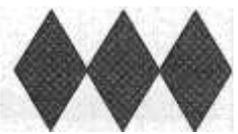


BEAULIEU HISTORY SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



Patron: Ailsa Montagu

No. 10 February 2010

NEXT MEETING

Friday February 19th 2010

Beaulieu Village Hall

6.30 p.m.

"Aerial History and the Beaulieu Region"

By John Levesley

John Levesley will talk on "Aerial History and the Beaulieu Region". John is a former air traffic controller and a past president of the Guild of Air Traffic Control Officers. He is now secretary and education officer of the Friends of New Forest Airfields.

In his talk he plans to cover World War 1 activity at East Boldre, World War 2 activity at Beaulieu Aerodrome and Needs Ore Point and the subsequent post war period involving the Airborne Forces Experimental Establishment. He will also discuss the pioneering civil flying at East Boldre from 1910, not least because 2010 is the centenary of powered flight in the New Forest.

His talk will be preceded by a short AGM, principally to adopt the accounts for 2009.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Members are reminded that 2010 subscriptions are now due. Please make sure they are paid either prior to the next meeting or on the evening itself.

Membership Subscriptions are £5 (single) and £8 (family).

Cheques should be made out to Beaulieu History Society. Please send subscriptions to the Secretary, Mrs Gill Hawkins, 11 The Hummicks, Dock Lane, Beaulieu, Hampshire S042 7YU, or bring to meeting on Friday February 19th.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

Friday, 30 April 2010 at Hill Top House at 6.00 p.m.

By kind invitation of Rosemary and Brett Johnston the Society will meet at their house, Hilltop House, Palace Lane, Beaulieu. There will be a talk on the history of the house and an opportunity to see the house and gardens.

Friday, 14 May 2010 at Bucklers Hard at 6.30 p.m.

Dr. Jonathan Adams, Head of Archaeology at the University of Southampton, will address the Society on "Shipbuilding on the Beaulieu River: excavations and experimental archaeology at Buckler's Hard."

This meeting is extra to the four meetings per year which we normally arrange. The plan is to visit the excavations and then assemble in the Buckler's Hard Café for a talk by Dr. Adams. The Café has limited seating capacity and there are obvious difficulties about conducting a very large group round the excavations. So it will only be possible for a restricted number of members to attend. Booking arrangements will be announced nearer the time. By kind permission of the Estate parking will be free in the Car Park.

The origin of the name Bunkers Hill...

Everyone knows the hill leading out of Beaulieu towards Buckler's Hard is called Bunkers Hill... but does anyone know why?

Trawling through the Burial Records and the Marriage Records fails to produce anyone whose surname is Bunker.

In the early 1800s, when Baptismal Records started to show the abode, profession etc. of the parents, the hill is apparently referred to as Bouvery Hill. On July 7th 1820, John Carpenter, son of George and Elizabeth Carpenter, of Bouvery Hill was baptised by Henry Adams. George Carpenter is described as a 'labourer', probably a farm labourer. It is probable that he lived in part of Bunkers Hill Cottage.

The first reference to Bunker's Hill [the record has an apostrophe] is to be found in 1841 when Mahala Biles, daughter of Henry and Eliza Biles of Bunker's Hill was baptised by William Tyrrell.

So who were the Bunkers? Can anyone help?

Report on Previous Meetings (1)

On Friday, 16 October, following the AGM, the Society was addressed by Frank Green, the Archaeologist of the National Park Authority. His subject was "The Archaeology of the Beaulieu area".

The first part of the talk was devoted to a general survey of the archaeological features of the area covered by the National Park. Frank reminded us that the New Forest was the largest area of ancient woodland in Europe and one of the largest areas designated for conservation in the United Kingdom. However, the whole National Park was in effect a man-made environment. The NPA was actively engaged in researching and promoting knowledge of the archaeology of the area. Close cooperation with farming community was essential. It was desirable to expand tree-ring dating of buildings in the Park. It was hoped to run a major oral history project covering memories of the Second World War throughout the Forest.

In the second part of his talk Frank highlighted two projects which could be of special interest to the Society. The first was the NPA's coastal heritage project which was designed to record fully the archaeology of the Hampshire coastline, including the Beaulieu River, and to share results with as many people as possible. Anyone who wished to take part could visit the NPA's website. James Brown, the education officer of the NPA, was the best point of contact. The project was under way and the Society might like to consider inviting an NPA speaker to address it in about a year's time and describe what archaeological sites had so far been identified.

Little was known about the pre-mediaeval archaeology of the Beaulieu area itself. A map designed to show Roman archaeology in the area produced only one site, on Beaulieu Heath (though a probably Roman road ran roughly North/South to the east of Exbury and Holbury). A similar map of Saxon archaeology again showed only one site, at Park Shore. But a final map relating to mediaeval archaeology identified numerous points of interest, with several locations in the area being designated as of archaeological potential and with Beaulieu Village itself being designated as "an area of high archaeological potential".

Under discussion was a project to study the archaeology of the Beaulieu area and in particular to review how the Beaulieu settlement had evolved over time. The parameters of the project had yet to be defined though budgetary provision existed and a likely leader (Richard Reeve) had been identified. The Society might well wish to track this project for the future and discover if there is scope for involvement by members.

Frank Green's talk was profusely illustrated with slides and sparked a lively question time.

Report on Previous Meetings (2)

On Friday, 11 December, Anthony Norris addressed the Society on two subjects, first, "The Life of Robert Frazer Powles" and, after a break for refreshments, "The Ghosts of Beaulieu".

