

# Signpost



The Journal of Chipping Campden History Society

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*Bringing local history to life*



## Contents

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		<u>Page</u>
Correspondence		1
Some Childhood Memories of Campden Visits	Paul Baker	5
The Garden Club of America's Pilgrimage to England in June 1929	Graham Pearson	9
What Happened to the Wixeyes in Chipping Campden?	Revd. Tom Merry	16
CCHS News and Activities		20

## From the Editor

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Our correspondents have sent in some useful websites and interesting sources over the last few months, which I document for your own researches. It is curious how the articles for this issue of Signpost turn out to be about relatively modern history. Paul Baker's personal story of his visits to Broad Campden is in an era that I remember myself and Thomas Merry's researches into the Wixey family brought an important Campden business to life. Graham Pearson's continued research findings have resulted in another fascinating report with original photographs about an 'American Pilgrimage' to our area in 1929. Although these ladies were transported from one garden to the next venue by motor coach, to visit nine gardens in one day required considerable stamina and resolve! This was quite a long and challenging article to edit, with its various extracted cuttings and photos, but I hope you find the insight it gives into nine local gardens on 13th June 1929, almost 90 years ago, interesting. The Society News section is slightly larger in this issue than normal due to the full report with photos of the September Heritage Open Days at Old Campden House. My sincere thanks go to all researchers and contributors.

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### **Front cover illustration:**

The garden of Court Farm, the Broadway home of Madame de Navarro, see article page 9. This photo is from a glass slide, now cracked, taken in June 1929 by Mrs. Louise Newton, from Connecticut, a Ridgefield Garden Club (RGC) member on a Garden Club of America (GCA) trip to England. The Ridgefield Garden Club has donated this collection of Louise Newton glass lantern slides to the Smithsonian Institution, Archives of American Gardens and CCHS Archive Room has hard copies of those taken locally during this trip (Ref: 2018/051/DS, Box F14, Gardens). A copy of the 11 page article about the trip to England published in September 1929 Bulletin of the Garden Club of America and a copy of the 40 page report describing the gardens visited during the June 1929 trip to England from which the article on page 9 uses extracts about local gardens have both been deposited in CCHS Archive Room in digital form.

## Correspondence

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A corrigendum has been received from **Alexandre Solcà** to a mention in the last Signpost 8 on **Elizabeth Nicholas**. It appears that Mrs Nicholas did not actually work as a SOE, but made researches on them, as she was very concerned for the fate of one of her good friends, Miss Diana Rowden, who was captured by the Germans and died in a concentration camp after two successful SOE missions. Mrs Nicholas, as soon as the war was over, courageously did everything to find her and also her women colleagues. Alexandre has found two addresses where she received letters and lived for a while in the 1960s, but she says it is as if someone has erased all trace of her after her book on SOE.

**Rosalind Crone**, a lecturer in history at The Open University, wrote informing us of a new internet resource of interest to the members of the Gloucestershire Local History Association. **Prison History ([www.prisonhistory.org](http://www.prisonhistory.org))** is a database which contains information on nearly 850 penal institutions which existed in 19th century England, including around 420 local prisons and 380 lock ups. For each institution, there is information about its operational dates, jurisdiction, location, population statistics, the primary and secondary sources which mention it and a list of all the relevant and surviving archival documents, which are found in repositories based in England. On accessing Prison History, users can either search for specific prisons or various types of prisons, or browse the lists of archival materials that we recovered. One of the core aims of Prison History is to emphasize the importance of the local prison (and lock ups) in nineteenth-century society. It is an institution that has been largely neglected in the major studies of nineteenth-century imprisonment and communities. CCHS members are asked to contribute to a feedback survey for local historians on the website to collect thoughts about the design of the site and opinions on how develop the resource. The survey can be accessed via:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/HR3CNLH>.

Two different correspondents have recently told me about interesting articles in a Spitalfields Blog written by **The Gentle Author** at this website: <http://spitalfieldslife.com>.

The June 2018 article is about **The Whitechapel Bell Foundry** in which there is a photo of the Foundry working on a bell for St James' Church, Chipping Campden in 2004. In March 2018 an article was about the **Trinity Green Almshouses**, a Grade 1 listed building in Whitechapel designed by Sir Christopher Wren, with which C.R. Ashbee had an involvement in 1895, when he wrote a campaigning letter to the Society for Protection of Ancient Buildings enlisting their support to save Trinity Green Almshouses in Whitechapel from demolition. Because this building is once again threatened by development and is currently in a neglected state, a Friends of Trinity Green group has been formed and The Spitalfields Trust is offering to buy the Almshouses and the entire site from the Tower Hamlets Council, taking on complete responsibility for the maintenance of Trinity Green and giving it a sustainable future. They propose creating an independent buildings preservation trust that would use income from rents and grants available to such heritage trusts to maintain the property and manage it in perpetuity. Again on this website in January, 2015, the article was about **C.R. Ashbee in the East End** "a man who deserves to be celebrated in the East End for his prescient thinking and creativity." ... "The 'Ashbee Room' at Toynbee Hall is where most people become aware of his presence. It was over six weeks in the summer of 1887 that Ashbee worked there with the students of his Ruskin class to create an elaborate mural of trees, punctuated by golden rondels to his design and bordered with a frieze of the crests of Oxford & Cambridge colleges. The rondels contained a letter 'T' in the form of a tree which remains the symbol of Toynbee Hall, even if the mural is long-gone." Another issue, July 2018, gives the history of **Eastbury Manor in Barking**, Essex. Barking Abbey land after the dissolution was acquired in 1556 by Clement Sisley, Gentleman & Justice of the Peace, and he built this manor for his family. Eastbury Manor is among the earliest surviving Elizabethan houses, combining attractive domestic

interior spaces with an exterior embellished by showy architectural elements which demonstrate Sisley's eagerness to impress as a self-made property developer and landowner. In 1917, Octavia Hill and C.R. Ashbee, who had been responsible for saving Trinity Green Almshouses in Whitechapel, began a campaign to save Eastbury Manor by seeking guarantors to purchase the property from the owner. Once they had done so, the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings arranged for the National Trust to accept ownership of the building in 1918. Lastly and most recently **William Morris in the East End** is the subject of August 27, 2018 article, with useful dates and photos.

**Christopher Fance**, CCHS member, has also brought to our attention an interesting website, Folk Music Archive Online, which when you search Chipping Campden has 123 records, including a number of people, called Ellis, who were Morris Dancers; Ilmington has more items and Ebrington also a few, <https://www.vwml.org/archives-catalogue#>. It seems that The American Folklife Centre, Vaughan Williams Memorial Library and the James Madison Carpenter Collection have expanded the VWML Digital Archive and now researchers, performers, genealogists and students can search this monumental collection and view or listen to the digital versions of the originals online. Options include searching for the same song in a particular region, the same performer collected by several collectors, viewing the collecting locations on a map, perhaps viewing a photograph of the informant, or notations of the music, or listening to a recording. Most of the material in the online archives dates from the first half of the twentieth century.

We have had notification of an excellent new book, **Designers & Jewellery, 1850-1940**, written by **Helen Ritchie** and published by the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge. Helen visited Campden, CCHS Archive Room and the Harts in the process of her research. It is a superb chronological catalogue with lovely photos and an easy to read history of each item in their jewellery and metalwork collection of these dates. Needless to say, C.R. Ashbee having studied at King's College, Cambridge and some individual members of the Guild of Handicraft (Pearson, Harts, Miller, Partridge, and White) are strongly featured with 12 items in the museum's collection. This book links with a display in the Museum's Gallery 10 between 31st July and 11th November showcasing these little-known treasures. The book costs £16.95. [www.fitzmuseum.cam.ac.uk](http://www.fitzmuseum.cam.ac.uk).

