



# Victoria County History of Somerset Newsletter

Summer 2018

Issue 11

**Welcome to the eleventh edition of our newsletter - a bumper issue! We hope you enjoy it.**

Please pass this newsletter on to others. If you are not on our mailing list and would like to receive future copies of the newsletter please let us know by contacting us at [vch@swheritage.org.uk](mailto:vch@swheritage.org.uk).

## County Editor's Report

In April we enjoyed our second Hilary Binding memorial walk. In cool and cloudy weather our little group spent a happy two and a half hours walking from Dunster station to Blue Anchor station along the West Somerset coast path.

After crossing the railway, we reached Lower Marsh with its medieval manor house before following the river Avill through the marsh to its now artificial outlet to the sea flanked by World War II pillboxes and early 20th-century beach chalets.

At Dunster Beach we explored the Hawn, sadly only mallard and Canada geese were in residence, and the sandy turf home to many tiny flowers such as the marine forget-me-not and other sea tolerant species although most were only in leaf so early in the year. The abundance of life along these few miles of fragile coastline illustrates the resilience of nature, including humans.



We left Dunster Beach over the concrete spillway, full of Exmoor rain, and walked along the low and crumbling red sandstone cliffs, which have recently yielded up Roman pottery. Here more robust plant life and even a few pine trees line the path across the ancient embankment, partly natural and partly man made, that protects the low lying fields of Carhampton from the sea. Plants included the edible sea beet and radish and the highly poisonous hemlock, the tree mallow, waving reeds and flowering thorns.

Among the pebbles toadflax was in flower, but the attractive young leaves of the sea poppy and clumps of sea campion promised many more flowers later in the year. Out to sea a cormorant sat on an old fishweir post drying its wings. Several steam trains kept us company on the landward side as we walked, their route lined by more pillboxes, a reminder, along with the many cliff falls, that the coastline is vulnerable as well as attractive.

Finally, we reached we reached the old boat landing area at Bradley Gate where the path gave way to the road along Blue Anchor's promenade and the railway station with its traditional signal boxes and old camping coaches.



The South West coast path is an easy form of access to the coast, most of the stretch we walked is wheelchair and buggy friendly, and can be highly recommended for a pleasant walk at any time of year.



This summer we said goodbye to Rosalind Johnson who has been researching and writing the history of Norton Fitzwarren. The draft texts are now on the VCH Somerset website, along with those for Bishops Hull. We express our grateful thanks to Rosalind for all her hard work and to our funders The Fairfield Trust and The Francis Coales Foundation. Thanks must also go to our band of volunteers who are ploughing through some of the more recent material for the Taunton area and have contributed articles to these newsletters.

## The archdeaconry of Taunton – some colourful observations

The Old House in Milverton is rightly celebrated as a magnificent medieval building that contains the remarkable wall painting of Henry VIII. The painting dates from the 1530s, and reports of its uncovering in 2011 were widely made at the time. As part of those reports some detail was provided, stating how the house was home for the archdeacon of Taunton, and naming Thomas Cranmer as its most famous incumbent. However, there is much more to be said about the archdeaconry of Taunton in the late medieval period. Many clerics occupied that benefice before going on to occupy the highest offices of Church and state.

The archdeaconry was therefore part of a network of patronage by which the rising prelate could obtain advancement. In theory the post of archdeacon was an important one within the administration of each medieval diocese. The diocese of Bath & Wells had three, those of Wells, Bath and Taunton. Attached to each archdeaconry was a prebend, a key source of income for the archdeacon. The Taunton prebend was known as Milverton Prima, and its value can be seen in the *Taxatio* document created in 1291 where it is valued at 50 marks per annum (a mark was two-thirds of a pound, or 13 shillings and 4 pence in old money). If we feed that sum into the National Archives currency calculator (available via their website) then we see that has a current-day value of almost £24,515. By contrast, the second prebend at Milverton (known as Milverton Secunda) was valued at only 5 marks per annum. These sums pale next to the ‘golden’ prebend of Masham in the diocese of York which, in 1291, was valued at 250 marks (about £122, 576 as a modern equivalent). It seems clear that a number of the archdeacons of Taunton and elsewhere held their posts as a source of income, and were not resident to carry out the day-to-day tasks of their position. Instead they would have employed another cleric to act as their deputy, something that could also be relevant for a bishop himself who might have acted through a vicar general. This high cadre of prelates were busy with affairs of state, as active lawyers and on other tasks, so this process of acting through a deputy was widespread.

