

The
Petworth
Society

Miles Costello
Petworth
Collection



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The Petworth Society was founded in 1974 "to preserve the character and amenities of the town and parish of Petworth, including Byworth; to encourage interest in the history of the district, and to foster a community spirit". It is non-political, non-sectarian, and non-profit-making.

Membership is open to anyone, irrespective of place or residence, who is interested in furthering the objects of the Society.

The annual subscription is 50p (minimum) for each adult member, or 25p for those between 13 and 18 years of age. Further information may be obtained from any of the following:-

President - Colonel A.H. Maude.

Chairman - Mr. P.A. Jerrome, Trowels, Pound Street,
Petworth.

Vice-Chairman - Mr. K.C. Thompson, 18 Rothermead, Petworth.

Hon. Secretary - Mrs. B.G. Johnson, Glebe Cottage, Bartons
Lane, Petworth. (Tel. 42226)

Hon. Treasurer - Mr. R.A. Sneller, 16 Littlecote,
Petworth. (Tel. 42507)

Hon. Membership Sec. - Mrs. J. Boss, North Street, Petworth.

Committee - Mr. J.W. Davidson, Lord Egremont,
Mr. R. Pottington, Mrs. Sonia Rix,
Lady Shakerley, Mrs. C.M. Sheridan,
Mrs. Anne Simmons, Mr. D.S. Sneller,
Mr. P.M. Synge, Mr. J. Taylor,
Mrs. D. Thorpe.

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

I am again pleased to offer an improved Society Bulletin. The Committee were pleased with the reception given to No.15 and all copies of that issue have long since disappeared. The experiment of putting the Bulletin on open sale was obviously a success, and we have increased the printing of No.16 in an effort to keep up with the demand. There are also four additional sides of illustration. The basic assumption of this Bulletin is that Petworth is an interesting town in which to live; our writers clearly have this outlook and we hope our readers will share it.

The various spring functions were well-attended and successful and Mr. Thompson appends a note on the interesting "At Home" experiment in February. Similar evenings are planned for the autumn but we feel there is less demand for them during the summer months. Countryside activities of course will continue and details of visits to small Petworth gardens will be announced later. Please watch our two notice-boards at Avenings and in Lombard Street.

The Annual General Meeting is to be held on May 18th at 7.00 p.m. in the Leconfield Hall and the Committee hope that all members will make the effort and attend. Open discussion will be encouraged but there will also be a natural history quiz, an exhibition of photographs, and refreshments. We are very much concerned to see that the new year's Committee are elected by the members of the Society and that the composition of that Committee reflects the wishes of the Society's members. The retiring Committee numbered 16 including two members co-opted since the last A.G.M., but two members of that Committee are not standing again: Mr. John Davidson and Mr. Patrick Synge. Both were founder members and both will be greatly missed. However we do hope to have further offerings from their pens in future Bulletins. A separate leaflet is enclosed concerning election to the Committee, but most of all we hope you will attend the A.G.M. This is your opportunity to shape your Society and the number of members present must be considered a measure of the strength or weakness of the Society itself. We shall seek permission at the A.G.M. to put up the membership subscription from 50p but of course members who pay for the new year prior to the A.G.M. will not pay the new rate until next year.

P.A.J.

NEW "STEWES" FOR OLD

1. Stag Park and the Pheasant Copse

Fish have always been an important source of human food. When fish was not easily available naturally from sea, river, or natural pond, man set his ingenuity to the construction of an artificial habitat in which to rear fish, and small streams and ditches were dammed to form primitive ponds for fish production. Man also selected certain species of fish with which to stock his ponds: fish which would provide a good proportion of clean, white flesh as against visible bone and waste. Carp, eels, perch, pike, trout and tench were all suitable for artificial farming but the carp and eel above all.

It may be that the Church, for whom fish was of great importance, led the way in this development: certainly carp and eels were easily farmed on moated priory sites and many monastery ponds still survive, similar in form to that at River Park Farm near Ludsworth. In all probability the fish in this pond - still after centuries only carp and eel - are the lineal descendants of the original stock. Doubtless inspired by the example of the church, the owners of the vast estates were not slow to set their own men to the laborious work of constructing these "stews" or artificial ponds for home-produced fish.

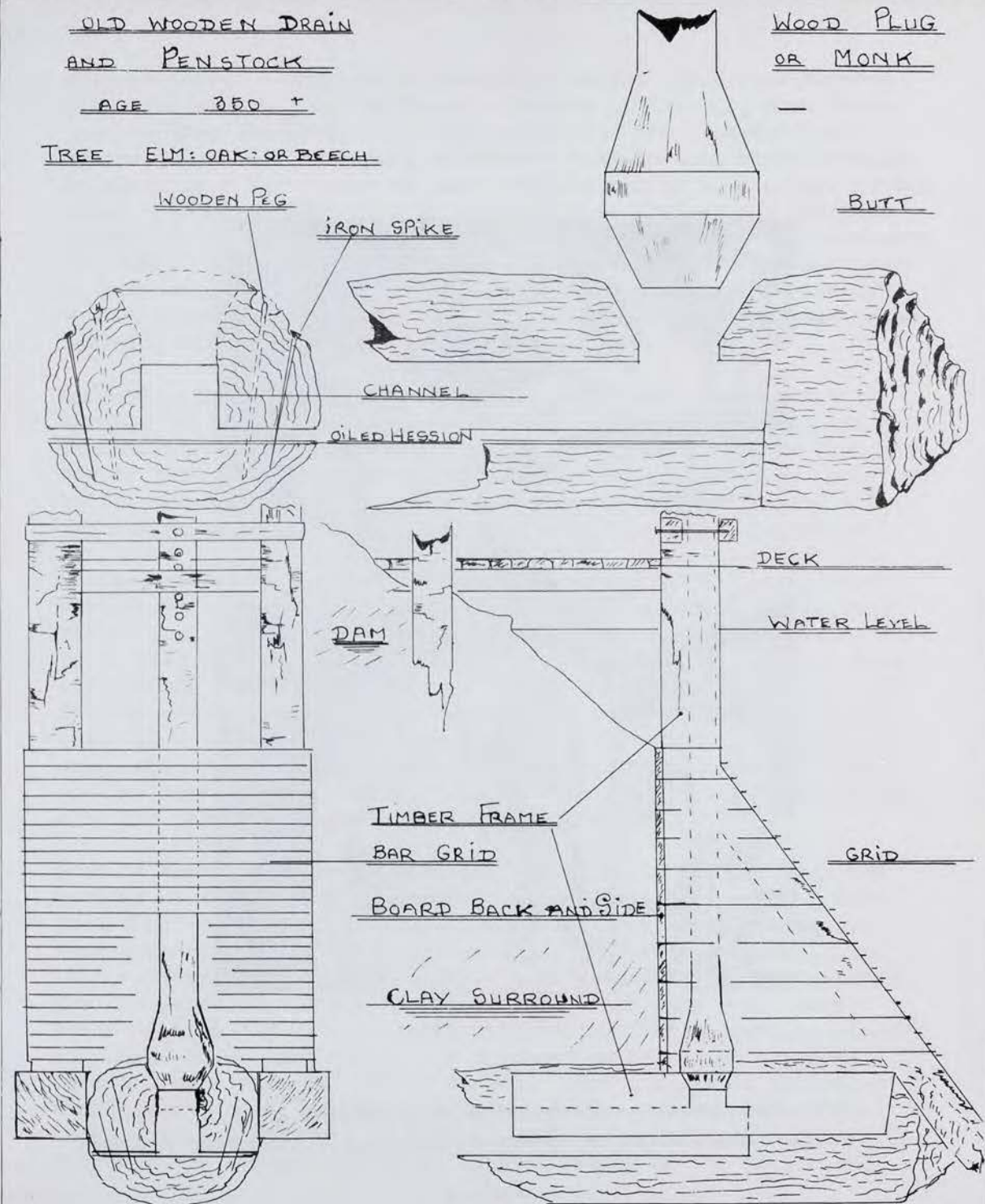
The method of construction, while ingenious, was basically simple and "stews" were constructed wherever streams (or even very small soakage ditches on heavy clay) lent themselves to damming. A site would be chosen often in a narrow valley and, beginning towards the tail of the valley, would work downstream in a series of ponds. A good-sized tree about 3 feet across would be felled and cut to a length of some 18 or 20 feet. A plank some 9 inches to 1 foot thick would be sawn off the length and the remaining log channelled out (see illustration) to within 3 feet of the butt. A layer of oiled hessian sandwiched between plank and tree would then form a watertight seal. Finally the plank would be put back and pinned in place with wooden pegs and large iron spikes. The entire construction was then inverted and laid in a trench dug alongside the stream or ditch to be dammed. Once set in and surrounded by

