The Richmond Review

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of the

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Civic Society 2013

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Front Illustration: The Richmond Museum Interactive Discovery Centre

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Chairman's Report

John Clarke

It is never possible to stand still.

As a Society we must continue to promote ourselves. This is why your committee has tried to be even more pro-active this year, in raising awareness of our aims, objectives and the work we carry out. We have also been pleased to welcome three new members to the committee: Fleur Miles, Colin Grant and Simon Scott-Priestley.

The Society has also joined Civic Voice, whose chairman is the campaigner and comedian, Gryff Rees-Jones, so that we are able to support some of its aims, particularly within the area of town planning which is close to the purposes of our own organisation. We are also members of YHACS (Yorkshire and Humberside Association of Civic Trusts) the meetings of which committee members sometimes attend. They intend to have one of their quarterly meetings in Richmond in 2014. Both of these groups may exert pressure on the government and its policies and by belonging to these organisations, we maintain a voice for our special area which in turn will help preserve the Richmond Heritage we care about. We also support the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings.

A new initiative has been that the Committee thought it appropriate to commend good design or workmanship and in December and January felt able to give Civic Awards to a property in Middleton Tyas, the re-development of the Board Inn in Bargate and the interior design of Richmond School, particularly the light and space of the refectory. We were also able to commend a stonemason for his excellent craftsmanship in an ancient skill which needs to be retained.

As is mentioned in the Planning Committee Report, Mark Whyman and I had a meeting with our MP William Hague in order to lobby directly. We

had a discussion with him on how the new Planning Regulations could affect towns such as our own and our feeling that they posed a threat to the built heritage of Richmondshire. He listened attentively, accepting the points which we made and later writing to us confirming his support for special cases, and "recognised that areas such as Richmondshire may require unique planning regulations to preserve its built heritage and natural beauty". The Planning Committee work has been outstanding this year under the diligent leadership of Mark.

A trip to Levens Hall was arranged which was most successful and an innovative idea this year was for a three night trip to Chartwell (Winston Churchill), Batemans (Rudyard Kipling), Sissinghurst and Knole (Virginia Wolf), which was enthusiastically praised by all who travelled. These outings are arranged as light relief from our usual programme and to enable members to learn more of one another, building, we hope a stronger society. As a consequence next year's trip is in the planning stage. The lecture programme, is of course, one of the mainstays of the Society and I should also mention Bev Joicey at this stage. Although no longer a member of the committee, he works tirelessly to build an interesting programme to inform us throughout the year.

Another venture is national Civic Day, when we take a stall in the Market Place to publicise the society and the work we do, also hoping that we can gain more members. Alongside this Carol Hillyard has visited the Church of England Primary School to promote the taking of local photographs by the children and these were displayed within the material we had on show in June. In this way we hope that we shall be able to widen the experiences of the children and perhaps raise awareness within their families of our Civic Society work.

I end with a reflection on my predecessor, Fred Wood. I first came to know Fred as father of the Head Chorister, Fiona, at St Mary's Church and that was one of his great attributes: a very proud father and family man. As Chairman of the Society he worked hard behind the scenes, constantly maintaining an awareness of the issues which came before the Town Council, affecting the heritage of Richmond. After being chairman, he continued his vigilance until the last few months, when his health declined. We miss enormously his enthusiasm and gentle style.

Collectanea[1]

The Editors

Richmond seems to be riding these recessionary times with fortitude, and appears relatively unaffected by many of the constraints experienced by other, less fortunate towns.

Its elegant market place, after the careful restoration initiated by the Richmond Heritage Partnership in 2006, remains vibrant, in spite of the disbanding of the RHP and the RSVCI (Richmond and Swale Valley Community Initiative) and the loss of its excellent Town Manager. The closure of some businesses has seen their premises quickly taken over by others: the new outdoor shop, toy shop and sweet and ice-cream shop all offer new retail opportunities for residents and visitors alike. The refurbishment of the long-deteriorating Richmond Hotel has seen a fine building restored and a further coffee opportunity for those who prefer to frequent a familiar brand. Castle Mews, completed at the end of last year for the YMCA, provides supported accommodation for 16-25 year olds, in a block of eight self-contained units. Furthermore, in the centre of the Market Place, the refurbishment of the old Tapas Restaurant has enhanced the upper elevation there, and provided the town with a successful new place to eat. The much discussed and controversial bus stops do not detract from the architectural quality of the Market Place, as was long feared, and provide much-needed shelter for waiting travellers.

In a significant development, Richmond Museum has successfully completed a new Interactive Discovery Centre which we are delighted to feature on our cover. Officially opened by Gervase Phinn in March this year, the centre provides exciting new facilities for schools and other visitors. It is a great tribute to the professionalism of the museum 'team', all volunteers, that their work has attracted national funding on this scale.

[1] Collectanea: collected writings; also literary items forming a collection (1791)



Mike Wood, Museum Chairman, and Gervase Phinn at the opening

The Green Howards Museum, too, is to enjoy major improvements to its facilities, having been awarded almost one million pounds from the Heritage Lottery Fund. The disbanding of the Green Howards last year, during government military cuts, has made the staff of the museum more determined than ever to represent the history of this famous regiment, which dates back to the sixteenth century. The redevelopment will provide better display areas and opportunities for children, as well as improved facilities for adults. A new education and community officer, shared with the Georgian Theatre Royal and The Station, should enhance visitor numbers and provide all three organizations with increased recognition.

The Georgian Theatre Royal, meanwhile, is this year celebrating 225 years since it was built, 50 years since it was re-opened and 10 years since it was restored. As it marks these anniversaries, it has launched a fundraising appeal to secure a future as successful as its recent past. Needing to raise £122,500, the theatre has appealed, with more than a measure of mathematical wit, for ten donations of £10,000, fifty donations

of £225 and 225 donations of £50. We can only hope that the outcome is as successful as the concept.

At The Station, where they never seem short of interesting ideas, their latest exhibition and competition, 'Best Shots', has been a phenomenal success. An amazing eight thousand images were submitted by amateurs and professionals from around the world. From a shortlist of seven hundred, a final one hundred were selected to be shown at The Station from July14th until 8th September, before the winner was awarded the £1000 prize. Chairman of the judges, Joe Cornish, said, "I have experience of many different competitions and, without doubt, this was one of the most challenging in that there were so many excellent contenders."

Richmond District Council's move, planned for the end of this year to Mercury House in Station Road, brings to a satisfactory end the many years of uncertainty. Here, at last, the offices from Friars Wynd, Swale House, Frenchgate House and Dundas Street can be brought together, enabling the RDC to operate from one centre for the first time in its history. The two million pound scheme, well below an earlier projected estimate for an elaborate new headquarters at Colburn, is scheduled to be completed well within budget and time scales. It does, of course, make excellent use of the Richmond Lower School buildings, and plans to convert the old Grammar School into a 'Community House', which will bring together the district's voluntary sector organizations and provide space for community activities, are much welcomed.

At the old Arriva depot in Station Yard, work is about to start on twenty-four high-quality apartments. Though this site might have provided excellent additional parking for the Station, clearly the cost of utilizing prime building land was prohibitive. In a state of sad disrepair for some considerable time, the building has marred one of the main approaches to the town and most residents now welcome its replacement, promised by the developers, Broadacres, to be a building 'sympathetic to the surrounding area.'

With the promise of the Tour de France next year, it's good to know that Richmond too can benefit from the inevitable increase in visitors to the

area. More than one million spectators are expected to flock to Yorkshire and TV audiences are expected to exceed a staggering two billion viewers. How fortunate that the Tourist Information Centre has now found a new and accessible home. They can surely expect busy times ahead!

On a sad note, Richmond has lost two of its memorable citizens in recent months. Katherine Carr, for whom it was too late to provide an obituary in last year's edition, was a much respected and admired Richmondian. Daughter of Dr. A.J. Bull, she made a major contribution to the town. Readers will find her obituary on page 59. As Chairman of the Civic Society, Fred Wood was known to many. We were all saddened by his sudden death in June. His contribution to the work of the Civic Society was significant, reaching far beyond his monthly appearances at Civic Society meetings. Jane Hatcher has written a fitting tribute to Fred on page 63. We do, of course, extend our sincere sympathy to both families.

Richmond continues to provide a plethora of musical activities and experiences. The Swaledale Festival was as enjoyable as ever, with many events sold out. The response to the John Rutter 'Come and Sing' day exceeded all expectations with over four hundred people filling the hall at Richmond School. In Richmond itself, the sheer range of choirs provides opportunities for all levels of musical expertise, and the Richmond Choral Society and Subscription Concerts provide regular events of the highest standard. Indeed, the Choral Society's performance of Handel's 'Messiah' in April was significant, not only for the quality of its performance, nor indeed the size and appreciation of its audience, but also for the age range of its participants. This tells us a great deal about the inclusive nature of Richmond's community spirit. At fourteen, James Preston-Pacey was certainly the youngest, while veteran Vic Furneaux celebrated his 100th birthday last year and is still using his original copy of 'Messiah,' first used in 1946.