Some of the men who held the archdeaconry of Taunton are worthy of note. Thomas Arundell was archdeacon from 1370 to 1373, resigning when he was appointed bishop to the wealthy see of Ely. Arundell went on to become successively archbishop of York and then Canterbury. Arundell was therefore archbishop of Canterbury during the reign of Henry IV, and in particular during 1405 when Henry’s reign faced the challenge of rebellion in Yorkshire in which the then archbishop of York, Ricard le Scrope, was implicated. Arundell was deeply alarmed on hearing of the rebellion and of the king’s anger with his fellow archbishop. He rode overnight to York to plead with king, but Henry’s anger was not appeased and le Scrope was executed. Arundell continued as archbishop of Canterbury until his death in February 1414.

A less fortunate incumbent of the archdeaconry of Taunton was Adam Moleyns who occupied the benefice from 1441 to 1445, resigning when he was made bishop of Chichester. Moleyns was a respected humanist scholar and had studied at Oxford where he had obtained a doctorate in civil law. His misfortune was to be involved in royal government at a time of great instability. The English collapse in France made the duke of Suffolk, with whom Moleyns was closely associated, a target for great public anger. When Moleyns went to Portsmouth in January 1450 to deliver wages to the troops about to embark for France, some form of dispute broke out and Moleyns was murdered. He was of course not the only bishop to die a violent death that year – William Aiscough, bishop of Salisbury, was set upon and brutally murdered at Edington when fleeing London for the apparent safety of his castle at Sherborne.

Another celebrated Taunton archdeacon was Robert Stillington, who held the position from 1450 to 1465. Stillington had also graduated from Oxford as a doctor on civil law and resigned as archdeacon when he was made bishop of Bath & Wells in October 1465. Stillington like many of his fellow bishops was closely involved in royal government and indeed held the post of chancellor during the reign of Yorkist king, Edward IV.

Stillington's closeness to the king's brother, George duke of Clarence, seems to have caused him to suffer a period of detention during Edward's reign, but it was with the reign of Richard III that Stillington's name comes to the fore. He has been associated with the claim made by Richard that Edward IV had no legal marriage because of a pre-contract to marry Eleanor Butler. Edward's son, the young Edward V, was therefore not the legal king, providing Richard with his claim to the throne. Stillington has been seen as the source of this pre-contract story, and commentators of the time were critical of him – to the French chronicler Philippe de Commines he was 'ce mauvais évêque' (this wicked bishop). Stillington gained no special preferment from Richard, and during the subsequent reign of Henry VII he suffered once more from his apparent involvement in the Lambert Simnel conspiracy. He was imprisoned at Windsor, although he seems to have been released by the time of his death in the spring of 1491.

Before Cranmer became archdeacon in the 1530s, there were several other notable incumbents at Taunton. Oliver King went on to become bishop of Exeter and then Bath & Wells; Robert Sherborne went on to become bishop of St David's and then Chichester; Stephen Gardiner went on to become bishop of the very wealthy see of Winchester. Thus we can see how the archdeaconry of Taunton was a notable stepping-stone for many high-flying churchmen of the pre-Reformation church. It seems fitting therefore that the Old House in Milverton should portray the man whose rift with Rome marked the end of the late medieval Catholic Church in England.

