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LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY



- RUISLIP, NORTHWOOD AND EASTCOTE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

JOURNAL 2003

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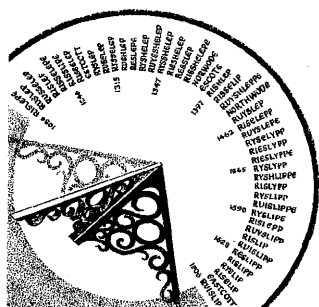
Cover picture: Eastcote House (Denise Shackell)

Designed and edited by Brian Grisdale

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Membership of the Ruislip, Northwood and Eastcote Local History Society is open to all who are interested in local history. For further information please enquire at a meeting of the Society or contact the Membership Secretary. Meetings are held on the third Monday of each month from September to April and are open to visitors. (Advance booking is required for the Christmas social.)

An active Research Group supports those who are enquiring into or wishing to increase our understanding of the history of the ancient parish of Ruislip (the present Ruislip, Northwood and Eastcote). Its members are largely responsible for the papers in this Journal, and for other Society publications that are produced from time to time.



Ruislip, Northwood and Eastcote Local History Society

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LECTURE PROGRAMME 2003-2004

2003

September 15	Magnificent Trees and Roofs	Beric Morley
October 20	Fairey Aviation (& AGM)	Terry White
November 17	Chelsea Physic Garden	Mike Watts
December 15	Hillingdon Cinemas	James Skinner

2004

January 19	Recent Excavations in Hillingdon	Kim Stabler
February 16	Crime and the Poor in 18th and 19th Century Ruislip	Paul Carter
March 15	Primrose Hill: A Social History	Caroline Cooper
April 19	The History of Bushey	Hugh Lewis

Meetings are on Mondays at 8.15 pm and are held in St. Martin's Church Hall, Ruislip.

THE MAKING OF THE FIRST MAP OF RUISLIP

by Colin & Eileen Bowlt

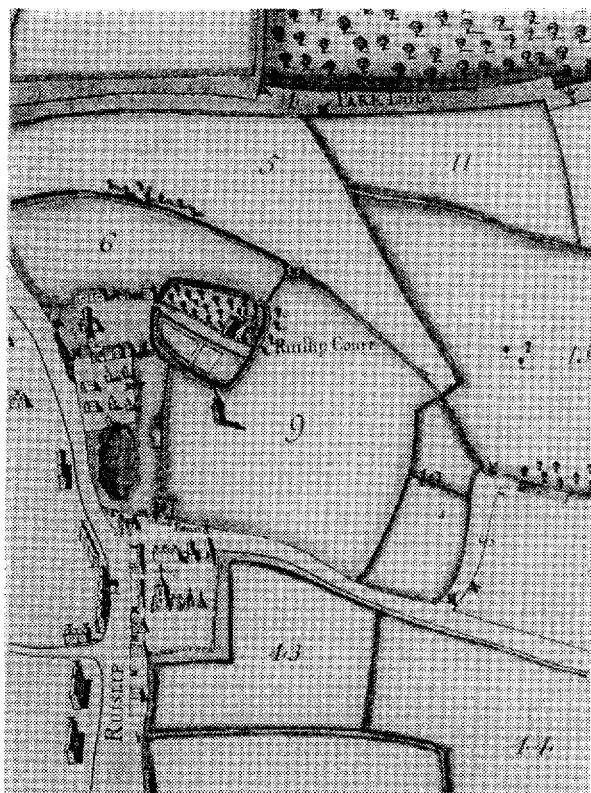


Fig. 1

Portion of Doherty's Map showing Ruislip Court (Manor Farm) and village centre

Doherty's map of 1750 is known with affection by our local historians as the earliest map of Ruislip - not the whole area of Ruislip as we now know it, but the main central part which comprised the demesne belonging to King's College, Lords of the Manor since receiving it from Henry VI in 1451. The demesne is that portion of a manor based on the Manor House, kept by the Lord for his own profit and use. Fig 1 shows the Ruislip demesne in relation to the rest of the manor.

Nowadays we take maps for granted, but in earlier times details of land holdings and their disposition were written down in various documents such as Terriers, Charters, Extents and Court Rolls. This seems (and clearly was) a very cumbersome and imprecise way of defining the layout of woods, fields and properties. The actual details of the boundaries were carried in the

heads of the inhabitants who might be called upon to give their opinions in court.

Here are some examples from the 1565 Terrier of Ruislip:-

This is a description of the position of one of a group of messuages and cottages said to lie west of Bury Street:

'John Sanders, gentleman holds by copyhold a messuage with an orchard and three closes of meadow and pasture adjacent, containing 8 acres, lying north by the Vicarage and south by New Strete and the cottage of James Osmond and abuts east above the vicarage'.

It is almost certainly describing Mill House, but it is difficult to work out the meaning of the words without first realising that New Street is Sharps Lane. A reference to the River Pinn would have been helpful. However, at that time everyone in Ruislip knew where Mr Sanders' house was and the description was deemed sufficient.

This one contains a puzzle:

'John Barenger holds one cottage and it lies east against le churche yearde and west against the horse pole there'.

'East against the church yard' places this cottage in the High Street on the church side, but where is the horse pool, if not the present Duck Pond? Was there another pond that has since dried up near the corner of the High Street and Eastcote Road? Most probably John Barenger's cottage is the present Priory Bookshop, Delicatessen and Trinket Box.

All our readers will perceive how much easier life would have been for local historians if those who so carefully wrote out these descriptions in the Terrier had also drawn a map and when King's College finally got round to the idea, how much better if the whole of the manor had been surveyed and mapped, not just the demesne.

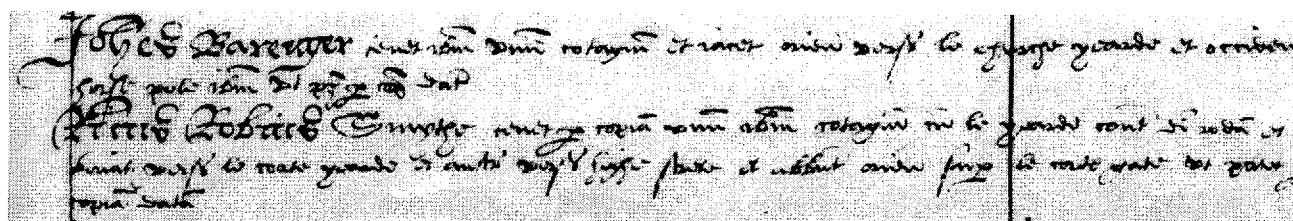


Fig. 2 - Ruislip Terrier 1565

Reference to John Barenger's cottage and that of Richard Robins, the Smith

When the Provost and Scholars of King's College decided to have a map made of their estate at Ruislip in the mid-eighteenth century the most up-to-date account of their holdings was the Terrier made in the 7th year of the reign of Queen Elizabeth the First, i.e. 1565. They were rather behind the times since by then many areas and properties had begun to be mapped and this had given rise to the profession of Surveyor. One of these professionals, in the eighteenth century, was John Doharty of Worcester.

A bundle of correspondence in the Archives of King's College, Cambridge- provides an interesting account of the transactions leading up to the production of the Ruislip map and incidentally reveals some snippets of life at the time.

It is not known how the College first got in touch with John Doharty but on the 14 April 1750 he wrote to the Bursar of the College,

'Sir, This day I received the favour of Yours, on considering that there are near 600 Acres of common Field Lands, uxh. You venJ well know is very tedious, let my industry be never so great, I shall expect 6d. per acre for all the lands I Survey and Map; in order to complete the Survey. a man to show the Lands to me, will be appointed, and paid by You allowing me as above. I shall put You to no farther expence. if You please to send me Your order! I will contrive my Business in our Country accordingly! and You may depend (God willing) on my being there! the time that You appoint, the season being proper. I am Sir

Your most humble Servt.

John Doharty jnr

Worcester April 14th 1750

P.S. Be so good as let me have Your answer by the first opper'y if the Common fields should be

divided into very small parcels. I hope a small matter more will be allow'd for the start of the Survey! Provided You approve of this! I hope You will recommend Me to a proper house to be ai, during my abode on Your estates. '

The punctuation and abbreviations have been retained. The use of capitals for various words, but not at the beginning of sentences may be a personal peculiarity. Notice that at sixpence an acre he was only going to be paid 3600pence (i.e. £15) for the 'tedious' common fields. However, the entire demesne amounted to about 1800 acres and we must hope that woodlands and enclosures along the Pinn were easier to survey.

'Sir! According to my promise I send You this! to acquaint you that I intend setting out for Ruislip Tuesday August the 28th! & (God willing) shall be at Uxbridge Thursday August the 30th! where we hope to meet Your servant. In the mean time be pleased to send me the order and any instructions You shall think necessary. 'ill I have the great pleasure of seeing You I am your, ..

Worcester August the 13th 1750

P.S. My humble Services to the Rev. Mr Besom.'

Note the journey from Worcester to Uxbridge took two days. Mr Besom was presumably a Fellow of the College, a position requiring a man to be in Holy Orders at that time. The fact that he says 'we' hope to meet you suggests that he had an assistant (apprentice?). Indeed it is difficult to envisage how he could have managed otherwise.

Two days later on August 15 1750 Mr Smith, the Bursar of the College at that time, wrote to John Doharty:

'Sir, In my way to Cambridge I called upon our Tenant at Ruislip and upon talking with her found that the second week in September would be more suitable for beginning the Survey than the first. She seemed desirous that it might be deferred to that time, as it seemed indifferent to you which of the two weeks should be appointed I should be glad to have the latter fixed upon. I intended to have met you there, but at my return to Cambridge I found a letter from a gentleman who is to come hither on business which obliges me to stay here till the middle of September, so that I cannot be at Ruislip sooner than the 18th or 19th of that month. As there will be no difficulty in setting out the woody and inclosed land my presence will be of no consequence while you are surveying them, and I hope to be there by the time you begin upon the Common Fields.

The house you are to be at is the Manor House which stands near the church in Ruislip; the farmer's name is Goodson. The name of the person who is to show you the land is Shepherd, he is a servant of Miss Rogers the College tenant who lives somewhat more than a mile from the Manor House. It is probable he not have leisure (on account of other business) to attend you constantly, but whenever he is obliged to be absent he will provide another that knows the land as well as himself, whose name is Fern. It will be proper to send for Shepherd as soon as you get to Ruislip.

I forgot to leave an order for the Survey when I was at Worcester, and therefore have sent one on the other side [of this letter] and sometime next week shall have an account of the lands (which at present I have not leisure to transcribe) from an Old Survey taken in Q. Eliz. Reign, which is the best we have of the estate.

I am G. Smith Bursar of King's College' (See Fig. 3)

Miss Rogers (Elizabeth) lived at Eastcote House and leased the demesne land from King's College as well as having property of her own, inherited indirectly from the last of the Hawtreys and the lease of the Rectory from the Dean and Canons of Windsor as well. (See "[James Rogers of Eastcote House" page 11). She was the most important and substantial landowner in Ruislip at the time.

Joseph Goodson was Miss Rogers' under tenant at the Manor House (now Manor Farm). He had come from Halton in Buckinghamshire and taken over the tenancy in 1747 for a period of 12 years. He was paying £110 each year rent plus 12 young fat hens at Christmas and he was obliged to house the College Steward and his servant and stable and feed their horses when they came to Ruislip to hold a manor court.'

The courts were held in his house. Indeed Doharty marked the Manor House as 'Ruislip Court' on his map. It seems that Mr Goodson and his wife could also be asked to receive anyone like Doharty who came to Ruislip on College business as well.

The Shepherd referred to in the letter was Francis Shepherd who as well as being Miss Rogers' servant was also at this time a Special Bailiff for the College and was responsible for collecting and accounting for the fines etc which arose out of the courts. He had to travel to King's College to render the accounts to the Bursar in person and so would have been known to Mr Smith.

There were lots of Ferns in Ruislip, but the one mentioned by the Bursar could well be the Mr Fern who, according to Doharty's survey, lived at the house that is now Blubeckers Restaurant.

[Overleaf]

'Memorand. Aug 15 1750. I do hereby appoint Mr John Doharty of the City of Worcester land Surveyor to survey and map the Demesne Lands and Woods belonging to the Manor of Ruislip in the County of Middlesex, and do agree in the name and behalf of the Provost and Scholars of King's College in Cambridge, Lords of the said Manor to allow him, upon delivering to one of the bursars of the said College a fair, distinct and accurate map drawn upon vellum together with a perfect Terrier fairly ingrossed upon vellum of all the said lands and woods so far as they shall be made known to him by some person or persons appointed, after the rate of six pence for each statute acre. Witness my hand G. Smith Bursar of King's College'

* In a Trench adjacent to 'Colony' by
 Shewell of 'Colony' by the
 early 17th century was assigned to a
 175 ft.
 The College land in North Pitt field
 with the 7 acres of copyhold land
 intermixed containing 31 1/2 acres to
 together between the above mentioned
 churches or shales on the west, &
 the south field is in a scale on the east,
 the south field a better upon some
 field, the north field upon a church
 field, great windmill field, & little
 windmill field.
 Church field, great windmill field
 lie together between North Pitt field
 on the south, & the Lane leading from
 Quaid's house to the end in a scale
 in the north, the west field a better
 upon Quaid's church yard, & the
 East field upon little windmill
 field.
 * In a Trench adjacent to 'Colony' by
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 East field upon little windmill
 field.