At a time when the public mood seems to demand greater transparency from local and national government, Richmond District Council appears to have taken a brave decision. When local journalist Sarah Hartley first appealed to the council in May this year, for permission to record and film council meetings and then stream them live, she met with some opposition. One councillor in particular was fearful that it might

encourage ‘extravagant behaviour’! However, common sense prevailed and twenty-five councillors voted in favour. The council’s Planning Committee meeting was duly filmed at the end of July and posted on You Tube. While it has not been overwhelmed by ‘views’, the hope is that the use of this media might encourage young people to become more involved in local politics.

In a year in which the country has rejoiced in the birth of George, the new Prince of Cambridge, it was pleasing to see that Richmond provided its own note of welcome. The bell ringing team from St. Mary’s Church rang a total of 720 changes of Cambridge Minor in celebration.

As the plans for the new town centre development in Catterick were unveiled in May, residents applauded the proposals which hope to bring additional retail and leisure opportunities, and create a more significant focus in the town. The development is expected to generate up to seven hundred new jobs, a possibility much welcomed. However, in Richmond, reactions were more muted, and the impact on local businesses remains a source of concern. The Richmond and Lower Swaledale Business Association, while broadly supportive of the development, nevertheless, voiced its concerns at a meeting with the District Council. A spokesman for the developers suggested that any negative impact on Richmond and Leyburn would be “limited and short-lived”. Our fervent hope is that this, not unexpected, response proves true.

Indeed, as we stated at the beginning, Richmond, in spite of recessionary times, remains buoyant, its army of steadfast volunteers maintaining its excellent range of organizations and activities; its elegant architecture and its beautiful hinterland continuing to delight not only those who see it for the first time (of whom, thankfully, there seem to be an increasing number), but also those who see it on a daily basis. Indeed, as David Brooks wrote in ‘The story of Richmond’, “the simple stateliness of Richmond is the secret of its abiding place in the affections of all who have known it …Richmond has … the little something the others have not.”

The Civic Society Planning Sub-Committee, 2012-13

Mark Whyman

The Planning Sub-Committee is composed of John Harland, Tony Dykes, Shirley Thubron, Mark Whyman (Chair) and we are occasionally joined by John Clarke. We meet every three weeks to consider Planning Applications for Listed Buildings, buildings in Conservation Areas and advertising signs over the area of Richmondshire outside the National Park.

It has not been a good year for Planning and Heritage protection. Last year the National Planning Policy Framework moved the focus of the planning process from a presumption in favour of heritage to one in favour of sustainability. This move has been described as a developers' charter and has been heavily, even violently criticised by heritage and countryside organisations, all to no effect. The Framework has been followed by other damaging legislation. The Government seems set to destroy, or as it would claim, reform the planning system. If you doubt this consider the response to consultation: only 15% of respondents were in favour of the latest consultation on relaxing permitted development rights, yet the government ignored this massive show of opposition and went ahead with most of its proposals.

The saddest thing is that, unlike many policies, a bad building in the wrong place or a spoiled landscape cannot be easily undone and the mistake will be borne by future generations. Simon Jenkins, Chairman of the National Trust, has spelt out the problem: *Unlike most reforms, the impact of this one is forever. David Cameron's government risks being remembered for leaving the English landscape littered with wind turbines, pylons and unplanned housing estates scattered at random, as in Ireland.*

The Civic Society has done its best, responding to consultation documents, lobbying our M.P. and even meeting with him (see Chairman's Report) but all to little effect. Richmondshire is lucky, as most villages have been designated Conservation areas or are in the National Park, and thus have a little protection but even this is being challenged.

In the 2012 Review I wrote of the proposal to build an ultra-modern house in the heart of the Quarry Hills Conservation Area in Leyburn. This was a case in which we played a significant part, firstly by objecting and then attending the appeal hearing to support RDC in defending its decision to refuse planning permission. In the event, the Planning Inspector upheld RDC's decision and the appeal failed. This was hailed as a landmark decision on the interpretation of the Framework by no less a figure than Mike Harlow, English Heritage's Legal Director. However, since then we have received a Draft Design and Access Statement for a very similar design on the same site. We have yet to receive a formal application but, if we do, it will clearly demonstrate that even the protection of a conservation area is no longer perceived as sacrosanct.

Despite these national concerns there have been some notable planning applications including:

- The Bishop Blaize: a proposal to remove the existing sign and replace it with a stylised version – we objected and RDC refused permission.
- Earl's Orchard: we supported the return of this former outdoor centre to a domestic dwelling.
- Monkend Hall, Croft: this was a very complex proposal aimed at making the interior more in keeping with modern requirements. It could have been a nightmare to sort out which door was being changed and which stud wall was to be removed and so on. In practice, it was one of the most beautifully produced and understandable applications we have seen. You could see at a glance why the architects, Francis Johnson & Partners of Bridlington, are so highly thought of.
- Easby Hall: a proposed change of use. Easby Hall abuts the hamlet of Easby and we strongly objected to the request to hold

ten ‘wedding style’ events each year. We were not alone and the Planning Officer’s report ran to 56 pages. Our objections were based on the effect of noise, traffic and parking. In the event RDC granted permission but imposed conditions that it is hoped will minimise the effect on the character and ambience of Easby village and the Abbey.



Easby Hall

- Signage in the Market Place: we received an application for eighteen new signs and four poles in the Market Place to which we objected strongly. Badly thought-out schemes for road signs can alter the whole character of a place and Richmond has already been cited as a bad example of heritage signing in the English Heritage Guide to Signs in Conservation Areas. In the event the application was withdrawn but we must remain vigilant and try to encourage good practice.
- Forcett Park and Gateway: we strongly supported a most ambitious scheme to repair and conserve the boundary wall and gateway.

- Lower School: we supported Richmondshire District Council's application to convert the Lower School buildings into its new offices. We did, however, draw attention to the potential for the massive disabled access ramp to be used as a skateboard park (see below), but have been assured that this will not be a problem!



There was a certain irony in this application. In 2004 RDC was planning to sell the Station Road and Yorke Square Car Parks to finance moving its offices to Colburn, and turned down a suggestion that, as the Lower School was to become vacant, this might form an alternative. The Civic Society strongly opposed

the building of blocks of flats on Yorke Square in front of Culloden Tower and several members became involved with an organisation, Save Our Shire, which was set up to oppose the proposal. In the event, Save our Shire took RDC to Judicial Review and the Council withdrew the application. This result could not have been achieved without the support of the Civic Society and in particular that of its Chairman at the time, the late Fred Wood.

In conclusion, therefore, some local successes have been achieved in a year that I fear will come to be remembered for the dismantling of the Planning System.



The sign at The Bishop Blaize (see page 11)

Writers and Gardens

Judy Farrar

In June, a group of thirty-six Civic Society members and friends visited Kent to see National Trust properties and gardens. In the autumn of 2012, John Clarke and Bev Joicey consulted Alan and Sandra Burrell of Burrell's Coaches with a view to arranging this visit. A theme of Writers and Gardens was agreed and I took over the organization, arranging payment and pick-up points.



The group, outside the hotel *photograph: Judy Farrar*

On a bright and sunny Friday morning, with a 7.30 am start from Hudswell, we travelled to the Cambridge area (with a coffee stop, of



Anglesey Abbey *photograph: Mark Whyman*



Chartwell *photograph: Mark Whyman*

course) and arrived about 12.30 pm at Anglesey Abbey. No, it isn't in Wales! This delightful house is an early twentieth century luxury home created from the remnants of eight hundred years of change by the 1st Lord Fairhaven. The collection of artefacts includes books, paintings, amazing and unusual clocks, sculpture and silver. The very pleasant one hundred and fourteen acres of garden and grounds include the eighteenth century Lode Mill which was restored to full working order in 1982; they sell the flour that is milled there.

We then set off for Maidstone for our three-night stay at the Tudor Park Hotel, unfortunately being delayed over an hour with a traffic jam at the Dartford Bridge river crossing. We were lucky that Sandra could supply us with drinks and goodies while we were waiting. After a quick check-in at the hotel and a freshen-up, we enjoyed an excellent buffet meal. The rooms were very pleasant and comfortable; even the singles had double-size rooms.