**Des Atkinson**

*Henry VIII wall painting from Milverton*



## The first pupils of the Huish schools

The creation of two schools for boys and girls by Huish's charity in the 1870s ushered in a new era in secondary education for Taunton and eventually led to two important and long-lived grammar schools; Huish's School for Boys, later transformed into a mixed sixth form college, and Bishop Fox's School for Girls, now a mixed comprehensive school. Perhaps it is fitting that after many changes of site and buildings both adjoin each other on the south-west side of Taunton.



*The old Grammar School*

*Mary Siraut*

Setting up a new school is never easy, you need premises, staff and pupils. The boys' school proved the easiest to establish. When the old grammar school, then known as Taunton College School, moved into the premises now occupied by Kings College, the buildings, then in Bishops Hull parish, were occupied by Taunton Middle School. That was a proprietary school for middle class boys run by Thomas Rendall. It proved very successful and as Huish's charity was aiming for a similar intake they would have been competing against each other.

However, Huish's charity had the advantage of being able to provide free or subsidized places out of its charity income. As a result the managers of the Middle School and the Governors of Huish's came to an agreement whereby the 103 boys registered on 1 December 1874 at Taunton Middle School were transferred to the new Huish boys' school on 18 January 1875 and Thomas Rendall became the first headmaster of the new school. Until they acquired a former private school adjoining Grey's almshouses, the new Huish's school was held in the old grammar school. It would have been rather crowded when the original occupants, Taunton College School, returned briefly in 1880 but after Revd Rendall left for Oxford Huish's lost pupils and there were only 21 boys on the roll.

The admission register of the new school carefully recorded all 103 boys although some of them did not stay long. Later comments, marriage and funeral cards and newscuttings were added to the register, which was unusually luxurious in allowing one page per pupil. Several died young: Charles Pigott became a master at Huish's in 1880 but died in 1885; Samuel Kirkpatrick, the son of a chemist, went out to the goldfields in Suriname where he died of fever aged 23 in 1889; his brother Harry died of TB in 1896.

The Middle School educated the sons of tradesmen and professional men in Taunton and set many on the road to good careers. Edward and Ellis Chapman became a draper and grocer respectively. Henry Albert Webb became a teacher at Huish's, took a London degree and went on to teach at the Merchant Venturers School in Bristol. John Wesley Davis of Castle Green became a Wesleyan minister in South Wales and his brother William joined the Royal Navy as did James John Osmond of the Bell, High St while Jarvis James from the Crown and Sceptre joined the Gordon Highlanders.

Edwin John Lock, son of a publican, enjoyed a brief career as a county cricketer between 1891 and 1893 before becoming a cowman at Norton Fitzwarren. Several boys went to London or further afield. Stephen Jesse Hulbert, the son of an East Reach pawnbroker, went to Queensland and kept a grocery store with a fellow pupil.

One of the most notable pupils was George Mallack Bluett, son of a local wine merchant, who left in 1876 to begin medical training. He became a distinguished physician and obstetric surgeon in Kensington and worked in both Lambeth lying-in hospital and the London City Mission.

Although there were many distinguished pupils others were less so. James Beake of Tangier came from St John's school and when he left to go to work was said to be 'no credit to the school'. He went to live in Hammersmith with his mother, a dressmaker and her second husband, a baker, where he trained as a watchmaker but in 1888 he was charged with stealing a pony and carriage at Exeter and sentenced to a year's hard labour. Albert Edward Danby of Whitehall became a jeweller but later abandoned his wife and daughter and went to New York. He returned and settled in Taunton with his mistress, whom he eventually married after the deaths of his wife and legitimate daughter. John Blackmore Stringfellow, son of Allen Stringfellow and great nephew of Julia Blackmore, both dentists, went to Australia in 1886 as a barber but later practiced as a dentist. He was imprisoned for three months for being 'illegally on premises' and was described as having several scars on his fingers and being very short-sighted, which makes one wonder about his dental practice!