Another new book, **A Hidden Life**, a biography of Danish artist and one-time Campden resident, **Nelly Erichsen**, which has taken the author **Sarah Harkness** ten years to research and write, was just published in July, price £14.99. Court Barn has copies. CCHS Archive Room gave a little early research help – see Notes & Queries Vol. V page 4, <https://www.encantapublishing.com>.

**CCHS member, Diana Evans**, wrote: “For Scuttlebrook Wake on the first Saturday in June each year the Wake committee asks residents on the route taken by the May Queen from Littleworth to the Fair, i.e. Park Road, Lower High Street and High Street, to decorate their windows and enter a competition on a theme provided by the committee. For 2018 Scuttlebrook the theme was topically ‘**RAF 100**’. The RAF was formed in 1918 from the British Army's Royal Flying Corps and the Navy's Royal Naval Air Service. At The Gables we decided to research and feature the Campden men who were members of these two services in 1918.

We found that the Campden men who were members of the Royal Flying corps were:

Arthur Bunten, Arthur Drinkwater, Arthur Ellis, Thomas Elsey, Ted Horwood, James Maclean, Arthur Pymont, Harold Pymont, Denys Sworder, Alec Walker, Harry Warmington and Joe Warmington

and members of the Royal Naval Air Service were:

George Payne and Bill Payne

All these men so then became members of the RAF in 1918. This information was taken from Paul Hughes's wonderful book ‘*Campden 1914-18*’ and further information of the First World War careers of these men can be found there.”

## Some Childhood Memories of Campden Visits

Paul Baker

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*This article stems from a query asking about the Blanthorns and Garden Cottage in Broad Campden. From this we have learnt a lot about this couple and have received some lovely family snaps.*

The memories and recollections set out here cover time spent in the Broad Campden area through my childhood and teenage years in the 1950s and 1960s, when my parents and I visited their friends, Stan and Doris Blanthorn, then living at Garden Cottage, Broad Campden (see right below).

My earliest memories are of my parents, Archibald and Mary Baker, and Stan and Doris reminiscing about when Stan and Doris first moved to Garden Cottage in the 1940s<sup>1</sup>. Garden Cottage at that time sounded very run down and in need of modernisation. They talked of having to pour gallons of Jeyes Fluid on to the thatched roof to kill the many insects that had taken up residence. Whatever the physical state and condition of Garden Cottage, to me it was absolutely idyllic. I slept up in the top of the house under the thatch. It had a large garden growing both flowers and vegetables and of particular note was the outside dual seat toilet – something we did not have at home. Mum and Doris tore up newspaper for toilet use.



They spoke about the many evenings they had spent in various pubs, in particular the “Green Howard” - their pet name for The Howard Arms in Ilmington and of course the Bakers Arms in Broad Campden. Probably due to far fewer cars on the road and rather laxer driving laws they had many tales to tell of returning home by car very worse for wear!

**Left: Me and Stan Blanthorn**

I have no clear understanding of how and when my

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<sup>1</sup> In the 1939 register James Fisher, 64 year old farm labourer was living there with his wife Annie, three children and a cowman. The first reference found to Stanley Blanthorn in Campden is the Electoral Role of 1946.

parents originally met Stan<sup>2</sup> and Doris<sup>3</sup>, who were married in 1936 and lived initially at 38 Beech Road, Bourneville and later at 15 Woodbrooke Road, Kings Norton. Given that my parents, Archibald and Mary Baker, moved from Birmingham to Somerset at some point in the 1940s, it seems logical to suspect that they might well have met Stan and Doris in Birmingham before or during the war– perhaps at one of the seemingly endless dances my mother went to then. During WW2 my mother, originally a dress designer, operated a lathe at Burton Delingpole & Co (a company owned by her brother-in-law’s family) and my father was in special forces in Burma.



**Above:** In the middle row 6 from the left, you can see Doris in a white coat, smiling, tall and blond.

When in Campden it seems that Doris worked at the Food Research Station. I wonder if there was a link between chocolate production at Bourneville and food research at Campden and what happened at Bourneville between 1939 and 1945. Stan and Doris also operated a milk round in the Campden area<sup>4</sup> and later when I was very young Stan carried out deliveries for a Campden grocery store on the corner of High Street and Church St. [Ed. Burton Stores operated there from c.1920-1970 – see Wixey article page 16.] Maybe they had moved to Broad Campden to take over the milk round business.

Next door to Garden Cottage was Briar Hill Farm, then a very traditional farm with a collection of barns, animal pens and assorted buildings arranged in a quadrangle style, in the centre of which was a horse drawn cart, when not in a barn.

**Right:** Me, Stan, Archibald and Doris.



<sup>2</sup> Stanley Walter Blanthorn in 1911 census is the second child of Walter and Florence Blanthorn living at 38 Beech Road, Bourneville. Stanley was born 1904.

<sup>3</sup> Doris A (Alice?) Simister in 1911 census is sixth child of Thomas and Alice Simister of 184 Trinity Road, Aston Manor, Birmingham, aged 6, so born c. 1907.

<sup>4</sup> I’m still looking for a photo of Stan standing next to the van.

The Briar Hill Farm group of farm buildings was behind the wall in which the pillar box is situated. It appears that Briar Hill Farm had a curious use in WW2. It was taken over by the Culpeper Biochemical Company which made health foods, medicines and drugs for the R.A.F., using locally grown celery, parsley, carrots, cucumbers and so on. The machinery used was of German origin, so there was difficulty in replacing broken and worn parts and it eventually had to close down. The engineer in charge, a man from Coventry named Shaw, lived at Briar Hill Cottage.

Garden Cottage comprised a living room with stairs to first floor. The lounge had (what seemed to me then enormous) an inglenook fireplace with seats on each side and a bread oven. There was at the other end of the original structure a dining room (which did not seem to get a lot of use) and in between those was a large walk-in larder, with access to it via a door in the lounge. Upstairs were two bedrooms at either end and in between a landing large enough for a single bed for visitors. My recollection is hazy but I think the bathroom was downstairs in the attachment/extension, which comprised a largish kitchen, bathroom and store cupboard. The bathroom replaced the earlier hip bath placed in front of the lounge fire.

Every year there was a village fete on the field opposite Garden Cottage. One year I won an Airfix kit to build a RFC SE5a First World War bi-plane - just great for a young boy! I have a vague recollection of a swimming pool down a track/drive on the right hand side of the road near a bend in the road mid-way between Chipping Campden and Broad Campden.

Stan and Doris had two dogs in my time visiting. The first was a rough-haired terrier called Scruffy and the second was a Jack Russell named Psyche.



**Above: Doris with Scruffy**

Following on the theme of public houses, we went to eat at The Great Western Arms, Blockley. It was my first time in a pub and we had Chicken in a Basket – the height of sophistication in the 1960s! It was certainly better than previously being made to sit in the car in The Bakers Arms car park waiting for a lemonade and a packet of crisps! Such was the lot of children in those days before family-friendly pubs and restaurants.

Round the corner from The Bakers Arms lived ‘uncle’ George and ‘auntie’ Sarah. George, an agricultural worker, and Sarah lived in one of the row of terraced houses overlooking the Church.