On Saturday June 15th we set off for Chartwell, the home of Sir Winston Churchill and his family. This was in a lovely tranquil area – no doubt needed after Churchill's hectic days running the country. The large grounds had a lake with black swans and an impressive sculpture of Winston Churchill and his wife. The immaculate gardens surrounding the home were full of colour and the house contained many documents and articles relating to his war-time activities. The studio in the grounds held a large collection of his paintings: how did he have time to do all these?

After lunch in the Chartwell tearooms, we went to Knole, the childhood home of Vita Sackville-West. The fifteenth century former royal palace contained a collection of very early Stuart furniture necessitating the rooms to be dimly lit to preserve the delicate and fading fabrics. One room even had furniture made of silver!

On Sunday the 16th we visited Batemans, the home of Rudyard Kipling. This is a lovely peaceful setting, ideal for writing. After coffee in the tearooms, a walk around the pretty gardens and down to the restored mill, we toured the house which everyone thought was a nicer, more cosy family home than the previous ones we had visited. It was possibly one of

the favourites of the whole weekend. At thirty-six years of age Kipling bought Batemans with its thirty-three acres of land for £9,300.



Batemans *photograph: Judy Farrar*



Sissinghurst Castle gardens *photograph: Mark Whyman*

Our visit on a sunny afternoon to the delightful gardens at Sissinghurst Castle was one of the highlights of the weekend. Vita Sackville-West and her husband, Harold Nicholson, moved here in 1932 and developed the garden. Most people climbed the narrow steps to the top of The Tower to see the wonderful aerial view of the gardens. The planting was in room-like areas and a bit of a maze. The garden sales area was popular as we left the property.

After our stay at another excellent hotel, we set off back to Richmond, but not before stopping half-way at Wimpole Hall, a Georgian mansion built in 1640 which is the largest house in Cambridgeshire. This impressive building and estate were purchased by Elsie, the daughter of Rudyard Kipling, and her husband, Captain George Bembridge in 1938.

We stopped off at The Kyte Hotel at Darrington for a meal on the way home, arriving in Richmond at about 8.30 pm.

It is proposed to organize another houses and gardens visit in 2014 and a provisional date is June 6-9th. More details will be available early in the year but, until then this remains a 'mystery tour'.



Wimpole Hall *photograph: Judy Farrar*

My Richmond

Photographs by pupils at Richmond C. of E. Primary School

This year, our secretary, Carol Hillyard, has worked with pupils from Richmond C.of E. Primary School and their teacher, Beth Glansford.

We have selected work from three of the pupils and include their photographs, one on the cover and the rest below. The complete portfolio was exhibited at our stall on Civic Day in June. We hope you agree that the children have shown imagination, a real curiosity about their town and an eye for detail and composition.



My Favourite Photograph *Eve Walker, aged 11*



Door *Eve Walker, aged 11*



Gateway *Morgan Soley, aged 7*



Doorway *Morgan Soley, aged 7*



The Creeper's Home *Harry Miller, aged 10*



Steps to Heaven *Harry Miller, aged 10*

Catterick Camp Centenary 1914 - 2014.

Colin Grant

Over the past one hundred years Catterick Garrison has grown from the hutted Richmond Camp, rapidly established in response to the outbreak of the First World War in 1914, to the current day as the largest British Army Garrison in the world. Many hundreds of thousands, probably millions, of soldiers have passed through the camp. To commemorate these events, various initiatives are underway to record the past century and the massive changes that have taken place. At the time of writing, the Catterick Garrison Centenary and History Group have already launched a website of archive pictures, are recording oral histories and are well ahead with the Catterick Garrison Centenary Book to be published later this year. The following article discusses the early history and rationale for the camp.

In 1908 Lt. Gen. Sir Robert Baden-Powell was appointed General Officer Commanding, the Northumbrian Division (Territorial Force). The Divisional Headquarters were at Richmond. As part of his tour of duty he was instructed to survey the district to establish a training area for the North of England. He looked at a number of sites including the area to the south of Richmond, which was a mixture of good agricultural land surrounding the villages of Hipswell, Scotton, Colburn and the adjoining moorland to the west.

The site had a number of advantages. It had a long military association as it was in an area chosen for an army garrison by the Romans at Cataractonium and by the Normans at Richmond. It was close to the Great North Road and could be accessed by road from Catterick or Richmond. It was close to the Richmond branch line and was a sparsely populated rural area.

The 1898 edition of 'Spencers Richmond Almanac' put the population of Hipswell at 100, Scotton the same and Colburn at about 90. The area included about 25 farms on three main estates. It was a tranquil rural area supporting arable crops and sheep 'as quiet a spot as any in England – cold and windswept in the Winter and fresh and bracing in the Summer'.

The outbreak of the First World War in late July 1914 saw Baden-Powell's plan probably become the deciding factor in the choice of Catterick as the 'Aldershot of the North'. The order to build several new hutted camps was made by Lord Kitchener, Secretary of State for War, on the 12th August 1914 and ratified by the War Council on 14th August. General Scott Moncrief was sent north to reconnoitre the Jervaulx Moors and a site at Thornton Stewart. He stayed with Mr. J.J. Mowbray at Killerby Hall, Catterick. Mr. Mowbray was master of the Bedale Foxhounds and both he and his Estate Manager, Mr. John Maughan, were concerned at the prospect of a large camp and training area on good hunting and arable land. Mr. Maughan took the General to look over the site at Newfound England. From the high ground he was able to overlook the Catterick area and undoubtedly the decision on the exact location was taken then.

Richmond Camp, as it was originally named, would be built on land taken into temporary ownership by the War Department and including the Scotton Hall Estate owned by Mrs. Stevenson, the Hipswell Estate, the property of the Prior Wandsworth family, part of the Colburn Hall Estate owned by the D'Arcy Hildyard family and part of the Brough Hall Estate owned by Sir Henry Lawson.

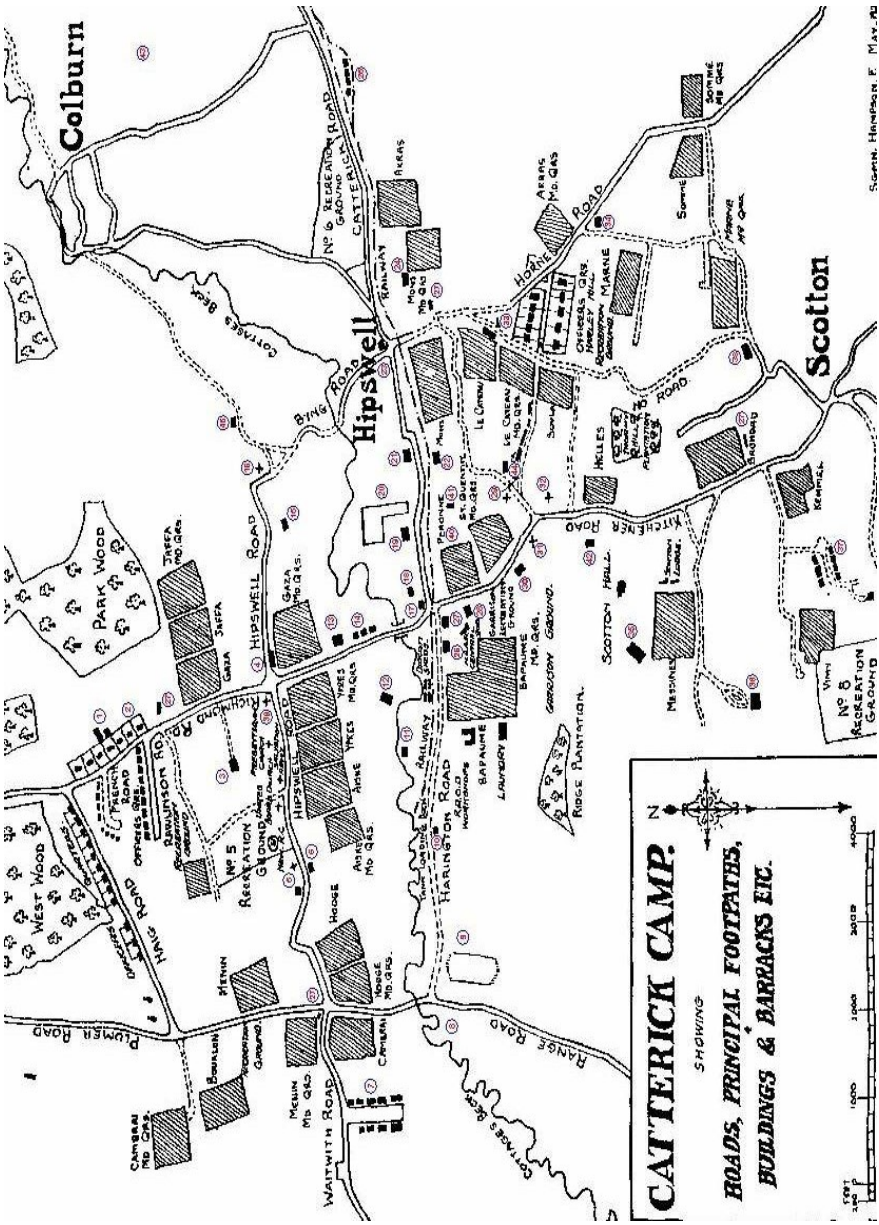
In late September 1914 Sir Henry saw two men with theodolites, one on Catterick Bridge and the other on his private carriage drive. He asked them what they were doing. "We are making a special survey for a railway line. The line will run across the bridge until a proper bridge is built to carry the line up to the new camp."
"What new camp?" asked Sir Henry.
"The camp up there," came the reply.
"Oh," said Sir Henry. "How are you going to take the track across my carriageway?"
"No difficulty about that. It will come across here." And it did.