A similar lavish register was provided for the girl's school held in the Masonic Hall in the Crescent while the headmistress lived in a nearby house. This school was started from scratch and only c. 60 girls were enrolled in the first five years. The first pupils were Louisa and Henrietta, daughters of Edward Jeboult and his wife Henrietta Summerhayes. Many girls had been at small private schools but others had never had any schooling.



*Masonic Hall, the Crescent*

*Mary Siraut*

Although the youngest admitted was 4 years of age most were at least 10. Like the boys of the Middle School the girls were the children of tradespeople, professional men and clergy. Some girls had to leave early on the death of a parent or for ill-health. Sadly a large number left because their parents considered their education complete at a very early age or because they believed that as they entered their teens girls should be educated at home. A few parents objected to paying the fees.

Of those who were able to continue their education several became teachers. A few were entered for scholarship exams like Kate Bussell who passed Oxford and Cambridge local exams and in 1886 left to attend the North London Collegiate School. Another bright pupil was innkeeper's daughter Ethelinde Hewitt who having passed several scholarship exams left the school at 17 to further her education in Germany. She became a high-class governess working in several wealthy households in south-east England before retiring to Taunton.

Constance Anderson was the granddaughter of the Taunton musician Samuel Summerhayes and left school aged 10 to join her mother Cecilia in Australia. However, she returned to England and became a music teacher eventually becoming professor of music at Cheltenham Ladies College. Following her marriage in 1913 she moved to Hampstead but continued to teach. From the same family was Henrietta, daughter of musician Frederick Summerhayes. After her father died she left school in 1883 to emigrate to Montreal, Canada with her mother and six surviving sisters.

### Mary Siraut



## Tom Lock, the last Taunton potwalloper

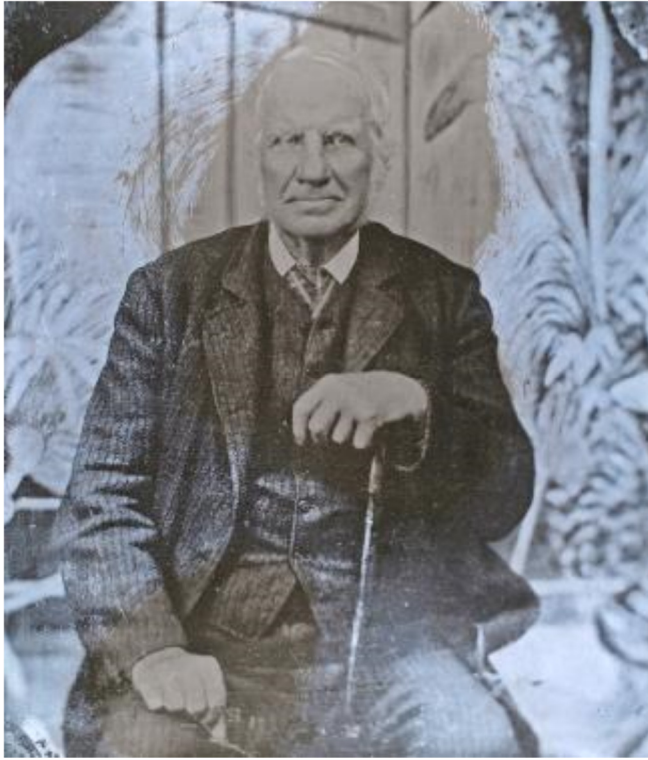
*No one in Taunton probably was more delighted at the prospect of a contest in Taunton than Mr Tom Lock, who is well known as the last of the potwallers. He is in his 93<sup>rd</sup> year and has had the privilege of voting for Parliamentary candidates in the borough for almost 70 years. He is probably the oldest voter on the register in the whole of the county of Somerset, if not in England, who was able to record his vote during this election. Even now Mr Lock can read without the aid of spectacles.*

So said the *Taunton Courier* on 10 October 1900.