We sat round the range drinking Sarah’s homemade wine – not like the newly modernised house it is today.

**Left: Sarah and George (Bickley), with children - Mark Dudfield in the cart and Pat Belcher in front.**

Stanley Walter Blanthorn died 21<sup>st</sup> July 1969 and was buried on 28<sup>th</sup> July 1969 in St. James's churchyard. There is a grave headstone. [Ed. CCHS plot ref. number 00.11.] Doris continued to live at Garden Cottage for a while.

The minutes of the Dover's Games Society AGM in 1972 show that Mrs Blanthorn was present. Eventually she moved to a new bungalow (see below) on the right hand side approximately half way on the road between Chipping Campden and Broad Campden. [Ed. This is Sundown, Catbrook, Tel: 840347, where she was certainly living in 1990, according to a note in CCHS archives.]

I understand that the last known record for her in CCHS archives is the 1998 electoral role, when she is living at 11, Badgers Field, the retirement complex in Chipping Campden. By then my parents and I had lost touch with her. Apparently there had been some sort of falling out between them both and, probably due to my age, I was not privy to the detail. Doris Blanthorn born 9<sup>th</sup> Dec. 1912, died 26th September 1999 in Cheltenham, age 86 and in fact is commemorated on her husband's gravestone.



Partly due to the passage of time and also to do with severance of the relationship between my parents and Doris, so came to an end the lovely times spent in the Cotswolds through the 1960s summers and Christmases. Very happy times.

### **CCHS Programme 2018 -19**

**Thursday 20th September 2018:** *“Turning the World Upside Down: Radical ideas and movements in the Civil War era, 1640 – 1660.”* Professor Bernard Capp, Emeritus Professor of History, Warwick University.

**Thursday 18th October 2018:** *“People on the move in Campden and district in the Middle Ages.”* Professor Christopher Dyer, Emeritus Professor of History, University of Leicester.

**Thursday 15th November 2018:** *“I remember Adlestrop: Stories and Histories from Gloucestershire's Railways.”* Tony Condor, Former Curator of the Waterways Museum, Gloucester.

**Thursday 6th December 2018:** *“Ghastly Gardening – Horticultural's Horrible History.”* Michael Brown, Garden Historian

**Thursday 17th January 2019:** *“Roman rural activity in Mickleton.”* Daniel Saussins, Cotswold Archaeology.

**Thursday 21st February 2019:** *“T.S. Eliot and Chipping Campden.”* Graham Pearson, CCHS.

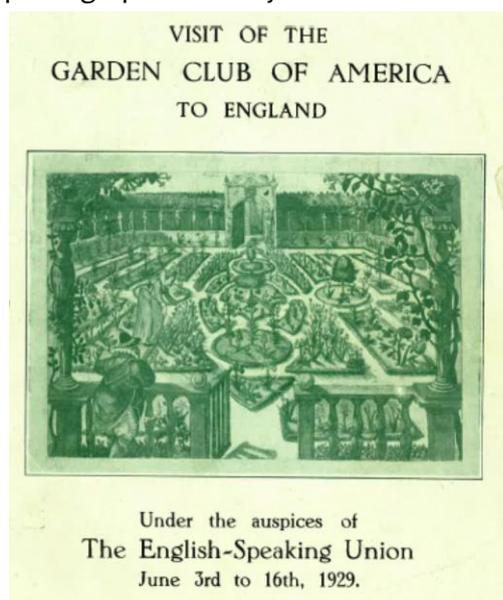
**Thursday 21st March 2019:** *“Who do the English think they are?”* Derek Taylor, Historian and former international TV reporter

**Thursday 11th April 2019 (note, 2nd Thursday):** AGM and *“Old Campden House, then and now.”* Campden House Research Group.

## The Garden Club of America's Pilgrimage to England in June 1929

Graham Pearson

Following my research into T.S. Eliot and Chipping Campden (Signpost 7, page 4) and Mrs. Edith Carroll Perkins and Chipping Campden Gardens (Signpost 8, page 12), I discovered that almost ninety years ago the Garden Club of America (GCA) had organized a Pilgrimage to England in June 1929 visiting many English gardens during 13 days, including Hidcote and gardens in Snowhill and Broadway. I have found descriptions of these gardens in 1929 as well as original black and white photographs taken by Mrs. Louise Newton of the Ridgefield Garden Club, Connecticut, who was on



the 1929 pilgrimage.

This visit from 3rd to 16th June 1929 was described by The Garden Club of America (GCA) in their booklet (left) and was organized by the English-Speaking Union. Some ninety members of the GCA took part in this trip starting in London in the first week with visits to the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, to Hampton Court Palace, Pyrford Court (Woking), Esher Place, RHS Wisley, Albury Park (Guildford), Brockhurst, The Homestall (East Grinstead), Penshurst Place, Buckhurst, Sheffield Park and Nymans. The second week saw visits to places en route to Oxford: Wittington (Marlow), Dropmore (Burnham), Cliveden, Abbotswood (Stow-on-the-Wold), Manor House (Sutton Courtenay), Nuneham Park, Broughton Castle (Banbury), Compton Wynyates, Canons Ashby, and Sulgrave Manor. At this point the GCA visitors divided into five groups, each of which must

have had between 15 and 20 people. **Group A** stayed in the Lygon Arms in Broadway and in Cheltenham, making visits to Tower Close (Snowhill), Snowhill Manor House, Hidcote Manor, then six gardens in Broadway, Batsford Park, Manor House (Notgrove) and Colesbourne before returning to London. **Group B** were based in Stratford-upon-Avon making visits to Anne Hathaway's Cottage, Shakespeare's Birthplace, New Place, Shakespeare's Church in Stratford-upon-Avon, Clifford Manor, Packwood House, Guy's Cliff, Warwick Castle and Stoneleigh Manor. **Group C** stayed in Oxford and Bath, making visits to Seagry House (Chippenham), Lacock Abbey, Bowood, Corsham Court, St. Catherine's Court, Iford Manor, South Wraxall Manor, Longleat and Sunny Court (Wellsbridge). **Group D** had three hotels in Oxford, Salisbury and Winchester, making visits to Littlecote, Wilton House, Longford Castle, Melchet Court, Broadlands, Marsh Court (Stockbridge), Compton End, Little Boarhunt (Liphook). **Group E** stayed in Banbury, Sevenoaks and Tunbridge Wells, making visits to Waddesdon Manor, Ashridge Park, Aldenham House, Knole, Ightham Mote, Groombridge Place, Great Maytham, Port Lympne and Great Dixter before returning to London. The final event for all the GCA visitors was to Hill Hall (Theydon Mount). The Pilgrimage must have taken a huge amount of organization as almost everywhere they visited was privately owned. Indeed, the *Bulletin* of the GCA records that "we were "personally conducted" everywhere ... in the private gardens by the owners and their friends."

The September 1929 *Bulletin* of the GCA detailed the itinerary, reporting the welcome by the English Speaking Union who had planned and carried out the whole programme and the response by the GCA. The itinerary for Group A (see below) shows that this group, some 15 to 20 ladies, visited nine gardens on one day, Thursday 13th June 1929! Interestingly, Lawrence Johnston's 1929 diary has an entry for 13th June – "English Speaking Union" for this visit.