The Library, Sandes Soldiers' Home, Catterick Camp



The Post Office, Catterick Camp



Map of Catterick Garrison, 1924

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ALTHOUGH (27) IS SHOWN AS THE Y.M.C.A IT APPEARS ALL OVER THE CAMP. THIS LEADS US TO BELIEVE THAT THEY MAY HAVE BEEN FIRE POINTS OR SOMETHING SIMILAR.

When the news got out about the new camp, there was a good deal of concern and opposition as the local community had farmed the land for generations. The camp was presented to local residents as a temporary wartime necessity, which would be demolished in a few years' time once the war was over. However, Lord Kitchener had long been minded to establish a permanent camp at Catterick but it was not until 1922 that this decision was made and the permanent girder railway bridge built.

In 1914 the peacetime establishment of the army was 23,400 and at the outbreak of hostilities the government determined to expand the force to 1,200,000 or seventy divisions. Lord Kitchener issued his famous decree: "Your King and Country Need You. A Call to Arms." It was decided that the Richmond Camp would house 40,000 soldiers in 2000 huts; the task of building the railway line, the detailed layout, and the construction was given to Col. S.H. Exham, of the Royal Engineers. The main contract for the building work was awarded to Henry Boot and Sons Ltd., now a large construction firm operating from Sheffield.

By November 1914 the railway construction had started, using local railwaymen overseen by Royal Engineers. With speed being vital, a narrow gauge line was laid from the Richmond branch line at Brompton-on-Swale over Catterick Road Bridge. It is a testament to the skill of the craftsmen who built the bridge in 1422, that it took the weight of rolling stock without collapsing. The line then gathered height, up past Ash House, Walkerville, Colburn Sidings and on to the main station. This is approximately in the position of the new Darlington College (its car park is lined by the old railway coal bunkers). From there, the line passed up through what is now camp centre roundabout, with spurs to Scotton and California.

Whilst the first huts were occupied by the gangs of labourers, loads for construction arrived in earnest in early Spring 1915. Soon the site was a hive of activity. Because of the shortage of timber, it was decided to build the huts, measuring 60 feet by 20 feet and 8 feet high, from a light steel frame and concrete, with a timber and felt roof. Inside the huts, each bed was made from three bed boards on wooden trestles with a straw mattress and each hut had a trestle table, a stove, a cold store and was lit with three 3.5 watt light bulbs. Hundreds of labourers were employed, including

numbers of fishermen from Yarmouth and Lowestoft driven to unemployment by the naval operations in the North Sea.

At first, construction went ahead remarkably smoothly, but agricultural land under cultivation with growing crops and few hard tracks was not best suited to carts laden with construction materials or to heavy steam rollers. With the priority being to build the huts, rather than drainage, laying roads and other infrastructure, the land soon became a quagmire of the legendary 'Catterick mud'.

In 1915 the camp was renamed Catterick Camp to avoid confusion with Richmond, Surrey. By October, the 101 Infantry Brigade arrived, followed by the 10th Battalion Seaforth Highlanders. On 1st Jan 1916 Catterick Camp became a Prisoner-of-War camp with 5000 POW's accommodated and employed in camp construction. They constructed the main road to Richmond, the Officers' Club, and the Theatre which opened in 1917.

One sad incident in 1917 is worthy of note. On 15 September 1917 a serious accident occurred on the railway branch line, causing the loss of four lives and injuring between 40-50 soldiers. The track from Catterick Bridge to the camp was on a steep gradient up to the camp. A troop train was standing at the Camp Station platform but without being coupled to the engine. Soldiers from the Royal Scottish Fusiliers were boarding the train. Three coaches came free and gradually started to roll down the hill. Several soldiers managed to jump clear but 150 were left on board the 120- ton train as it gathered speed, reaching about 50 mph. The rear coach uncoupled and left the rails at the Walkerville crossing. The second coach derailed and overturned down the embankment near Ash House and the third continued down to the Richmond branch line where it hit the buffers and came to rest. Evidence at the coroner's inquest concluded that the vibrations of the heavy boots and dumping of equipment could have caused the brakes to ease off.

This is just one of numerous stories that are being brought to light as a result of the comprehensive work being undertaken to document the fascinating history of Catterick Camp. If you are interested in further information, please contact:

Peter Fowler
4 Innovate
Chartermark Way
Colburn Business Park
Catterick Garrison
DL9 4QJ

Sources:

Col. Howard Cole : *History of Catterick Camp*

A .J. Ludlam : *The Catterick Camp Military Railway*

P. Fowler: *Catterick Garrison Centenary and History Group*

A Tale of Two Rectors

Ralph Waggett

Lawyers are widely viewed as being pedantic and obsessed with trivia but to show you that lawyers are not always pettifoggers or, at any rate, not all the time, what follows is a tale of the hazards which befell two rectors of Richmond.

I do not remember the year I first visited the North Riding Record Office. It was probably about 1970 and I went with a little party of students taken there by the late Peter Wenham. Peter had a special relationship with the staff there and they produced for our inspection and delight an assortment of records. I have never forgotten and never will forget the occasion. I was shown an opinion of counsel given to the Rector of Richmond, the Reverend Goodwill, towards the end of the eighteenth century.

Many Richmondians will remember the shops which formerly lined the ground floor on the north side of Trinity Church before the Green Howards Museum was created. No one seemed to know when they had been established but they were already old when the Reverend Goodwill became Rector.

At that time and until the bishopric of Ripon was created in the following century, Richmond was part of the see of Chester. From time to time a bishop might make a visitation to the churches within his diocese and it was, as it turned out, the bad luck of Mr Goodwill that the Bishop decided to carry out a visitation to Richmond. He was appalled by what he found. He could not believe that shops would be built into the fabric of a church. This mixture of the sacred and profane would not be tolerated. It must stop. Like the money changers in the Temple, the shopkeepers must be cast out. He told Mr. Goodwill so, in clear, robust language. Poor Mr. Goodwill did the sensible thing. He consulted a lawyer. No one in



Shops on the north side of Trinity Church, circa 1900

Courtesy: Mike Wood

Richmond would take any responsibility for the shops. The corporation washed their hands and said they had no authority to intervene. The hapless churchwardens, whom the Bishop considered should act likewise, were powerless. In the Record Office are the letters which passed between the Bishop and the Rector, which reveal, on the one hand, the righteous anger and condemnation of the Bishop and, on the other, the futile efforts of Mr. Goodwill to assuage the Bishop's wrath.

In desperation the law was consulted. An opinion was taken from counsel, on behalf of the Rector. This is the document that I saw when I visited the Record Office with Mr. Wenham, and the reason why I will never forget it.

In my view, the opinion is a masterpiece. I fancy it was given by a Mr. Cuthbert, having chambers in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, but I cannot be sure. It has since disappeared and, through the years, I have badgered the people at the Record Office to find it, without success. Perhaps it has, by

mistake, become lodged with other documents having no connection with the case.

There is no law in it but a mixture of wisdom and common sense. Counsel recognized that it was not possible for any of the interested parties to turn the shopkeepers out. He told Mr. Goodwill, in effect, to calm down. I cannot recall if he quoted Proverbs, that 'a soft answer turneth away wrath'. He may have done. However, he told Mr. Goodwill not to argue with the Bishop. Bishops expected to be obeyed and, unless he was contradicted, the Bishop would probably assume that some action would be taken. What I found most convincing was that the counsel pointed out the distance from Chester to Richmond. The Bishop was an old man, as bishops tended to be, and it was extremely unlikely that he would visit Richmond again from far-away Chester. Moreover, there was the question of the roads. Even now, cross-Pennine travel is not easy in bad weather. Then, it must have been horrendous. Travel would have been by rough, unmade tracks. All in all, it would be best to just let matters rest. And rest they did. The shops and shopkeepers remained unmoved until the twentieth century.