The first talk "The Life of Robert Frazer Powles" listed chronologically his main achievements from the time he arrived as Curate in 1880, became Priest in 1886, until he resigned as Vicar in 1939. He died on August 24th 1842 at the age of 94.

He made such an immediate impression on his arrival that on the departure in 1886 of his predecessor, the Rev. Stenning, he was the obvious choice to be the incumbent.

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He fervently believed that he had a great responsibility to his parishioners, not just in church but within the village. His first job as priest was to institute daily matins and evensong and bearing in mind he had also to take services at Hill Top, Bucklers Hard, Park and the Coastguard Station, with the journeys involved, he was already creating a considerable burden for himself. Although he initially had the services of a curate, from 1905 he carried out the parish duties alone.

He lived in what is now the Lodge from 1886 until 1890, and then until his death, at Curtle House, next door.

Rev. Powles had a very good relationship with Lord Henry Scott and this no doubt played a significant part in the two main projects in the parish either side of the turn of the century, namely the redesigning of the seating in the church in 1896 and the building of Park church in 1905, both projects being financed largely by Lord Henry Scott.

Outside of the church he started and supported a night school, to keep youngsters of the streets, a Church Lads Brigade, a boys' football team. In addition he was chaplain to the Beaulieu Fire Brigade and either Chairman or Treasurer to the Cricket Club for 59 years.

He considered himself to be the Abbot of Beaulieu and signed his name as Dom Roberto, Abbot. As Beaulieu was, until his resignation, a donative, he considered himself the equal of any bishop who attended, and so processed either alongside the visitor or behind; the most senior cleric always being at the rear of the procession.

He was persuaded to resign in 1939 as he was having difficulty in carrying out all his duties, and died in 1942.

During the meeting Anne Chichester recalled some fascinating first-hand memories of the Rev. Powles.

Rev. Powles used to maintain that he was in touch with monks of previous ages and "The Ghosts of Beaulieu" formed the subject for the second talk.

Occasions when evidence of ghost monks, either by apparitions or sound, have occurred were recalled. It appears that they were mainly in one of two areas: The Domus, formerly the Lay Brothers Dormitory, and the Palace Stables, which were in the vicinity of the monks burial ground.

Well-recorded occasions of visions by Aimee Cheshire, who lived in the flat at the south end of the Domus, were recalled as well as that of Miss Samuels who saw a ghost monk as she looked out across the cloisters from the top of the outside stairway.

Viv Sheppard, who was brought up at the Palace Stables then recalled a number of occasions, both from her youth and from a later visit to some residents still living there, when the sounds of monks chanting and the presence of paranormal activity was obviously evident.

The talk was interspersed with excerpts from *'The Stately Ghosts of England'* a film made in the 1950s. Mary Rutherford interviewed Michael Sedgwick who related the times he heard chanting from his home at The Old Garden, in the Palace Stables. She also interviewed Elizabeth Montagu in Palace House who related chanting that she also heard.

Nick Weiss then captivated the audience when he described a manifestation at the Mill Race which, from all the descriptions, would appear to be that of Elizabeth Montagu, who lived there for a number of years prior to her death in 2001.

In the time available it was not possible to give a comprehensive account of all the paranormal activity in the Abbey and village, and it is hoped to put together a written definitive version for members.

The following memoir was kindly sent to the Society by Lady Chichester, formerly Anne DouglasScott-Montagu. (Lady Chichester was born in 1921).

MEMORIES OF BEAULIEU IN THE 1920s

by Anne Chichester

Beaulieu was a wonderful place in which to live as a child. Our home, Palace House, was in the village, not at the end of a long drive as some large houses are. The word "Stately Home" was unknown. Ours was the largest house in the area, but we were not in the least conscious of the fact. It was just our home and we took it all for granted. Every day our Nanny, and often the Nursery maid too, took us for a walk and nearly always we went up the village street.

We left through the gatehouse, with the clock on top, over the bridge, and then the first buildings on the left were the Mill House and the old mill, still working, run by the Norris family. I remember Mr. Fred Norris and Jack Hendy plucking masses of huge turkeys with feathers flying everywhere and the sound of the huge old millstones turning round to grind the corn.

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Mr. Norris always wore a bowler hat which was covered in dust from the flour and it had a dent in the top where he constantly knocked his head on the beams. On the floor of the mill was a lavatory seal and if you looked down you could see the water of the river running below. As far as I know it is still there.

Opposite: 'Christmas Preparations at Beaulieu - Norris and Hendey' by Charles Cundall 1937



The building opposite was the old mangle house (where Jamie Chichester's office is now) and next door the cottage which was originally the cart house of the mill. In 1926 it was altered and improved for my father's secretary from London, Miss Jane Clowes. I remember climbing a builder's ladder into the roof and being told not to fall as if I did I would go through the ceiling. The cottage was later lived in by my half sister, Elizabeth Varley.

Opposite the cottage was the house where Mr. Wadley lived. He was the chief electrician and around the corner was the electric light station, a very favourite place to visit. Also next door was the Fire Station. My father, John Lord Montagu, installed the huge turbine engine to provide electricity for Beaulieu, a very unusual and far-seeing thing to do at the time. We loved the smell and sound of the enormous turbine engine and watching Charlie Pattillo and Ted Biddlecombe working there. I have faint memories too of builders' scaffolding when the new part of the Montagu Arms was being built.

Continuing our walk, the grocer's shop on the left was run by Mr. Norman Winsey. We liked to go into his shop as he always gave us chocolate biscuits. Then came the small shop next door, which was a haberdashery, then Mr. and Mrs. Lewis's house. He was the village clock-maker and was very good at mending watches.