Potwallopers, or potwallers as they were often called in Taunton, were men who were entitled to vote in boroughs because they could cook their own food and were not paupers. There was always debate over whether lodgers were eligible and there may well have been abuses but the system persisted until electoral reform in 1832. However, in Taunton unlike some other places, the potwallopers who had established their right to vote before 1832 could keep their electoral status. There are contradictory statements about numbers but certainly several hundred in 1832 of whom only eight were left by 1881. Tom Lock claimed to be the last. However, in 1900 his vote was objected to and he was said to have been struck off the register.

According to newspaper accounts at the end of his life Tom was born on the 9 February 1808 in Bristol. He became a cordwainer and was living in St Olave's, Exeter when he married Eleanor Stone of Luppitt on 27 October 1827. She had a child George Colman Stone born in Luppitt c.1823 who came to Taunton with her. Presumably the father was George Colman but Tom was named as his father when he married in 1846 and described George's daughter Ellen as his grandchild in 1861. George and his sons became tailors.

Tom had moved to Taunton by 1834 and was a drummer in the militia. Eleanor worked occasionally in the Greyhound inn but most of her life she worked as a domestic nurse. She was buried at St Mary Magdalene on 21 February 1884.



*SWHT, DD/X/SOM/64*

Tom served for some years as warder in the Somerset County Gaol, in Shuttern, including guarding the notorious publican Joel Fisher previous to his execution for the murder of his wife at Weston super Mare in 1844, which caused a considerable sensation in the town. Tom was living in Upper High Street in 1851 but seems to have moved after giving up being a warder, probably after he was accused of allowing a prisoner to escape in 1854. He worked as a porter, possibly for the market as he was later a collector of market tolls. He worked for the Taunton Market Trustees for 35 years. Until its destruction to create Corporation Street, Tom lived in Cox's Passage behind the Old Angel Inn. In 1861 his wife was away working but he had his little granddaughter Ellen for company and by 1871 they had a boarder William Bosley, a tailor who

was variously called, boarder or nephew, although no relationship can be traced with him or his wife, or adopted son. After his wife died Tom moved in with William Bosley and his family in High Street no. 10 Court.