OLD WOODEN DRAIN
AND PENSTOCK

AGE 350 +

TREE ELM: OAK: OR BEECH

WOOD PLUG
OR MONK





A Wealden Industry - Glassmaking. An impression or "pull" from a printer's block belonging to Mrs. D. Talman of 26 Mant Road, Petworth.

clay it formed a completely watertight drain. An 8 inch tapered plug hole was then cut in through the top of the log, some three feet up from the butt. Into this would fit the long-handled, square, tapered wooden plug or "monk": this in turn would be held in place by a huge frame of oaken timbers rising well clear of the water. At River Park this is situated some 15 feet out into the water, but of course in such cases a service platform connects with the bank. The whole plug shaft would be surrounded by oaken slats to keep back debris. This then was the "penstock" or "draw-off" - that illustrated was excavated at Cock's Pond between Whites Green and Stag Park Farm.

On completion of the penstock the labourers would then excavate the bed of the pond and remove all vegetable matter to the sides. The dam itself was constructed with clay and subsoil from the pond bed or from a nearby "borrow pit". These materials would be carted to the dam and rammed 3 inches at a time to form eventually a triangular shaped dam, usually carrying a 10 foot road over the top.

These dams and ponds varied in size according to the span, depth and length of the valley in which they were situated. A typical "stew" could be 300 feet across and 15 to 20 feet high, giving 8 to 10 feet of water at penstock. The pond would be some 100 feet wide across the base and 25 feet across the top; a total area of 2-4 acres with a rough cubic capacity of some 2 million gallons. Into one side would be built a high level overflow of natural stone which would often tumble down steps, through the main tunnel and into a stone chute. This in turn would connect downstream with the next pond in an interlocked series.

Most of these ponds have in the course of centuries suffered the ravages of flood, natural decay or a combination of both. Often the stone overflow walls have simply collapsed and the stew has been abandoned to dry out and run wild. Toward the close of the 18th century there appears to have been a tendency to reconstruct the old penstock system. Solid 18 inch brick wing walls were built at a 40 degree angle with a hollow 18 inch headwall containing an 18 to 20 inch oaken door which could be raised vertically by means of a rack and pinion device. When down, this sealed an average 18 inch or smaller 9 inch brick barrel drain which discharged on the far side of the dam. Where the old penstock system had survived the new was often built directly on top as was the

case at Cock's Pond. Other survivals in the Petworth area are at Frog Hole and River Park. In each case there are wooden drains, deep mud and probably original stock carp and eels. These stews may also have at one time contained freshwater mussels and crayfish.

Some original stews still survive or can be traced in Petworth Park itself. One of the main ones is the Upper Pond in front of the present House and roughly on the site of the present Lake although on a much smaller scale. It is probably mentioned in the Survey of 1557 as "a fair large pond for fish". The small ponds on the western slopes away from the Upper Lake are still known as the "stews" and are (or were) exactly that, serving the function either of bringing on young fish, or of "cleaning" fish prior to eating. In the latter case, fish caught in pond or lake would be kept in clearer water for a time, to get some of the earthy taste out of the flesh. In comparatively recent times such fish were fed on oatmeal for this purpose. Lower Pond was probably begun under the Duke of Somerset in the earlier part of the eighteenth century and used not only for fish but probably for amenity such as boating. Both Upper and Lower Ponds have a boat-house.

Recent reconstruction work in Stag Park and the Pheasant Copse which began in 1975 seeks to reinstate the old "stews" but in modern terms and in a modern idiom. These modern descendants of the old "stews" are above all a means of water storage and a way of improving the environmental amenity, and only then "stews" in the old sense of ponds for farming fish. Even so those of the decayed pond sites, often long dry, which have been reinstated, have been turned into trout fisheries with the fish population possibly to be diversified later. An example of such reinstatement is Figgs Pond on the west side of Pheasant Copse coming into operation in 1976. This is some 1 acre in size and 800,000 gallons cubic capacity. Within three months of flooding (i.e. filling up) the original reeds and rushes along the old water line, being, presumably, revitalised by the water, sprang forth into new life having laid dormant for some 150 years. Great Spring Pond on the north side of Pheasant Copse, some 2 acres in size, was reconstructed in 1976. Like Figgs it is used at present for trout. The weed type in the two ponds contrasts sharply; both have reed but Great Spring also has huge banks of starweed. Next in the series is

Little Spring Pond fed from the overflow of Great Spring and approximately $1\frac{1}{4}$ acres, overflowing in turn into Luffs Pond adjoining the hard road through the Pheasant Copse. Luffs was drained in 1977 in order to be cleaned out. The cleaning proved difficult owing to the great accumulation of mud and also to ammunition and other devices jettisoned by Allied troops during the war. It was eventually cleaned out during the early summer of 1978 and lay dry for the late summer. The renewed penstock was lowered in November and the pond filled up within fourteen days. It has now (Spring 1979) been stocked for the coming season. Luffs and Figgs are being let out to individual rods while Great Spring and Little Spring are let to a fishing syndicate.