Opposite — Winsey's shop on left, Manor Office on right

After that, the saddlers and corn merchants shop belonging to the Norris family. The schoolmaster's house was lived in by Mr. and Mrs. Shotter, on the corner of the schoolyard. He was a much respected man and always walked with a very straight back, like a soldier. On the right side of the school building was the village Hall. Next came the W.I. hut where regular meetings were held.

Our next stopping place was often the Estate Yard, presided over by a wonderful man called David Kitcher. He lived with his large family in the big house on the corner of the yard, where Fairweather's garden centre is now. Beaulieu was more or less self-sufficient in those days and we had our own plumbers, carpenters, woodmen and electricians and the lovely pale bricks which came from the brickyards by the river, at Bailey's Hard. One of the foresters was Mr. Elsworth who lived in the cottage under the clockhouse. For many years the clock chimes were turned off, as Mrs. Elsworth said the noise kept her sons, Bill and Walter, awake at night.

The next house was Curtle House, lived in by the much-loved Vicar, the Rev. R.F.Powles. He was originally the family chaplain and became Vicar in 1886. He used to come once a week to our schoolroom to give us bible lessons and every Wednesday my mother had him to lunch. She used to ask our cook, Mrs. Triggs, to make a special fruit-cake for him to eat with his cheese, a North-country habit he said.

Opposite - Curtle House 1916



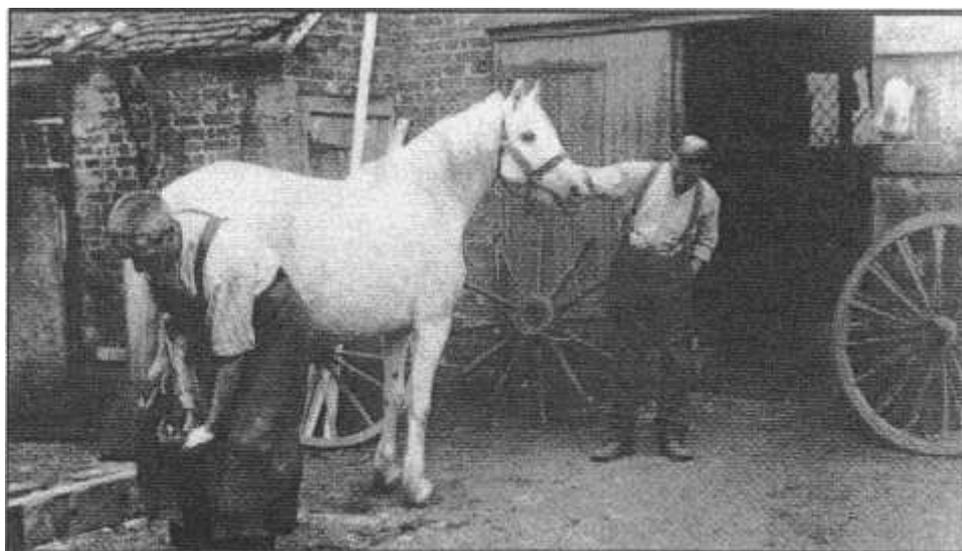
He was a most distinguished old man with a white beard, and he wore a frock-coat of grey or oatmeal coloured tweed, spats, gloves and a large wide-brimmed hat. He prided himself on seldom preaching for longer than five minutes.

His dining-room table had a thick tablecloth and was covered in a lot of items he had bought over the years from various sales. One day he saw me looking at a Staffordshire jug in the shape of a cow and he immediately gave it to me. I have it to this day. After the old Vicar died, Abbey Lane Cottage was given over to the new Vicar, Rev. Cyril Pearson, to use as a vicarage.

At the top of the village on the right was Mr. Hayward, the butcher, who lived next door. Then a few doors down lived Mrs. Payne, the postmistress, sister of Mr. Fred Norris. In the Post Office was the village switchboard, used for all the Beaulieu telephones, and it was manned by Miss Ena Crouch.

Then the next building was the Blacksmiths. Mr. Bailey worked away at his anvil every day and it was one of our favourite ports of call. He wore a stiff leather apron and always seemed to be bent in half over the fire, which he controlled with hand bellows.

Opposite - The Forge



All the horses came to be shod from miles around. He also specialised in beautiful wrought iron work. He never minded us standing around watching him at work.

Then next door came Whitehall, the largest house in the village street, where Colonel Delamain, lived with his bull terriers. After that was the Queens Meade shop owned by Mr. and Mrs. Reg Stevens, whose brother Fred ran the dairy behind.

My Mother was very keen to be fair to both grocers' shops, so her account was kept at one shop for a month and then the other shop for the next month. She always tried to buy everything she needed from the village traders.



Above - to the left, Whitehall and to the right, the School Master's house.

Next down the High Street was Harry Well's cycle shop, and then the Manor Office. Captain Harry Widnell (known by my family as Widdie) was the resident agent, assisted by Mr. Ashmead who was the accountant, and the secretary who at one time was Mr. Wadley's daughter and later Fred Norris's twin sister Dorothy. Captain Widnell was badly wounded in the 1st World War and, after an introduction, my father appointed him to run Beaulieu. He was a marvellous man who gave the rest of his working life to caring for and improving the Beaulieu Estate on behalf of all its

inhabitants and the Montagu family. During the many years that my Mother, Pearl, was "life tenant", until my brother Edward succeeded aged 25, Captain Widnell was in charge of the Manor Office and the day to day organisation of all the Manor of Beaulieu. At the back of the Manor Office lived Mr. and Mrs. Ashmead and their son.