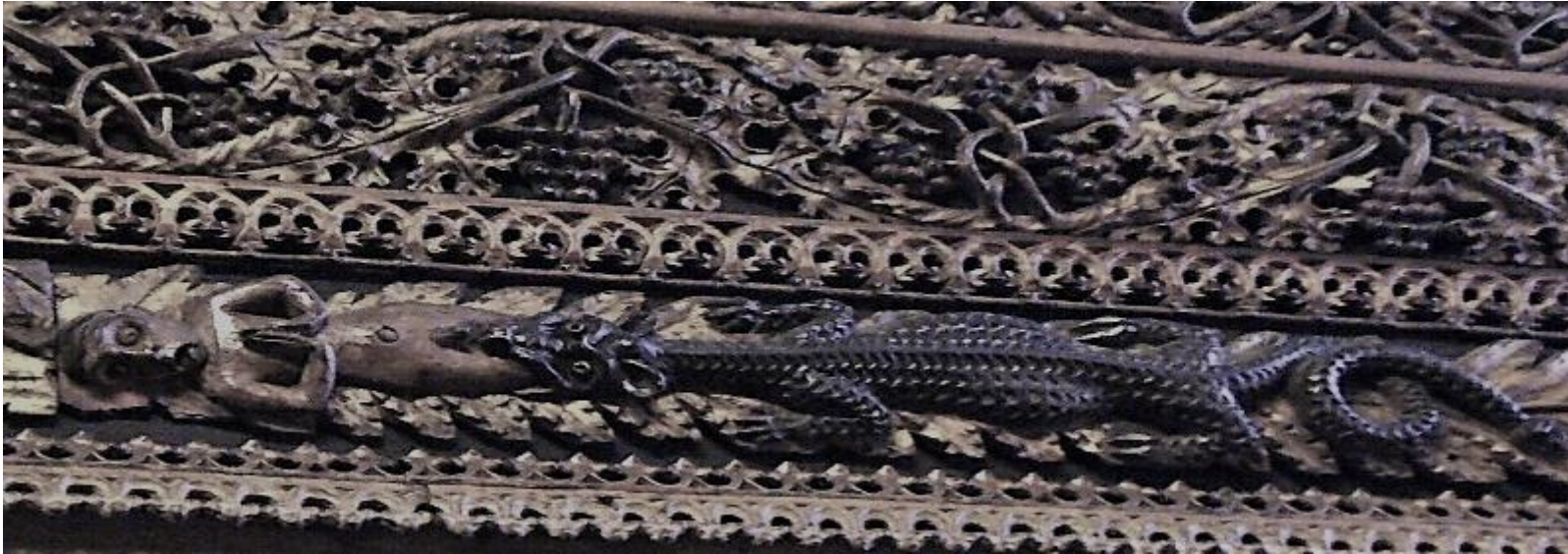


*Entrance to former court off High St.*

On 6 February 1901 the Taunton Courier wished him many happy returns it being his birthday. 'Despite his great age, until within the last few days, Mr Tom Lock was to be seen walking about the main thoroughfares, his tall herculean frame being very little bent'. In 1903 the Market Trustees had received an application on his behalf for some further assistance during a serious illness which necessitated special treatment. They recommended that 7s a week instead of the 4s he was receiving be paid him during the continuation of his illness but two trustees secured an increase to 10s a week. However, he died on the 26 January 1904 and was buried in St Mary's cemetery on 28 February just a few days short of his birthday.

**Sarah Baddeley**





*Detail of Norton Fitzwarren screen*

*Mary Siraut*

## **The Dragon of Norton Fitzwarren update**

In issue 10 of this newsletter, I wrote about the dragon images on the screen in Norton Fitzwarren church. Having since had several opportunities to visit the church, it is clear that the figure being devoured by a dragon is male, and so cannot be St Margaret as suggested.

During a visit to the church, a couple of theories regarding other images on the screen were put forward by the congregation. The 'bowl' held by the man with the dogs may not be a bowl at all, but rather a coil of rope used for 'whipping in' hunting dogs. The naked figures at the far right of the screen may be playing a game similar to the parlour game 'Are you there, Moriarty?'. In this game blindfolded players attempt to hit each other over the head with a rolled-up newspaper or similar object, and it is possible this scene illustrates a 16th century version, with each participant attempting to pull the other's hair instead of hitting them with a newspaper. Why this scene is depicted on the screen is still unclear.

**Rosalind Johnson**

## Processions: Two Banners, One Voice

On 16<sup>th</sup> June, 'Processions: Two Banners, One Voice' opened at the Somerset Rural Life Museum, Glastonbury. The exhibition marks the centenary of the Representation of the People Act 1918. To mark the occasion, Somerset Art Works as part of Processions, a national mass participation artwork project, was commissioned to create a contemporary women's rights banner. In turn they commissioned Bristol based artist Dorcas Casey to lead creative workshops with students from Strode College, Street to create this new banner.

The banner, along with an original suffrage banner produced by the Weston-super-Mare branch of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies (NUWSS) form the focus of the exhibition. Part of the North Somerset Council Museum Collections, it is believed this original suffrage banner was created by Ivy Millicent James, a local Weston artist and keen supporter of the suffrage movement, and the Artist's Suffrage League in 1911. The banner features the red, white and green of the NUWSS, which differs from the more commonly known purple, white and green of the Women's Social and Political Union. The banner was used at group meetings and part of the NUWSS' 1913 pilgrimage from Land's End to Hyde Park.

### **Bethan Murray**

The exhibition runs until 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2018 and is included as part of your admission charge to the museum.