Fig. 3

Ruislip Terrier 1565 - showing where Mr. Smith has written in the margin

The reference to statute acres is important, because as Mr Smith had ascertained the wood acre based on an 18 foot pole was used in Ruislip, whereas the statute acre was based upon a pole of only 51/2 yards (161/2 feet). John Doharty therefore had the added complication of converting wood to statute acres in his survey. The areas in the 1565 Terrier are all given in wood acres. He gave both measures in his Terrier (see the Fig. 4 inscription which is on the fly leaf of the 1565 Terrier of Ruislip).

Ten days later Doharty replied:

*'Sir, On receiving Your letter dated Aug. 15 I defer'd setting out for Ruislip till Tuesday Septem'r the 4, on which Day, if the season proves at all favourable, I shall proceed (God willing) to Uxbridge. in it came my Order for wch I thank you: and this Morning came the Account of the Estate and proper Directions. if the season should befine I hope we shall not be long about it. I was willing to trouble You with this as You seem'd by Your last letter to expect an account of the times wch I should set out. um the season advances farther ~n Septemr I am not very fond of being a great DDistance from home. I am Sir.....
John Doharty junr.*

Worcester Aug. the 25 1750

P.S. My Service to Mr. Bentham. I am sorry he is not Rector of Ringwood.'

It appears that the Bursar had at last sent him the relevant extracts from the Elizabethan Terrier. The reference to being the junior John Doharty suggests he was part of a family business. Being remembered to Mr. Bentham would help in keeping up useful contacts. He had clearly not received the rectorship of Ringwood, Hampshire where the College had other property, and presumably the right of presentment to the parish.

The next letter is dated September 7 1750 and is from Doharty who has arrived at Ruislip.

'Good Sir, I came this Morning to Ruislip. I set out of Worcester on Tuesday last, but having some business at Oxford, stay'd there half a day &. came in the Oxford stage coach yesterday Evening to Uxbridge, from whence I

came in a Post Chaise to this place. I have this Morning taken a walk and by the Little I have seen think it may be done, if the Weather serves, in the time You mention in Yours of Sept. 5th [missing] for the contents of which I am much obliged to You & a due regard shall be had to the directions sent in the two Letters in my Custody. These helps, together with Shepherds, Ferns and the Man who I shall pay to carry the Chain, & who Mrs Goodson tells me knows the lands very well, will enable us to make a Complete Survey of these Lands. I have some thoughts of going to London, for three days before my return home, but this I can't at present determine 'till I hear from Lo~don. ~e shall take a walk round the Coppice this Eoening, the Survey of wch I shall begin in the Morning. I shall be very glad to see You here as soon as Your Convenience will permit and am in the mean time Sir.

Your most humble servant, John Doharty.'

'The Coppice' is now Copse Wood.

It is annoying that the letter of September 5 is missing. It would have given an idea how long such a survey took. However it was all done and drawn and written up by March 19 1750/1 [actually written as 1740/1 but the content of the letter shows this to be an error] when he writes to the Bursar:

'Sir, I received the favour of Yours of the 12th Instant! wch gave me great pleasure in knowing my Maps came safe to hand. in O~pping for Miss Rogers (wch Map has been finished for sometime) I perceived an Error in Bournefield wch I fear has pas'd in Your account of the Demeyne. it is No. 180 in that field, a fifteen Acre piece, wch belongs to Northall (Northolt) wch Occasioned this mistake was the ~o. being entered (without names to many of the pieces) and the Quantities only. I hope this will be easily rectify'd. I can recollect no other. The Scale this Map was Suroe'd by is the Same with the Map of Stour Provost [Dorset].'

Strangely the Ruislip Doharty map does not have a scale attached. For such a well produced piece of work this does seem a curious omission. The next half page has been cut out. Why I wonder! It seems amazing that no scale was included on the

Jun: 8: 1719: A Gentleman (who came hither about
 procuring some evidence in our Registry against
 a forged surrender of a copy hold in Ruyslip
 Manr) assured me y^t by y^e Custom of That Manr
 A Pole or Rood is eighteen foot long, & makes
 a great difference in y^e quantity of Acres of Land,
 & may help to reconcile y^e Two different Accounts
 of Marlepit field mentioned fol: 23: of this
 Book &c

Transcript:

Jun: 8: 1719: A Gentleman (who came hither about procuring some evidence in our Registry against a forged surrender of a copyhold in Ruyslip Manr) assured me tht by y^e Custom of that manr A Pole or Rood is eighteen foot long, wch makes a great difference In the quantity of an -.,?-crof Land, & may help to reconcile the Two different Accounts of Marlepit field mentioned fol: 23; of this Book etc.

Fig. 4

map, or that he didn't actually say what it was, rather than the Bursar having to refer to the map of Stour Provost, which was a manor that had belonged to King's College since at least 1459.

This is followed by some social chat and ends with sending his compliments to Miss Rogers and Miss Needham, her cousin and companion at Eastcote House. The reference to Miss Rogers' map shows that she was independently having a survey and map made of her own estates. Sadly her map has not survived, but the survey was found at Harrow School in the 1950s and was placed in the Middlesex Record Office (now at the London Metropolitan Archive). A typed copy is in the Local History Room at Ruislip Library.

Mr Smith's reply to the above letter is dated March 25 1751:

'Your Receipt came to my hand in due time. In your letter you inform me that in Mapping for Miss Rogers you perceived an error in Bourne Field which you fear has pass'd in our account of the Demesne Land. It is (as you say)

No. 180, a fifteen acre piece which belongs to Norhhall. this error, if it be such, has passed for that piece viz. No. 180 coloured in the Mapp and put down in the Terrier as College Land: but you may be assur'd that it is not an error, the fifteen acre pieces College Land. No. 181 which lies within that piece in the Terrier is called Dams's Piece does belong to Norihhall, but no other piece in Bourne Field.

The mistakes which I apprehend to be made in Marlepitte and Bourne Field are the following.

[He then queries whether certain of the numbered pieces of land are not all copyhold.] In Marle Pitt Field No. 84, 88, 89, 91 92, 93, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 133, 134, 138, 139. In Bourne Field No. 157, 161, 162, 169, 170, 171, 172, 181, are coloured in the map. Of these No. 88, 89, 91, 92, 93, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, only are put down in the Terrier as copyhold and are Free. Are not the other Nos. all copyhold? some of them are I am certain, & if I am not greatly mistaken You will find them so refer'd to in your Field Draughts.'

He continues with some more queries and then:

It was in hopes that Miss Rogers would have had her map before I go to Ruislip, I intended to have examined it that if there were any errors in it they might have been corrected when I'm there which will be in Easter Week. that by your Letter it seems as if you purpose to carry it yourself after that time. if so I must desire you to examine it carefully with Shepherd & Fern & let me have a particular account of the errors if you find any in it.'

He then goes on about having talked to the Master of Emmanuel College who purposes having surveyed some land they own. Smith was clearly satisfied with the work of Doharty and is offering to act as an intermediary:

... 'if you can judge from this account what price to ask for the work let me know in your next. I believe he will be ready to allow 6d. per acre you bearing your own charge.

As to our Estates in Marlborough & in Hampshire! we have come to Resolution to have them Suroe'd, but cannot yet write about them because I wait for a Letter out of Hampshire! & I fear I shall have some difficulty in getting a man to set out the Field Land in that Estate. I shall go from this place for Ruislip on Easter Monday & desire you will let me have an answer the first opportunity. the time that will suit us for the Survey this year will be in June & July, if it can be carried on then without Damage to the Tenants'

Three days later John Doharty replies:

'Sir! On examining my field drafts, I perceive it is only 181 that belongs to Norihall. I was pretty much in a hurry on receipt of Your Letter for the Maps & had rectified those Nos. in Ms. Roger's terrier! before the receipt of your last two letters; I had entered them in my field Survey but not in the foul [draft] terrier as Copy, be pleas'd therefore to rectify the following Nos. In Marle pitt field 84 Wm. Crossier Copy

In Bourne field

In little Windmill field

I was not informed wch hamlet Bourne grove was in. if I can possibly contrive to give You the meeting in the week after Easter, I will! at Eastcott.'

He goes on to say that he is going to do the survey for Emmanuel, and hopes that King's will .

'contrive to let me have an account of Your Estates soon! that I may settle my rout according, June & July will suit me very well.

I hope there are now no mistakes in Ms. Roger's Maps & terrier, if there are Mr Fern's information will rectify them. I am not quite sure of coming to Eastcott the week after Easter, if you would be so good in the mean time, as to present My Compliments to Ms. Roger's & Ms. Needham. Yours with much oblige

Sir Your most humble Serv't.

Jon. Doharty junr.

Worcester March 28th 1751.'

So runs the correspondence showing that in just under a year the projected survey of King's College Estate at Ruislip and the production of a map and Terrier had been arranged and completed and John Doharty was on to a survey for Emmanuel College.

John Doharty's final bill for all the work was £424s.

How good was he? All mapmakers make mistakes and from our point of view the worst one made by Doharty was his placing of Sharps Lane in the position occupied by The Oaks at the side of The Swan. However, the houses that he draws in on the west side of Bury Street and the High Street were not part of the Demesne and were probably only sketched in, not surveyed.

¹ KC: RUI 182 (formerly R36)

² KC: RUI 399

³ LMA: Ace 24912602

HATCHMENTS

by Kay Holmes

Of the 80 hatchments recorded in the County of Middlesex, 20 are to be found in the two churches of St. Martin's, Ruislip and St. Mary the Virgin, Harefield. Ruislip's 11 constitute one of the largest and most interesting collections, six of them relating to the Hawtrey-Rogers-Deane dynasty who occupied the position of virtual Lords of the Manor from the 1600s to the 1900s.

Hatchments appeared in this country in the 1600s, having originated in the Netherlands. They display the heraldic achievement of an armigerous person at the time of death. The words *hatchment* and *achievement* are thought to have a common Latin root, 'hachiammentum' meaning 'engraved on silver'; the first known reference being in 1352. A full achievement comprises the shield, crest, helm and motto, and where appropriate, coronet and supporters.

From Roman times, and perhaps even earlier, it was a frequent funerary custom to display weapons and other trophies, and in some cases to bury them with the body. In the Middle Ages and later, shields bearing coats-of-arms and adorned with crests modelled in the round, often accompanied by banners, pennons and other accoutrements were carried in funeral corteges. One of the duties of His or Her Majesty's Herald was to conduct heraldic funerals for persons of rank; the fees for such duties formed part of their income. Detailed accounts of these events still exist, listing the numbers and duties of officials, mourners and members of the household. The painting in the National Portrait Gallery of the life and death of Sir Henry Unton shows a fascinating series of vignettes from birth to burial.

Hatchments were most commonly painted on canvas on a wooden frame, usually about 5 feet square, and hung cornerwise. It is generally accepted that they were first hung above the main entrance to the residence of

the deceased, carried in the funeral procession, replaced above the door of the house for a year, and finally hung in the local church. Bearing in mind the display out of doors of such an insubstantial item, and the effects of the ravages of damp, woodworm and neglect, it is surprising that so many have survived - perhaps up to 20%. It is understandable that such large artefacts have not been welcomed in all churches, and even today there are incumbents and PCCs who are not interested in cumbersome, museum-type objects cluttering their limited space.

I am indebted to Eileen Bowlton for information about an early rejection of a request to hang a hatchment by a James Rogers at Bushey in 1721. The incumbent at Bushey, R. Smith, makes no attempt to use tact or to soften his refusal; his tone is almost insulting and verges on the threatening:

7 [an 1721

From R. Smith to James Rogers Esq.

Sir,

I thought you had been satisfied that it was improper to hang up Atchments in churches for I can't but think it a very odd piece of pageantry and profaneness to hang up that as a Relick in a Church which is only a figure in a house upon such occasions which would be a in churches where there are many Gentry and everyone may think it fashionable to follow the former humour. Besides Mr Capper who has the chief proprietary in the front as Lord of the Manor will not yield to it. And bid me tell you so if it were insisted on. Pray give my humble service to your mother and desire her not to insist on it.