Ponds at present undergoing clearance and reconstruction or planned to be cleared during the next three years include Cock's Pond in Stag Park on which work was begun in May 1978. This should be plugged during the spring of 1979 and stocked with fish for the 1979 season. The reinstatement is scheduled for completion by September 1979. Another pond is Jackson's Lake Pond below the overflow from Cock's and north of Parkhurst on the Upperton Road. Work on this has already begun and is scheduled for completion during the 1980 season. As with the other reinstated "stews", it cannot be too often stressed that water storage is a prime factor in reinstatement policy. An area which yet awaits reclamation and can still be seen in its original state is that group of ponds that straddle the stream that comes down from Lavington in the Kilsham area - once part of Petworth and Duncton common but now part of the Leconfield Estate. Of these we hope to write in the next issue.

J. TAYLOR.

MR. G.P.D. "JIMMY" ADAMS

Few people will realize the debt the Committee and the Society in general owe to Mr. G.P.D. "Jimmy" Adams who died at the end of March. He was secretary in the difficult early days when the Society was struggling to find its own identity and all those who were members of the Committee then will long remember his unassuming manner and his ability to set even the dullest and most unpromising topic into a humorous perspective. He was a true gentleman who is, and will be, sadly missed.

FISH AT PETWORTH HOUSE IN 1582-3

The Steward's Rolls of the Earls of Northumberland give great detail of the fare at Petworth House in Elizabethan times. In PHA 574 there occurs the following list of fish consumed over the period of accounting:

Turbutt, pykes, plaice, flounders, eles, lampernes, burbetts, roaches and dace, rochetts, gurnods, soles, haddocks, whytings, coddes, shadd, thornback, crabbes, lopsters, oysters, cockles, musckles, mulletts, meades, dorie, carpe, tenche, troute, chevin (i.e. chub), smelts, shrimps, breams, perche, prawnes, crevich (i.e. crayfish), lamfrey, markavell, and such lyke...

Some of these like dory or cod must certainly be sea-fish but it is interesting to speculate how many might have come from the local stew-ponds!

Other fresh produce included orrenge and leomanes, cheries, quinces, wardens (i.e. pears), pease, sallet, cowcombers, pompions, pasnebbes, plomes and onions, stroberies and goose-beries, quodlings and cabadges, turnepes and such lyke - not to mention the various meats!

MAKING OURSELVES 'AT HOME'

Some forty members gathered in a rather chilly Leconfield Hall on 17th February for a chat and refreshments 'at home'. Everyone was welcomed with a glass of wine and then the Chairman, Peter Jerrome, spoke about the aims of the Society. He included tape recorded extracts from Colonel Maude's speech at the inauguration of the Society in 1974 which served as a timely reminder of what had and had not been achieved during the past five years. Members were then invited to make their own contributions. There was no immediate response, perhaps because the appetising smell of apple pie and coffee was wafting through from the kitchen, but while the refreshments were being served and eaten, useful contacts were made between members and those of the Committee who were 'mingling'. It transpired that all present felt that the evening had been A GOOD THING, worthy of repetition, and that we should persist with the idea of offering time for an open forum now that we know each other.

The Committee has been greatly encouraged by all the favourable comments but feels bound to warn that next time the refreshments may not be quite so lavish. It is hoped, however, that the warmth of the company will be matched by that of the room!

K.C.T.

WINTER BIRDS

This winter has not only been hard to us but also to birds. Many have perished and others have moved to warmer parts, some to Southern Europe and some to the West and Ireland. However the conditions further north have sent birds from there to us in greater numbers than usual and this has been a bonus to the birdwatcher.

Many hen harriers have been seen in this part of Sussex and one indeed within $\frac{1}{2}$ mile of Petworth. There are reports of rough legged buzzard also and short eared owls have been recorded in many places. Bewicks swan from the arctic have exceeded 100 at Amberley Wild Brooks and white fronted geese have been around in large flocks. Field flares were not as common as usual but red-wing numbers were good and both these thrushes were feeding on apples in my garden in the centre of Petworth during the snow.

Undoubtedly the most unusual visitor this winter was the greater sand plover which spent at least three weeks during December patrolling a mud bank at Pagham Harbour Local Nature Reserve. These birds breed from the eastern shore of the Black Sea across to Central Asia and normally winter on the coasts of East Africa, India, the Far East and Australia. This was the first time the species had been seen in the British Isles and it attracted bird-watchers from at least as far as the Shetland Islands. It is highly likely that it did not survive the bitter cold in the new year.

I am writing this on the first day of Spring and although we have had several snow storms today the first migrants are arriving. This afternoon I have seen and heard calling my first chiff chaff and also two wheatears on the beach at Selsey Bill. Rooks have many nests built and long tailed tits are busily collecting material.

The Canada geese in Petworth Park are now paired and will soon be nesting. They have been joined at times during the winter by a snow goose, two barnacle geese, a whitefront and two greylag geese. Duck numbers in the Park have varied considerably but species seen have included mallard, tufted ducks, shoveler and pochard.

It is only to be hoped that a good breeding season now will replace the many mortalities over the winter.

David Sneller.

DOWNLAND AND GARDEN RAMBLINGS

Patrick M. Synge

The exceptional winter has strongly affected both wild and garden flowers this spring and so the proposed visit to see the wild hellebores had to be cancelled. A visit a few days earlier showed a few of them only just emerging from the ground although, on a similar date last year, a large patch with 50 or more plants in flower, a foot or more tall, could be seen, a beautiful as well as an interesting sight. This is Helleborus viridis, the green hellebore and the flowers are a lovely jade green, each nearly two inches across. It is uncommon and very local growing on the Petworth side in open woodland of beeches, well below the highest ridge. There is one other green hellebore, H. foetidus which may be found on the downs and I have heard of a station for it in the area, although I have not actually seen it. I grow it in the garden, however, where it spreads freely from self-sown seedlings. It is a larger, slightly statuesque plant, often 2 or more feet tall, with divided leaves and large branching heads of many smaller green flowers, more cup-shaped than H. viridis, and each flower has a narrow, deep crimson rim round the mouth of the flower. The name foetidus is derived from the word stinking and is said to apply to the stems if crushed, although I have not noticed it in the garden. It shows green all the winter and is often described as sub-shrubby.

The many Lenten roses are forms of H. orientalis and are garden but not wild flowers and probably hybrids derived from wild progenitors such as H. guttatus and H. abchasicus and H. purpurascens, mostly from Central Europe. They have a great range of

markings and colour and I usually try and segregate them in colour groups ranging from pure white to very deep purple red, some almost black. In fact there is a very lovely one known as 'Black Knight' but unfortunately it has little vigour and tends to be expensive if one can find it in a nursery list. There are beautiful strains of it in the garden at Highdown, Nr. Worthing, which now belongs to Worthing Corporation. The garden was made in a chalk pit on the Littlehampton side of Worthing, by the late Sir Frederick Stern, a very skilled gardener. After his death his widow gave it to the Corporation and it is open free several days a week. Sir Frederick liked the ones where the flowers were horizontal and looked at one rather than pendent, and selected his seedlings for this character. Over the years it proved effective.