The September 1929 *Bulletin* does not, however, describe the individual visits to the gardens, but detective work led me to a special report found at Stanford University Libraries in California<sup>1</sup> that was issued by the GCA at the end of 1929. Then I found that the Ridgefield Garden Club (RGC), a GCA member club, in Ridgefield, Connecticut had recently identified a number of glass lantern slides in their club archives as being photographs taken by a club founder, Mrs. Louise Newton, during this June 1929

**GROUP A**

**Thursday, June 13th.**  
 The motor coach leaves the Lygon Arms Hotel at 9:30 a. m.  
**Morning—**Visit to 'Tower Close, Snowhill, Worcestershire (Mr. S. B. Russell).  
**Later—**Visit to The Manor House, Snowhill, Worcestershire (Mr. Charles Wade).  
**Later—**Visit to Hidcote Manor, Campden, Gloucestershire (Major Laurence Johnston).  
 Luncheon at the Lygon Arms.  
**Afternoon—**Visits to Broadway Gardens:—  
 The Court Farm (Mdme. de Navarro:—)  
 Orchard Farm (The Lady Maud Bowes Lyon)  
 Bannits (Mrs. Rees Price)  
 Mill Hay (Mrs. L. S. Drury)  
 Russel House (Mrs. Frank Millet)  
 Tea and Dinner at the Lygon Arms.  
**After Dinner—**Visit to Luggershill, Broadway (Mr. and Mrs. Clement Parsons).  
 The night will be spent at the Lygon Arms.

GCA trip to England. Their archivist asked me if I could identify these slides - nine slides were of Hidcote on 13th June 1929. Following a useful exchange of information, I have obtained copies of these slides and other facts about the 1929 GCA visit<sup>2</sup>. Interestingly, one slide shows the group of visitors from the GCA (garden unidentified) and several of the slides show members of the GCA group in the background:



Group A on Thursday 13th June 1929 started by going to Tower Close, Snowhill which was then the home of Mr. S.B. Russell [Ed. Then owner of the Lygon Arms, Broadway and the father of designer, Gordon Russell]. The visit was described as follows:

Fifteen minutes' drive from Broadway and we visit Towar Close, Snowhill, the home of Mr. S. B. Russell, three stone houses built in 1776, bought and remodelled during the war, situated on a hillside, the natural formation making a charming plateau for the garden.

<sup>1</sup> <https://books.google.co.uk/books?id=xUUPAAAIAAJ&dq=editions:STANFORD36105015305233&lr=> and <https://books.google.co.uk/books?id=SaQhAQAAIAAJ&dq=editions:STANFORD36105015305233&lr=>  
<sup>2</sup> The photographs in this article are all provided with thanks to Terry McManus and are © Ridgefield Garden Club, Connecticut Archives. The Ridgefield Garden Club has donated these Louise Newton glass lantern slides to the Smithsonian Institution, Archives of American Gardens.

Mrs. Russell received us and called for the gardener who “always can do anything and never grumbles.” It was all simple and charming and being the size of many of our own small American gardens, was a source of great delight and inspiration to the Garden Club members who saw it that day.

From the flagged terrace six broad steps, planted with Sedums, led at the left to a small stone court laid out as a Rose Garden. Against the house were planted great Lavender bushes. A stone figure stood in the square grass centre.

A photograph taken on the visit shows the stone figure – and in the background can be seen one of the visiting group.



The group next went to the Manor House, Snowhill, then the home of Mr. Charles Wade. The photograph below shows the terrestrial sun-dial mentioned and some of the ladies on the right and the visit was described as follows:

Manor House belonged originally to Winchcombe Abbey, granted by Henry VIII to Queen Catherine Parr.

The approach to the garden is at the left, down a stone stairway to a paved court and terrace which extends around two sides of the house like a raised dry moat with steps at the further end leading to a grass court below. Here the feature in the centre is a terrestrial sun-dial on high stone columns supported on three square stone bases. Also on this terrace, made out of different colored stone, is the horoscope of the owner. Borders of various shades of blue Lupine maintain the whole tone of this blue garden. Below is a dovecote which has nesting boxes (the original ones) for 700 or 800 doves.

From this a long narrow garden leads to a square pond at the end with a gate on the right and at the other, an old cowshed transformed into a garden house.

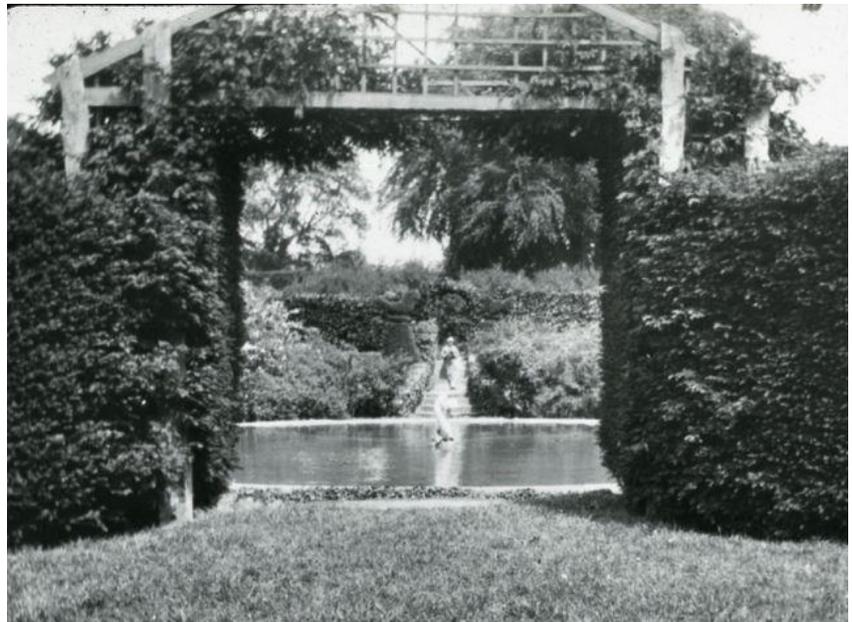


The next visit by the group was to Hidcote Manor, Campden, then the home of Major Lawrence Johnston, described overleaf.

Hidecote Manor, Campden, the home of Major Lawrence Johnston, was originally a Manor Farm and we recognize the summer house on the left of the entrance as once a low shed and the one on the right, as an old barn now transformed into a squash court, making an enclosure to the grand gravel court. The mellow coloring of the stone house blends delightfully with Rose vines and Clematis *montana* both in full bloom. Passing through a gate on the left, one comes to a succession of small gardens, Rose Gardens and grass terraces—with a long vista under the Yews to an iron gate beyond, each garden walled by hedges at least ten feet high, a feature of this place, a Yew and Holly combination predominating.

The scheme of Hidecote Manor was charming, the plant material unusually interesting and the flower combinations lovely beyond words.

One of the photographs (right) taken on the visit shows the view of the Bathing Pool Garden and interestingly shows how the archway in the hedging was being created.



The visitors then had lunch at the Lygon Arms in Broadway, before going to Court Farm at the top end of the High Street, the home of Madame de Navarro. [Ed. American

Shakespearian actress, Mary Anderson, 1859-1940, married Antonio Ferdinand de Navarro, an American sportsman and barrister of Basque origin and they bought Court Farm Broadway c. 1895.] See cover photo and below. This visit was described below:

The Broadway garden, Farm Court, belonging to Madame de Navarro, was designed by Alfred Parsons the artist, a friend of Madame de Navarro's, and combines many features of interest, a court, a little terraced garden with a shrine, a swimming pool, a Rose Garden, a low dry wall gay with rock plants and even a small Shakespeare garden, where all Shakespeare's favorite flowers are grown; but its crowning glory is the view of the beautiful hills on which sheep are grazing, and this stunning Yew hedge and giant Lavender bushes over thirty years old which partially enclose, and give accent to, the garden.



