 HYDE, Edward, see CLARENDON  
  
 IRESON, Nathaniel **38** 72-74  
  
 JACOB, W.L. **31** 53  
 JAY, Irene. Contributor: *Memories of Shaw 1911-1919* **34** 16-25  
 JONES, Ebenezer Humphrey, rector **34** 41, **38** 62-64  
 - , William **37** 58  
*A Journey in War-time* **31** 51-52  
 JUDD, George (d.2002) **36** 57  
  
 KIBLEWHITE, Peter **38** 50  
 KILDARE, Countesses of **40** 19-20  
 KINCHIN family **35** 35; **40** 29-30  
 KNIGHT, Robert, Lord Luxborough **33** 37-3 50-51; **36** 9ff  
  
 LAND TAX ASSESSMENTS, 1780-1831 **40** 35-39  
 LANE, Dr Joan. Contributor: *Lady Luxborough and her Garden* **36** 31-36  
*The Last Crusade* **33** 55-57  
 LEIGHTON, Frederick **34** 32  
 - , Gerard. Contributor: *The East Window of Lydiard Tregoze Church* **35** 26-31  
 LIBERTY HALL **39** 30-31  
 LILLY, Janet. Contributor: *The elegant Mr Shenstone* **36** 37-38  
 LOFTIE, Robert **37** 51-53  
 LONG, Robert **37** 58  
 LOWER HOOK farm **40** 37  
 LOWER SHAW farm **39** 20,37  
 LYDIARD MILLICENT Brass Band **34** 28  
 - , School **34** 22-23  
 LYDIARD PARK. Analysis and Architectural Assessment **33** 1-28  
 - , Architect **38** 72-73  
 - , Auction Sale in the 1820s? **40** 55-56  
 - , Audio guides **32** 49  
 - , Conservation **31** 45; **32** 49; **33** 62  
 - , Country Park **37** 11  
 - , damage to woods **37** 58  
 - , disentanglement **34** 51, 52  
 - , engraving **40** 40  
 - , lake **37** 16-17  
 - , Management Centre **37** 11  
 - , medieval park **37** 11  
 - , the Park, Extracts from the Report on **37** 3-24  
 - , the Park **40** 37  
 - , Portraits, Paintings, and Prints **40** 47-52  
 - , purchase by Swindon Corporation **37** 10  
 - , rental (1711) **37** 49

- , sale of timber **37** 42
- , Survey (1700) of the estate **37** 7
- , valuation (1702) of lands **37** 47-49
- , walled garden **37** 16
- LYDIARD TREGOZE. Boundaries of Saxon manor **34** 7
- LYDIARD TREGOZE church. Altar rails **37** 65-66
  - , bells **32** 9, 12
  - , East Window **35** 26-31; **36** 43-45
  - , Edward St.John monument **37** 64-65
  - , Fabric and Fittings **38** 5-38
  - , graffiti **38** 32-35
  - , heating system **32** 10, 12
  - , polyptych (part) **40** 41
  - , Rectors, Curates, and Patrons **38** 39-71
  - , St.Christopher Wall Painting **36** 39-40
  - , stable **37** 8
  - , vault **33** 37
  - , wall painting over chancel arch **40** 43
- LYDIARD TREGOZE COUNTRY SHOW, 1962-84 **32** 9-22
- LYDIARDS TWINNING ASSOCIATION **33** 58-60
  
- MACKENZIE, The Rev. Ann, **31** 47
- MANNINGTON farm **40** 37
- MARLER, Thomas, rector **38** 49-50
- MARRIAGE DUTY, 1696-1702 **32** 46-48
- MARSH farm **39** 18, 27; **40** 37
- MARSHALL, Nell. Contributor: *Henrietta's Story* **36** 7-30
- METHUEN, Lord **40** 47
- MICHEL, John, rector **38** 45
- MIDDLETON, John de, rector **31** 52; **38** 45
- MIDGHALL **35** 56, 62; **40** 37
- MILES, Richard, rector **38** 55-57
- MOMPESSON, Lady Katherine (d.1633) **37** 40-41
- de MORGAN FOUNDATION **38** 74; **40** 45
- MORRIS, Roger, architect **33** 7-8, 36; **37** 6; **38** 72-73
- MOTHERS' UNION. **34** 56
  