There are many other things to see there also, a great display of dwarf bulbs, irises, cyclamen and narcissus and especially paeonies, on which Sir Frederick wrote the standard book, most beautifully illustrated. There is a lovely and almost unique tree paeony, P. suffruticosa, from a monastery in Yunnan, China grown from seed collected by the late Dr. Rock. When, after the last war, Sir Frederick learned that the monastery had been sacked and the paeony destroyed, he was able to send back seeds from his plant of the paeony. The flowers are white, 6 inches or more across and each petal has a dark crimson patch at the base. It flowers towards the end of May when there are also many irises, raised at Highdown, and later in July comes a fine display of Eremurus spikes, the tall foxtail lily from Central Asia, also raised at Highdown. Sir Frederick has written about it in his book "A Chalk Garden", recently revised and brought up to date by Faber. So anyone living on chalk, in fact many of the gardeners around Petworth, is strongly urged to pay a visit. There is much of interest in the garden. It always brings back pleasant memories for me as Sir Frederick would greet his visitors with both hands raised and the words, "Come along, everything is flowering like mad" and it was nearly always true.

Quite a different garden, but also well worth visiting, is Mrs. Margaret Thorpe's at Coates Manor, Nr. Fittleworth where colour and foliage, blending and contrasting forms, have been brought to a fine art. Everything is under strict control, unlike Highdown where plants are encouraged to spread and naturalise themselves, but Mrs. Thorpe is a very highly skilled gardener. It is open

under the National Gardens Scheme in July and is very well worth a visit.

Another garden which I always enjoy is Miss Jeanne Courtauld's at Cooke's House, West Burton which is open under the same scheme but in April and July. The garden is full of shrub roses and other beautiful plants, truly an artist's garden, which blends well with the old Tudor house and a fine old cedar.

Next door to it is Coke's Cottage, belonging to Mr. and Mrs. Nigel Aziz, She is also the District Organiser of the scheme for West Sussex, a noble one which brings pleasure to so many. The garden, although more recent, is also full of lovely shrub roses and other interesting plants and Mrs. Aziz is a very skilled gardener.

For shrub roses which are so popular now one should also go to Mrs. Herbert Agar's garden at Beechwood, Duncton, which is also open in June under the same scheme. It is the pink house on the side of Seaford College and can be easily approached either through the college main gate or direct from the Chichester Road.

Everything is about a fortnight late at least and there is much damage showing, particularly among such shrubs as Ceanothus and Hebe and Cistus and some of the Eucalyptus but it pays to be patient and wait till almost the end of the month before cutting them back or taking them out, although clearly deadwood may be taken out earlier. When we listen to the accounts of weather in the North and even in the West and extreme East we may comfort ourselves however that others have fared considerably worse.

If you are more adventurous and can travel a bit further, National Trust gardens such as Wakehurst, Ardingly, near Haywards Heath, now managed by the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew and full of fine old Rhododendrons, Magnolias, choice conifers and Australasian plants, will well repay a visit. So also will Nymans, Near Handcross, and Sheffield Park, Nr. Uckfield. But these are all large gardens and require an hour at least for a proper tour. Details of opening times will be found in the Properties lists of the National Trust. Wakehurst is open daily except 7th May and there is a board at the gate giving the plants of special interest.

THE NEW SURGERY, PETWORTH

This fine new purpose-built building in Grove Lane, just on the Petworth side of New Grove, will be opened at Easter and I have been asked to assist in planning a garden round it. It is quite a large site on sloping ground with a view southwards to the Downs, and members of the Petworth Society may be interested to hear what is planned and some may even be prepared to help with offers of spare plants.

It will initially be largely grassed down but there are two prominent raised beds at right angles by the door about 25 feet long and two feet wide. This we plan with dwarf conifers of different colourings for all the year interest, but by the door we hope to plant a Daphne odora 'Auree-marginata' for its scent, and two small bay trees, sweet-scented trees which in classical Greece were associated with festivities and from which were made garlands of honour, although I fear that there is not sufficient space for the Oriental Plane the tree under which Hippocrates is supposed to have sat and instructed his pupils in medicine. It makes a fine tree with spreading branches, in my opinion finer than the commoner London Plane which is a hybrid.

For the first few years, while the conifers grow up, we are proposing to interplant with bright coloured, but not brick-red, Pelargoniums and some Helianthemums to tumble over the edge of the wall.

On the East side there will be a large planting of trees and shrubs, particularly cherries such as 'Tai-Haku', the great white Japanese cherry and 'Schimidsu Sakura' and the narrow, upright 'Amanogawa'. Behind them will be seedlings of the mauve Abutilon suntense which grow very fast and which was raised locally, various mountain ash for autumn colour, including, I hope, the lovely yellow fruited Sorbus 'Joseph Rock'. Then for winter interest we plan a witch hazel, H. mollis or its variety 'Pallida' with sulphur-yellow flowers. As well as flowering beautifully one very distinguished gardener recently described them as "good plants for the mini ice age". Then a winter cherry, the lovely pale pink Prunus subhirtella autumnalis and beneath some winter flowering heaths. Beneath them we hope to interplant with daffodils and crocuses and naturalised bulbs and we would be grateful for any offers of old

bulbs of daffodils or hyacinths which have been used in bowls for the house, but not neglected and dried off yet please. South of this there is space for a scarlet oak. Along the curving front of this area we propose a dwarf hedge of the Hidcote form of dark purple lavender and behind some groups of hydrangeas, hardy fuchsias and a few camellias and silver-leaved plants such as Santolina and Senecio maritima, and Jackman's blue rue. Cuttings of these will be welcome to help form large groups.

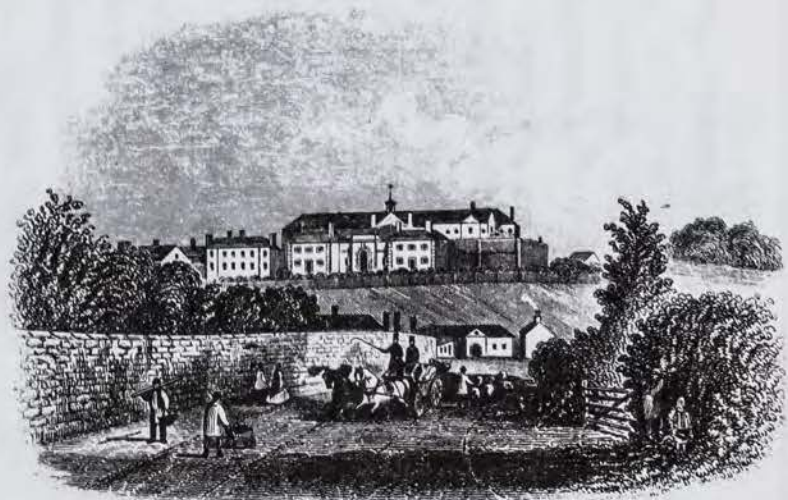
In front of the surgery to the South there will be a narrow terrace of grass with four rose beds, for which we plan four hybrid teas or floribundas free-growing roses, such as 'Queen Elizabeth', 'Iceberg', 'Elizabeth of Glamis' and 'Pink Parfait' with mauve violas as an underplanting. The soil here is heavy with a high proportion of clay. Below this is a steep bank about 100 feet long by 8 feet deep and since this will be difficult to mow we plan a large planting of St. John's Wort, the rose of Sharon, Hypericum calycinum, and in a year or two small plants should spread and grow together to make a carpet of green and gold. This might be intermingled with Eleagnus 'Emerald and Gold', a free-growing form which also is colourful and spreads fast.