My second example from an opinion of Counsel also involves the Church. The facts involved in this opinion arose in 1844 when another Rector had taken Mr. Goodwill's place. On Civic Sundays the Mayor and Aldermen would sit in special stalls in the chancel. At that time there were pews in the north and south aisles at the same level and immediately behind the Corporation stalls.

Clarkson, in his *History of Richmond*, says: "the stalls of the Mayor, Recorder and twelve Aldermen are worthy of observation. The front of the canopy over them on the outside is composed of a large range of rich, open Gothic fretwork. The inside, over the seats, is richly and elegantly carved with suitable ornaments and with a filleting running along it in a wavy chevron." He adds: "They are all made of the heart of oak and were brought from Easby Abbey at the Reformation." Clearly, they formed handsome seating arrangements for the dignatories of Richmond.

The problem was that below the canopy over the stalls and against the pillars supporting the canopy were affixed hat pegs for the use of the

occupiers. The presence of the hats gave rise to complaints from the parishioners occupying the pews behind the stalls. Their view was obstructed and, therefore, the Rector was persuaded to remove the pegs. Strictly speaking, he should have obtained a faculty authorizing him to do so. He compounded this technical offence by failing to inform the Mayor of his intention.

The Mayor and his colleagues were upset. They did the sensible thing. They consulted a lawyer. After pointing out the facts and that they had never been made aware of any complaint about the hat pegs, they informed Counsel that any obstruction of the view caused by their hats had become much reduced. Formerly, the Aldermen had worn large three-cornered hats but now they wore simple round hats. Where would it all end? Might the Rector take it into his head to remove the canopy and its supporting pillars? They asked Counsel for his advice.

I used to have the opinion given to the Mayor but I cannot find it. I have lost it and my account is based on my notes of the event. As before, there is no law to speak of but a certain amount of wisdom. Counsel was Dr. Addams. He confirmed that it was, strictly speaking, wrong of the Rector to remove the hat pegs without the authority of a faculty. The corporation, if they wished, could proceed against him in the Church court for this transgression. He said: "But if they do litigate, in a matter of such exceedingly small amount, I cannot venture to promise them their costs should they succeed. Nay, I would not absolutely promise that they would not be condemned in their opponent's costs, though they succeed. Surely it can never be worthwhile for the Corporation to litigate in any court, and above all, to litigate in an Ecclesiastical Court upon anything so extremely insignificant as the removal of these hat pegs."

Counsel added: "An account of a suit fought in 1729 in the Consistory Court of Exeter, brought against a parishioner of Cornwood in that Diocese, for hanging up his hat upon a screen between the body and the south aisle of his parish church, so as to obstruct the persons sitting in the south aisle from a sight of the minister. This suit was appealed successfully from the Exeter Court to the Court of Arches and then to the Court of Delegates. There was also a contemporaneous suit arising out of the same transaction, which went through the same three courts." Dr

Addams commented: “What were the costs (on both sides) in those comparatively frugal times, I cannot say, but were the same or similar course of litigation to occur in these days, I would not undertake to pay the costs in the two suits for less than £1000 to £1500 each.”

He finished his opinion with a delightful touch: “Having stated this much, I leave the Corporation of Richmond to draw their own inference, and I wish them a right judgement in all things and especially in all things touching or concerning the removal of these hat pegs.”

The hat pegs were never replaced.

Dr. Addams’ fee was £1-1-0.

Fellmongering: a historical view[1]

Linda Drury

In 2012-13, while I was Master of the Company of Fellmongers of Richmond[2] and meeting members of other Companies and Guilds, people asked me what actually were fellmongers and what they did in their heyday. The answer is that they were mongers, dealers and traders (like fishmongers and ironmongers) and what they dealt in were woolfells, a word little used or understood these days. They were rawhides and sheepskins from freshly-butchered animals. Fellmongers originally worked between the butchers and the tanners. The term 'hide' refers these days to the outsides of horses, cattle and oxen. Skins come from sheep, deer, pigs, goats and furry animals. However, from Saxon times the term 'fell' was a general word for untreated hides and skins.

The fellmonger gathered up the fresh fells, cleaned and graded them according to their suitability for the next stage of processing, then traded them on.

When and what was the need for fellmongers in the Richmond area and places like it? When was there so much fellmongering to be done, that for centuries it was a separate job, rather than one of the myriad jobs that farmers have always done?

In the middle ages the raising of cattle and sheep was, along with mining, the main business here in Swaledale and Wensleydale and elsewhere in Yorkshire. The Company of Fellmongers of Richmond (or whatever their predecessors called themselves) would have been very busy, as the largest flocks and herds, thousands of animals, were those of the monasteries,

[1] *Based on a speech delivered at the Fellmongers' Annual Dinner, January 2013*
[2] *For the story of the refounding of the Richmond Company after the discovery of its Minute Book for 1666-1820, see Mike Wood's article in The Richmond Review, 2007pp42-7.*

many of which had grazing lands in the dales and moors, even though the monastery could be miles away. The Cistercian monasteries specialized in sheep-rearing from their main houses of Fountains, Rievaulx, Byland Kirkstall and others. Rievaulx even had its own small tannery. Also near Richmond were other monasteries and convents with animals: Ellerton and Coverham, the Benedictines at Marrick, the Templars on Pen Hill and our own Premonstratensian monastery, Easby Abbey by Richmond, founded in 1152.

Lay landlords also had many animals: for example, the Scropes in Wensleydale. Further north, the Bishop of Durham's instaurers or stockmen recorded in their accounts their sales of woolfells and hairy cow skins. Could the latter be the long-haired, long-horned Highland cattle or Kyloes? Unfortunately, these accounts do not name the fellmongers to whom the sales were made.

Few of the Company of Fellmongers of Richmond would actually be resident there. Like the present-day Company of Butchers of York, they would live and work in a wide, surrounding area. In various Guild Books, it is interesting to see how far apprentices travelled. Easby Abbey included in its ranches one for 500 sheep and 40 breeding mares at Carperby in Wensleydale and another for 400 sheep at Skirpenbeck ten miles east of York. There were skinners and furriers in York, but no Company of Fellmongers there or elsewhere in Yorkshire or County Durham yet found. It is likely, therefore, that members of the Richmond Company serviced separate bits of the same estates.

Fellmongers were busiest in November. Before developments in winter feed, Martinmas, 11th November, was the traditional time for killing animals not required for next year's breeding and for salting the meat for winter use. Thus the large numbers of butchered animals, occurring at the same time, necessitated fellmongers to take charge, along with professional butchers, in work perhaps not much relished by monks or lay brothers.

Most hides and skins went for tanning. Others went for tawing, a process producing white leather. The fellmongers graded the fells by breed, size and quality. The heaviest hides went for strong, hard leather. Finest skins

of deer, lamb, calf and kid went for gloves and parchment. On fellmongers depended tanners, skinners, curriers, leather-sellers, cordwainers, glovers, etc. All the leather trades were interdependent. Fellmongers might also be qualified to work at these related trades when fellmongering work was thin. In Richmond, the Company of Fellmongers incorporates skinners and glovers. In Wiltshire, one master was termed "glover and fellmonger" in that order. Fellmongers were found wherever there were pastoral areas. There is a fine, timbered Guildhall of Fellmongers in Shrewsbury, but, alas, today no fellmongers.

In the year 1275 the fellmongers had another job: packing woolfells into bales of equal value for export. Edward I, otherwise known as the Hammer of the Scots, put customs duty on the export of woolfells and hides from Newcastle-upon-Tyne, already a busy wool port, as well as from Berwick and Hull, etc. Until 1275, woolfells had been counted in "hundreds" which were in fact six score – 120. For administrative convenience in taxing, they were to be put into bales of 300, supposed to be the same weight as a sarplar of exported wool and taxed at the same 6s 8d. Hides were counted in lasts of 200 and taxed at 13s 4d. In 1368 the Crown reduced the number of woolfells per bale to 240, to gather more tax. The poet Chaucer had a pension out of the woolfell custom.

Sheep were normally shorn about June when the wool-buyers, often Italian merchants, came round on buying trips. If the sheep were shorn again before slaughter, the woolfell was termed a "shorling". If the sheep had died of a disease then the fell was called a "mortling" or "morling". Shorlings, morlings and lamb fells were reckoned as inferior fells and to encourage their export it was ruled in 1452 that they could go abroad by licence, paying custom duty of 1s in the pound by value – different bales for fellmongers to assemble, pack and mark. A fellmonger might pull the wool off fells and sell it separately. This was termed fell wool and was supposed to have fewer good qualities than wool shorn from a live sheep.