- NADFAS volunteers **34** 57
- Nature Notes*, Vernon Henry, 6th Viscount Bolingbroke **31** 16-26
- NICHOLAS PEARSON ASSOCIATES. Contributor: *Extracts from the Report on the Park at Lydiard Tregoze* **37** 3-24
- NORTHWODE, Lady Agnes (d.1348) **38** 36 n8, 42, 45
  
- ODY family **39** 13-28
- OTTERY ST.MARY church **35** 41-42
  
- PADBROOK farm **40** 37
- PAINTER, R.W. Contributor: *An Account of the Painter Family and their links with Lydiard Park* **32** 26-31
- PANNELL family **40** 26-29
  - , John **37** 47
  - , Thomas **37** 54

PATES, Stella. Contributor: *A Brief Life of John Grandisson* **35** 38-45, Author, *The Rock and the Plough* **35** 69-70, Contributor: *A Piers Plowman Manuscript and the St. John 'Rising Falcon' Crest* **36** 41-42

PAYNE, Douglas J. Contributor: *Elliot G. Woolford, labourer and farmer, and the House of Bolingbroke* **34** 26-33

- , Sally. Contributor: *In Search of the Ellisons* **37** 25-30

PELISSARY family **40** 3-8

PETTY, John, rector **38** 47-49

PHILLIPS, Bernard. Contributor: *The Walled Garden at Lydiard Park. An Archaeological Evaluation* **35** 5-25

PHILMORE family **36** 46

PITCHER, Denis. Contributor: *The Last Crusade* **33** 55-57

PLEYDELL family **40** 26-29

- , Sir Charles **37** 40

PLOUGH, Jacob, rector **38** 46

de PORT family **39** 3-4, 6-7

POWELL, Mark Crispin. Contributor: *Coventrys and St. Johns* **31** 5-15

- , Thomas Wade, rector **38** 60

PRESENTATIONS **34** 56

PRICE, George **39** 24

PRIDGEON, Ellie. Contributor: *The Saint Christopher Wall Painting* **36** 39-40

Purley manor **37** 32-33

- , manor and church **40** 54-55

PURTON CRICKET CLUB **34** 11-15

QUIDHAMPTON **40** 37

RADNOR, William de, rector **38** 45

REED, Constance. Contributor: *The Friends of Lydiard Tregoz go to Battersea* **31** 47-48