From your humble servant,

R. Smith

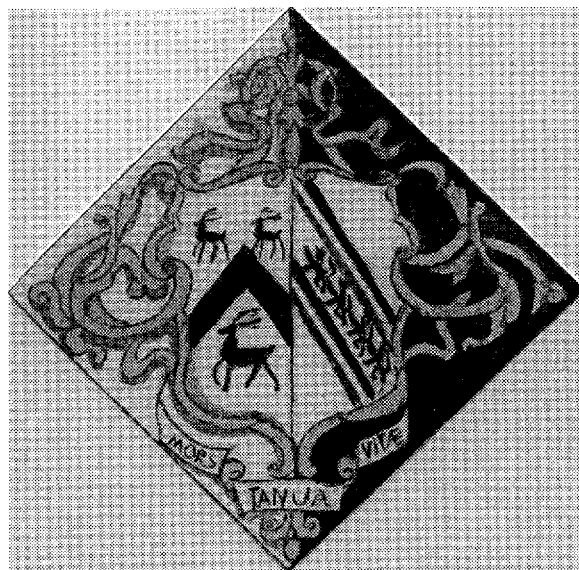
Eileen notes the church guide books gives the Cappers as Lords of the Manor from 1719 to 1814; one wonders whether Mr Capper was oversensitive about his apparently newly acquired status.

The attitude of Mr. Smith was no doubt shared by many, and the idea of hatchments still rather newfangled in 1721.

Where hatchments do survive, particularly in a series as at Ruislip and Harefield, they can give useful genealogical information about the person commemorated. The arms for a man are shown on a shield; those of a married man impaling (displaying alongside) those of his wife. A white background indicates that one of the couple still lived. At the death of a widow or of a spinster, the arms were shown on a lozenge (diamond shape) instead of on a shield; those of a widow bearing the impaled arms of husband and wife. Previous marriages of either spouse were shown in a variety of ways.

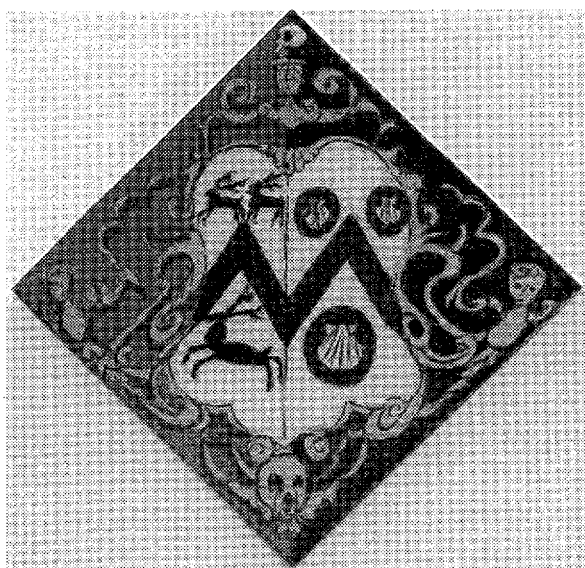
The hatchment for a man showed his crest, usually on a helm; that for a woman, who was not entitled to such a warlike emblem, often bore ribbons in a 'love knot'.

The Ruislip hatchments include examples of these methods. The oldest, for Mary (Dacers) wife of George Rogers, died 1705, and that for Jane (Hawtrey) wife of James Rogers, died 1735/6 indicate that the husband in each case survived his wife.

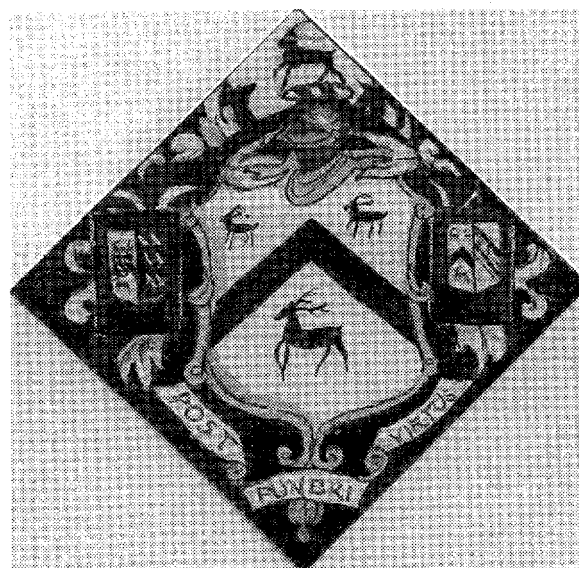


Jane Rogers, nee Hawtrey, 1735/6

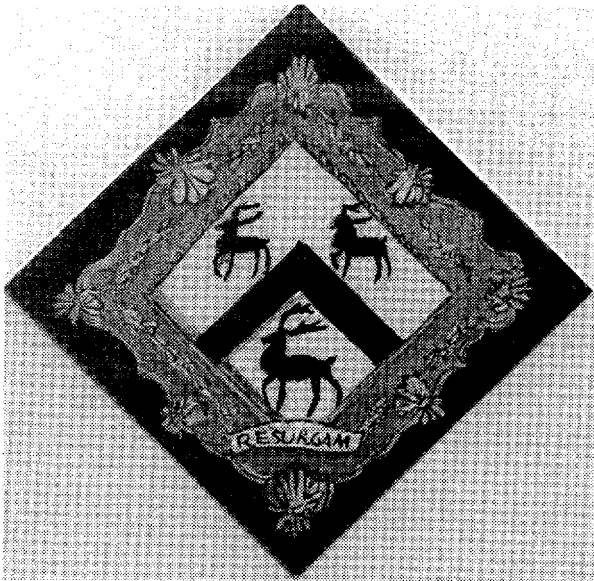
James Rogers' own hatchment, with an all black background, shows his two marriages, to Francis Arundell, and to Jane Hawtrey, both of whom had pre-deceased him. The hatchment for Elizabeth Rogers bearing the arms of Rogers alone on a lozenge show that she died unmarried in 1803.



Mary Rogers, nee Dacers, 1705

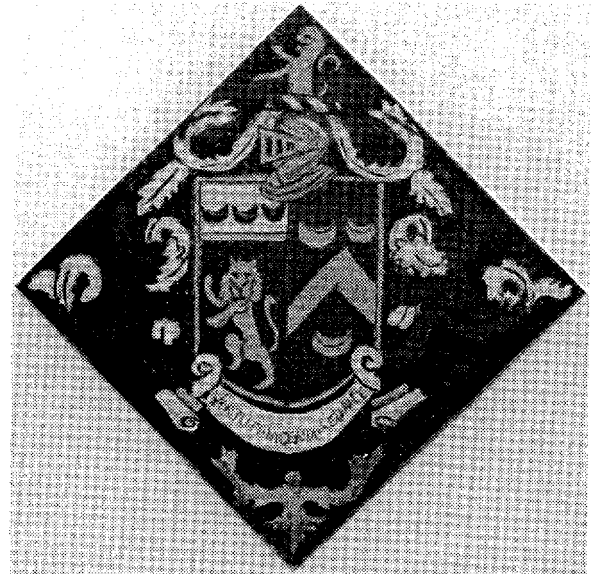


James Rogers, 1738



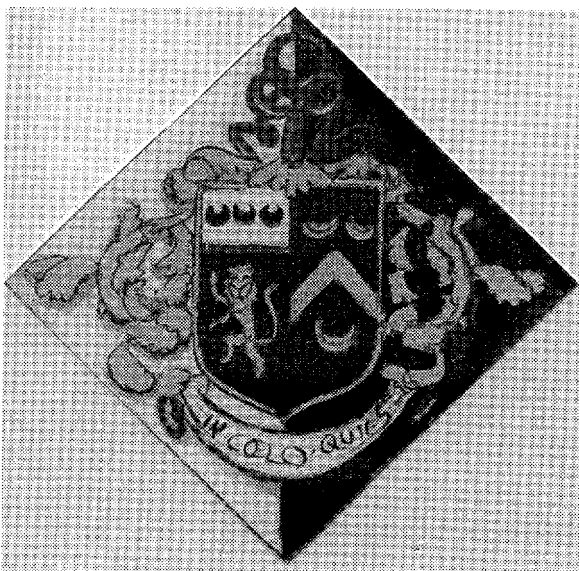
Elizabeth Rogers, 1805

The pair of Deane/ Gosling hatchments show by the white background on the first that Ralph Deane outlived his wife, Elizabeth's death in 1847, while the all black background on the second indicates that he was a widower when he died in 1852.

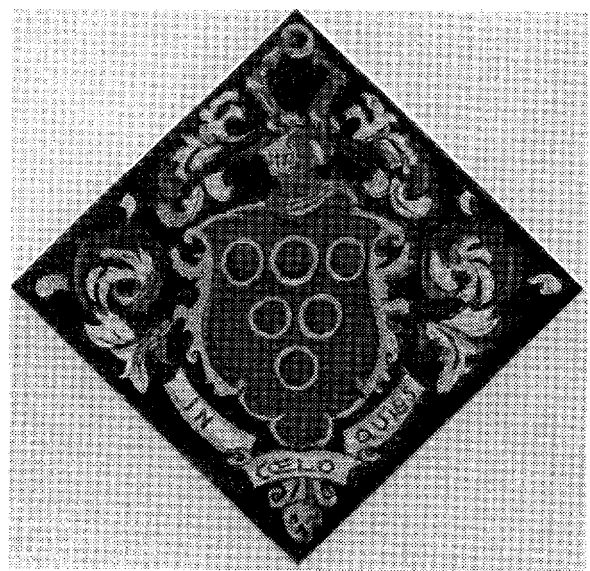


Ralph Deane, 1852

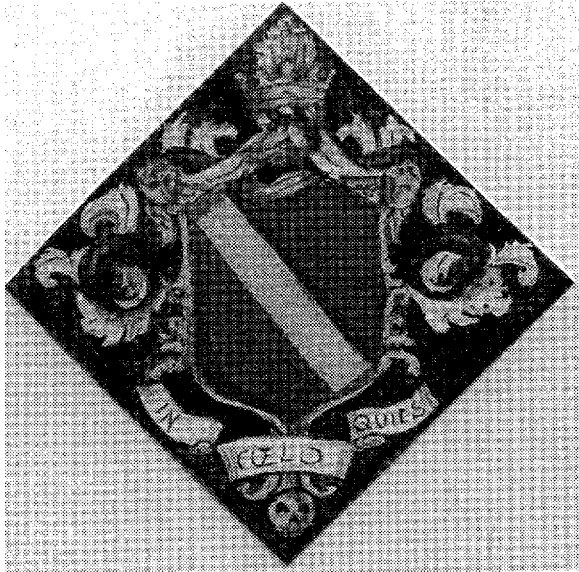
Ruislip "has two hatchments for bachelors, one for James Musgrove who died in 1757, and the other for Gervase(?) Scrope who died in 1776. In both cases the shield displays a single coat-of-arms and an all black background.



Elizabeth Deane, nee Gosling, 1847

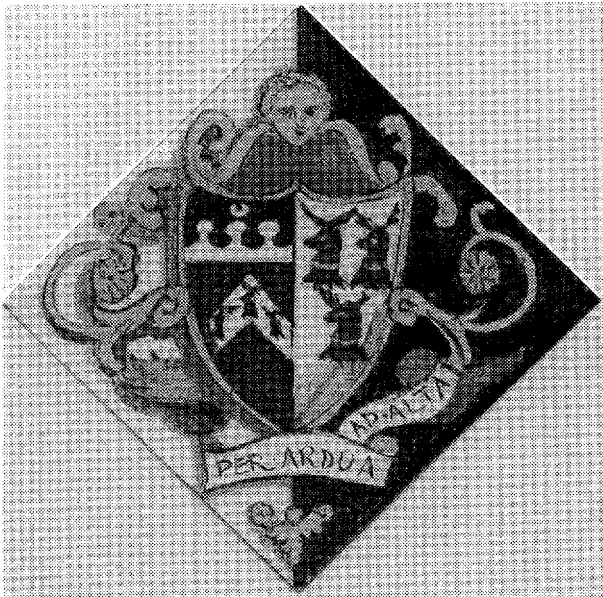


James Musgrove, 1757



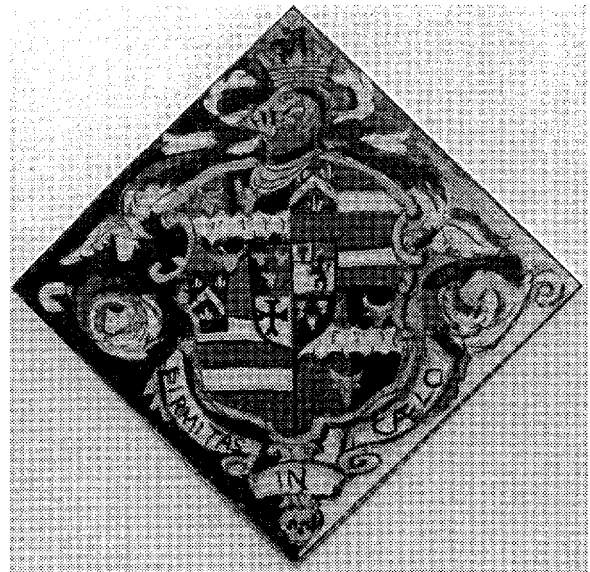
Gervase Scrope, 1776

The hatchment for Elizabeth (Hannay?), who died in 1809, wife of Thomas Woodroffe, with the angel's head above, again indicates survival of the husband.