There are numerous examples in the customs records of the fifteenth and other centuries, at sea off Newcastle or the Humber, where ships laden with woolfells had sailed before the customs men had arrived aboard to count up and collect tax, not because they were trying to evade anyone but because they could not miss the tide and the right breeze.

After the dissolution of the monasteries, more and smaller flocks and herds replaced the vast institutional ones and, as winter feeding of stock became more general, so the great Martinmas slaughter died away. Much fellmongering was now done, not by those termed fellmongers, but by the farmers who produced the beasts. They could make their own arrangements with local tanneries for bulk buying, bypassing fellmongers. When they had just a few skins, producers could sell them in the local markets. In the records of Crossgate borough, Durham City, are many references to men bringing woolfells and hides to sell at market times, but selling them before reaching the market place, thereby avoiding payment of market tolls - much frowned-upon! Farmers in the dales still do a bit of their own skin-curing, rabbit with saltpetre, for example. Abroad one sees larger skins pegged out on barn doors.

Fellmongers' activities had to change and diversify over time. They moved into tanneries and, where qualified, into the related crafts of skinners and glovers, as the full name of the Richmond Company shows.

Sheepskin gloves have long been practical favourites. Gloves from fine leather, perhaps with decorations or embroidery, are a gift of honour and were sometimes used as rent payment for specially-bestowed properties.

Skinners were not removers of skins as in the phrase 'skin a rabbit' but were curers of skins of animals with fur or hair suitable for thermal or decorative purposes. In 1342-3 his chamberlain bought the Prior of Durham some tunic-trimming made from budge, which was decorative lambskin. Other British animals, the skins of which could be used as linings or trimmings were badger, ermine, fox, hare, marten, mole, otter, rabbit, seal, squirrel and wolf. Others could be imported. Perhaps the skinners of Richmond specialized in the skins of the black and silver rabbits of Lady Hill Warren in Wensleydale. Local lore tells that they were exported to Russia to line the Czar's cloaks, until fur dyes were invented.

In Queen Victoria's time the commercial directories of Hexham, Northumberland show many fellmongers working in the tanneries there. Indeed, one Victorian dictionary defined a fellmonger as one who

prepared skins for a tanner. Their once-independent status was being forgotten.

In the tanneries, the fellmonger laid the fresh skin or hide over a section of tree trunk or other cylinder termed a beam, and scraped the hair off one side and the fat off the other with a similarly curved blade with a handle at each end. This was called a beam knife or a skudder. The blades varied a little depending on the type and amount of hair, wool or fat to be removed. The fellmonger had a barrel on each side of his skin – one for hair and parings, the other for fat. These materials were known as the fellmonger's poake or perquisite. The hair and parings went for manure, glue, etc, and the fat to the tallow chandlers.

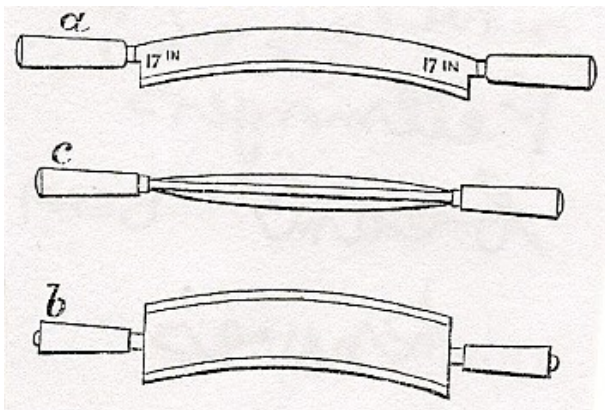
In the films about James Herriot, the vet in the Dales, set a generation or more ago, the men who came to farms to collect and dispose of the bodies of animals which had died unexpectedly were known as fellmongers.

Always an unglamorous craft, fellmongering did not make fortunes. Few of them left wills or inventories to survive in Probate Records. Some who appear as small-scale farmers may have been part-time fellmongers.

Nowadays, little tanning is done in Britain, Health and Safety rules having seen to that. The process was germ-rich and smelly. In the north, you will not find any fellmongers in the Yellow Pages, but, wherever people eat meat, the job is still being done. The Stockton Hide and Skin Company are one of today's local fellmongers. They collect up hides and skins, salt them and export them to Poland, Italy, China, etc. In 2012 the Company paid about £3 per woolfell. Twenty years ago, it was double or more. There are still a few firms in the Scottish borders using the term 'fellmonger', but today it is hard to find one of what, in 1681, were termed "frousy fellmongers"!



Using a beam knife to scrape a skin stretched on a Beam



A range of beam knives

Collecting Rose-hips[1]

Andrew Horn

The weather in 2012 resulted in a dearth of sloes, and hit many other fruits, but wild roses produced a bumper crop of hips. My mind went back to the 1950s, when collecting hips earned pocket money. On Saturday mornings ladies from The Women's Voluntary Service (the 'R' for Royal came later) would wait with greengrocers' scales and sacks in the small room at the foot of Richmond's Trinity Church tower to receive, weigh and pay 4d a pound for rose-hips. Some fifty-eight years later, I learn that the reward also included 'Rose-Hip Collectors Club' lapel badges (such badges being the delight of all pre-teen boys in those days) but not in Richmond, or perhaps I never collected enough to qualify for one.

In June 1954 the 'National Rose-Hip Products Association' published a 'Message to all collectors of Rose-Hips':

"You will soon be thinking about the collection of rose-hips for 1954. Below is a list of those counties where collections will be made this year and the names of the Firms responsible for them." The list included Scott & Turner Ltd., Newcastle-upon-Tyne for the North Riding. Apart from Derbyshire and Gloucestershire there were no counties south of Yorkshire and Lancashire. The message continued ….

"The manufacturers of Rose-Hip Syrup accord to all workers, both adults and school children, their warmest thanks for the National Service they have so effectively rendered in the past years, resulting in the magnificent total collection of well over 6,000 tons of rose-hips. This work has been organised by the W.V.S., the British Red Cross Society,

[1] *Acknowledgements to –*

1. WRVS: Archive & Heritage Collection

2 Richard Mabey: Flora Britannica, published by Chatto and Windus, a division of The Random House Group Limited

the Girl Guides' Association, the Women's Institutes and other organisations; the Ministry of Education has also given valuable assistance.

Rose-hip syrup, the richest form of natural Vitamin C, is freely obtainable through all chemists, not only for children, but adults as well. Should any chemist be out of stock he can quickly and easily obtain supplies of rose-hip syrup made by any of the manufacturers.

In due course you will be hearing from the manufacturer who is responsible for the collection in your County."[2]

The November 1954 WVS 'Monthly Narrative Report' for 'Richmond Borough' stated:

"We have now finished the rose-hip collection; it has been a disappointing season. We have only collected 1128 lbs....We are now distributing the welfare foods. So far we have not been very busy; only 78 tins of milk, 26 bottles of orange juice, 33 bottles of cod liver oil and 7 packets of vitamin tables have been given out."[3]

September 1955's WVS 'Monthly Narrative Report' said, "We are very busy receiving rose-hips; so far we have received 14.55½ (sic – 1455½ perhaps) lbs." Other report items included a blood donors' session and again the distribution of welfare foods.

During the 1939/45 war rose-hips had come into their own in the form of rose-hip syrup. It was known that hips contained much vitamin C – a cup of rose-hip pulp provides more than forty fresh oranges. Given the wartime disruption to the sources of citrus fruit, the Ministry of Health initiated a scheme for voluntary collection. By 1945 the annual harvest was over 450 tons. National rose-hip syrup was sold at a controlled price of 1s 9d for a 6 oz bottle, though the syrup was available in larger quantities at reduced prices from welfare clinics. Delrosa, the best-

[2] *E. C. Cripps, President, National Rose Hip Products Association.*

[3] *C. Dorothy Robinson, Centre Organiser.*

remembered brand, was made in Wallsend, but rose-hip syrup today needs to be imported from the USA, unless one makes one's own. Briefly, all that is required is pulped rose-hips, boiling water, sugar, and importantly, careful straining to remove the seeds and equally the hairs attached to the seeds and the hips' lining: generations of children have known of their potential as an itching powder. 'Itchycoos' is a colloquial name for rose-hips, immortalised by the 1960s pop group, the Small Faces, in their song, 'Itchycoo Park'.

Mrs Gray's Diary 1863

Mike Wood

Recently, whilst searching the internet for some copies of early Yorkshire Archaeological Society publications, I noticed a diary for sale; the illustration shown clearly had a print of Richmond within the text. Upon further investigation it was described as "Mrs Gray's Diary 1863". It was in an auction so I decided to bid to try to obtain it. The diary was located in Benfleet, Essex and I was lucky enough to purchase it.