Next door lived Miss Preston, the very good village dressmaker. She had no electricity and did all her work under a paraffin lamp.

The last house on the left at the bottom of the street was the newspaper shop run by Mr. Aldridge. Then round the corner on the left was the large building facing the Mill Dam, which was the original "Poor House". I well remember the discussion that it was now always to be known as "Pond Side". We used to go there as children to visit Miss Carpenter, who had been Ladies Maid to my Father's old cousin, Lady Mary Kerr. The very nice modern flats in Pond Side are now very much appreciated by the Beaulieu people who live there. Next door was the garage owned by the Marvin brothers, Alec and Cecil, who ran the regular bus service. The bus was used as a parcel carrier as well as for taking passengers to Southampton. Petrol was then 1 shilling and sixpence a gallon.

My first education was in a tiny class run by Miss Peock firstly in the old Tea-rooms in the Montagu Arms, where we could crawl under the tables and chairs in the corner, covered in dust sheets, and later in Mrs. Payne's front room at the Post Office, where we were allowed to play in her small garden.

Opposite — The Montagu Arms in the 1920s



When I was seven a much-loved Governess arrived to teach me and some other children as a small class. I left Nanny Champ in the nursery and went downstairs to our schoolroom under the care of Miss Snushall, known by us all as "Nooie". From then, our walks were mostly in Harford Wood or down by the river towards the brickyard and Buckler's Hard.

The Abbey was first opened to the public by my Grandfather early in the 1900's and the tickets were sold by the gatekeeper Mr. Willis at sixpence each. Masses of charabancs (the old word for motor coaches) brought visitors on a regular basis. Quite a few of the families who lived in the village when I was a child are still around and there is a flourishing community in Beaulieu, partly of course as a result of the large number of visitors who come to see the Motor Museum, Palace House and the Abbey.

THE BEAULIEU HISTORY SOCIETY

Officers and Committee:

John Coles [Chairman], Gill Hawkins [Secretary] Anthony Norris [Publicity & Newsletter editor], Emma Page [Treasurer], Rosemary Johnson [Events Secretary], Ralph Montagu, and Ann Coles.

Bucklers Hard Chapel

[from the Beaulieu Parish Magazine May 1886]

Names and Addresses of the Clergy—

Rev. G. C. STENNING, The Parsonage.
Rev. R. F. POWLES, Hartford Heath.

*Churchwardens—*LORD MONTAGU.

MR. WALTER CHERRETT.

*Parish Clerk—*MR. W. PAYNE.

PARISH REGISTER—Baptisms.

April 4th—Gladys Emily Norris
" 15th—Ellen Bull

April 16th—James Bound
" 21st—Isabel Alma Senger

Burial.

April 9th—Eliza Carpenter, aged 85.

Buckler's Hard.

For some time the School has been discontinued at Buckler's Hard, principally owing to the retirement of the School Mistress, Mrs. Harding, who for many years was a patient and willing teacher of the smaller children in that part of the parish. The pressure of the Education Department in preventing young people going to work till they had passed the necessary Standard, led the parents to send their children at an earlier age to the Beaulieu Schools, so that together with the retirement of the Teacher the number of scholars also decreased and no new Teacher was appointed. The Schoolroom has since been used principally for the Services on Wednesday evening, it is now being so arranged that the Holy Communion can be celebrated there. An Altar with foot piece is to be placed in the room, and, what is possible, is being done to give it a more Church-like appearance. A doorway has been made into a small adjoining room, which will be used as a Vestry. We earnestly hope that the people of Buckler's Hard will show their appreciation of what is being done, by making a point of attending the services that will be held there and especially that of the Holy Communion, which will be celebrated monthly. It is a cause of great thankfulness that during the Mission, and since, the room has been quite full on the Wednesday evenings. The Evening Service is generally discontinued in summer, the long days keep the men at work till late and they cannot attend, besides the walk to Beaulieu Church is no difficulty during the brighter months of the year. Another great improvement is being made at Buckler's Hard, that is, the establishment of a Reading Room. By the kindness of Lord Montagu, a room adjoining the school has been offered for the purpose and his Lordship is having this room painted, &c., for the use of the members, he has also provided lamps and much of the necessary furniture. There is every reason to hope for a successful result—a very satisfactory number of the men in the neighbourhood are anxious to become members, and with Mr. Barkham as Chairman, and Mr. Gosling as Treasurer and Secretary, there is every probability of a prosperous future for the Buckler's Hard Reading Room.

Services had been held in the schoolroom for many years previous, but as the report on the previous page states, when the school closed, the room was made into a full-time chapel.

Of the persons mentioned, there were four baptisms:

1. Gladys Emily Norris was the second daughter of James and Emily Norris who lived at Brumwidges, the north end of the terrace of houses opposite what is at present the Bear Shop in the High Street. James and Emily had seven children. James was a bootmaker and uncle of Frederick Norris [*i.e. my great-great-uncle Ed.*].
2. Ellen Bull, whose parents Henry and Mary lived at Hartford Cottage, was baptised on April 15th 1886 and sadly died almost immediately, aged 3 weeks, and was buried April 22nd 1886.
3. Isabel Alma Seager was the daughter of James and Elizabeth Seager of Penerley Farm, though soon after her birth they moved to Hornblotton, Somerset to run Parsonage Farm there. James died soon after they moved.
4. James Bound was the son of Frank and Lydia Bound who lived at Bucklers Hard. Frank was an Agricultural Labourer.