## Hinton House War Hospital

During the First World War Hinton House in Hinton St George took on a new role as a Red Cross War Hospital. It was part of a network of Auxiliary Home Hospitals, which supported the military hospitals that were run by the Royal Army Medical Corps. Over 3,000 beds were made available in auxiliary hospitals across the country during the war years. The patients who were cared for at Hinton House Hospital did not generally have life-threatening injuries, but needed time to convalesce from their wounds or illnesses. The beautiful country house location provided the ideal setting, a world away from their recent experiences of the battlefield.



*Hinton House, c.1914*



*Dorothy Hole*

The staff included significant numbers of women, many of whom worked without pay through the Voluntary Aid Detachment scheme. The VADs, as they were known, were trained in basic nursing, hygiene and cooking, and worked alongside a commandant, who was a doctor, as well as a matron, trained nursing staff and orderlies. Dorothy Hole was one such volunteer. She was living in Seavington St Michael at the outbreak of the war and set up a first aid point in the village. She soon volunteered to serve at Hinton House, caring for the men during their convalescence and winning many certificates and commendations for her work. Dorothy was artistic and painted scenes at the hospital, giving us a glimpse into daily life on the wards.

Hinton House Hospital  
Thanking the Commandant  
Sister Fisher + Staff for the kindness  
received during my stay at Hinton  
Hospital  
241277  
Pte S.H. Crocker.  
P.A. 1/5 - Somerset L.I.  
Wounded Nov 23<sup>rd</sup> 1917.  
at Ell Gibr.

SWHT A/DDJ 1 Page signed by Sidney Herbert Crocker

Patients came from a wide variety of regiments and nationalities. They obviously appreciated the care that they received at Hinton House Hospital, and many of them recorded this in an autograph book that was kept. The book includes thanks, anecdotes, poems and illustrations from the wounded British and Allied soldiers who stayed at Hinton House. In many cases it includes names, details of the regiment, and when and where the soldier sustained his injury. For example, Sidney Herbert Crocker expressed his gratitude for the kindness shown to him during his stay. He was a local man from Wiveliscombe and had been injured while serving with the Somerset Light Infantry in Egypt in 1917.

Pupils from Somerset schools have been using the autograph book as inspiration to discover more about the First World War on the home front and the experiences of the soldiers and staff at Hinton House Hospital. This is part of the national 'Take One' project, which enables pupils to use an item from the museum or archive collections cared for by the South West Heritage Trust as a basis for a project in their schools.

The children's responses have been very imaginative, with each school exploring different themes. These included cushions decorated with First World War images; flowers and messages to the soldiers on their local village war memorial; and artwork made out of toast based on the theme 'Eat less bread to win the war'. Among the most moving were model hospital beds on which the children wrote messages, imagining what the bed might say to the soldier who lay on it. Their work has been on display at the Somerset Rural Life Museum and at a community centre in Glastonbury.

### Janet Tall



Pupils' work on display at the Somerset Rural Life Museum

Janet Tall

## The Son that Taunton Forgot

At a ceremony in Taunton on 14 June the town's new inner distributor road was transformed from an object of controversy to a focus for celebration. The mile-long road, which joins the eastern and western sides of Taunton, was officially named Trenchard Way, while overhead an RAF A400 Atlas flew low in salute.

Not only was Taunton naming a road. It was reclaiming a distinguished son it had forgotten for too long. Hugh Montague Trenchard (1873–1956), Father of the Royal Air Force, was born at 6 (now 17) Haines Hill, Taunton, on 3 February 1873, a day of violent storms. His family had deep roots in Taunton and the West Country. His great grandfather had arrived in the town at the beginning of the 19th century to practise as a solicitor in Hammet Street. The heads of the family in the next two generations, Henry Charles and Henry Montague (Trenchard's father), practised there in their turn and established themselves as some of Taunton's most respected citizens.

When Trenchard was only a few years old his ambitious parents left Haines Hill for a grander house in the countryside near Taunton. He would remember Courtlands at Norton Fitzwarren as a kind of childhood paradise complete with espaliered peach trees and a dry pond filled with lizards in summer. But at the age of 16 a letter reached him at school in Berkshire calling him home. His father was about to be declared bankrupt and the family's rapid descent into humiliation had begun. Trenchard would never forget how at that terrible time his father's greeting to a neighbour in a Taunton street was curtly ignored.