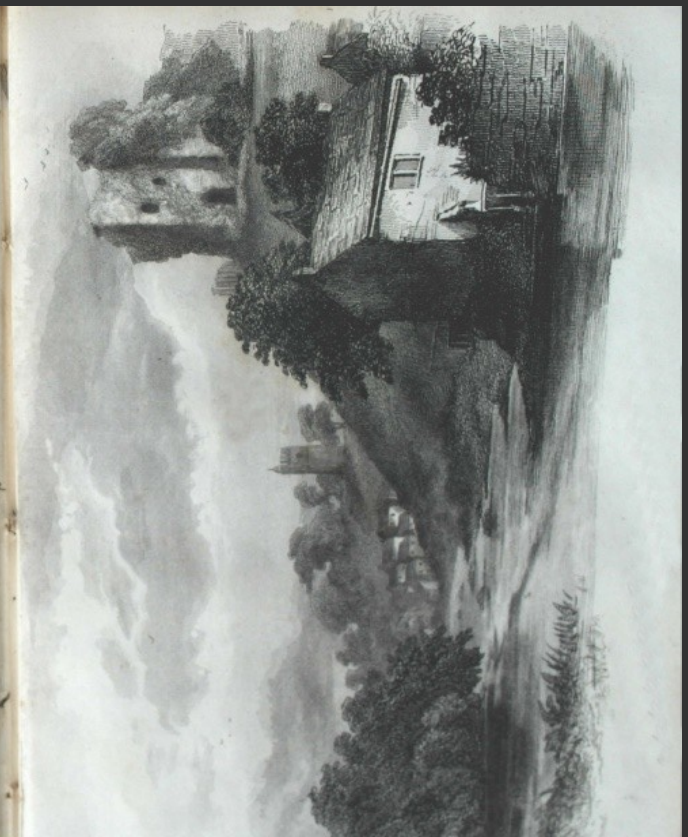
When it arrived I soon realised that it was not in fact a diary but a hand written series of notes on the history of Richmond and also some extracts from Henry Scott's commentary on Luke 16 verses 9 to 12! There are some interesting engravings like the one illustrated that is captioned "Richmond Castle from the Force Head", showing the mill.

The diary contains forty handwritten pages with excellent hand writing and no mistakes or alterations. I will reproduce some extracts which give some indication of Mrs Gray's literary skills.

"It is evident that the beauties of Richmond leave a strong impression upon the mind of the traveller who views them; for we find Swinburne thus remembered them in his travels through Spain – Toledo is the strangest city you can imagine in point of situation; something like Durham, or Richmond in Yorkshire, but not equal to either of them in beauty, as it is totally bare of wood".

There is a long section on the castle commencing with, "The traveller on approaching Richmond cannot avoid being in some measure struck with astonishment at the very first sight of the castle, nor does a nearer view tend to diminish the first impression. Its elevated situation considerably higher than the other buildings of the town, and partly overgrown with ivy tender it one of the first objects in the surrounding scenery. From

has its own peculiar beauties, which by attractions entirely different, seize upon the mind, & form that variety of pleasing prospects to be seen in many countries. It is Evident that the beauties of Richmond leave a strong impression upon the mind of the traveller who views them; for we find Isombard thus remembering them in his travels through Spain; "Toledo is the strangest city you can imagine in point of situation; something like Durham, or Richmond in Yorkshire, but not equal to



whatever side it is viewed, its features are magnificent and highly interesting to the landscape painter as well as the antiquary".

In her notes on Easby Abbey she mentions the Abbot's Elm. This was a tree that until quite recently stood where the car park is now. I can remember the remains of it standing there. It supposedly was a survivor from the abbey and under which the Abbot would sit. She recalls how the tree was damaged by gales in February 1819 and that many branches were lopped off in March 1820.

A section headed Grey Friars gets six pages. Many historians and writers wrongly assumed that the Warden and Friars at Richmond suffered at the Dissolution in 1538. They all survived and received pensions, but the story was different in Richmond, Surrey where the Warden was hanged for refusing to leave the house there. Mrs Gray is one of those who was wrongly informed. She writes, "These Friars for vehemently opposing Henry VIII in his divorce from Catherine of Aragon, and for obstinately refusing to acknowledge him as head of the church, or rather for refusing to deny the ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the Pope in England, had no pensions allowed them during life, as the monks and parsons had, but were treated with great severity by the King. Burnet in his History of the Reformation says that all the difficulty that I find made against the King's supremacy, was at Richmond by the Franciscan Friars". She carries on to say that, "They had sworn to follow the rule of St Francis and in that they would live and die and cited a chapter of their rule, that their order should have a Cardinal for their protection by whose directions they might be governed in their obedience to the Holy See. Many of them suffered death, and others coupled together with chains were sent to distant gaols to end their days in misery". She mentions the founder Ranulph Fitz Ranulph being buried at Coverham Abbey and his heart "enclosed in a leaden urn, was placed by his orders in the choir of this Friary Church under an arched recess in the wall. There were several of the Scropes, the Plesseys and the Frankes buried here".

Willance's Leap gets a mention and it is evident that the three stones marking the leaps were in place in 1863. She describes the inscriptions on two of them and the distances between them. She also mentions another

horse that strayed over a broken fence at the same spot in 1817 and survived a fall of 78 feet.

She is fascinated by Round Howe and the elegant summer house in the form of a Chinese temple which she says was built by the late Cuthbert Readshaw in 1756. She also mentions the pool below on which he had his pleasure boat.

The last entry is on "Baptisms by St Paulinus". She writes, "The river Swale though not of much celebrity in history, was accounted by our British and Saxon ancestors as one of their consecrated rivers; on which account, at the first conversion of the Saxons to Christianity in this country about the year 630 it was preferred to any others for religious purposes; and upwards of 10,000 men besides women and children were in one day baptized in it at Helperby by Paulinus the Apostelle of the North and first Arch-bishop of York, there being according to Bede, neither fonts nor oratories in that infant state of the church. From this circumstance it was styled the Jordon of England".

There are several blank pages left in the book and I wonder if she intended to write more and why it comes to such an abrupt end?

I recognise that some of her observations come from Christopher Clarkson's History of Richmond but even so it is encouraging to think that there still may be fragments of our local history out there waiting to be discovered. My next task is to research Mrs Gray. Tina McDonald reminded me that the wood engravings used in David Brooks' book on Richmond were by E. M. Gray – perhaps a relative of Mrs Gray.

The Livre des Domaines des Ducs de Bretagne en Angleterre: Part One[1]

Dr Melanie Devine

The *Livre des Domaines des Ducs de Bretagne en Angleterre*, which has been referred to in articles relating to late medieval Richmond published in the Richmond Review over the last three years, is lodged in the departmental archives of Loire-Atlantique in Nantes.[2] Conserved in a wooden chest of some antiquity, it is presented in the form of a register in 45 folio leaves of parchment and is part of the Treasure of Charters of the earls of Brittany. These archives, collected from the latter half of the fourteenth century to almost the end of the eighteenth century at the castle of Tour-Neuve, survived the French Revolution by being stored behind a quantity of large casks of wine in a cellar; when the revolutionaries entered the castle, they found the wine, but not the documents, which were transferred to the departmental archives during the nineteenth century.[3]

The *Livre des Domaines* consists of two principal volumes: an inventory of all the lands held by the Honour of Richmond in 1398, followed by a cartulary of forty-three historically significant charters.[4] As a working document, it is written in one hand, but has marginal additions which

[1] *This article is in two parts. In Part Two of this article, next year, I will discuss the individual entries for Richmond and the lordship's estates in Richmondshire, and some of the leading personalities involved.*

[2] *I would like to express my particular gratitude to Professor Pollard for facilitating my visit to the Archives Loire-Atlantique, and Dr Paul Chardin, then Director of the Archives, for his interest and generosity, allowing me considerable access to the archives. Previous articles on late medieval Richmondshire, written by Professor Tony Pollard and myself have been published in the Richmond Review, 2010-2012.*

[3] *Archives Loire-Atlantique, E116.*

[4] *Jerome Klin, The Honour of Richmond at the end of the Fourteenth Century, (unpublished MA thesis, University de Haute-Bretagne, 1995), vol.ii, pp. iv-v.*

appear to be contemporaneous comments. In April and May of 1398, John IV, Duke of Brittany, had been a guest of Richard II at Windsor, and during this visit he had been invested with the Order of the Garter and re-invested with his title to the Honour of Richmond. The immediacy with which he set about making a full survey of all his possessions in England – the three-week survey was completed by his appointed agents, by the end of August – signifies his intention to take a very active interest in his property and the potential revenues which it produced.