There was one burial:

Eliza Carpenter (85) lived at Godfrey's Farm with her brother Stephen before moving to Dock Cottage. She was formerly a Lady's maid and a member of the family which in the 1850s ran four Beaulieu farms.

The Church Wardens were Lord Henry Scott and Walter Cherrett. Walter Cherrett died in 1893, aged 40. He was a baker and grocer and moved to Fawley. His daughter Annie, married William Winsey, the Beaulieu grocer. He was the first resident organist.

The Parish Clerk, Walter Payne (46), was the wheelwright and blacksmith and a member of that dynasty that had lived in Beaulieu since the early 18th Century.

HELP!

We are currently re-doing the displays at the Buckler's Hard Maritime Museum and are looking for any photos of the Beaulieu River that might have been taken during the war, or shortly after. We are rather short of photos to illustrate the panel describing the activities during WW2. Does any member have anything that might be relevant and that we could copy?

The Imperial War Museum does not have anything much at all.

If anyone does have anything, I would be most grateful if you could contact me...

Thank you.

Mary Montagu — Scott, c/o John Montagu Building, Beaulieu.

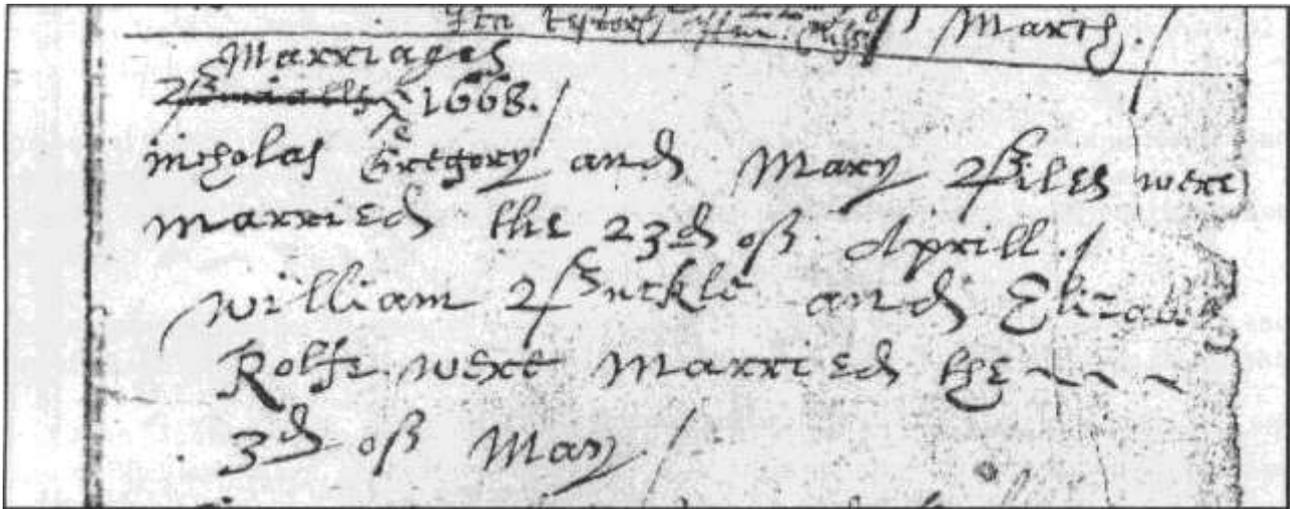
Bucklers Hard, Buckler's Hard, Buckles Hard or Buckle's Hard? The

Prospectus for the founding of Montagu Town includes a map and dates from 1722.

The Prospectus begins... 'The River of Bewley is a safe Harbour with a Depth of Water sufficient to bring up Ships of almost any Burden as far as Buckleshard...'

Note the spelling... Buckleshard

If one examines the marriage and burial records one discovers the following entries...



Marriages 1668.

Nicholas Gregory and Mary Biles were married the 23rd of April.

Notice the way that h (in Nicholas), r (in Gregory) and B (in Biles) are written.