Finally at the bottom and to screen off partly the new allotments there will be a hedge of copper beech which is thick and more decorative than the ordinary beech but may prove too expensive for the length. On the fence to the West which is the side most exposed to the prevalent winds we plan, in the lower part, a border of white Wichuriana hybrid roses which grow freely from cuttings and grow 6 feet or more in a year once established, while above it the bed bulges out more and there will be hybrid musk roses such as 'Buff Beauty', 'Penelope' and 'Felicity' which have a double season of flowering each year.

Finally to the north of the surgery, space is being left for a doctor's house but in front of it we plan a couple of soulangiana Magnolias such as 'Picture' and 'Alba Superba' and in front of them a narrow edging of silver-leaved plants and possibly a few annuals to give temporary colour. Groups of annuals may this year be planted in front of the trees and shrubs in the West border as a temporary measure, depending on the labour to keep them being available. Of course a complete planting cannot be



Somerset Hospital



Petworth Gaol

Hunters and accessories at Btsworth.

Wilton the first discoverer. Mr Brownes once keeper of Lyner park.

Leof Keper of river Lyner Mr Brownes man fish upon the discovery of killing 2 bald does.

Water Addams a tenant of Biggbyes confessed the killing of the 2 bald does

Young Biggbye confesseth the killing of those 2 does, as also of one horned fall buck at one tyme, and an other bald buck at an other.

Cuffold a keeper of Lyner park fled upon the discovery of the killing the bald bucks.

The La: Gerretts cocheman fled upon the discovery of killing the same deer.

Worthington a Taylor at London lying at Biggbyes now in prison and indicted at the last session for killing the same deer.

Black John Mr Brownes servant confessed to have been at all these huntings.

Fildes fled and accused to have bene at the huntings a man dwelling at Haverhill.

Mr. Brownes decess where they chur killed all these deer.

St H: Goring will take his oathe that Mr Browne told him that he had taken 6 deer in a night in Btsworth park with

deer harms

Chamberlain St H: Goring servant death accused that Mr. Brown told him that he had taken 6

Deer Mr John Brownes or my Lady Gerretts servant noted for a great hunted and poacher only taken accused.

Martin servant to Mr John Brown a great hunter accused.

Old Biggbye in whose house part of this deer was eaten

Furlonger Biggbyes man one of the hunters fled, and confesseth the killing of an other deer the last hunting.



A 15/3 Mrs. J. Johnson of Seaford College writes: Mr. Holt, the "prodigious walker" referred to in your question was my great-great-grandfather, my grandmother Fanny Holt (who married Thomas Leppard) being his grand - daughter. We have an excellent copy of the Lithograph hanging on the wall here and there are several other copies distributed around the family.

expected this Spring and some may have to remain over till the Autumn. There are other possibilities including a fine stone wall along the West side and also to the North.

Any offers of spare plants, bulbs or bits should be made to Dr. Morgan or Dr. Smith at the Surgery or to me at Byworth Edge.

Patrick M. Synge.

DEER IN PETWORTH PARK

Visitors to Petworth Park increase in number year by year and with them comes an increased concern and awareness of the Park and its deer. Some years ago, it was recognised that the deer throughout the Estate should no longer be treated as vermin, but should be regarded and managed as an asset. The Park herd of fallow deer, now probably the largest enclosed herd in existence at over 1,000 head, also began to be managed along more commercial lines than previously.

With any stock of deer, enclosed or wild, there is a natural turnover, nature's way of balancing the stock against the availability of food and selecting the fittest. It is this natural surplus, the cull, which forms the basis of good deer management. Some of you, I am sure, will have been irritated by the need to keep the Park gates closed until 9 a.m. whilst the cull was being carried out. Culling the herd is a humane and highly selective process which cannot be hurried. Selection of the poor quality juveniles and the old deer past desirable breeding age, takes both time and patience. Meat from the herd is sold either locally, direct from the Estate or through butchers, or it is exported to Europe, mostly Germany. Much of the income is put back into Park maintenance, pasture improvements, wall repairs, pond maintenance and the like, the National Trust also benefitting from the proceeds.

Not all the surplus stock in the Park is culled, however, and animals are also caught up alive for sale, often export. These animals go mainly for blood-stock improvements in other herds, in much the same way as a farmer introduces fresh blood to his dairy herd or whatever.

Handling wild animals is a very delicate and skilled operation. The methods are used, either the selected animal is anaesthetised

with a tranquillising dart or they are caught in a drop-net system, about which some of you may have wondered during this past winter. Live catch up and movement of deer is a strictly regulated activity involving the Nature Conservancy and the Home Office. The use of a tranquillising gun is not confined to deer and from time to time I am asked to dart a variety of other animals, usually mad cattle and suchlike. A further use of the dart gun is the immobilisation of sick animals for treatment or, in some instances, to disentangle them from wire. The Deer Department retain a Veterinary Surgeon to assist and advise, who is on hand when deer are being caught up, moved or treated.

This winter has been merciless so far as the deer stocks are concerned. Wild and Park animals have suffered alike and it has been distressing to see the effects of the winter. Veterinary pathology reports were given on a number of casualties and the findings were the same in each case: "Well fed but malnourished." It has been the fawns, as always, which have suffered most. Despite abundant food (in the Park up to four tons of fodder are fed daily), these youngsters have the odds heavily stacked against them. Deer are ruminants and so need the bacteria in their stomachs, especially the Rumen, to break down cellulose so that it can be digested and used as protein. These bacteria require an optimum temperature in which to work, rather like yeast. Chill the bacteria for too long or too often and it ceases to work. No matter how much food is given, the animal simply cannot digest it. Why the fawns? Being smaller, they have a high surface area in relation to their body volume and thus lose heat quickly and chill; also, they are at this time losing their deciduous teeth (baby teeth) and find grazing difficult for a while. The result has been all too tragic to need description and I am afraid Petworth Park is by no means unique this winter.

I would like to thank all those who took the trouble to report sick animals to me, often standing with the animal until I arrived. Happily, we have an "intensive care unit" and an experienced team who can look after these animals if they are found early enough, so many of them will be rejoining the Park herd later this spring.

Richard Price.

Henry, ninth Earl of Northumberland, known as the "wizard Earl" because of his passionate interest in all forms of science, had in 1605 been imprisoned in the Tower by James I on suspicion of having been involved in the abortive Gunpowder Plot of that year. Of this the Earl was certainly innocent but often during the next decade he must have felt his life to be hanging by a thread, and it was not until 1620 that he was finally released. Before the Earl's imprisonment Petworth Park had grown rapidly, absorbing under Henry and his late father Petworth Common (that portion of the present Park including the Arbour Hill that now looks down on Hampers Green) and the Outwood, the northern portion of the present Park. Petworth Common had of course been commonable land, while the Outwood, an area of mature trees and rough scrubland, although technically the property of the Earl was by custom the tenants' to common on. Hogs particularly fed on the acorns during the season. Despite King James' doubts the ninth Earl was a Protestant, although the Northumberlands had changed their religious allegiance more than once during the previous century.