The house also reflects its interesting owners, who judging from appearances, know so well how to live. The large living room with its chintz draperies and furniture, grand piano and huge copper bowl full of crimson Poppies, invites one to linger. The hall is lined with signed photographs of famous personages who have been part of Mary Anderson's life, and there is a famous collection of pewter said to be one of the best in England, containing some of David Garrick's plates and platters which belonged to no less a personage than Charles the Second.

The group went on to Orchard Farm, also at the top end of the High Street, the home of the Lady Maud Bowes-Lyon, [Ed. *Daughter of the 13<sup>th</sup> Earl of Strathmore & Kinghorn and aunt of Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother*] described as follows:

Orchard Farm, directly adjoining that of Madame de Navarro is owned by Lady Maud Bowes Lyons. This garden is lovely and has a very distinct plan. The house, again a Cotswold farm house, has utilized its old cow barn to make a garden house and its cow yard for Rose Gardens and you can imagine how the Roses grow!

The wings of the house form an open square, in the centre of which stand six stiff Cypress trees resembling those we used to have as children in our Noah's Arks; on the axis of this court is a broad tapis vert, and on the axis of the garden house adjoining, is a path bordered by two beautiful perennial borders.

The Roses were unusually fine and the gardener told us in answer to our questions, that he prepared his beds two and a half feet deep, putting wood ashes and soot in the bottom, that he covered them high with manure in the winter, forking it in the spring, and that he never had to spray as he never had any pests.

One of the photos showing Orchard Farm overleaf:



Then they visited Bannits in Church St, the home of Mrs. Rees Price. [Ed. Mr. Rees Price was a retired dentist from Glasgow and friend of Mr. S. B. Russell.]

The description is on the right and a photograph below:

The Garden of "Bannits," belonging to Mrs. Rees Price was also designed by Alfred Parsons. The house dates back to 1641 and was doubtless a Cotswold farm house, which with its barns and shed gave opportunity for a creative mind like Mr. Parsons', who seems always to offer interesting features in an unusual way. A broad stone walk leads from the house to a gateway, but before reaching it, another path runs at direct right angles and forms the main axis of the garden. On one side is a small orchard reminding us of Miss Rohde's description of medieval gardens and on the other side a flower border rectangular in shape, brilliant with bloom and with a narrow stone path running through it from the sun-dial to a pool.

Mrs. Rees Price and her sister themselves showed us around their garden and through their house which contained so many treasures.



This was followed by going to Mill Hay, the home of Mrs. L. S. Drury, which was out of Broadway on the Snowhill Road and for which there is no photograph. It is described below:

Mill Hay was perhaps the smallest of the Broadway Gardens. It is owned by Mrs. L. S. Drury but in no garden did we see more beautiful herbaceous borders than those on either side of the broad stone walk that lead from the iron gateway to the house.

To the side of the house was a pond and behind it an old water mill which gave its name to the garden. The bank of the pond adjacent to the mill was utilized for a Rock Garden, which besides being good to look upon contained many interesting plants beside the usual favorites, such as St. Bruno Lilies which Mrs. Drury seemed to love.

Then the group went to Russell House, the home of Mrs. Frank Millet, located in Station Road. [Ed. *Widow of the artist, sculptor, writer and journalist, who died when the Titanic was sunk on 15<sup>th</sup> April 1912. He bought the house in 1885.*]

Rossetti, Burn-Jones and William Morris were among those who lured Mr. and Mrs. Millet to the Cotswolds and Russell House, the home of Mrs. Frank Millet is one of the most distinguished places in Broadway. Its history and associations cannot but lend a glamour to it all as you accompany the chate-laine through the garden she has created and loved and cherished for over a period of thirty years, acquiring something few gardens have. It is a rambling garden, making pictures here and there, and oh, what interest and atmosphere!

One of the photographs (right) shows the Belvedere at Russell House.

The programme then says 'Tea and Dinner at the Lygon Arms' followed by a visit to Luggershill, Springfield Road, Broadway (Mr. & Mrs. Clement Parsons), which is described below. [Ed. *Clement Valentine Parsons's eldest brother was Alfred William Parsons, the landscape painter and garden designer, who designed several of these Broadway gardens visited and who had commissioned Andrew Prentice to design and build a house for him in 1911.*] However there is no photograph of Luggershill – perhaps because the visit took place in the evening and the light may not have been good enough for a photograph.



Luggershill has a circular court-yard surrounded by a ten foot hedge with interesting topiary making a fine entrance to this home of Mr. and Mrs. Clement Parsons. We were graciously escorted by the owner to the garden side of the house where the lawn stretches out, bordered on either side by this same high, shaped, hedge, in which were breaks, similar to the wings of a theatre—a most interesting treatment—bringing into prominence the two beds of white Violas like a lovely white carpet, directly opposite the center of the house.

The outstanding features here are the Cotoneaster which is trained against the house, and a true Cedar of Lebanon planted by the owner himself.

The programme concludes: 'The night will be spent at the Lygon Arms.' It had clearly been a busy day with the tours of some nine gardens. The next day they had a quieter schedule, described in their programme as a 'Drive through some of beautiful show villages in the Cotswolds' with visits to three gardens – Batsford Park, then lunch at the New Inn, Bourton on the Water, then to the Manor House, Notgrove and afterwards to Colesbourne, near Cheltenham before spending the night at The Royal Hotel, Cheltenham.

## What happened to the Wixey's in Chipping Campden?

Revd. Tom Merry

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It was last September that my sister Jenny and I decided that it was time for us to get together with our Wixey cousins again. We met at the impressive pub at Edgehill and there were at least thirty who sat down to lunch that day as our Wixey cousins are of a family of seven and have had families of their own. In addition, they have all stayed in the area where they were born around Kineton and Oxhill. It was after the meal that a Wixey second cousin approached me and said that she was due to get married in October and had been at a loss what present to give to her father, my cousin, as a thank you for all he had done for her in arranging her wedding. When I had mentioned that I did quite a lot of genealogy in my retirement and had researched many of the branches of our family, she wondered if I could research the Wixey's in time for the wedding in October. The couple thought it was a great idea both because her father was really interested in the story of his family, and also because there was mystery surrounding her father's father, John Wixey, always known to us as Uncle Dinx. The family had never known anything substantial about the Wixey's. I gladly agreed to do it and the moment I got home I made a start as I was all too aware that the wedding was only three weeks away.

I started with John Wixey's birth certificate, dated 1922, which clearly showed that he was born in St Pancras in London at a nursing home called Ravenswood. His mother's name was recorded as Constance Kate Wixey living in Church Street, Chipping Campden; she was 17 years old and had obviously had an illegitimate child who she named John Wixey. There was no father named on the certificate. She had presumably been moved out of Chipping Campden discreetly to have the baby in London. Following this it was relatively easy to find her earlier on the 1911 census with her parents named as Francis and Kate Wixey. Francis was a grocer and both parents had been born in Chipping Campden. She also had a younger sister Frances. I was then able to find Francis' parents, Herbert<sup>1</sup> and his wife Annie Wixey; Herbert was listed as a grocer, baker and banker. Contact with the Chipping Campden History Society provided me with much detail, including photos of him and



Annie, some recorded memories of him by locals and a few trade adverts for his business. It turned out that he was a very well-known and respected local figure, who ran a flourishing business near the church on the corner of Leysbourne and Church Street.