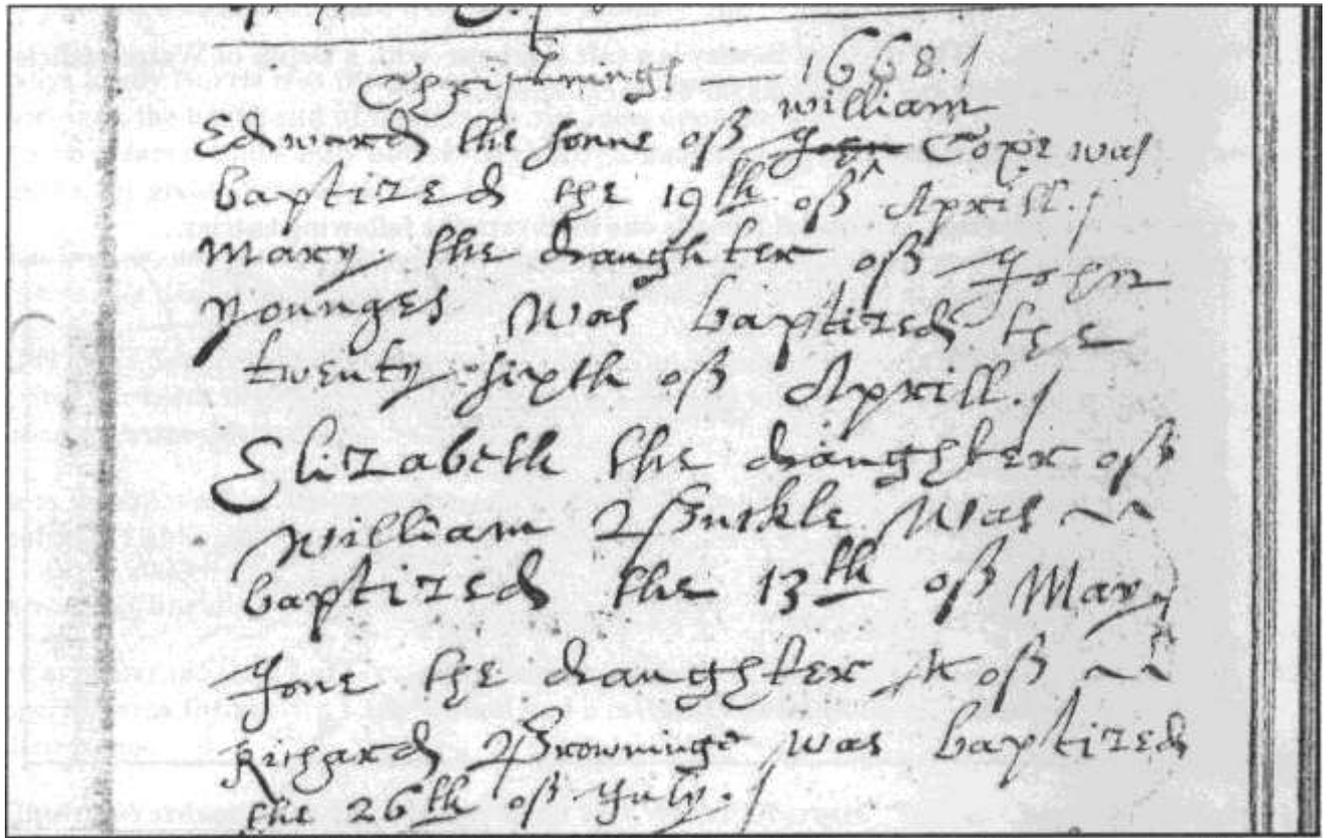
William Buckle and Elizabeth Rolfe were married the 3rd of May.

Elizabeth Rolfe was almost certainly a member of the Rolfe family who were quite important people in the mid 17th Century. Church records show Nicholas Rolfe and Richard Rolfe were churchwardens in 1641 and 1642 respectively. It is quite possible that Elizabeth was the daughter of one of them.

It is worth looking at the *Hearth Tax* Assessments of 1665 for further evidence. The *Hearth Tax* was introduced in 1662 in an attempt to alleviate Charles II's financial difficulties. The Act created an annual levy of two shillings, payable on every fire hearth or stove within all dwellings and houses. Records show that members of the Rolfe family had to pay this tax; Elizabeth Rolfe (2 *hearths taxable*), Richard Rolfe (4), Ruth Rolfe (4) and another Ruth Rolfe (1). This confirms that the Rolfe's were affluent members of the community. One would expect marriages to be between families of the same social standing, so one can conclude the William Buckle was suitable for a Rolfe girl, and quite likely in possession of some land.

Strangely though, there is no reference to any Buckle [or Buckler] paying the *Hearth Tax* in 1665. There are two possible explanations... firstly a number of known residents of Beaulieu at the time don't seem to appear in the assessments and, secondly it is possible that the Buckle's were not living in Beaulieu in 1665.

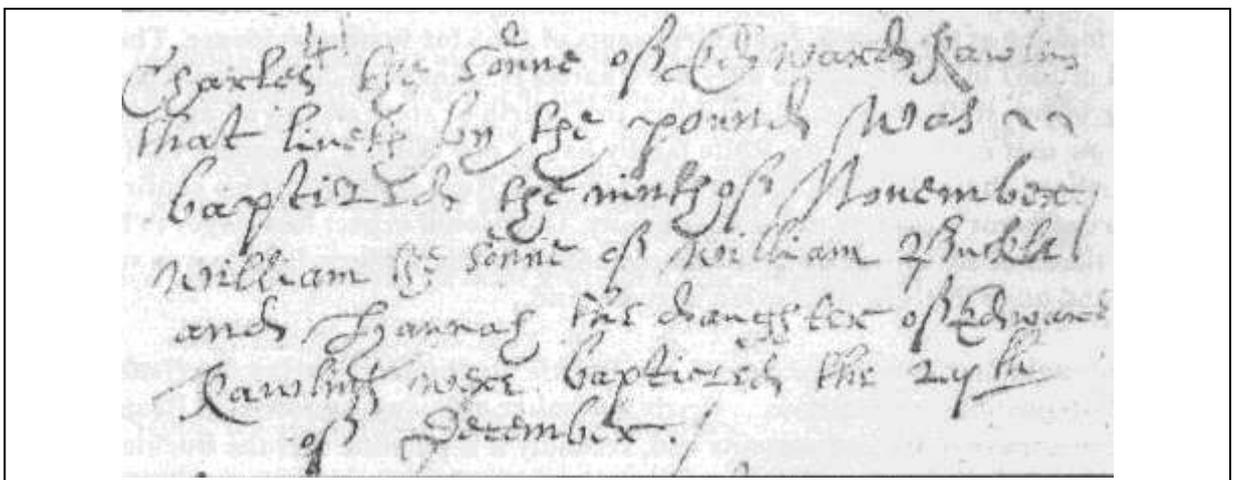
If one now looks at the Baptismal records...



Christenings — 1668

Edward the sonne of William Cope was baptized the 19th of Aprill. Mary the daughter of John Younges was baptized the twenty fifth of Aprill. Elizabeth the daughter of William Buckle was baptized the 13th of May. Jane the daughter of Richard Browning was baptized the 26th of July.