In contrast River Park estate, just over the Upperton gate of the Park and the residence of Lady Gerard, was a Roman Catholic stronghold. Lady Gerard, daughter of Sir William Dormer, had married first Anthony Browne (1553-92), son of the 1st Viscount Montague, secondly Sir Edmund Uvedale (d.1606), then Sir Thomas Gerard who died in 1621. Although her third husband had been of a Lancashire family she chose to live in Sussex, possibly in order to be under the protection of her influential son, the 2nd Viscount Montague at Cowdray. She was a staunch Catholic and indeed harboured priests in her house.

The ninth Earl, once home again after having been so long imprisoned on suspicion of Catholic sympathies, was no doubt less than amused at reports that deer were disappearing from his parks during the night but outraged to learn further that it was the members of Lady Gerard's household who were probably responsible for this. The poachers were coming over the Upperton pale, hunting, killing and carrying off their prey and more or less openly boasting at their apparent immunity from retribution. Not that Lady Gerard's retainers were the only persons involved: other more aristocratic names were popularly connected with the poaching excursions, local

Catholic gentlemen, such as the Rigbys of Tillington or even Mr. John Browne, Lady Gerard's son by her first marriage to Viscount Montague. It should be remembered that the deer population of Petworth Park was far less extensive then than now and as we can see from the survey of 1575, to be numbered in dozens rather than hundreds. Some, as will appear, were even fed by hand and called by pet names.

There survive in Petworth House Archives a cluster of documents concerned with the ninth Earl's Star Chamber prosecution of the offenders: The Earl's initial Star Chamber complaint, a series of preliminary statements from some of the accused, a roll containing replies by John Browne, William Martyn and Nicholas Rigby to detailed questions in Star Chamber and some entries concerning the expenses involved in maintaining the prosecution. In the Public Record Office in London there is a summary version of the Earl's complaint and a short formal reply by some of the accused.

In fact the key document in reconstructing the course of events is the Earl's formal complaint in Star Chamber outlining his case against the poachers. He begins by sketching the details of the two parks he has, at some personal expense, stocked with deer to provide hospitality for the king and other visitors, with keepers employed to look after the game, not only deer but pheasants. It is to be noted that according to the Earl the motives of the poachers were at least partly religious for John Browne Esquire and Nicholas Rigby gentlemen are "men refractory in this religion by your majestie established in the Church of England" who conceiving a rancorous malice against the Earl, have conspired "to spoyle, havocke and destroye your subiects sayd Parks". This emphasis on religious differences may well reflect the Earl's long sojourn in the Tower under suspicion of being involved with the Gunpowder Plot. The Earl then gives a list of these gentlemen's accomplices among the retainers at River Park, pointing out that River Park is only separated from Petworth Park by a lane (clearly shown on Treswill's map of 1610). These men have with buckstalls (i.e. deer-nets) and other engines hunted in the Park, even destroying seven deer in one night, while Browne and Rigby have openly boasted that they had slain 100 deer in a single night! This in revenge, they claimed, for Mr. Browne having been refused a buck by the Earl's steward, Sir Edward

Francis. In fact, retorted the Earl, this was quite false: Mr. Browne had been given his buck. The Earl goes on to complain of a second expedition when the intruders, knowing of the existence of a pet deer named Tyrrell, had entered the Conyger Park (that nearest the House) and, knowing that the deer would come to hand, had killed the deer and carried it off with great rejoicing. On another occasion "armed with swords and daggers, guns crossbones, pikett staves and other weapons" and accompanied by Mr. Browne's dogs, they pulled down the park pales and openly hunted the deer, killing a fawn and two bald does. This time however they were followed and the venison was found hanging in a chamber at River Park. Even after this, about Bartholomewtide, they broke in and killed another pet deer named Lisle and a black buck. The venison was sent, some to London, some to Chichester, while some was eaten at Rigby's house at Tillington. The Earl also accuses the poachers of assaulting one of his pheasant keepers on another of their nocturnal adventures. These men "deserve very seveare and exemplary punisment for the terryfyinge of others from offending in the like maner hereafter". The summary version of the Earl's complaint in the Public Record Office is much shorter and adds nothing material.

PHA 5558-5567 form a series of a dozen or more reports of preliminary statements taken from various accused. An apparently contemporary list of "Hunters and Accusers at Petworth" gives sixteen names not all of which figure in the documents that survive. There are no statements for some leading figures in the texts and these may not have been apprehended or questioned. Walter Adams, a tenant of Rigby's, looking back to the summer could remember how three leading retainers of Lady Gerard, Michael Luff the game-keeper, Francis Cuffand, son of the housekeeper, and Peter Furlonger, had come with the Langley brothers from Lurgashall to Adams' house at night. In the morning they had killed a fawn which was eaten at Rigby's house at Tillington.

Adams had looked after a "peece" i.e. some kind of gun for nine or ten days and had been promised a half share of any venison. In fact all he got was a quarter of a buck which he was told "came from the Isle of Wight". In a second examination Adams admitted hunting in the Park. Two deer were killed with a leash of greyhounds and carried away to be locked in a chamber at River Park called the Warrener's chamber, for which Luff had the key. On a

further occasion he had refused to hunt with the River Park men.

John Parkinson, almost invariably referred to simply as "Black Jack" admits killing with others a fallow pied buck with white spots which he carried back to River Park on two coachhorses belonging to Lady Gerard. On another occasion he had killed a bald buck with a sawed horn. This buck was split in half and distributed. Its skin was still in the possession of the coachman "if he have not disposed of it". Perhaps Tyrrell and Lisle are the two bucks he mentions.

John Rigby Jnr. had killed a brace of pied does which were carried to River Park where they were found by the constable and the keeper of Petworth Park. This happened about a week after Bartholomewtide. Three weeks previously young Rigby with some of the River Park men had killed a black pied buck and carrying him away on a barrow, had broken him up and divided him among themselves. A previous pied buck had been dressed and eaten "in one Leere's house - an alehouse at Loddesworth".

PHA 5562 contains two short but interesting anecdotes, one taken from the elder Rigby's sister, the other young Rigby's account of a conversation between his aunt and Walter Adams. The first anecdote remains rather cryptic. Apparently Rigby's sister and goodwife Adams were walking in Petworth Park when they saw what appeared to be a white doe. There was some discussion as to whether it was a doe or a buck. Finally goodwife Adams laughed and alluded to a white buck found in a bush. "Those who killed that white buck had it not", she commented. Perhaps the poachers had lost their prey and the keepers had found the stricken animal. The story occurs again in the Star Chamber evidence. The second report is much clearer. After the killing of the does, Rigby's sister told Walter Adams of the Earl's anger over the poaching and begged him to persuade Rigby not to hunt any more in the Earl's parks. Adams replied that this was no matter for the Earl's anger, and swore with a great oath that he, so far from stopping, would get all the dogs in the county and bring his waggon to Upperton Hill and load it with deer.