**Left: Herbert and Annie Wixey on their Golden Wedding day, August 1913.**

I learnt that Wixey's Stores was established in 1863 in Chipping Campden and traded successfully for many years from this date. A newspaper advertisement described Herbert Wixey as a "high class family grocer, an export tea blender and a provision merchant". His premises, now called Wixted House, Corner House, Wixey House, Hicks Cottage and Bank House, occupied the whole of this corner site. Each premises housed one of the extraordinarily disparate elements of Herbert's business: a bank, a china and glass retailing shop, a bakery, a grocery, a store, and a warehouse.

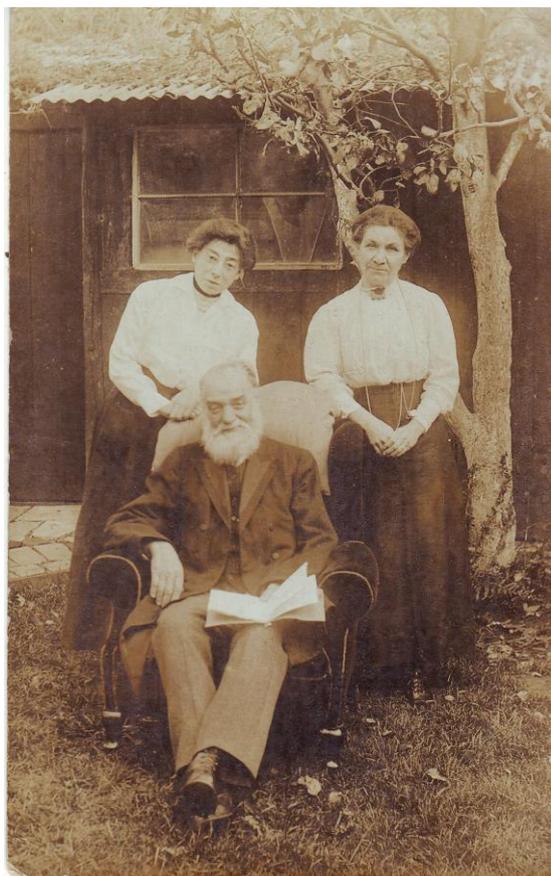
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<sup>1</sup> Ed note: Herbert b.1840. His siblings: Sarah b.1834, Caroline b.1838, William b.1845, John Jackson b.1847, Emily b. 1848.



**Above: Wixey's Stores c.1900 at the corner of Church Street.**

Herbert and Annie also had a large family of nine children who were born between 1865 and 1881<sup>2</sup> which at first sight made it all the more surprising that the Wixey name is no longer to be found in Chipping Campden. The reason however was not hard to find once the stories of these nine children were unearthed.



The eldest, Florence Elizabeth Annie, became a book keeper with her father until on 20<sup>th</sup> September 1893 at the age of 28 she married Alfred Edge, also aged 28. He was a butcher, the son of a milkman called William Henry Edge. Although born in Birmingham, Alfred had been in Campden since a teenager working as an apprentice to his butcher and farmer uncle, John Samuel Morris, who was trading in Campden High St from c.1851 to 1891. However Florence and Alfred soon moved away, had two children and then seemed to have separated by the times of the 1901 and 1911 censuses.

Albert (d.1869) and Herbert (d.1881) died in infancy and Andrew Herbert died in 1888 as a young man of 21 years.

**Left: The words on the back of this photo read: "Mr H. Wixey seated in a chair which was so kindly given to him by the Clergy, teachers, friends and scholars, attending the Boys Sunday School, Campden with which he has been connected for over 40 years. Miss K. Whatcott on Mr H's left who has faithfully worked with him and his daughter on right."**

Jane Emily (sometimes listed as Jennie) worked as a clerk in her father's banking agency. Later in WWI

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<sup>2</sup> Ed note: Florence Elizabeth Annie b.1865, Andrew Herbert b.1867, Albert Vivian b.1869, Jane Emily b.1870, Minnie Eleanor b.1872, Constance Bertha b.1874, Francis William b.1877, Louis Edward b.1879, Hubert Douglas b.1881.

Jennie Wixey then aged 40 was Quartermaster responsible for procuring and managing the provisions at Norton Hall Hospital near Campden (a Red Cross Hospital) working with Dr. John Dewhurst, the Campden GP, who was the Medical Officer there. She would have been well-suited for the role with much experience acquired keeping accounts and managing her father's shop. Jane died aged 52 in 1923 and is the only Wixey headstone found in St James's Churchyard.

Constance Bertha was also a clerk in the family business and died on 28th June 1946, a spinster then living in Cheltenham aged about 72.

In 1891 Minnie Eleanor (usually called Eleanor) was an 18 year old school teacher, presumably at one of the Campden girls schools, going on to serve in 1901 as governess to a family in Hornsey, Middlesex. At the outbreak of WWI she volunteered as a nurse and went out to France in September 1914. She worked with the French Red Cross medical services and her rank is recorded as a "masseuse" on her medal index card<sup>3</sup>. Much later, on the 1939 Register, she is recorded as living in Alton, Hampshire as a retired masseuse. She died in Hampshire on 20th May 1945 aged about 63.

Louis Edward (b.1879) married Alice Browne in 1905 at Atcham in Shropshire. By the time of the 1911 Census he had qualified as a chemist and had had three daughters. His first daughter, Marjorie Anne, was born in Poole, Dorset, but was christened at St James's Church, Chipping Campden on 26th August 1905. His next two daughters Norah Alice and Marie Louise were both born and christened in Aldershot, Hants. However by 1914 he is recorded in a local trade directory as being back in Gloucestershire running a chemist shop in Fountain Street in Nailsworth. He died in Nailsworth in 1945 aged 66.

ESTABLISHED 1863. 2005/0421P

## HERBERT WIXEY

EXPORT TEA BLENDER.

### High Class Family Grocer & Provision Merchant, CAMPDEN.

Grocery and Provision Dept.	Confectionery & Fancy Bread Dept.	China, & Earthenware Dept.
<p>Wixey's Teas are Household words being Especially Selected and Scientifically Blended to suit the Water of the Town and District.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Freshly Roasted Coffee</i> of the Choicest Quality obtainable.</p> <p>Italian Goods and General Groceries of the Highest Standard of excellence.</p> <p>Fines Quality Provisions including the best brands of Wiltshire Bacon and Hams.</p>	<p>Herbert Wixey is the holder of <b>Two Gold Medals and Three Diplomas of Honour</b> for Excellence and Purity of Quality in this Branch.</p> <p><b>Bride, Christening &amp; Birthday Cakes</b> a Speciality.</p> <p>Wedding Breakfasts, Balls, Picnic, Tea and Supper Parties Supplied with Refreshments by contract or otherwise on the most Reasonable Terms,</p>	<p>Inspection respectfully invited to the large and varied stock of High Class Goods in this Department, consisting of</p> <p>Dinner, Dessert, Breakfast, Tea, and Toilet Sets.</p> <p>Every description of Glass, China, Cutlery, Tea Urns, &amp;c.,</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>LET ON HIRE.</b></p> <p>at extremely Low Prices.</p>
<p><b>Agent for</b></p> <p>„ The Metropolitan Bank,</p> <p>„ H. W. Taunt &amp; Co., Oxford.</p>	<p><b>Agent for</b></p> <p>„ W. &amp; A. Gilbey,</p> <p>„ The Royal Insurance Co,</p> <p>„ The Celebrated 'Oxford' Marmalade.</p>	

So we come to the very last of Herbert and Annie's nine children and the one to whom we are related. Francis William worked in the Wixey family business initially as a grocer's assistant. He married a local girl in 1904 called Kate Julia Ellison born in 1877, the daughter of Thomas and Kezia Ellison, a Campden saddle and harness maker. They had two daughters, Constance b.1905 who we have already met having the child in 1922, and Frances b.1909. In 1915 Francis was entrusted with the family business by his parents who both died soon after in 1919. Sadly he ran it for only a short time selling it to Joseph Burtons & Sons Ltd. in 1920. We next hear of him in the 1939 Register

<sup>3</sup> Ed. note: She is also listed the Josephine Griffiths World War Book of Remembrance

when he was living in Penge, Kent and working as a grocer and tea blender. However he tragically lost both his wife and daughter Frances in a Blitz bombing raid in Upper Norwood, London on 10th July 1944 when they were visiting relatives there. When his sister Constance died in 1946, he was executor to her estate and his occupation then was a local government officer. His own death was registered at Evesham in 1952 aged 75.