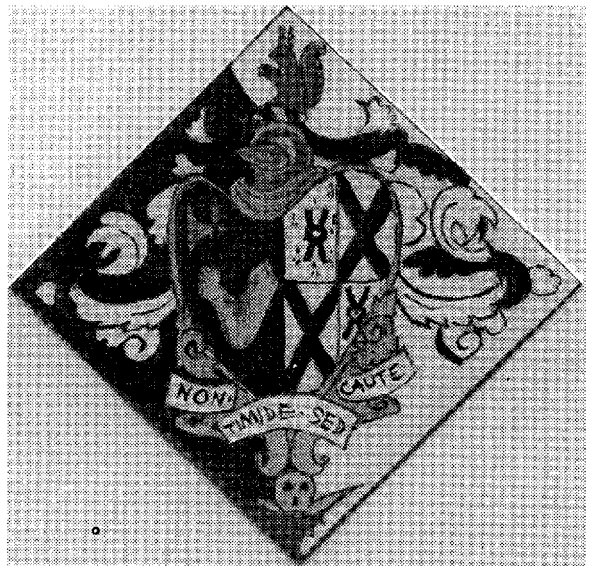


Elizabeth Woodroffe, nee Hannay?, 1809

Two other hatchments, both showing more complicated impalements and quarterings, indicate by the black background on the husband's side and white on the wife's, that Henry Emmett (1756) and John Hingstone (c1824) both died before their respective wives, leaving them widowed.



Henry Emmett, 1756



John Hingstone, c1824

Harefield can boast a similar sequence and variety relating to the Newdigate family who were Lords of the Manor and Patrons of the Living for six centuries.

As well as providing a colourful display in some churches, hatchments can give valuable information about former residents and families. Like all memorials they may have suffered damage and misplaced 'restoration', and are therefore more useful as supportive evidence than as primary sources. It is to be hoped that those that have survived thus far will not be recklessly cast aside.

The writer is indebted for the illustrations, which are early work of Timothy Noad, now a Herald Painter for the College of Arms.

For further information on hatchments, see *Hatchments in Britain* series, Volumes 1 to 10, edited by Peter Summers and John E. Titterton, published by Phillimore & Co. Ltd., 1974 to 94. Volume 5 (1985) includes Middlesex, recorded by J. D. Lee, formerly Hillingdon's Deputy Librarian.

JAMES ROGERS OF EASTCOTE HOUSE

by Eileen M. BowIt

James Rogers became associated with Ruislip through his marriage to Jane Hawtrey in 1719. They lived at Eastcote House with Jane's grandfather, Ralph Hawtrey, who was then 93 years old.

James Rogers

James Rogers was the son of John Rogers of Bushey, a goldsmith in partnership with the Childs at Temple Bar, and his wife Elizabeth (nee Herriott). John Rogers owned the Manor of Great Stanmore from 1700 to 1714. James became a Bachelor in Common Law in 1711, having matriculated from Trinity College, Oxford in 1704 at the age of 16. A strangely worded letter written at Stanmore in June 1713 suggests that he had some trouble in being awarded his degree

'your father and I are thinking that if you offered to give them security that if they do you the honour to grant you your degree you will not make that use of it as to do anyone a prejudice. If it be denied you we hope to see you quickly'.¹

Charles Cobbe, who was later Archbishop of Dublin, giving him a reference in May 1714 certified that

'James Rogers Esq formerly of Trinitij College, in Oxen did for seven years behave himself soberly and piously and attaine the character of an ingenious good humour'd gentleman. '²

In February 1714/5 he married Frances Arundell, the daughter of Thomas Arundell and his wife, Frances, of West End, Northolt, at St Mary le Bow in the City of London-. As an example of how long it took news to travel across the world in those days, here is an extract from a letter of congratulations, dated 17th Jan 1715/6, from James' cousin Mr Edward Page of Calcutta, who had just heard of the wedding. He suggests that the lady had been hard to persuade to commit herself and indicates that gentlemen also required more than a pretty face to entrap them into matrimony

'.... Before proceeding any further I'll venture to wish you joy and doubt not but the lady you have been endeavouring to bring to a compli~nce of these happy nuptials so long is very charming and agreeable. I have made many vain attempts that way but can't say 'tis altogether the Ladies' cruelty as my own caution, for 'tis a cursed trap to be caught in this country without any valuable bait, and is reckoned a certain holdfast often years longer at least than a man might stay here according to modest calculation. You seem so much to reflect on the females at Stanmore as you say I have done by the ladies here in their longing state of a single life, some of ours has of late gone off pretty well I believe I must desire you to be my proxy and single out some pretty little she to court for me against I come home, though if you should succeed in such an affair I do not know whether I may come up to the Ladies' expectations for this country is a sore decayer of a healthy constitution so I must be obliged to stay til I am worth enough as will be sufficient to sett off a weather beaten Indian in a young ladies esteem. '⁴

He had also lost the use of his left foot *'these four months past'*

Two months before Mr Page wrote the above letter, a daughter, Frances had been born and was baptised at Northolt on the 19 November 1715. The following September a son, John, was christened in the same church, but he was buried a few weeks later in November 1716. The children's mother, Frances, died shortly afterwards and was buried at Northolt on the 10 January 1716/7. The day before Sir George Cooke of Harefield Park (now Harefield Hospital) wrote to James Rogers

'Tomorrow is the day appointed for passmg of my accounts with relation to the Turnpike and likewise for a meeting of the Justices fore that. I cannot possibly wayte on you and pay respects to your poor lady, for the losse of whom I heartily condole with you. But for fear you should be disappointed I will send afriend and neighbour of myne one, Captain Whitefeld who is a married man to be in my room. My wife is much concerned for your loss. '⁵



Fig. 1 Eastcote House

The brickwork and sash windows were constructed by James Rogers c1725
The stucco was almost certainly added by Ralph Deane c1810

Subsequently the little girl seems to have been brought up by her grandparents at Bushey and at their house in Kensington. James, through his wife, Frances, owned an estate at West End in Northolt and they had probably lived there some of the time, as letters were addressed to '[James Rogers Esq at his house at West End']» and he wrote from there, in jocular vein, to [James Kentish who lived in Poland Street (off Oxford Street)

'I could not conveniently send your little tub of ale by Vincent, because the floods came and carried it away. I mean the liquor, for the vessel swam like Noah's Ark in Triumph on the Waves to speak a little more plain here was so much rain Friday Sennight that the cellar was full of Element and had not Goody Brown been up and pretty dry I had lost both Strong and Small [ale] I will send you another if I can on Sunday next. I am making my visits round the country and when those are ended will pay some in Town with my duty to Mrs Kentish.'

[James Kentish's wife was called Frances and she was a customary tenant of the Manor of Northolt. Together they had surrendered the

Northolt property to James Rogerss, probably as part of the marriage settlement, which suggests that Frances Kentish was Frances Arundell's mother and that Mr Kentish was her step father. [James Rogers stayed at the Kentish's house in Poland Street, after his wife's funeral, receiving letters there from his parents at Bushey

'Dear Son,

I long to know how you doe, from the letter my cosen Rogers tells me you have a bad cold. Pray advize with Mr Kellaway what to doe to take it off whither by bleeding or other wayse, don't neglect it. Give due service to Mr Kentish and Mrs Kentish whose loss I deeply, sincerely lament, you and she must needs think I and my wife are under like affliction. Your dear daughter is welt pray write to

Your affectionate but sorrowful father
John Rogers's

James Rogers was still in Poland Street just over a fortnight later when his father wrote again on the 27th January 1717

'I received yours today and am glad ye are pretty well in health, as for Mrs Kentish tis noe wonder she is meloncholly after so great a loss, to

give her any advice in her affliction, tis but adding fuel to the fire. I have been extream ill of a cold and can't be rid of it tho much better if you can divert Mrs Kentish, your company here would be very acceptable. Fanny's [Frances's] well as can be expected in her condition. Her gums swell and are cutting teeth '10

James Rogers' friendship and correspondence with Mr and Mrs Kentish continued after his second marriage.

Marriage Settlement

As Edward Page suggested in his letter to his cousin marriages were arranged with rather more material matters in view than mutual attraction. James Rogers began negotiating for a marriage with Jane Hawtrey sometime in 1718 and by November a Scheme of Settlement had been drawn up.ⁿ The Hawtrey estates consisted of Eastcote House and various lands and cottages in Eastcote and Ruislip held by copyhold of the Manor of Ruislip and leases of the Manor of Ruislip from King's College and of the Rectory of Ruislip held from the Dean and Canons of Windsor.

The scheme suggested that the copyhold estate worth £40 per annum' should be surrendered to James Rogers for life and after his death would form part of [Jane's jointure (i.e. an estate set aside for the sole use and support of a wife after her husband's decease). Trustees were to be appointed for the leasehold estates that would payout of them £100 per annum to Jane's widowed mother, Philadelphia Hawtrey, with the residue of any rent and profits to go to old Ralph Hawtrey. After their deaths the profits would devolve eventually upon James Rogers. Eastcote House, referred to as *'the Capital house at Ruislip'* was to be used by Ralph and his wife for life, then to go to James Rogers for life and after his death to Jane and then the first and other sons in tail male. There was a proviso in relation to the leasehold property that the benefit of the woodfall of the great wood, which was usually felled at 14 years growth, (the profits of coppicing in Copse Wood), should go to Ralph Hawtrey.

On the Rogers' side James and his father agreed to make up Jane's jointure to £300 per annum. To do this the house at Bushey and a leasehold estate in Kensington and £600 worth of East India Stock were to be settled so as to make good the jointure and carve out a provision for any younger children. The house at Bushey was already subject to £200 per annum payable to [James' mother should she be widowed. A marginal note suggested that the provision for younger children should be left to the father *'who by nature is bound to see æm provided for and what is proposed will only intangle him in settlements further than he is already'*.

Another note in the margin pointed out that Eastcote House should not be settled on Jane, unless it was part of her jointure, as it should go direct from James Rogers to the eldest son.

Matters were adjusted. Ralph Hawtrey promised as a free gift to *'surrender, convey and assure to James Rogers and his heirs'* the capital messuage with appurtenances at Ruislip and closes adjoining now in his own occupation. After the decease of himself and his wife it was to go to James Rogers and his heirs in tail male and to his right heirs forever.^{t-}

The exact date of James Rogers' second marriage is not known. It probably took place at St Martin's early in 1719, but the marriage registers between November 1717 and March 1736 are missing. In the early months [Jane wrote several undated letters to her husband who was frequently in London and sometimes visiting his parents.

.... 'sorry you found your father in so weak a condition my poor grandmother lies in a very sad way. She is alive and that is all My grandfather thanks you for the pig. '

*.... 'I am sorry the old gentleman is very ill, but hope this will find you all better. My poor grandmo is not dead but is a-dying We are in a very melancholy way.'*¹³

[Barbara, the wife of Ralph Hawtrey was buried in St Martin's on 30 November 1719, but John Rogers did not die until 1722. He was buried at Bushey.]

The following letter suggests that she was slightly nervous about her husband's reaction on hearing of damage to his vehicle.

*'My dear, I was glad to hear you gott safe to London. Ye men came home about half an hour after seven. They met with a calf which run against ye chariot and pull off one of the fore wheels and broke the excelluce. The chariot is left to be mended. I think this was done by Kinsington wall. Your men were sober when they came home. Evans is. to be with you a Thursday morning when you will have a full account of it. I think you had better take noe notice to Evans that I sent you word of it. They desire to make ye man pay for it if they can find him out. They say they know his master's name and where he lioes. I beg you will not fail when you come home, for I shall be in a fright if you do. Beg you believe me ever your obed wife. My mother desires me to tell you she has had fifty pounds of my grandfather and if you want money it is at your servis all of it.'*¹⁴

[Jane's widowed mother, Philadelphia, seems to have been living in Eastcote, but whether at Eastcote House or one of the other properties belonging to the Hawtreys is not clear.

James and Jane Rogers and their children
The couple had a son, Ralph, who was christened in January 1719/20, and a daughter, Elizabeth, baptized in November 1721. A third child called John was christened a year later on the 12 November 1722, but he only lived for a few weeks and was buried- on the 20 December. The father must have remembered the death of his eldest son also called John, at a similar age, six years earlier. The funeral seems to have taken place a couple of weeks or so after the death because Grandmother Rogers was at her Kensington house when she heard the melancholy news and wrote on the 9 December 1722

*'I am very sorry for my daughter [i.e. daughter-in-law] seeing how tenderly she loves her children 'She was sorry that she had not seen the new baby 'which was not through want of love, but having such a charge here of another body's child, which indeed I would not undertake but it being my own too.'*¹⁵

This is an apparent reference to James' eldest child, Frances.

Ralph, the eldest of [James and Jane's family was sent to Harrow School, where James, himself, had been a pupil. Thomas Brian, headmaster from 1691-1730, seems to have remained friendly with his former student (or perhaps had an eye to future business) because he had congratulated him upon Ralph's birth, signing the letter '*Your old preceptor but humble seroant*'>. Ralph went to Harrow on Saturday 30 September 1727 when he was less than seven years old. A careful account? was kept of the expenditure. Ralph was in Mr Brian's house, where there was an entrance fee of six guineas and a half year's board cost £12 13s 10d. In addition Mr Cox, then an assistant master, was given one guinea a term and Miss Brian, daughter of the schoolmaster received one guinea and half a guinea within the first half year.