The young Trenchard shook the dust of Taunton from his feet, but the bankruptcy haunted him for years to come. It was evidently a powerful impetus in shaping the single-minded and utterly determined person he became. Though he was famously inarticulate, those who got to know him quickly discovered a lightening intelligence and an extraordinary ability to see to the heart of a problem. Such qualities served him well in his army career, during which he was seriously wounded in South Africa. But it was his decision in 1912, a few months before his 40th birthday, to train for his aviator's certificate that changed the course of his life. He got the certificate after no more than 64 minutes in the air and was soon second in command at the Central Flying School, Upavon, the training centre of the newly-created Royal Flying Corps.





*17 Haines Hill*

Soon after the First World War broke out Trenchard was appointed General Officer Commanding, the Royal Flying Corps, and on 1 April 1918 he reluctantly became Chief of the Air Staff for the newly-created RAF, the world's first independent air force. In the ten years from 1919 he resisted every attempt to deprive the RAF of its independence and thus ensured that Britain was far better prepared when war again broke out in 1939. He always denied that he deserved to be called Father of the Royal Air Force, but almost everyone else recognised that the name expressed a simple truth.

He became the 1st Viscount Trenchard in 1936 and when he died in 1956 was given what amounted to a state funeral. His ashes were brought to Westminster Abbey to be buried in the Battle of Britain Memorial Chapel that he had helped to create. Now a memorial also commemorates him on Trenchard Way, near the heart of the town where he was born. Taunton will not forget him again.

### **Tom Mayberry**

Trenchard's story has most recently been retold in Russell Miller's book *Trenchard: Father of the Royal Air Force* (2017)



## Historic Image of Somerset



This winter 1951 image shows the bridge over the Bridgwater-Taunton canal near Firepool with Taunton goods station on higher ground beyond. Houses line the road and the shed marks the site of the junction with the long-abandoned Grand Western Canal. Just visible under the arch are the gates of Firepool Lock and the steps down to the water but no sign of barges and already the canal was virtually disused. Firepool weir on the Tone is beyond the trees to the left out of sight as is the pumping station with water tank on the right.

This would have been a familiar scene for a century but since this photograph was taken the houses were pulled down to create a carpark.

In the 21st century the GWR goods station was also demolished and the associated marshalling yard, the Taunton Freight Concentration Depot, was replaced by Trenchard Way and its attendant blocks of flats.

However, one can still walk along the canal and over the bridge which has survived redevelopment along with the lock.



*School children's work, including model hospital beds, made as part of the Take One Project and inspired by Hinton House War Hospital autograph book.*

*Janet Tall*

## **Forthcoming Events**

The next VCH Somerset Mick Aston lecture will be given in the Great Hall of Taunton Castle on the evening of Thursday 22 November 2018. The speaker will be Professor Chris Gerrard of Durham University, who will be speaking on

**'Lost Lives, New Worlds. Unlocking the story of the 1650 Scottish soldiers buried on Palace Green in Durham'**

Further details will be circulated nearer the date.

## **Please Support Us**

Plans for further work are entirely dependent on public generosity.

If you would like to support the future work of the Somerset VCH please consider making a donation or legacy to the **Somerset County History Trust** [Registered Charity Number 1161263]. For more information contact:

### **Victoria County History of Somerset**

Somerset Heritage Centre, Brunel Way, Norton Fitzwarren, Taunton, TA2 6SF

[vch@swheritage.org.uk](mailto:vch@swheritage.org.uk)

Please pass this newsletter on to others. If you are not on our mailing list and would like to receive future copies of the newsletter, please let us know by contacting us at [vch@swheritage.org.uk](mailto:vch@swheritage.org.uk).