The birth of Elizabeth so soon after the marriage is of interest and the records for 1669 show the following:



'Charles the sonne of Edward Rawlins that liveth (*I think*) by the pound was baptized the ninth of November. William the sonne of William Buckle and Hannah the daughter of Edward Rawlins were baptized the 27th of December.'

Sadly, the burial records show that on October 26th 1668, 'Elizabeth the daughter of William Buckle was buried' [sadly, presumably this is the same Elizabeth who was baptised earlier in the year] and on November 26th 1675, Elizabeth Buckle 'the wife of William Buckle was buried'. There are no records of the deaths of William Senior or Junior in the Beaulieu Burial Records.

One wonders whether there is any connection with the following marriage record of Beaulieu Church for January 14th 1743... 'Edward Wild of Lyndhurst and Sarah Buckle of ye same parish married with Lycense'. Did the family move to Lyndhurst?

There are records of the presence of a Buckler family. The records for 1701 show ... Henry Buckler and Mary Davum (*unclear*) married the 10th day of February. The baptismal records for 1702 record... Richard Buckell son of Henry Buck... (*unclear*) baptised May 10th 1702.

The burial records however, show Mary Buckler was buried January 20th 1704 and Henry Buckler (a labourer) was buried December 13th 1719. I don't believe this family is significant in our research. It is unlikely that a labourer would have been influential enough to have a Hard named after him.

The prospectus map for Montagu Town issued in 1724 includes in the legend beneath, reference to 'Buckleshard' [*see next page*] and the 1810 Ordnance Survey map of the region uses Buckleshard.

Lord John Montagu in his book 'Buckler's Hard and its ships' published in 1909 records... ' The name of Buckler's Hard, or, as it was originally spelt, Buckle's Hard, is probably derived from a local family, the Buckles, who lived there for generations'.

He seems to have got it just about right. The proper name of the hamlet two miles downstream of Beaulieu is Buckles Hard, or more accurately, Buckle's Hard.

What has probably happened over the years is the corruption on the name as it is easier to say Bucklers than Buckle's in the same way as Horlock's hill became Harlicks Hill.

So perhaps that we should return Bucklers Hard to its proper title... Buckle's Hard.

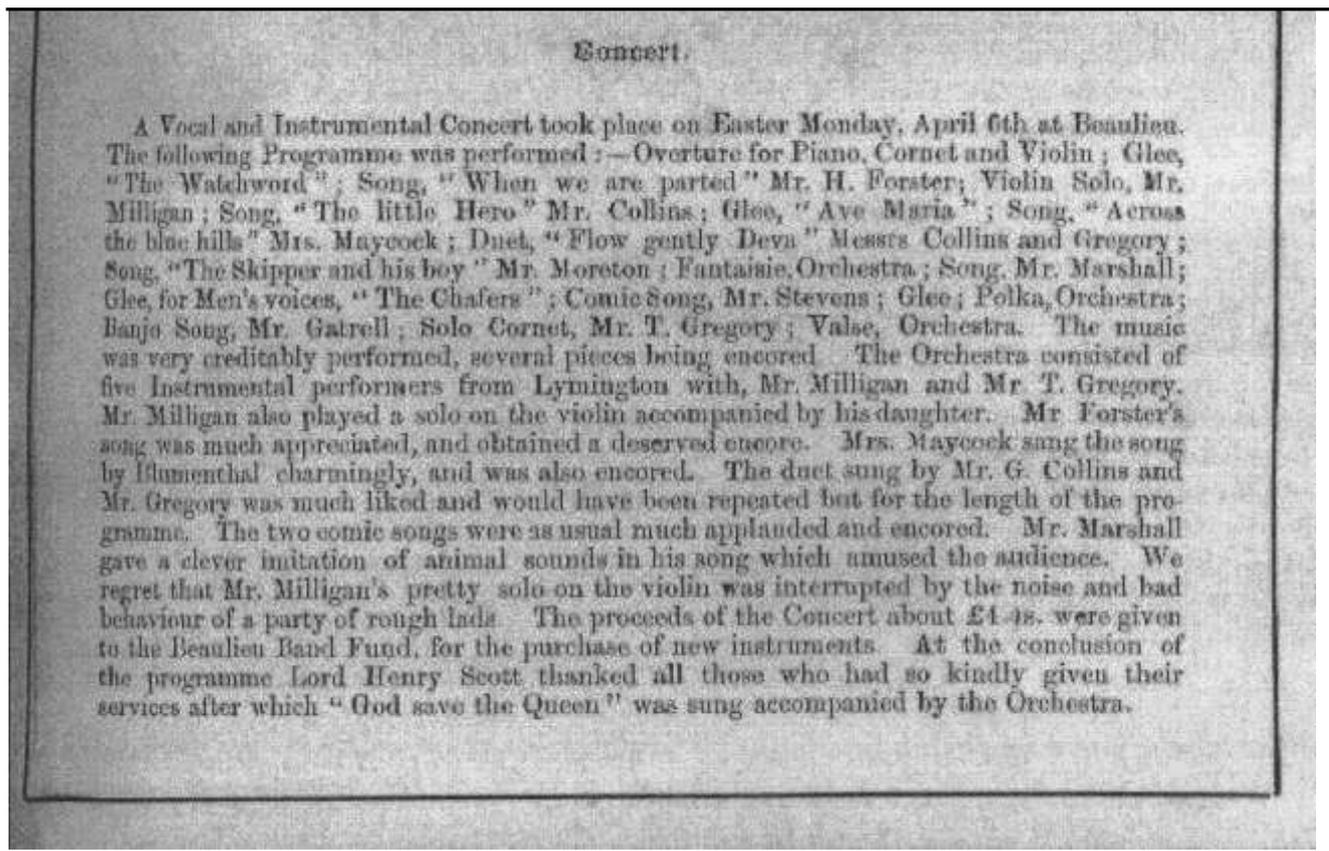
Firstly all the road signs will have to be changed... Who's going to tell the Hampshire County Council?...