The year was divided into two, mid-Jan until the end of May and July to mid-December, but Ralph was frequently at home, on at least one occasion because of sickness.

In 1727 he came home on the 1 November and returned on the 7th and was back home again for Christmas on the 13 December, returning on the 22 January. He had a short break from the 7 to 9 March and came back again from the 18 to 27 April. The long holiday was from the 28 May to the 2 July.

On the 13 July a worrying letter was brought over from the school.

*..... My favourite charge was yesterday at noon very cold upon lying upon the bed covered was about an hour after pretty hot and in a few hours very well again. This morning he was well and about 11 much the same as yesterday. He is now (3 o'clock) heavy-headed and out of order. Being suspicious that it may be an ague or an intermitting fever we thought it our duty to let you have timely notice of it.'*¹⁸

These sound like the symptoms of malaria. Was there stagnant water lying around Harrow Hill? The accounts note '*Fetcht Ralph*

home sick of an ague'. Happily he recovered sufficiently to go back to school on the 21 July, but was home again from 26 to 29 and again from the 2 to 11 August and the 13 to 18 September. He then stayed at school until the 25 October, came home, then went back again from the 7 November to 29. He returned to Harrow on the 3 December and broke up for Christmas on the 13 December as in the previous year.

There is no clear information about how long Ralph remained at Harrow. Dr Cox, followed Thomas Brian as headmaster in 1730, but led a disorderly life and numbers at the school fell during his headship. Ralph Rogers may have been one of the pupils who were removed. He was at Abbots Langley on the 21 July 1735 when he wrote to his father, reminding him of his parental obligations in most respectful terms.

'Honour'd Sir

Having the opportunity of a bearer I thought proper to put you in mind to send for me the beginning of next month (if you please). I hope my mamma and sister are both well to whom I offer my duty and love in the most humble manner this is all at present from Sir,

Your dutiful son,

Ralph Rogers'

Early the following year his mother, Jane Hawtrey died, being buried on the 5 February 1736 at St Martin's. Ralph followed her to the grave on the 27th of the same month. The cause of their deaths is not known and they may have been unconnected, but their coming so close together perhaps suggests some contagious disease. James Rogers was left at Eastcote with his daughter, Elizabeth.

James Rogers and his business affairs
James Rogers' business affairs are a little difficult to follow. He banked at Childs at Temple Bar, his father's partners, and received letters addressed to him there. His father and an uncle, Henry Rogers, were both goldsmiths, but there is no evidence that he followed in their footsteps. Nor does he seem to have embraced the legal profession. He was, however, a man of property.

Apart from the Eastcote House and the Manorial and Rectorial leases, he had leasehold houses in Cleveland Row adjoining St James's Park and the house in Kensington where his mother lived during her widowhood with his elder daughter, Frances. There was also the house at West End and there is at least one reference to a house in Great Marlborough Street.

From the correspondence he does not seem to have been a particularly good landlord. A tenant, possibly at the farm at West End, Richard Holmes, complained bitterly in September 1718

*'I was in hopes that you would have prevented my giving you this trouble by having repaired the house as you weare pleased to tell me you would, the winter approaching and the house not habitable, it being neither wind tite nor water tite, the repairs if not speedily prevented must inevitable increase. It is the common talk here that you never will repaire while I am in it and that you intend to live in it yourself If that be your reason for not making it habitable the fairer way would be to let me know your intentions I have aready laid one 100 lode of dung upon the meadows ... and have bought as much more to lay on which you may see..... There is neither gate nor stile in the whole farm but one... the house if not repaired will damage my family's health when bad weather comes.'*¹⁹

The following May he was even more indignant and explained his grievances to an Attorney-at-Law, Mr John Widson. He directed his letter *'to be left at the Temple Exchange Coffee House, against St Dunstan's church in Fleet Street'*, as was common practice, much business been done at Coffee Houses. Mr Rogers had encouraged him to lay all the dung on the meadows and promised to carry out the repairs, but had failed to do so.

*... 'and never so much as sent either to repair or stop the wholes in the roof and walls till I had a child almost drowned in his bed. He has by this means got all my dung and improvements by which I can prove by the neighbourhood in general that the estate is 10sh [shillings] per acre better than it was before I had improved it.'*²⁰

His relationship with tenants in Cleveland Row were equally unsatisfactory. E. Hampden, acting on behalf of Mrs Smith, left a letter for him at Robert Child's house near Temple Bar in June 1721.

'Mrs Smith says she has been twice at Mr Roger's shop [perhaps John Rogers had a goldsmith's shop of his own] to have notice that she earnestly wishes to speak with you and did also by letter give you an account of the miserable condition the kitchen was in by the overflowing of the well and did hope you would have brought workmen to view it, but not hearing from you, she desired your kinsman to come and see it, but could not prevail, and by her letter acquainted you.'²¹

She had been obliged to bring in workmen herself

*'The well never having been cleaned since the house was built there were several loads of mud to be taken out for the draynes of the whole Row ran into it and the timber rotten as will appear when you come. All which has been very chargeable and troublesome. The pumpman's bill was £4 9s. She has paid him £4 5s: the bricklayer, carpenter and plumber are yet unpaid ... The wall next the Park being only lath and mortar is ript up and if not very speedily remedied, the house will be in great danger.'*²²

Even making allowances for the tendency of tenants to exaggerate their grievances, James Rogers does seem to have been at best indifferent to the state of his property. It is true, however, that rents were not always paid promptly. Cat Stevens, also living in Cleveland Row and apt to find fault with the accommodation, wrote in June 1736, to explain why she was in arrears. She and two children had been extremely ill and it had cost her £100 only a fortnight before to send two daughters to Boston in New England.

Furthermore

*'Furnishing my house has put me much behind this year, but after September I shall take care never to be so behind again.'*²³

This was a vain hope and Cat Stevens continued to be a thorn in the side of James Roger's daughter, Elizabeth.

However neglectful he might have been of his leasehold property, James Rogers seems to have been responsible for the modernising of Eastcote House, originally a timber-framed building. In the Fig. 1 photograph we see an early-mid eighteenth century facade, covered in stucco. The addition of the stucco was done at the instigation of Ralph Deane who came into full possession in 1810 and whose beautifying of the house is mentioned in Brewer's 'Beauties of England and Wales', published in 1816. The brick facade under the stucco, the new windows and work on the interior was done under the direction of James Rogers.

An account in a bundle dated 1722 to 1738²⁴ lists:

<i>'Work to be done in my hall</i>	<i>£40</i>
<i>in my Gt Parlour</i>	<i>£50</i>
<i>Staircase and lobby</i>	<i>£50</i>
<i>Gt Matted Room</i>	<i>£50</i>
<i>Lt Matted Room</i>	<i>£40</i>
<i>Brickwork two fronts</i>	<i>£100</i>
<i>Raising a roof etc</i>	<i>£36</i>
<i>Lath and plastering</i>	<i>£20</i>
<i>2 sashes</i>	<i>£6</i>
<i>For making good joinery work, carpentry and painting</i>	<i>£20</i>
<i>A sash for the first room</i>	<i>£3</i>
<i>Brick layers' work for the chimneys and smith's work to tie in the front and making good the roof</i>	<i>£15'</i>

This amounts to almost £400.

According to James Rogers' account the staircase was installed by him c1725. (See Fig. 2)

James Rogers increased the size of the estate in Ruislip by purchasing St Catherine's Farm in Howletts Lane in 1725, from the executors of Thomas Powell.>

At the time the tenement was known as Coatshaw and Howletts Lane appears to have been called Holders Lane." The land was called Lowys and included 27 acres, some of it former wood ground in Harefield parish between New Years Green Lane and Breakspear Road North.

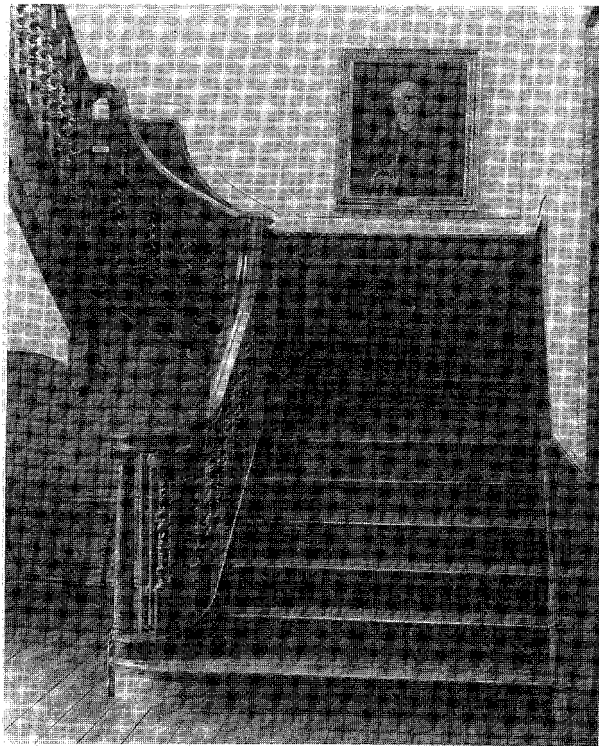


Fig. 2 - Eastcote House Staircase

The King's College leases were renewed every seven years, when a fine (a sum of money) had to be paid for renewal. The rent specified in the lease had to be paid annually. In 1718 Ralph Hawtrey had been paying £196 6s per annum, £52 being in lieu of an earlier payment of malt in kind. The fine was £320. The profit in 1718 arising out of rents and the profits of the manor courts was £343 14s.²⁷ John Reading, Gentleman, who was the undertenant living at the Manor House (now Manor Farm) paid Mr Hawtrey an annual rent of £180 plus five couple fat pullets and one lamb or 42s in lieu each Christmas.s'

The Rectory lease was cheaper, £25 per annum, and a fine of £130 payable every four years. The rectorial tithes collected by Mr Hawtrey in 1718 amounted to £250.²⁹

When James Rogers was dealing with the leases from the time of his marriage to Jane Hawtrey, he worried about the costs, having heard that the fine upon renewal was to be raised. He was assured by the Bursar, Mr Mann, that the increase would not be exorbitant.v He was dilatory in paying the annual rent and had to be reminded on more

than one occasion that the College had made several demands for money. Leases were bought in advance, perhaps as a hedge against inflation. Mr Rogers had obviously been trying to negotiate a lower fine. A new Bursar, J. Smith, told him in December 1733 that the new fine had not yet been determined and went on

*'you make no objection to our valuation of any part of our estate, can find no reason for an abatement in the fine. As to want of tenants (which in your case I apprehend is not owing to the value we set on our estate, but the badness of the times for farmers) I acknowledge it is a misfortune to any gentleman, but then it ought to be considered that the seven years which you are now about to purchase, will not follow immediately but after the expiration of 13 years: and what reason can there be to think that those years will prove bad rather than that the goodness of them will make amends for the badness of the present times the fine will almost certainly be £500 as usual.'*³¹

This was not the reply that Mr Rogers had hoped for and he wrote again, only to receive the following in January 1734

*'the times are now growing better for farmers the price of corn is considerably risen already as to the expense of stocking your farms that can be no reason I apprehend for an abatement, for what landlord ever made a deduction in rent upon letting an estate because the tenant must be at the expense of stocking it? And is not the produce and advantage of the stock supposed to answer and make amends for the expense of laying it in?'*³²

The new lease commencing 13 years ahead was not destined to be his problem because [James Rogers died in July 1738, apparently unexpectedly, as he made his will only on the day he died and failed to name a guardian or trustee for his daughter, Elizabeth, to whom he left all the Ruislip part of his estate. He bequeathed the Cleveland Row houses to his elder daughter, Frances, but all that property also descended to Elizabeth when her Grandmother Rogers and her half sister died within days of each other in August 1739.

Elizabeth Rogers was 16 years old at the time of her father's death and 17 when her grandmother and half sister died. She was left not only with the Eastcote estate and Ruislip Manorial and Rectory leases, but also had London property to manage.

How did she cope? That's another story.

-
- 1 LMA: Ace 24912212
 - 2 LMA: Ace 24912248
 - 3 IGI
 - 4 LMA: Ace 24912250
 - 5 LMA: Ace 24912259
 - 6 LMA: Ace 24912092
 - 7 LMA: Ace 24912269
 - 8 LMA: Ace 24912294
 - 9 LMA: Ace 24912257-8
 - 10 Ibid
 - 11 LMA: Ace 24912322
 - 12 LMA: Ace 24912323
 - 13 LMA: Ace 24912354-7
 - 14 Ibid
 - 15 LMA: Ace 24912223
 - 16 LMA: Ace 249/3817
 - 17 LMA: Ace 24912386
 - 18 LMA: Ace 24912358
 - 19 LMA: Ace 24912092
 - 20 LMA: Ace 24912293
 - 21 LMA: Ace 24912240
 - 22 Ibid
 - 23 LMA: Ace 249/3834
 - 24 LMA: Ace 24911760
 - 25 LMA: Ace 249/3010
 - 26 LMA: Ace 24911778
 - 27 LMA: Ace 249/2280
 - 28 LMA: Ace 249/2310
 - 29 LMA: Ace 24912280
 - 30 LMA: Ace 24912344-53
 - 31 Ibid
 - 32 Ibid

FIGHT OVER MANOR FARM 'DUCK POND'.

by Colin Bowlt

In a bundle of eighteenth century papers! in the archives at King's College, Cambridge, there are two notebooks in the hand of the Bursar of the time, Mr G. Smith, who appears to have done much travelling-to the various estates owned by the College. This short memorandum shows that village life was not all pastoral peace.