?RICE, John **37** 45

RICKETTS, James **39** 31

RICH, Lady Mary (d.1678) **37** 50

RICHMOND, Richard **37** 42-43

RICHMOND-WEBB, Col. Edmund (d.1621) **37** 59

*The Rock and the Plough* **35** 69-70

ROCHEFOUCAULD, Mary Anne (d.1772) **40** 42

RODNEY FAMILY TREE **32** 50

ROYALIST BROADSHEET (1642) **37** 45

ST.ALBANS, Robert of, rector **38** 44

ST.GEORGE family **37** 59

- , Sir Richard **40** 15-16

ST.JOHNS OF BLETSOE

- , Letters Patent (1624) creating Earldom of Bolingbroke **40** 44

- , Barbara (d.1804) **31** 13-15

- , Henry St.Andrew (d.1874) **40** 40

- , Oliver (d.1646) 1st Earl of Bolingbroke **40** 41

- , Oliver LCJ (d.1673) **40** 41

- , Oliver (d.1688), 2nd Earl of Bolingbroke **40** 41-42

- , Sonia. Contributor: *What's in a name?* **39** 1-7

- ST.JOHNS of Ireland, and ST.JOHNS and Ireland **40** 13-25  
 ST.JOHNS OF LYDIARD TREGOZE, BATTERSEA, etc
- , Decline and Fall **34** 34-55
  - , Family Papers **37** 31-58
  - , Mortgage Deeds **34** 34-35, 49-51
  - , Pedigree and Heraldry **37** 38-39
  - , Angelica Magdalena, 1st Viscountess St.John **40** 3-8, 42
  - , Lady Anne (Leighton) (d.1628) **37** 43-44; **40** 41
  - , Anne, Viscountess St.John **33** 39; **40** 41-42
  - , Anne Jane Charlotte (d.1881) **40** 40
  - , Antonia **31** 42-45; **40** 40
  - , Antonia Diana (d.1826) **39** 36-37, 42
  - , Hon. Charles Robert (d.1844) **39** 36, 44-45
  - , Charles William George (d.1856) **40** 40
  - , Charlotte Elizabeth **40** 40
  - , Charlotte, Viscountess Bolingbroke **31** 6-7; **39** 32-33; **40** 44
  - , Diana, 2nd Viscountess Bolingbroke **35** 66, 73; **40** 43
  - , Edward (d.1644) **40** 40
  - , Colonel Ferdinand *Papers* **31** 27-41
  - , Hon. Ferdinand (d.1865) **39** 36-37, 43-44
  - , Frances (d.1718), Viscountess Bolingbroke **40** 41-42
  - , Frederick, 2nd Viscount Bolingbroke **31** 5-6, 10-14; **34** 35; brood mare **40** 40, 43-44
  - , Hon. Frederick (d.1844) **40** 42
  - , The Rev. George Frederick (d.1867) **32** 41-46; **39** 36-38
  - , George Richard, 3rd Viscount Bolingbroke **31** 37-38, 42-43; **39** 29-46; **40** 42-43
  - , Hon. George (d.1716) **36** 28
  - , Henrietta, Lady Luxborough **36** 7-36, **39** 8-12, **40** 9-12, 40-42
  - , Henry (d.1679) **40** 23-24, 40
  - , Henry, 1st Viscount St.John **33** 29-33, 43-49; **36** 7-17; **40** 41-43
  - , Henry, 1st Viscount Bolingbroke **31** 49-51; **36** 7FF, 29; **37** 6, 50**39** 47; **40** 40-44
  - , Henry (d.1851), Viscount Bolingbroke **34** 37-38; **40** 44
  - , Henry (d.1899), Viscount Bolingbroke **34** 27, 35, 38-42; **40** 40
  - , Admiral Henry Craven **32** 50
  - , Henry Joseph (d.1856) **31** 36-41; **39** 36, 38-42
  - , Henry Mildmay (d.1957) **33** 55-57; **34** 45
  - , Hester, Viscountess Bolingbroke **33** 37-38
  - , Hon. Holles (d.1738) **36** 29; **40** 41
  - , Isabella. Contributor: *A Journey in War-time* **31** 51-52
  - , Isabella Anne Elizabeth (d.1822) **39** 36-37, 42
  - , Lady Johanna (d.1703) **37** 5; **40** 40, 42
  - , John (d.1576) **37** 32
  - , Sir John (d.1594) **37** 37, **40** 42
  - , John (d.1643) **40** 23
  - , Sir John (d.1648), 1st Baronet **37** 4; **40** 41-42
  - , John, 2nd Viscount St.John **33** 3-4, 11-12, 29-51; **37** 6-7, 51; **40** 42
  - , Hon. John Dyson (d.1812) **39** 37, 45
  - , Lucy (Hungerford) **34** 3-5; **40** 41
  - , Margaret, abbess of Shaftesbury **39** 47
  - , Lady Margaret (d.1637) **40** 41
  - , Maria (d.1836), Viscountess Bolingbroke **40** 40, 44
  - , Marie Claire (de Marcilly) **40** 42