In another statement John Wilton also gives details of hunting in Petworth Park and tells how William Martyn had come home to River Park House and asked some of those present whether they

had seen his greyhounds. Martyn boasted in the kitchen that he had coursed with them in the Little Park that evening and that he feared the dogs had killed and the keepers there had taken up the prey. Wilton knows too of a gun used for shooting at deer over the Little Park pale, as also of a great crossbow similarly used. Richard Elldoe of Heyshott could remember killing a buck with a sawed horn, and eating it at Leere's at Lodsworth, while another buck had been eaten at Rigby's when among the company was "the cook of my Lord Montague's house", i.e. Cowdray.

The last statement comes from Michael Luff, formerly keeper at River Park who makes several significant additions. He claims that the poaching was a retaliation for similar adventures by the Earl's men. Looking back to "about Lamas last was twelvemonth" he tells how Thomas Lucas "then my Lord's keeper of the Conyger parke" shot at a buck over River Park pale and having houghed or hamstrung it, began to carry it away. Some who had witnessed the incident went to River Park house to give notice of it. The occupants of the big house were at supper and Luff himself set off in pursuit of Lucas, yet unaccountably failed to press home his pursuit. On being asked why he had not done so, he replied that "he was willed to the contrary". It was in revenge for this that the retainers of Lady Gerard had shot at and killed a great buck with a "forker" (probably an arrow with a barbed head) over the Little Park pale. As a further act of revenge, when Mr. John Foster of Sidney in Surrey came to course in River Park, Luff led him into Little Park where they coursed and killed a deer. After the discovery of the venison at River Park, Adams and Rigby persuaded him to flee, giving him a mare and ten shillings "to bear his charges". After various changes of occupation he was at Lavington when he was arrested by officers of the Lord Chamberlain.

Luff may well give the best indication of how the poaching started, i.e. with sporadic attacks on deer over the Park pale with guns, bows or even, as others testified, with a great cross bow. If the shot hit home there would be a quick expedition over the pale to recover the carcass. Quite possibly these raids were also made by the Petworth keepers against the River Park deer, but as time went on the River Park men grew increasingly daring and even hunted near the Earl's house.

The case obviously did go to Star Chamber and there survives a book

of replies to Star Chamber interrogatories administered to John Browne, William Martyn and Nicholas Rigby. John Browne in thirteen guarded replies to detailed questions denies hunting in the Park, knows very little of any hunting and will admit only that some of the venison ended up at his mother's house at River Park and that his dogs and greyhounds had been used at night by some of the River Park men. He does tell how Black Jack had chased a pheasant into the woods and when a keeper had threatened to shoot his spaniels, had tripped the keeper up and taken away his gun. William Martyn too admits nothing but knows the story of some women "who did reporte that ther was a white doe killed and hee or they that killed her had noe good thereof but left her to stincke in a bush". Nicholas Rigby had had his son confess to him how he, with the River Park men, had killed the buck called Lisle with Mr. John Browne's dogs. He too knows the story of the women and the dead white doe.

Such are the documents - perhaps the most important aspect of them is the occasional sharp light they cast on the everyday life of people who have left no other recorded trace in history. There are Goodwife Adams' down to earth comments on the dead white doe or Walter Adams' reckless and defiant boasting, or William Martyn's incautious talk in the kitchen at River Park. There is, too, Luff's account of his precipitate flight from River Park on the discovery of the venison and of his precarious existence until the arrival at Lavington of the Lord Chamberlain's men. As is usual in Star Chamber cases, the result has not survived and the fate of the poachers, aristocratic and otherwise, remains unknown.

P.A.J.

LOCAL HISTORY AND RECORD REPORT

We have continued our policy of putting on small-scale exhibitions of photographs in the Public Library. "Transport and Traffic" ended in February and "Portraits and Characters", now on, will continue into May. Again we have relied mainly on word-of-mouth for publicity.

The slide evening on March 5th attracted what must have been a record audience for one of our shows and Mr. John Mason's colour slides were much appreciated as of course were the

selection of black and white vintage agricultural slides taken from Garland photographs. A number of members accepted the invitation of the West Sussex Archives Society to hear Mrs. McCann's talk on the 3rd Earl of Egremont on April 2nd and were clearly very glad that they did. We can only hope it will not be too long before Mrs. McCann commits her thoughts officially to paper.

The handwriting group continues to work its way through various documents old, not so old, and extremely old. Some early court rolls and sixteenth century wills proved relatively difficult and an early nineteenth century report on horse-stealing at Hampers Common a good deal less so. We have looked into the curious circumstances attending the death of master Richard Barnes of Petworth at Chichester in 1653 and at some of the activities of a suspected witch at Bury in 1603, also at a further selection of the voluminous material relating to Petworth and the Estate under the long reign of Charles, Duke of Somerset. More slideshows and talks are planned for the coming autumn.

P.A.J.

WORD SEARCH

This novel puzzle, not as easy as it might appear, has been devised by 12 year-old Tessa Duncton. You have to find ten Petworth street names and the name of the town itself, reading horizontally, vertically or diagonally, forwards or backwards.

P A R K R I S E L S
O E A S T I M P O T
U O T S A B L H W A
N N E W E L E G F T
D Y I N O C O I I I
M L P N O R T H G O
T E A N T E T N H N
T G R O V E O H T G
F N F I G H T I I N
D A M E R S L Y N C

SOLUTION

Angel, Damers, East, Grove, High, New, North, Pound,
Park Rise, Station, and of course, Petworth.

A VIEW OF THE PETWORTH TUDOR REVELS JUNE 1938

The chief item of the Revels was a historical pageant on horse and foot illustrating the visit of the young King Edward VI to Petworth in 1550. The proceeds went to the Sussex Church Builders Fund and to the Senior Church School. The Revels were officially opened by Countess Bessborough in a Petworth Park resplendent with richly decorated Tudor booths and even a mock Tudor village with its own market cross. Given its cobbled streets and historic buildings Petworth is an eminently suitable town for such a pageant and strange sights were to be seen - a curious cavalcade of old and new. Edward VI could be glimpsed in off-duty moments riding in a motor-car and Tudor peasants were to be seen on bicycles! My own groom had to travel from Wisborough Green riding my horse and leading the pony my daughter would ride as a mounted page. This was a task I think he far from relished!

Mrs. Provis the Rector's wife had arranged the elaborate costumes with a theatrical costumier in London and marvellous they were too. All had been previously tried on at the Rectory. I saw little of the opening ceremony itself, as being a member of the King's entourage, I was stationed on horseback at Snow Hill waiting to gallop down at a given signal. This was less easy than it might have appeared for, the hunting season being long past, our horses had been turned out to grass and were all very fresh, so that we all waited in some trepidation. When the signal was given we all set off down the hill, our horses bucking and squealing furiously. Fortunately however none of the King's entourage were thrown from the saddle!