It is reproduced here with spelling and punctuation as in the original.

'Memo.

The Inhabitants of Ruislip Town claim a Right of watering their Cattle at the Pond in the Store-yard lying between the Barn yard and the street under a pretence that this yard was formerly waste ground; as a proof that it was so, it is alledged that the Fence on the west side was first made in the memory of some persons now living, & that before that it had always laid open on that side. The under-tenant complained to me Apr. 15 1748 that this claim frequently occasions great inconvenience to him, & desired to know whether there be any foundation for it. It should seem that there is none, unless they can claim by prescription, for this yard was the Court-Yard of the scite of the Manor, and not waste Ground (notwithstanding it may sometimes by neglect of the Farmer have laid pen on the west side) as appears from the abutments of a Copyhold Cottage standing west of the Gate & situate between the street on the South & the said yard on the North side. Vid. Survey anno 7 Eliz. Vol. 13.9 - Ricus Robins Smyth tenet per Copiam unum alium Cotagium cum le yarde Cont. di. Rodam et jacet Boreal. Versus le Carte yearde, et austr. Versus Highe Strete, et abutt. Orient Sup le Carte - Gate. [Translation: Richard Robins, Smith, holds one other cottage with the yard containing half a rod and it lies north against the Court yard and south against the High Street and abuts east upon the Court Gate.]

'Memo.

To search the Court-Rolls, Presentments .. for the Right of the Lessee of the Demesne Lands to keep

Cattle & ... upon the Common: it is pretended by the Copyhold Tennants ... that he has no right. [This suggests that the local inhabitants were trying to get their own back.]

Comment

The barnyard referred to is now the grassy area between the Great Barn, the Library, the Cow Byre and the Stables and Guide Hut. The Store yard is now the Bowling Green and the area around the pond. Doharty's map shows the present Bowling Green filled with hay ricks.

The 'Survey 7 Eliz' which Mr Smith consulted is the 1565 Terrier of the Manor of Ruislips. In that document the pond was called 'the horse pool'. The cottage that was then owned by Richard Robins, the smith, is now Blubecker's Restaurant. It was given a brick facade and new windows and possibly extended in the eighteenth century and was divided into two cottages either then or in the nineteenth century. John Doharty called the cottage 'Mr Fern's house and garden', when he carried out his survey in 1750. Some residents of Ruislip will remember when the western end was the Village Sweet Shop and the eastern end was Haleys.

Elizabeth Rogers was the College tenant from 1738-1803, leasing the demesne and woods from King's College, as her Hawtrey ancestors had done in the seventeenth century. She lived at Eastcote House and sub-let the Manor House or Ruislip Court as it was known. Joseph Goodson was there at the time of Mr Smith's memo and is the 'under tenant' and 'Farmer' mentioned. Mr Goodson had come to Manor Farm from Halton, Bucks in 1747 and had taken over the property for 12 years, paying Miss Rogers £110 per annum rent and 12 young fat hens. He also had to house the Steward of King's College and his servant and stable their horses when they came to Ruislip to hold a Manor Court'.

Demesne

The Demesne was the portion of the Manor reserved by the Lord of the Manor for his own profit and use. In Ruislip the demesne was large and stretched from the northern boundary of Copse Wood, through the centre of the manor to roughly the line of Station, Approach, South Ruislip. (Seemap on page) The copyhold tenants had cottages and lands outside the demesne and certain rights such as pasturing cattle and sheep on the commons and waste grounds.

It is possible that the copyhold tenants had been watering their cattle at the pond (now the Duck Pond) by default for some years

past and when [Joseph Goodson tried to keep them out, they retaliated by trying to keep his animals off the common.

Copyhold

In medieval times the copyholders had been obliged to work on the demesne a certain number of days per week. These labour services had been commuted to a payment of a Quitrent 'to be rid of all services' by the late medieval period. The process was beginning in Ruislip as early as the mid-thirteenth century.^s The title of the manorial tenants to their lands was a copy of the entry in the Court Roll, hence the term Copyholder.

¹ KC: RUI 51 (formerly Q43/1)

² KC: RUI 182 (formerly R36)

³ LMA: Ace 24912602

⁴ See Bowlit, Eileen M. 'The Goodliest Place in Middlesex', pp 578-61, for a full discussion of this point.

A GROUP OF MARBLES FROM CHENEY STREET FARM, EASTCOTE, MIDDLESEX

by Colin Bowlt

At the beginning of January 2003 the owners of the sixteenth century Cheney Street Farm informed me that they had discovered a lot of 'musket balls' among debris inside a brick structure adjoining their fireplace. The hollow semicircular structure appears to be the support for an early staircase rising around the chimney. It is now capped at just below ceiling level of the ground floor. The owners in removing some of the loose infilling under the capping had found a number of items including the 'musket balls'. In addition there were many shreds of printed paper, probably newspaper, dating from the seventeenth century to nineteenth century.

The balls were made of some sort of stone and not lead as would be expected of musket balls. They were submitted to Geoff Egan of the Museum of London for inspection, who wrote:

'106 marbles were found in a structure beside a domestic fireplace in the farm building. They all appear to be of stone, probably a variety of limestones. Marbles like this were made by being hand-held against polishing wheels in Mills. Dimensions vary between 12 and 18mm. Most are a range of greys or buff (a few have areas of dark mottling that presumably represents some material they have accidentally come into contact with) and one is black. Several exhibit sedimentary weathering, which may have been valued by players, though there seems to be no contemporary recorded evidence for this.

Just under a handful of the greyish ones are probably true 'marble' (though nothing like as good in quality as the Carrara marble from Italy that was used for the most expensive versions available). Also absent are any of the red-streaked ones particularly prized by children. One appears fire-damaged, with three areas of spalling. There is a rougher, naturally rounded pebble that is presumably an addition. This large group is remarkable in having no ceramic marbles at all, perhaps an indication despite the different sizes that (the natural pebble aside) it is an integral group. Precise dating is difficult at this early stage of development of the subject, but they are probably from the eighteenth or early nineteenth century, after which glass became the preferred material.'

This is the largest group of such marbles found in England currently known to the Museum. Marble production seems to have been concentrated in parts of Europe with fast water supplies used in 'rounding' the marbles. Measurements on the Eastcote specimens showed them to be remarkably spherical. A tricky thing to achieve but necessary if they were to roll regularly.

However most of the present interest appears to be in the USA which has resulted in a book:

Colonial Period and Early 19th century Childrens Toy Marbles, R. Gartly & J Carskadden 1998 Zanesville, Ohio.

CRIME IN 1787 - SOME EXAMPLES OF CASES RESEARCHED IN THE H047 SERIES OF RECORDS IN THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

by Jessica Eastwood

All the volumes in the Records contain a wealth of details about individuals at just one low point in their lives, that is when they had committed a crime or were accused of a crime. Then their names had been written down, they had been tried; judgement was passed; they were sentenced; friends and neighbours petitioned for clemency and 215 years later I am reading about them putting their names on a list ready to be indexed regardless of whether they were innocent or guilty. The volume I researched covers the year 1787 and below are a few examples of the cases contained therein.

The convicts are a mixed lot. There is John Smith, an experienced sailor, who missed his ship because the wind changed direction and it sailed away with all his possessions and money on board leaving him in London. He decided to walk through Kent to pick up the ship at a Channel port, but he was not used to walking and collected blisters on his feet. His money was on the ship so in desperation he resorted to highway robbery, got caught and finished up in gaol. He wrote his own petition - four closely written pages giving his life story. He had sailed from the East Indies to the West Indies to Africa and America, was shipwrecked, captured by the French and rescued. He was found guilty sentenced to death but had been reprieved. His final sentence was not known but he would probably have been sent to sea for seven years, as sailors were needed with war with France looming.

Then there was Amelia, wife of Mr Gill, who was convicted of taking five yards of calico from the shop of William Armfield in Sheffield by hiding it under her stays. The petition on her behalf states that she was of a flighty disposition, and hinted that she was not quite normal in the head.

Shoplifting in 1787 seems to have been a woman's crime, as it is today. Women were not usually transported in 1787, most seem to have been sentenced to one year's hard labour in a House of Correction.

Then there were those who were led astray. Henry Stansfield, the son of a shopkeeper in Hatton Garden, aged 14, got into bad company and was talked into breaking into a dwelling house and stealing a bed! and some clothes. He was caught and sentenced. His petition is signed by his father, Titus, mother, Hannah, and other shopkeepers, all giving their names, shop addresses and trades. His father also wrote that his mother was ill with the worry of it. His fate is not stated but as he was very young it is unlikely that the punishment would have been too severe.

In the petition of one fairly wealthy obviously guilty young man called Thomas Collingwood, was the comment that he had been spoilt by his mother and seven older sisters. Whether this cut any ice with Lord Sydney is not known. What is of interest is that his father was the Secretary of the Foundling Hospital. The youth had his sentence reduced from death to transportation.

Sheep stealing was the most common rural crime and there was much detail of sheep marks being changed. A larger problem of identification arose when a sheep had been slaughtered and very little remained and the defendant claimed to have bought the sheep elsewhere.

Horse stealing was as prevalent as car stealing is now. There is one case where Joseph Moreland, a carpenter, was accused of stealing a gelding from Dame Catherine Hardy and leaving it at The Turks Head Inn in Reading.

An accomplice had come round from the George Inn and taken it away. In his petition Joseph said that he had found the horse and that he had a wife and four children to support.

Then there is the man who went off in a carriage after dinner at an Oxford Hostelry with a silver spoon belonging to the Hotel and who was chased all the way to Banbury, was caught and tried and sentenced (punishment not known).

There are some very sad stories. A prison Chaplain was so very concerned at the behaviour of one feeble minded young man in Aylesbury gaol that he wrote a petition on his behalf. The prisoner was swallowing mice whole, for a halfpenny a mouse, to amuse the other prisoners and the Chaplain feared for his health.

Thomas Foster of Aylsham in Norfolk was accused of stealing books from two booksellers in Norwich for whom he been cataloguing books. He also ran his own bookshop in Aylsham, the inference being that he was stocking his shop with stolen goods. His petition said he had five children to support.

Charles Walter Wyatt in charge of the post at Witney was accused of stealing bank notes from letters. His petition states he was very young.

Finally there was William King, who had been a soldier in the Royal Regiment of Artillery, who was tried at York for highway robbery and sentenced to death. The judge reprieved him on the grounds that his crime was an unpremeditated consequence of a day spent in a Disorderly House and he was sentenced to a further seven years in the land service (Army).

AN ACCOUNT OF WORKING ON THE H017 SERIES OF RECORDS AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

by Jessica Eastwood

This account of working on the Records at the National Archives (formerly the Public Record Office), shows the method of extracting the required information from the original documents, using as an example the papers from the case of W. H. Reynolds, who was convicted of the attempted assassination of General Burton at the Old Bailey in 1824 and sentenced to death.

For background to this work I refer to the article in the RNELHS 2002 Journal by Susan Toms, 'Experiences of working on the HO 47 Series of Records at The Public Record Office', which explained that the Judges were required to write reports on the convicts who had had petitions sent to the Home Office pleading for the King's mercy to mitigate their sentences. We volunteers have almost completed working on these records and we are now beginning indexing the HO 17 series. These differ from HO 47 in that the Judges reports are missing, either because they were never written or were just not retained. The Home Office having dealt with the petitions sorted the papers into bundles and filed them in boxes. At the start of this project the papers were again sorted into individual cases and put into A5 acid free paper envelopes by the staff at National Archives. The envelopes were then filed in boxes, approximately two boxes per year between the 1820's and 1850's.

My box with its envelopes concerns petitions received in 1824, and its file number is Home Office (HO) DK which was the original Home Office reference number, and then each petition with its associated correspondence is numbered consecutively. A Catalogue Sheet (see example) is completed for each case.

The details from the Catalogue Sheet will be entered into the computer at a later date for use by researchers and the public.

For the purposes of this article I shall concentrate on the case mentioned in my introduction.

Firstly I copied the reference number written on the envelope, i.e. ref HO 17/30 DK 21, onto the Catalogue Sheet and removed the contents. There were four pieces of loose correspondence and a thick wad of papers tied up in faded red ribbon. I tackled the loose papers first.