-, Mary E.E., Viscountess Bolingbroke **32** 35-39; **33** 55-57; **34** 27-32, 36, 44-45; **40** 44  
 -, Nicholas (d.1589) **37** 4, 34-37, 59-62; **40** 41  
 -, Oliver (d.1630), Viscount Grandison **35** 46-52, **37** 4; **39** 47-49; **40** 20-22; **40** 41  
 -, Oliver (d.1679) **37** 47  
 -, Richard **37** 37  
 -, Richard (d.1843) **40** 18-19  
 -, Thomas **40** 16-18  
 -, Vernon Henry, 6th Viscount Bolingbroke. Contributor: *Nature Notes* **31** 16-27; **34** 28, 31-34, 46-48; **40** 44  
 -, Sir Walter (d.1708) **37** 46-47; **40** 40-44  
 -, William James (d.1850) **39** 36, 38  
 ST.JOHN-HOWE, Peter. Contributor: *St.Johns of Ireland, and St.Johns and Ireland* **40** 13-25  
 ST.JOHN, General Richard (d.2001) **36** 56  
*St.John 'Rising Falcon' Crest, A Piers Plowman Manuscript and the* **36** 41-42  
 Sir Walter St.John's School, Battersea **32** 52; **36** 5-6; **40** 45  
 SELIGER, Léonie. Contributor: *The Restoration of the Van Linge Window* **36** 43-45  
 SHAW, Memories of, 1911-1919 **34** 16-25  
 -, farm **40** 37  
 SHENSTONE, William **36** 23-25, 31-35, 37-38; **39** 8-12; **40** 9-11, 41  
 SHIPMAN, Thomas Trafford, rector **38** 53-54  
 SLADE, Edmund Hercules **39** 24  
 SMALLWOOD, Frank T. Contributor: *The Arms of Oliver, Viscount Grand ison* **35** 46-52, *The will of Nicholas St.John (d.1589)* **37** 59-62  
 SMITH, Goddard, diaries **33** 39-47  
 -, James **38** 53-54  
 -, Richard **37** 46  
 SOAME, Sir Peter **36** 30  
 SOCCHI DESK, The **35** 3-4  
 SOMERVILLE William **36** 24, 33; **40** 46  
 SPENCER, Georgiana (d.1806), Duchess of Devonshire **40** 43  
 SPICER, Tony. Contributor: *The Battle of Ellandune and Lydiard Tre goze* **34** 6-10  
 SPITTLEBOROUGH farm **39** 24, **40** 37  
 STAUGHTON family **34** 16-25  
 STIVERS, Reuben Elmore. *Obituary* **32** 54  
 STRANGE family **32** 23-25  
 STUDLEY GRANGE **36** 51; **40** 37  
 STUKELEY, William (d.1765) **40** 44  
 SUSANNA and the ELDERS **32** 52-53  
 SWINDON BOROUGH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER **31** 45-46, **32** 49-50, **33** 61, **34** 57, **35** 73-74, **36** 55-56, **37** 66-67, **38** 74-75  
  
 TAYLOR, Dr Arnold J. *A Memorial Tribute* **36** 5-6  
 -, Dr John George (d.1942) **40** 44  
*Ten Days Abroad* **32** 44-45  
 THORNTON, Alexander, rector **38** 47  
 TISSERANT, John Sebastian **39** 32  
 TITCOMBE, Malcolm. **32** 54. Contributor: *Our War Memorials* **40** 31-34  
 TITHE MAP (1839) **37** 9  
 TOOTHILL farm **40** 37  
*Treasure Forever* **32** 50

TREGOZ family **37** 3; **38** 42  
 TRYON, Kate. Contributor: *Visits to Lydiard Tregoze* **32** 32-40  
 TUCK, Adam **37** 54-57  
 - , Edward James **39** 25  
 TUCKEY family **39** 20  
 TURTON, Alan. Contributor: *The Edward St. John Monument* **37** 64-65  
 TWICKENHAM meadows **40** 43

URN, painting of an **40**, 41, 46

VAN LINGE, Abraham **35** 39-30  
 von HOMPESCH-BOLHEIM, Franz Carl, Freiherr **40** 43  
 VILLIERS, Lady Barbara (d. 1672) **40** 43  
 - , Barbara (d.1709), Countess of Castlemaine **40** 42  
 - , Sir Edward (d.1626) **40** 22, 41  
 - , William, 2nd Viscount Grandison **40** 41

WALDEGRAVE, The Three Ladies **31** 43-44  
 WALLED GARDEN at Lydiard Park. An Archaeological Evaluation **35** 5- 25  
 WARNFORD church **39** 4-5  
 WAR MEMORIALS **40** 31-34  
*What's in a name?* **39** 1-7  
 WHITTAKER, John and Nene. Contributors: *The Lydiards Twinning Association* **33** 58-60  
 WHITTOKESMEDE, John **32** 53-54  
 WICK Farm **35** 32-37; **36** 51-54; **39** 25, 27; **40** 30, 27  
 WICKFIELD farm **40** 37  
 WILLETTS, William Henry, rector **38** 53-64, 69  
 WILMOT, John (d.1680), 2nd Earl of Rochester **40** 41  
 - , Charles (d.1681). 3rd Earl of Rochester **40** 41  
 WINDMILL LEAZE farm **40** 30, 37  
 WINTERBURY, John de, rector **35** 56; **38** 44  
 WOODSHAW farm **40** 37  
 WOODWARD, Jacob **38** 27  
 WOOLFORD, Elliot George **34** 26-33  
 WOOTTON BASSETT Election Parade **40** 44  
 WORLIDGE, Philip **33** 51; **37** 57-58  
 WYNDHAM, Sir William **40** 43

YEW, Companions of the, **31** 48-49  
 YORKES of Basset Down and Wick Farm **36** 51-54

**May 2007**