Classified Advertisement...

To Journeymen Bakers

Wanted immediately, -- A single Man, who understands baking Loaf Bread: might have constant employ. A character for honesty and sobriety will be required, - Enquire of Mr. Kearley, Beaulieu, Hants; letters post-paid.

From the Salisbury and Winchester Journal March 3rd 1825



What is of interest is the sentence... 'it is regretted that Mr. Milligan's pretty solo on the violin was interrupted by the noise and bad behaviour of a party of rough lads.' So unsocial behaviour is not only a malaise of the 20th and 21st Centuries!

In the report of the concert a lot of well-known Beaulieu names appear, none-more-so than that of Mr. H. Forster (opposite). Henry Forster married Lord Henry Scott's daughter Rachel and became Lord Forster of Lepe. He was an accomplished cricketer and not only did he represent Beaulieu at cricket but in 1919 became President of the M.C.C. in 1919. In 1925 he became Governor General of Australia. He had two sons, who were both killed in the First World War, and two daughters.



The Mr. Milligan does not appear to have been a Beaulieu resident though he was organist from 1910 — 1916 when he retired due to ill health.

Mr. George Collins was carpenter and Clerk of Works for the estate during practically the entire period of ownership of Lord Henry Scott.

In Lord Henry Scott's diaries on March 17th 1882 there is a note 'Went to see about wood for making altar; and settled to make it of Walnut of the old tree that grew in the Cloisters', adjacent to the Chapter-House. This was duly done and the altar was made by Mr. George R. Collins, carpenter and clerk of the works. It bears a silver plaque carrying the words:

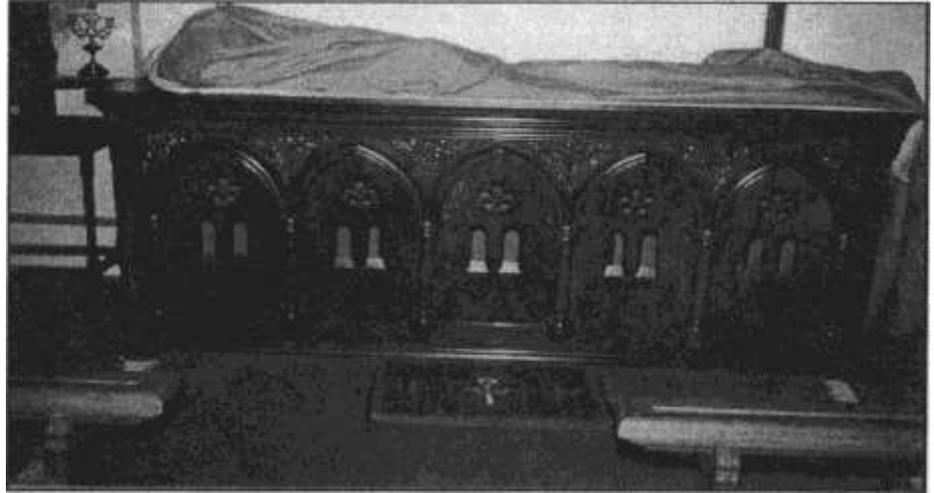
A.M.D.C.

This Altar made from a walnut tree grown in the Cloisters by George R. Collins, a member of the Choir from a design by Arthur Blomfield Archt. Given by the Vicar and Lord Henry J.M.D.Scott, was solemnly dedicated for use in the Church of the Blessed Virgin and Child Beaulieu.

On the Feast of St. Peter 1882

G. C. Stenning Vicar
R. F. Powles Curate

The walnut altar did duty in the church until changes instituted in 1939 by the Rev. C. G. Pearson, the successor to Rev. Powles. It is now the altar in the Chapel of St. John in the gallery at the rear of the church.



NB. What is more interesting in this inscription is that the church is referred to for the first time as of the Blessed Virgin and Child and not of St. Bartholomew, as it was still known by the outside world as late as 1886.

Mass Christening...

Family size, partly due to the high mortality rate amongst children, was much greater in past centuries than nowadays. Sometimes all the children were christened together...

In the early 1800s, John Stote was the village shoe-maker, and on January 26th 1817, was married to Elizabeth Bridger both 'of this parish'. The Baptismal records show that on November 18th 1832 Henry Adams, the minister, baptised the nine children of John and Elizabeth... Philip (14 years old), Alfred (11), Richard (9), James (8), Ann (6), Fanny (4), Hannah (3), Tom (2), and Harriott. John was buried September 26th 1855 aged 55 and Elizabeth August 27th 1848 aged 51. Of the children Ann (7), Alfred (22) and Thomas (14) died young.

This was equalled when Rev. Powles baptised Dave Kitcher in Beaulieu Church on January 30th 1924, together with his four sons and four daughters aged between 8 and 21 years.

If you have any comments or contributions for subsequent newsletters please contact Anthony Norris at tonynorris314@btinternet.com or anthonynorris@tiscali.co.uk or at The Malt House, High Street, Beaulieu, Hampshire, S042 7YA. The next newsletter will be distributed in June 2010.