Paper 1 A letter sent to W. H. Reynolds at No. 2 Little Peter St., Sun St., Bishopsgate. The letter began *Dear Husband*, and was signed by Elizabeth Reynolds. It said *that she was well and had gone into the country one mile beyond High gate, and would not trouble General Burton.*

Paper 2 A note dated 29 Jan. 1824 from Archdeacon Blomfield to Home Secretary Robert Peel requesting a meeting concerning Reynolds.

Paper 3 A letter from Newgate Gaol written by the Prison Surgeon and dated 26 May 1826 stating *that William Reynolds was in better health, though he was suffering from consumption and needed better air.*

Paper 4 A petition written by Elizabeth Reynolds stating that her father *had been the late Ensign Meadley of the 60th Foot, and that her husband is attempt to assassinate General Burton had occurred because his mind had been biased and his reason suspended.* The petition is signed by 33 petitioners who also added their addresses. All appear to have been local to Bishopsgate and its environs, e.g. J. N. Lloyd, Gun Street, Spitalfields.

I then untied the red ribbon and counted 13 pieces of correspondence, which I decided to read in the order in which they had been bundled up.

Paper 5 A short letter from William Cavillier of Whitby addressed to *Dear Madam* and referring to William Reynolds' wife Elizabeth who had been *a blot upon the creation of the Almighty's works ever since she was ten*.

Paper 6 Another letter from Archdeacon Blomfield to Robert Peel Home Secretary, complaining about the deficiencies of the defence during the trial at the Old Bailey. The Attorney had only briefed the Defence Counsel minutes before the trial and had not called all the witnesses. He also referred to *that woman's behaviour with General Burton*.

Paper 7 A series of eight closely written pages on poor quality paper described as depositions and all written in the same hand. They appear to be evidences given by neighbours, friends and the employer of William Reynolds presumably to be sent to the Home Secretary. The name of each witness was given and then their evidence. For reasons of space I will give the main points to emerge from their depositions. It appeared that Elizabeth Reynolds was in receipt of many presents from General Burton, e.g. a scent box, good clothes and vegetables from his country estate, and she bought him grapes. The General had offered to attempt to procure a separation for her from Reynolds, had offered her sanctuary at his house in Worcestershire, and had sent her five pounds for transport. General Burton's coach had been seen parked outside the Reynolds' house, and Elizabeth was observed to enter it and kiss the General before the door was closed.

One witness, John Blake, stated that this was William Reynolds' second marriage and mentioned that Elizabeth was bigamously married to him, and that she collected £20 a year from Somerset House. The midwife Elizabeth Witt, who had attended Elizabeth at her last confinement, reported that the General had asked Elizabeth sometime before if she was in the family way, and she had said no. The neighbours also accused Elizabeth of flirting and of loose behaviour with their lodger.

John Reynolds, William's brother, said that his brother was very distressed about his wife's affair and did not know what to do about it.

Paper 8 A list of all the previous deponents giving their addresses and employment: William Jones, 87 Brook St.

Edmund Knight, Bishopsgate, a timber merchant.

Frederick Andrews, Little Peter St. Owned a drug mill. Employed W. Reynolds on a casual basis.

Mrs Sayers, Reynolds' lodger at 2 Little Peter St.

Elizabeth Goddin, 29 Hatton Wall.

George Crenidge, 37 Sun St. Coachmaker.

Thomas Simpson, Clifton St., Finsbury Sq. Cabinet maker.

John Blake, 44 Holland St. Blackfriars.

Mrs Jones, 87 Brook St.

Mrs Reynolds, (mother) and John Reynolds (brother), 3 South Rd, Whitechapel

John Witt, 3 South Rd.

Elizabeth Witt, 3 South Rd.

Charles Sayers, Reynolds' lodger, 2 Little Peter St.

Paper 9 Containing character references for all the above witnesses.

Paper 10 The second petition -signed by 84 neighbours and parishioners of St. Botolphs, Bishopsgate, pleading the former good character of Reynolds who had been driven to distraction by his wife.

Paper 11 This is a small folded piece of paper written by the Churchwardens of St Botolphs and clarifying Elizabeth Reynolds' marital affairs. She was married to and still was married to a sailor, and was therefore bigamously married to Reynolds, but she claimed that she was single in order to obtain a pension of £20 a year from Somerset House. The Churchwardens had also visited General Burton in his villa at High gate, but he would not answer their questions until his servant had left the room, and was apparently embarrassed by their visit.

Paper 12 A letter from Elizabeth Reynolds to Home Secretary Robert Peel asking him to return to her the memorial concerning her father Ensign Meadley. (He didn't because we still have the memorial.)

Paper 13 The memorial. This is an extremely fragile piece of paper beginning to disintegrate along the fold lines. The substance of this paper is that Meadley served with distinction in the French Wars with the Coldstream Guards. In 1806 he was recommended for promotion by General Burton, whereupon he was transferred to the 6th Battalion of the 60th Regiment then serving in Jamaica.' His wife and young daughter Elizabeth accompanied him. On the 28 March 1809 whilst walking on the Parade Ground he was knifed to death by Private Christian Beuker; no reason was given for his action. However the Officers of the 60th Foot were sorry for Meadley's dependents and organized a collection to send them back to England together with this memorial. (Elizabeth must have been entitled to a pension as long as she was single.)

Paper 14 A letter dated 27 July 1826 from Rev. C. T. Chester (Vicar) to Henry Hobhouse pleading for Reynolds to be moved from the infirmary at Newgate Gaol to *better air* to save his life.

Paper 15 A letter dated 2 July 1827 from A. W. Robarts to Spencer Percival, sent with a petition (which petition is not clear) requesting that Reynolds be released from prison. (He was by now on a Prison Hulk off Chatham and unwell). A note on the back of this letter dated 12 July 1827 says *Refused*.

Paper 16 This is the petition from Reynolds himself in which he told the whole story. His wife and General Burton had pursued a torrid love affair. Reynolds, distraught from jealousy, had bought a pair of pistols intending to shoot the General.

He had gone to the General's house in New Street, Paddington, and found his wife there. He had shot at General Burton but missed, for which he was now heartily thankful. He had taken up religion and hoped to be released so that he could care for his three children. There are 44 signatures on this petition. I believe that this petition was sent from the Hulk at Chatham via A. W. Robarts (see paper 15), and turned down by Peel.

Paper 17 This is another petition signed by 222 Londoners, including the 12 jurymen who convicted him, and therefore must have been sent in 1824 and have helped in the commutation of the original sentence of death to imprisonment. This petition was considered at the King's Council held on 26 May 1824.

All the papers are now read, and I can complete the Catalogue Sheet with the important details (see the completed example) which will be entered into computer.

I am also left with a fascinating glimpse into life in Bishopsgate in 1824, involving attempted murder, adultery, bigamy, obtaining a pension falsely, plus a botched trial at the Old Bailey, imprisonment in Newgate and the Hulks, a past murder in Jamaica, and the scandalous testimonies of the Reynolds' neighbours and friends.

For the serious local historian and genealogist there are names and addresses on the four petitions. There are letters to Home Secretary Peel and other Government figures, and the memorial about Ensign Meadley.

Unfortunately we shall never know the end of the story and what actually happened after 1827 - was William Reynolds released?, and what happened to his shocking wife?

1. Petition ☒ (tick) (4)
 Report from Magistrate/Judge ☐ (tick)

2. Convict

Name	WILLIAM HENRY REYNOLDS.
Occupation	CASUAL WORKER AT DRUG MILL
Where tried	OLD BAILEY
Date of trial	JAN. 1824.
Crime	ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION
Date of crime	N/K.
Initial sentence	DEATH

3. Victim

Name	GENERAL ? BURTON
Occupation	SOLDIER - POSSIBLE COLOSTREAM GUARDS
Other	LIVED LONDON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

4. Grounds for Clemency (usually from petition):

DRIVEN TO DESPERATION BY WIFE'S AFFAIR
 OF GOOD CHARACTER. 1ST CRIME.
 GOOD HONEST WORKER. HAD HAPPY 1ST MARRIAGE
 3 SMALL CHILDREN TO SUPPORT
 ILL HEALTH (IN GAOL)
 BOTCHED TRIAL

5. Judge's Recommendation/Comments (from report if any):

6. Individual Petitions (signed by 1 person only):

Name	Occupation / Relationship	Date
ELIZABETH REYNOLDS	WIFE	? 1824.
WILLIAM REYNOLDS	Sent from NEWGATE	JAN 1824.
WILLIAM REYNOLDS	SENT FROM HOSPITAL IN HULK CANADA AT CHATHAM.	26/6/1827.

7. Collective Petitions (signed by 2 or more people)

Number of signatories	Collective identity (e.g. inhabitants of Anytown)	Date
33	LOCALS OF BISHOPSGATE	n/k. ATTACHED TO ELIZABETH REYNOLDS PETITION.
44	PARISHONERS OF ST BOTOLPHS.	JAN 1824. AS REYNOLDS PETITION.
222	LONDONERS INCLUDING JURYMEN	JAN 1824.
84	PARISHONERS & LOCALS ^{ST. BOTOLPHS} BISHOPSGATE	21/1/1827

8. Miscellaneous Correspondence

Name of SENDER.	Subject Matter or RECIPIENT.	Date
ELIZABETH REYNOLDS	WILLIAM REYNOLDS	1823.
"	ROBERT PEELE HOME SEC RE	MEMORIAL 1824.
ARCHDEACON BROMFIELD.	ROBERT PEELE (CASE & TRIAL OF REYNOLDS)	29/1/1824
WILLIAM CAVILLIER OF WHITRY	RECIPIENT NOT NAMED. GAVE ELIZABETH BAD CHARACTER.	31/1/1824.
CHURCH WARDENS OF ST. BOTOLPHS.	DETAILS OF ELIZABETH'S MARITAL AFFAIRS. INTERVIEW WITH BURTON.	no date.

SURGEON GAOLER NEWSATE RE REYNOLDS HEALTH. 25/5/1826.

9. Any other information that strikes you as important we can decide later whether this is appropriate for the catalogue.

C.J CHESTER REYNOLDS ILL IN NEWSATE 27/7/1826.
GAOL. TO HARRY HOBHOUSE

GUIDED WALKS

As a contribution to National Local History Month in May 2003, the RNELHS organised three guided walks around the original Parish of Ruislip led by members of the Society. These walks were entitled:

Old Eastcote - led by Karen Spink and Susan Toms (4 May)

Historic Ruislip - led by Eileen Bowlt (11 May)

Hamlet to Town (Northwood) - led by Simon Morgan (26 May)

The circumstances and portrayals of the Eastcote and Northwood walks warranted recorded descriptions and these are embodied in the following two articles.

OLD EASTCOTE

by Karen Spink and Susan Toms

On a warm sunny Sunday afternoon a group of some 15 people met at Haydon Hall car park for a walk to explore more of old Eastcote. We reversed the order of last year's walk to start at Haydon Hall which we had viewed previously through an approaching evening gloom.

We met on the site where two substantial houses had once stood. The first was built in 1630 for Lady Alice, Countess of Derby of Harefield Place and was replaced in 1720 by a mansion for Thomas Franklin. It was this latter house that was much extended in the 1870s and 1880s by the then owner Lawrence James Baker who employed the architects Ernest George and Harold Peto to improve the house and design attractive workers' cottages for his extensive sporting estate. Haydon Hall became the centre for village entertainment when Captain and Mrs Harry Bennett-Edwards, the novelist, were in residence and it was they who allowed the ground to be used by Eastcote Cricket Club. Nothing of the house remains, but we were pleased to see the cricketers in action as we set off across the park to Southill Lane.

Southill Cottages, now known as Findon, (see RNELHS 2002 Journal page 25) were three cottages built in about 1880 to a design by George and Peto for Haydon Hall Estate workers. They were converted to one house early in the 20th century.

Southill Farm, next door, (see Fig.1) was built in the early 18th century and replaced an earlier building.

At the end of Southill Lane, on the edge of Haydon Hall grounds, we admired the very handsome Haydon Lodge with its decorative parquetry and seven fine carvings around the porch representing figures from British and foreign culture. The lodge house was also designed by George and Peto and built in 1880 at a cost of £1100.



Fig. 1 Southill Farm

On the opposite corner of Southill Lane we saw The Case Is Altered public house which was largely reconstructed after a fire in 1890. An earlier cottage on the site was mentioned in the 1565 Terrier as being owned by Anna Slepe. One explanation for the origin of its name, which is born out by the pub sign, is that it derives from the Spanish *casa de saltar*, a place of entertainment, which dates from soldiers returning from the Peninsula War.

We continued along the High Road to The Grange, a timber-framed building whose original two-storey house in the centre dates from before 1550 and was listed in the 1565 Terrier. The white weather-boarding was added much later, in 1924, when the owners Mr and Mrs Noel Dore completely restored the building and linked the west barn to the main house with an elevated passageway (see article by Eileen Bowlt in RNELHS 2001 Journal).

An added bonus of our walk was an impromptu invitation by the owners of Grange Cottage, a separate building in front of The Grange, to come and see their garden and house. This was followed by a similar invitation by the owners of The Grange to see inside their house and grounds. It was fascinating to hear their experiences 'from the horse's mouth' of restoring and living in such listed buildings.