So for all these various reasons there were no male heirs carrying on the Wixey name in Chipping Campden except ironically through Constance who passed on the Wixey name to her son John, as she never divulged the name of the natural father. This baby, John Wixey, was adopted by a family called Clack in Tiddington near Stratford-upon-Avon. So far, I have been able to discover very little about his childhood, but we do know that he served in Royal Navy minesweepers in WW2 and then married at Ullenhall in 1946.

I then turned back to Constance Kate Wixey herself to see if I could trace her life forward from 1922. On the register that the government took in 1939 at the beginning of the war, she was recorded as working at the Wheatsheaf Inn in the High Street, Evesham with a family called Marshall. This Marshall family, one generation before, had run another pub called the Wheatsheaf in Badsey, Worcestershire. Eventually Constance took over this pub as landlady and much later at Badsey Church in 1956 she married Thomas Marshall, one of the sons of this same family, but being elderly they had no children. She died in 1994 in Badsey where there is a headstone to her and her husband in the churchyard.

As to the identity of John Wixey's father even less can be said. As Constance was living at home with her parents before she had the baby in 1922, it is fair to assume that the father was a local boy. Maybe he was a lad that she had met through the grocery shop. Even when I checked John Wixey's marriage certificate of 1946, I found his father's name was left blank.

I then turned my attention to tracing the Wixey family back from Herbert and Annie in Chipping Campden and succeeded in getting them back seven generations before Herbert Wixey to the middle years of King James I's reign. Their places of birth in order back down the line are Woolstone, Dumbleton, Notgrove and then for four generations Sevenhampton just east of Cheltenham. So it is clear that they never moved very far. And nor were they of high social status: I could find no wills for any of them indicating that they were unlikely to be landowners. They seem mostly to have been agricultural labourers of whom Herbert's grandfather is actually recorded on the 1851 Census as a pauper. However, if the size of a family is a sign of wealth then James and Mary Wicksey, married in Sevenhampton in about 1675, must have been very wealthy as they had fourteen children. It was also interesting to see from the church registers that the family name has been spelt in varied ways: Wixie, Wicksey, Wixcey, Wicksy and even on one occasion Wicky, but all making much the same sounding name when spoken.

I did discover one interesting sideline in connection with Herbert's brothers and sisters. Like so many other families in the mid-19th century, one of his brothers emigrated. His name was John Jackson Wixey and he went by ship to the United States. He settled in Salt Lake City, Utah, became a Mormon and joined the local militia taking part in what were called the Black Hawk Indian Wars in 1866. He married a girl out there in 1864 who was from Wales called Sarah Jones Thomas. They had four children, one of whom passed on the 'Wixcey' name to further generations, miles from Chipping Campden out in the Wild West. John died on 15th September 1871 aged only 24 years and was buried in the military cemetery out in Salt Lake City

There may well be more to discover for my Wixey cousins in the future, but it was a delight to provide such interesting detail on half of their family tree about which they had previously known so little. The marriage went well adding as it did to the long story of the Wixeys in this part of the country and I was told that the bride's father was very touched to receive such an unexpected and enlightening present from his daughter and new son-in-law.

## CCHS News and Activities

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### Chairman's Notes

The past few months have been particularly busy for a significant number of members as the Campden House Project work has been drawing to a close. As the various strands of research were pulled together there was time to reflect on how sad it is that the House stood for only 30 years or so. Just picture how that part of town would look now, had it survived; we do of course have the superbly restored Banqueting Houses as a reminder and the surviving fraction of the House which for the best part of 400 years has resolutely withstood the forces of nature and pillaging by stone scavengers. We are fortunate that the town's benefactor also commissioned the Almshouses and the Market Hall, both of which grace Campden and help to give it worldwide renown.

I am delighted to welcome recent new members and look forward to meeting you at our monthly presentations, where we can expect to learn more of the history of the Town and surrounding areas, which remains the Society's focus.

Not for the first time I must raise the issue of participation: we do need volunteers to strengthen our management team and join our Committee where there are vacancies. Will you help? I see it as a significant responsibility which must be addressed. Members should not be surprised to be approached to fill our committee vacancies, which ultimately is to ensure the successful continuation of the Society. Be prepared to give it a go; Committee meetings are infrequent and not protracted. No knowledge of history is required, but we would welcome additional energy and enthusiasm, while perhaps even managing to reduce the average age!

### Outings to Apethorpe Palace and Lyveden

A group of members visited Apethorpe Palace in Northamptonshire in July, chosen as it is acknowledged as one of the finest Jacobean stately homes in England and a favourite royal residence for James I. The King contributed to its extension including a set of impressive state rooms featuring some of the most important surviving plasterwork and fireplaces of the period. This visit assisted in evolving an enhanced impression of architectural aspects of Campden House, reinforcing and clarifying assumptions, which had necessarily developed in the absence of hard evidence. Also in Northamptonshire, the group went on to visit Lyveden New Bield, an Elizabethan lodge built by Sir Thomas Tresham, but never completed, as work stopped on his death in 1605. It remains virtually unaltered since then. The lodge is covered in religious symbols reflecting his devout, and at the time dangerous, Catholic faith. Of particular interest to the Campden House project members were the surviving garden features which provide so many clues about the design of the gardens at Campden.

### School links

At the end of the summer term, CCHS combined with St. James C. of E. Primary School to explore and imagine the gardens of Campden House. With the permission of the Landmark Trust, a group from the top class (well-dressed against the sun, thistles and nettles!) joined us on a walk past Lady Juliana's Gateway, along the canal bank and round the water parterre. It required quite a lot of vision to see how the water parterre would have glistened in the sunshine with a fountain of water playing in the centre. Then back to the classroom for a lesson in perspective drawing with artist



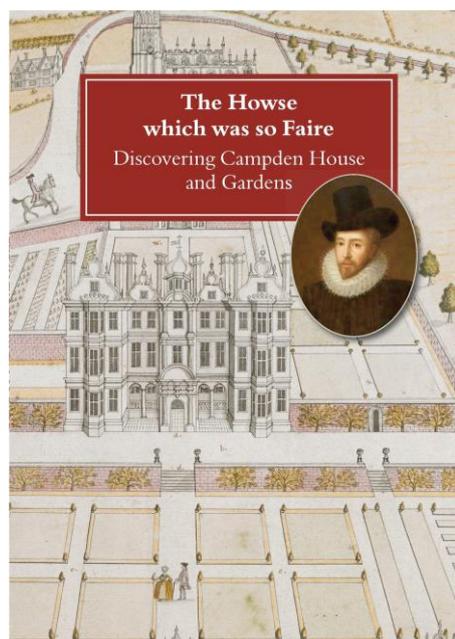
David Birch, who delighted everyone two years ago with his ‘conjectures’ about how the house and gardens might have looked. The children’s paintings were then displayed in the Co-op window and the Library, providing a good advertisement for the Heritage Open Days.