Mrs. M.A. Helme,
Luttmann's Cottage,
Wisborough Green.



Q 16/1 This is a reproduction of a Christmas Card copied by Mr. Garland in 1944. Could it just possibly be a drawing of North Street before the wall was built and when the Church still lacked the nineteenth century steeple? It seems hardly likely - but if it is just an imaginative drawing why should Mr. Garland have bothered to copy it? Can anyone throw any light on this?

AN UNSEEMLY SCENE AT PETWORTH FAIR MAY 1734

Most of us today would look on Petworth Fair as a mere shadow of its former self and it is easy to forget that Petworth once had numerous fair and market-days. To remind us there survives a short account of an incident at a Fair held in Petworth Square on 24th May 1734.

The house now occupied by the Solicitors Anderson, Longmore and Higham was at that time a copyhold late Platts held on lease by one Joseph Whicher an apothecary. In front of the house was an awning, supported by five posts and forming a rough shed under which several people had stalls on fair days.

The conduct of the fair lay in the jurisdiction of Richard Smart, the clerk of the market, or as he would have been called in earlier days, the portreeve. Smart was an employee of the Duke of Somerset at Petworth House. On this particular day Smart demanded from Mrs. Whitcombe one of the "Platts" stallholders sixpence for her standing. She refused, explaining that she had already paid her "show-penny" - a tithe for exposing goods for sale. She would pay no more as being one of Mr. Whicher's tenants she stood on his ground and not on the territory administered by Smart. In case of dispute she would be protected by Mr. Whicher.

At this Thomas Boxall the tithingman acting for Mr. Smart confiscated some tape from Mrs. Whitcombe's stall in lieu of the money demanded. Mr. Whicher then appeared from his house and berated Smart for harassing his tenant stallholder. James Whicher, Joseph's brother went further and snatched back the tape. A heated exchange followed in the course of which Joseph Whicher struck both Mr. Smart and Boxall the tithingman.

On the Duke of Somerset ordering an enquiry into the incident Whicher stood firm on the fact that the ground on which the stalls stood under the awning was his by lease and that hence Smart was out of order in demanding further dues. As regards the assault "he owns it was rashly and inconsiderately done to strike a servant or officer of his Grace's" and for this he craves his Grace's pardon.

On further enquiry Smart recalled that according to the Widow



King Edward VI arrives in Petworth - 1938 style!
See note by Mrs. Helme on the Tudor Revels.
Published photograph reproduced by permission.

Launder of Lurgashall, her father when clerk of the market had received an acknowledgement for the awning although she could not remember how much it had been. Joseph Whicher on the contrary claimed that Gammer Launder when asked about this had denied saying anything of the kind and said that if Smart had reported her as saying this then he was a rascal. On the contrary she had told Smart that her father never received anything for the awning at Platts although the White Hart (Austens), Roundabouts and Sandhams House (Avenings) had made some such payments.

Sonia Rix.

THE HAUNTED LANE*

A Sussex Legend

I met in that glade no goblin cross,
Nor mark'd the hoofs of the headless horse -
Who by wonder-loving Tradition is said
To gallop along with unearthly tread -
I saw no bud of the henbane flower
Of gloomy hue and deathly power;
But I mark'd the wild rose with its bending stem,
Of the village queen the fit diadem -
And this was the haunt of spirits fair,
Gentle and kind - for I met them there.

Oh! when far removed from scenes like these
In vain I seek for embowering trees
Flinging at noon their chequer'd shade
O'er the silent lake in the lonely glade.
How oft to my sight shall memory bring
The path that leads to the bubbling spring -
How shall I wish to meet again
The spirits I saw in the haunted lane!

Oct. 11th, 1824.

*This lane (a genuine Sussex one) on the Petworth side of Tillington, is said to be haunted by a horse without a head.

NEW MEMBERS SINCE SEPTEMBER 1978

- Mr. & Mrs. R.L. Beresford, Primrose Cottage, Shere Road, Ewhurst, Surrey.
- Mr. & Mrs. R.J. Blair, 1 Montier Terrace, Angel Street, Petworth.
The Librarian, Brighton Library, Church Street, Brighton.
- Mr. & Mrs. J.W. Brooke, Parkside, Wisborough Green.
- Mr. L.W. Carter, Little Tatton, Upperton, Nr. Petworth.
- Mr. G.W. Chatwood, The Running Horse, 302 North Street, Petworth.
- Mr. & Mrs. P.A. Clements, Cedar House, Gorehill, Petworth.
- Mrs. G.J. Clifford, 57B Hampers Green, Petworth.
- Mrs. G.S. Cooper, Park Cottage, Upperton, Nr. Petworth.
- Mr. R. Etherington, Bushey Cottage, Southdean Lane, Tillington, Petworth.
- Mrs. E. Geary, 69 Sheepdown Drive, Petworth.
- Mr. & Mrs. J.A. Grimwood, 12 Grove Lane, Petworth.
- Mrs. H. Hastings, Bedham Manor Farm, Fittleworth.
The Librarian, Hastings Library, Brassey Institute, 13 Claremont, Hastings, Sussex.
- Mr. & Mrs. O.J.B. Holden, Austen's Flat, East Street, Petworth.
- Mrs. R. MacDonald, Regent House, Grove Street, Petworth.
- Miss C. Wade, 3 High Street, Petworth.
- Mr. & Mrs. D.M. Williams, Squirrels, Graffham, Petworth.

QUESTIONS

- Q 16/1 Do you know anything of the photograph shown of the Christmas card?
- Q 16/2 Where were 1) Slum Alley 2) Peter's Garden 3) The Egremont Arms? Dr. Brydone once asked these questions and presumably knew the answers but we have never seen a reference to any of these places or houses.

Q 16/3 Does anyone know anything of the origin of the Hunger Lane poem we print or of the legend of the headless horseman or of any other strange or uncanny Petworth traditions?

Q 16/4 In an early sixteenth century will Richard Smyth of Petworth leaves his wife money to have "chamber holly". What would be the importance and significance of this "chamber holly"?

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Friday 18th May 7.00 p.m. LECONFIELD HALL
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Natural History Quiz, Discussion, Photograph Exhibition,
Refreshments
Election of new Committee

NATURAL HISTORY GROUP: Outing
Wednesday 20th June 4 p.m. BIGNOR HILL
Downland Walk. Flowers. Leader Patrick Synge.
Anyone requiring transport please contact David Sneller.

SUSSEX TRUST FOR NATURE CONSERVATION MIDHURST AND PETWORTH GROUP
Sunday 12th August Outing to AMBERLEY WILD BROOKS for Dragonflies
etc.

Leader Mr. D. Chelmick
Meet GREATHAM BRIDGE 11 a.m. Bring Lunch

Visits to small Petworth gardens please see noticeboards.

Exhibitions of photographs : Petworth Public Library

NOW ON PORTRAITS and CHARACTERS

COMING FETES, FAIRS and REVELS