Next along the High Road we viewed The Old Shooting Box, another timber-framed building which originally comprised three cottages, one of which was thought to date from the end of the 16th century. Later research indicates that the present house dates from the early 18th century (see articles by Pat Clarke and Eileen Bowlt in RNELHS 2002 Journal).

There used to be a row of cottages in the 19th and early 20th century in front of The Old Shooting Box called Park and then Jacobean Cottages and one of these cottages served as Eastcote's first Post Office in 1861.

The next building on the High Road we stopped to admire was Ramin which was also mentioned in the 1565 Terrier. The oldest part of the house is a remnant of a timber-framed section with the jetty overhanging the road and this dates from the 16th century. However by the mid-19th century the present building was in use as three separate cottages and remained like that until it was converted by the purchaser John David Marshall to the single residence we see today. He was also responsible for the name Ramin since it was believed the house had been an inn called The Ram (see articles by Pat Clarke and Eileen Bowlt in RNELHS 2002 Journal).

We then turned left up Catlins Lane to look at St Catherine's Farm, passing a row of villas on the left that were built between 1903 and 1913, and which rather charmingly have retained their house names and have no numbers. These houses were built by local builders. One of them, Charles [Jacques, may well have been influenced by architects George and Peto as some of his houses, e.g. The Moorings, feature decorative parquetry.

St Catherine's Farm, on the right-hand side, was a 15th century hall house which has been much altered over the centuries (see article by Karen Spink in RNELHS 2001 Journal). It ceased to be a working farm when, after World War I, the house and grounds were sold to Charles Jacques for use as a builder's yard and market garden. The rest of the land was split up and sold off in lots.

Daymer Gardens was built in the 1970s on four acres of farmland that had been purchased by Frank Welch. He built himself a house called High Meadow and helped the Wesleyan Mission in London run boys' clubs in his grounds. He bequeathed a piece of land to the RNUDC to be developed as flats for old people. This was built in 1969 and is known as Frank Welch Court. It is now threatened with re-development.

We then turned right off Catlins Lane and took the public footpath across open land, once part of Cuckoo Hill Farm which for three centuries had been owned by the Hawtrey Deanes of Eastcote House.

Cuckoo Hill Farm (see Fig. 2) is most famous for an event that took place in June 1880. A hay-rick caught fire (a not uncommon occurrence) and the Uxbridge Volunteer Fire Brigade were called to put it out. The nearest water was the River Pinn at Horn End, Cheney Street, some 350m away, which meant forcing the water up hill. To make matters worse, the haymakers refused to cut the rick to enable the fire to be put out because the rick had been 'distraigned upon for rent'. So the rick was lost at a value of £150.

In 1930 this piece of farmland was sold for development, and the plan was to build a road connecting Catlins Lane to Cuckoo Hill. This plan fell through partly due to the efforts of Mrs Alan Dore who lived at Eastcote Point and was a member of the MCC. The land was zoned public open space.

Eastcote Point was rather difficult to see being well-screened by trees. This large red-brick building was built about 1897 for parish councillor Edmund Bluhm. It was bought by Alan Dore (brother of Noel Dore at The Grange) in 1917. Later in the century it was divided into several residences.

We turned into Cuckoo Hill, the boundary with Pinner Parish, passing the front of Cuckoo Hill Farm, and stopped further down to glimpse Mistletoe Farm, (see Fig. 3) another timber-framed 16th century building, gentrified in the late 19th century.

We crossed the road, and walked a little way up Cheney Street to the bridge over the River Pinn, and then followed the river along the meadow known from the 16th century as Long Meadow or Well Green. We crossed the next bridge into Eastcote House Gardens for the conclusion of our tour.

Unfortunately, Eastcote House itself, which remained in the possession of the Hawtrey family and their descendants the Deanes for 400 years, was demolished in 1964. But three structures remain: the early 17th century coach house, the 18th century dovecot and 'the walled garden where some of the bricks date from the 17th century.

We had to rely on these to imagine what it would have been like as the site of one of the great houses of Eastcote. On a more optimistic note, discussions are taking place to bid for Heritage Lottery funding to restore and enhance the remaining buildings and grounds of Eastcote House.

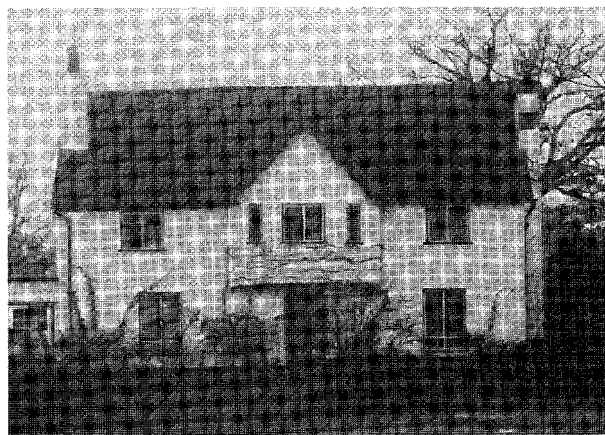


Fig. 2 Cuckoo Hill Farm



Fig. 3 Mistletoe Farm

A HORSE TROUGH AND A JASPER CROSS: THE MORIERS OF BATCHWORTH HEATH

by Simon Morgan

Most surviving horse troughs have been municipalised and are now in a very different environment from when they were in use. They have often been moved, used as planters or surrounded by modern paving. The one on the corner of Rickmansworth Road and Copsewood Way in Northwood remains surprisingly unaffected by the passing of the horse as a means of transport. It usually contains rainwater and could perhaps still be used for its original purpose. What is most remarkable is that it retains its stable pavings leading to the road - the special bricks with drainage grooves that assist horses' hooves to grip in wet conditions.



The Horse Trough at Northwood

In preparing to lead a walk around Northwood for the Local History Month, I considered it prudent to be able to say something about this trough, so I inspected it in detail. Most troughs in the London area were erected by the Metropolitan Drinking Fountain and Cattle Trough Association and are labelled with the name of that philanthropic organisation, but that was not the case here. There is an inscription, but the letters are weathered and it cannot be read entirely by eye.

However, tracing a finger along the shallow indentation did enable it to be deciphered:

IN MEMORY OF
VICTOR ALBERT LOUIS MORIER.
ERECTED BY HIS MOTHER.

This aroused my interest in finding out more about Victor Morier and why he had pre-deceased his mother.

I already knew that in the churchyard of Holy Trinity there is the grave of Sir Robert Morier and his wife. It seemed unlikely that there would be two unconnected Morier families in Northwood, so I assumed there was a connection. The tomb records that Sir Robert died in 1893 and his wife, Alice, in 1903. If Victor was their son, there were therefore 10 years during which the trough might have been erected by Alice alone, without Sir Robert, a period that fits well with the apparent age of the trough.

This grave of Sir Robert Morier is one of the most important monuments at Holy Trinity, and is mentioned by Robbins, Kemp and Pevsner. It is surmounted by a large green stone cross that is apparently of solid Siberian jasper and the gift of the penultimate tsar, Alexander III, in appreciation of Sir Robert's work as British Ambassador to Russia since 1884. Prior to being at St Petersburg, Morier had been ambassador to Portugal and Spain. However, he is chiefly remembered for his earlier postings to the various states of Germany during the period 1853-76, where he is credited with having been Britain's foremost expert on German affairs and having assisted the process of German unification, achieved in 1871.

Whilst in Germany he became a close friend of the Empress Friedrich, but was later embroiled in the power struggle between her and Bismarck on the death of her husband, Friedrich III, in 1888.

Bismarck's agents accused Morier of having leaked information on Prussian troop movements during the Franco-Prussian war of 1870, very serious charges which he was able successfully to refute. Morier was knighted in 1882 and also became a Privy Councillor.

Wherever he went, he seems to have been a most able diplomat, receiving accolades not just from his masters in the Foreign Office and the Palace but, by immersing himself fully into the life and culture of each host country, earning also the admiration of its leaders. As well as the tribute from the tsar, a 'cross of arums and foliage' was sent by Queen Victoria to his funeral and was buried with the coffin.

Kemp records that Sir Robert and Lady Morier lived at Batchworth Heath House. This substantial brick-built ivy-clad house was one of the three dower houses of Moor Park. The first Lord Ebury let it to Sir Robert, who was said to be a close friend of the Grosvenors and a frequent visitor to Moor Park. At the time of the sale of the whole of the Moor Park Estate in 1919, the house had four reception rooms with ceilings 10 feet high, five 'best' bedrooms and four attic rooms, plus butler's pantry, kitchen, scullery and cellars.

Outside there was a coach house and stabling, and the walled pleasure grounds included a rose garden, front lawn, tennis and croquet lawns and a heated greenhouse. There was also a kitchen garden with four light brick pit, and an apple orchard. The house still stands on the west side of Batchworth Heath.

Some internet research uncovered a French genealogy of the Morier family which confirmed that Victor Albert Louis was indeed the son of Sir Robert and Alice Morier. It showed that he died *en mer* (at sea) on 27 May 1892, at the young age of 25.

Sir Robert was a lifelong friend of the eminent classicist, Benjamin Jowett, having studied under him at Oxford. Jowett was elected a Fellow of Balliol College while still an undergraduate, became Regius Professor of Greek in 1855, Master of Balliol in 1870 and Vice Chancellor of Oxford University in 1882. He is noted for his translations of Plato, Thucydides and Aristotle, and well as for his theological writing that was somewhat radical for the tastes of the day and delayed his academic advancement. It was said that he had made time to see every undergraduate in the college once a week, and energetically encouraged interest in music and the theatre.



Batchworth Heath House in 1919

A picture of how he was regarded by his students emerges in this piece of doggerel penned in the 1880s:

*Here I come, my name is Jowett
All there is to know, I know it
What I don't know, is not knowledge
I am the Master of this College.*



Benjamin Jowett 1817-93

Much of the correspondence between Morier and Jowett survives at Balliol College, which has custody of both the Jowett and the Morier Papers. There is also a portrait of Morier at Balliol. These letters have survived because the men arranged for their correspondence to be returned to the other when either of them died. Reading the letters in full would doubtless give a much deeper insight into the relationship between these two eminent Victorians and into their family and private concerns, but the index to these papers, available on the internet, gives enough clues to be confident of explaining Victor Morier's tragically short life.

At first, the two men discuss politics, foreign policy, the church and each other's writings, but gradually the letters become more personal. In 1860—for example, Jowett urges Sir Robert to give up heavy drinking and suggests he should marry. In 1864 Jowett agrees to baptise the Morier's first child, who is not mentioned in the genealogy, so presumably did not survive.

The first we read of Victor Morier is in 1883 when there is a discussion of him going to Oxford and Jowett professes to be impressed with his abilities. The following year a possible tutor is named, but AL Smith takes on the task and reports very favourably on Victor. However, in December there is news that Victor has failed *Littlego*. This is an entrance examination usually held during the first term.

In March 1885 Victor's health is reported to be improving, indicating that the problem had started that would lead to his early death. Presumably he re-sat and passed *Littlego*, as in 1886 we first read that Victor's academic career is not going well. The following year there is grave concern over Victor, and Jowett reports to Morier "an anecdote of his bad behaviour over a party in Balliol and his suicidal depressions". By July 1887 Victor has left Oxford, but he continues to be a cause of concern to both men who discuss him frequently - sometimes he is better and sometimes worse. In October 1891 Jowett's own health is failing and he bids farewell to Morier in case he does not recover. There is nevertheless optimism over Victor's 'rehabilitation'. But in December they discuss again what to do with Victor and how to 'keep him out of danger'.

By the following June, Jowett is writing Morier a letter of condolence over Victor's death. The manner of Victor's tragic end is not mentioned, nor is the nature of the sea voyage he was undertaking, but one cannot help but conclude that his depressive illness proved fatal and that his death was by suicide.

From their subsequent letters, it is clear that Morier never recovered from Victor's death. Suffering also the loss of Jowett in October 1893, Sir Robert himself died in Montreux on 16 November that same year, aged 67. His body was brought back from Switzerland and was buried five days later in Holy Trinity churchyard.



The Grave of Sir Robert and Lady Morier in Holy Trinity Churchyard

The following day, the remains of his friend Lord Ebury were interred in the same ground, Lady Morier sending a floral tribute. Sir Robert and Alice were survived by Victor's younger sister, Victoria. She married Rosslyn Wemyss, who became the First Lord of the Admiralty during the First World War. In 1911 she edited and published her father's letters and memoirs.

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This index refers to every article relating to an historical subject or to an individual in any edition of the RNELHS Journal, which was first published in 1978 and annually thereafter. The RNELHS Bulletin, the predecessor to the Journal, last produced in 1977 is not included, nor are the recent Newsletters. Reports of Society and LAMAS meetings, visits and other activities are also not included. Obituaries are indexed, but not brief references to the deaths of members. Only complete articles are identified, not individual pages within them.

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This Index will be re-published after several years to form a cumulative reference, so any corrections or suggestions for improvement would be welcome.

BG

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