The CCHS partnership with schools was further extended when we provided a work experience week for a sixth-form student from Chipping Campden School Academy. She is hoping to study History at University and we were able to offer her new insights into the process of research and analysis of the various sources, including the Internet. It was very convenient timing, as a project was underway on George Townsend, whose bequest in 1683 funded Scholarships to Pembroke College, Oxford, until after the 1960s. His charity also paid for apprentices for the same length of time. We visited Gloucestershire Archives and looked at apprenticeship indentures and the Accounts of the Trustees, before creating a display which was then shown at Cheltenham Local History Day. We hope that we persuaded her that local history research is as valuable as unravelling the history of nations.

### New Publication

September saw the publication of **‘The Howse which was so Faire’**. This is the culmination of the research done by the group of Members, who throughout that extended period committed themselves to seeking out answers to questions and to providing a greater knowledge and understanding of the House which stood for only 30 years or so, before being destroyed in the English Civil War.

Due to the wide ranging nature of the research, three different members each focused on specific aspects and together they are the authors of the work. The Society owes a debt of gratitude to all who worked unstintingly, notably the archaeological diggers who stuck at it in severe winter conditions, but especially the authors - Mary Fielding, Mary Gray and Helen Kirkup and to the Editor, Vanessa Rigg. This is a book which will provide long outstanding answers to questions about the House and about Hicks, the Town’s benefactor.



The book was officially launched on Friday 14th September at a small gathering of all those who had been involved with the project and research, professional advisers, supporters, authors and volunteers. We were honoured by the attendance of our President, Professor Christopher Dyer, who had been given an advance copy and he praised the book for three particular reasons: it read easily like a detective story, each available clue being investigated to draw conclusions; it was not just related to Campden, but set Campden House in wider context connecting it to other important buildings of the era; finally, even though it was written by three different authors, credit should be given to the Editor, as it read like one voice.



Left: The authors Mary Gray, Helen Kirkup, Mary Fielding and Editor Vanessa Rigg.

**The Howse which was so Faire: discovering Campden House and Gardens** Price £8. Available from CCHS Archive Room and website, Campden Information Centre, Court Barn Museum and bookstores. ISBN 0-9550866-5-5.

## Heritage Open Days at Old Campden House

A further great event for the Society took place on September 15th and 16<sup>th</sup>, held in the grounds of Old Campden House at the invitation of the Landmark Trust, our contribution towards Heritage Open Days national initiative. Preparations have included a great deal of focus by a working group headed by the Society's Secretary, Vin Kelly, to capture as much as possible of the essence of Jacobean life and reflect it in the two days. Congratulations to Vin and his team.

And what a weekend it was! It exceeded all our expectations with around 2000 visitors over the two days and more at the launch of the Campden House book on the Friday evening before.



The Jacobean era was reflected in so many ways – clothes for dressing up (see left).

Some of the Campden House Project team had even had a session to learn how hats are made, so they could imagine how it would be done in the 17th century.

**Right: Louise Pocock demonstrating hat-making and the interested group discussed styles of Jacobean headwear in preparation for the Heritage Open Days.**



There were games such as archery and bowls, a pillory with soft balls and hobby horse races for the children, Country Market produce stall with the WI and 'banquet' food with cream teas!



'Walking histories' (see left) were provided by members of the project group, in costume and character, explaining how they might have been a part of the Campden House story. There was even a representation of the fountain in the middle of the parterre (see below) with gardeners on hand to explain.



Spinners and stonemasons were in action, plus refreshments from Fillet and Bone. Visitors had the chance to view a display of the project's many aspects and our findings, to look around the Banqueting Houses, Almonry and imagine the layout of the gardens. Everyone enjoyed themselves, visitors and participants alike. There were many complimentary comments and thanks on exit.

Our Lottery-funded project is now coming to an end; a final summary will be provided in the next Signpost.



Above: Mary Gray.



Above Top Right: Spinners and Right: Graham and Ben Greenall stonemasons.

## Archives

In order to 'fit a quart into a pint pot', with the continuing donations to our Archives in the small Police Station room, the Archives team is digitising as much material as possible and then storing the documents elsewhere. This has the added advantage of having information ready to email to enquirers around the world. Naturally this policy does not apply to important original documents which are carefully stored in the CCHS Room. We are also aiming to put more digitised documents and collected information on the website to assist people in their research.

Currently, two volunteers are double-checking the list of Gravestones in St. James' churchyard. This list, which has been on the website for some time, is going to be supplemented with the drawings of the gravestones that were made when the survey was done a few years ago. It will be very helpful to family history researchers who enquire about the location of their ancestors' graves. The survey was done between 1995-1998, at the right time, because already some stones are indecipherable.

Another new resource is the Campden House Archive; this is intended as a supplement to the new book, with a 'library' of articles and references about topics related to Campden House, downloadable from the website. One item is the 'Campden House Annals', compiled by Jill Wilson over many years, containing references to people, places and events during the period of the building of the mansion. The Campden House Archive will also be a resource for students and teachers, part of our commitment to the Lottery project.

## Programme for the Season from September

The programme of talks which has been circulated to members is reproduced on page 8 and once again covers a wide range of topics with the strong emphasis on local history. We look forward in particular to the October meeting when our President, Professor Christopher Dyer, will speak on the subject of 'People on the move in Campden and District in the Middle Ages'.

Please note that the January 2019 meeting will be in the Court Room because the Town Hall will be undergoing redecoration.

## Family History Group

The Family History Group has planned another lively programme for 2018. Meetings are informal and open to CCHS members and guests for a small donation. Meetings last season attracted larger audiences than in previous years, partly due to the range of topics that interested a number of people. Members have also enjoyed making their own contributions with memories and anecdotes and we hope that the programme this year will appeal as well.

### All meetings are held in the Court Room, Old Police Station, at 7.30pm

Tuesday 25 September: **The Secret Life of Cows** - Rosamund Young, Kites Nest Farm

Tuesday 23 October: **A Scandal – or a Love Story?** - Judith Ellis, Jenny Bruce

Tuesday 27 November: **Winners or Losers? The women's suffrage campaign** - Sue Jones

### 2019

Tuesday 23 January: **The Park Road Story** - Vin Kelly

Tuesday 26 February: **Sights and Smells of Campden** - Di Smith, Tess Taylor

Tuesday 26 March: **A Farming season** - Margaret Fisher and Pearl Mitchell

Tuesday 23 April: **Out of 5 came 9:**

**A history of the Campden Shadbolt family** - Rob Shadbolt

Tuesday 28 May: **May Day Pageant** - Tess Taylor and group

**President Professor Christopher Dyer**

**Vice-Presidents Jill Wilson, Carol Jackson**

### Committee 2018-19

Chairman	Robert Montgomery
Vice-Chairman	Philip Ord
Secretary	Vin Kelly
Treasurer	Alan Barclay
Programme Sec	Ann Hettich
Archivist	Judith Ellis
Research	Stephen Nixon
Family History Grp	Sue Badger