For the most part, the first volume, the inventory, is a list of each manor, vill or forest within its county, and names the tenants and in some cases the type and value of each tenancy. Unfortunately the lists of tenants who attended the agents are not always accompanied by an equally detailed list of the tenancies they held. Close attention is paid to the names of all those who came forward, but, with the exception of Arklegarth in Richmondshire, the individual value of each tenancy is not recorded.[5] However, each place is assessed as a whole for its annual income. The last county to be visited was Richmondshire, and after assessing the other holdings, on the last day of their long journey, Aldrewych and Rycz arrived at Richmond castle. There they listed the office holders of the Lordship and their annual remuneration.

While on their journey, John IV's agents were also concerned to verify various agreements and charters which had been drawn up in the past and which might encroach on the authority of John IV as earl of Richmond. Carefully transcribed copies of the charters are contained as appendices to the main document, and two questions which were raised therein were of particular interest in establishing the continuing power of the lordship in Richmondshire in 1398. The first question related to hunting rights over a specific portion of the New Forest in Swaledale which had been granted to the Aske family in the middle of the twelfth century, and the second related to Egglestone Abbey.[6]

Conan IV of Brittany had invested Roger Aske, a member of a local gentry family, with this area of the forest, granting rights of usage to him

[5] *A.L.A., E116, folio 1r.*
[6] *A.L.A., E116/5.*

and his heirs, so that by 1398 the inference from this historic agreement was that even the titular lord would have to ask permission of the Aske family in order to hunt there. If correct, this would have undermined the very nature of the relationship between lord and tenant. This was not the first time this question had been raised; John of Gaunt had tried unsuccessfully to correct this apparent anomaly in February 1362, but the jury, comprising many local people, found in favour of the Aske family.[7] Gaunt's enquiry appears to have been based largely on oral testimony of ancient usage. By drawing John IV's attention to charters relating to this legal argument, his agents were in fact inciting him to set up a new enquiry based on written evidence which they must have believed would find in his favour. Their concern appears to have been that John IV's forebear had set a precedent which might have been replicated elsewhere within the Honour, giving other tenants the right to disregard their homage and duty to the earl, and possibly to question his authority over the lands they held of him.

The collection of early land charters which forms the second volume shows that the successive earls had obvious concerns regarding the progressive disintegration of their estates, because the numbers of charters and the size of the grants and endowments diminished progressively and there were no new acts of sub-infeudation in the fourteenth century. Instead, it is apparent that the more recent earls had chosen a policy of assigning monetary fees to their followers; this was less dangerous in the long term for the integrity of their lands and also important in order to create and sustain a loyal relationship between themselves and their men.

The assiduous nature of the activities which surrounded the drawing up of the volumes in 1398 also points to an attempt to establish any grey areas within the historic grants which had been made to religious houses, which could possibly be contested in order to bring some property and its attendant revenue back under the direct control of the earl. Related to this was a matter which concerned particular lands in Richmondshire which

[7] *A.L.A., E116, folios 22r and 22v. The jury comprised: Acaris de Hanlathby, knight, John de Laton, esquire, Robert Studhow, Geoffrey Pygot, John Gundset, Thomas Lascelles, Thomas Gretened of Caldwell, John de Ellerton of Healaugh, John Gretened of Manfield, William Swale of Grinton and John Barningham.*

had been alienated to Egglestone Abbey near Barnard Castle, a daughter house of the premonstratensian establishment at Easby Abbey. The agents identified that there had been a lack of respect for the original terms of the charter drawn up in 1275, in which six chaplains were to be made available for sung services in the chapel of Richmond castle in exchange for lands at Moulton, and the rights of usage to peat and wood from Whitcliff, near Richmond.

By the late fourteenth century, Egglestone had only eleven canons in residence, and it is probable that the abbey was unable to fulfil all its obligations. They had therefore requested that the number of canons required for castle duties should be reduced to just two. In the event that this was unacceptable, the abbey offered to return the lands to the control of the Earl. The outcome of this matter is unclear from the documentary evidence, but it is probably safe to assume that the second option was taken, leading to the repossession of the property. It is apparent that the agents retained the relevant documents in order to solve any ambiguity regarding this particular matter in order to prove the legitimacy of any landholding disputes within the Honour and Lordship.[8]

The diligence with which John IV's agents pursued this survey illustrates that they were as interested in discovering who John IV's tenants were, and the lands which they held, as they were to assess the annual rental. Certainly, the tenants did not fail to attend, or to admit, the hearings to establish these matters. There appears to have been a well-established understanding of the structure in which they lived, and the presence of John IV's agents was an opportunity to show that they accepted them as their lord's representatives and therefore the appropriate persons to receive what was due. The *Livre des Domaines* then appears to have been produced as a working tool for the earl and his staff, so that they should all have a clear understanding of the nature of all his assets, and furthermore that he should be able to activate his relationship with his tenants in order to re-establish his authority.

[8] *H.M. Colvin, The White Canons in England, (Oxford, 1951), p. 271.*

The question of John IV's relationship with his tenants and their fealty went to the heart of his tenure of Richmondshire as a tenant-in-chief of the English crown and as a feudal lord. On the last day of the journey at Richmond, the agents summoned the hereditary holders of the knights' fees which pertained to the lordship. Historically, there were sixty-two knights' fees in the lordship, but by 1398 these were owned by just twenty-eight descendents of the original vassals. It was an essential feature of the Honour of Richmond that the knights' fees were all held by those who held land in Richmondshire, whose service was most likely to be required to defend the northern border and to garrison the castle of Richmond itself. Those who were the contemporary holders of the fees are listed in the *Livre des Domaines* as *homagiers*, and amongst them were persons of the highest lay and ecclesiastical rank in England. The full list is:

Thomas, earl of Mowbray
Ralph Neville, earl of Westmorland
Henry, Lord Scrope of Masham
Richard, Lord Scrope of Bolton
Sir John Orby (who held land in West Witton)
Lady Gray
Henry, Lord FitzHugh of Ravensworth and Tanfield
The Abbot of Jervaulx
The Abbot of Egglestone
Sir Brian Stapleton (for Bedale)
Sir Laurence de Montfort
Sir Thomas Markenfield (Eryholme)
Thomas Mecham
Lady Julian, the daughter of Conan (Aske)
Lady Copeland
Sir Edward Charles
John de Layton
Conan Aske
John de Bretteville (Newton le Willows)
John Clervaulx (East Cowton)
Nicholas de Skargill
The Abbot of Fountains

Sir John Constable
Sir John de Burgh
Sir Piers Maulay
Sir John Gray
Robert Plessington
Rebert Erym

In a note beneath the list of names, the agents state that:
These above named persons hold 62 knights' fees and a further half and a quarter part of a fee, and they are required to render per annum £20.19s.10d. for castle guard at Richmond.

At the end of the fourteenth century it is apparent that while John IV no longer required military service from his tenants, his agents had been instructed to draw up a precise list of the *homagiers* who held knights' fees, as well as his tenants by fealty who were free tenants and the tenants *par verge*, who were tenants at will, holding virgates of land within the estates. The agents reported to John IV that the principal tenants of the knights' fees who attended the final day's accounting at Richmond were not willing to pay homage to them in their position as representatives of their lord. They further suggested that Sir William Scrope, earl of Wiltshire, at that time Treasurer of England, and son of one of the four primary tenants of the lordship, was responsible for instigating their reluctance, for written in the margin by the list of those expected to pay homage is a note "and my most redoubtable lord, search this whole volume well and seek out your homagiers, because it is of great prejudice to you, sire, and to your heirs, that they have not paid their homage".[9]

Those who held knights' fees were not refusing to pay their rents and dues, but the question of homage was different. Swearing fealty to John IV at this time would appear to have constituted something approaching allegiance to a foreign power in the minds of the Richmondshire tenants, albeit at a time of truce between England and France. In view of his somewhat fickle past, and his recent alliance with Charles V, if John IV

[9] *A.L.A., E116, folio 18v. "Et mon tres redoubte seignour, cerches bien ceste libre entour et regardes pour vostres homageres, par cause qu'il est grande prejudice a vous mons. Et a voz heires ce qu'ils ne ount fair lour homage".*

wished to raise a force from his Richmondshire tenantry in the future, which in principle he was fully entitled to do, this could have been construed as opposition to the English crown's continuing ambitions in France. When the crown of England controlled the lordship of Richmond directly, the men of Richmondshire could be, and were, raised by the king's proxy; Richmondshire knights and gentry were raised, for example, for the battle of Neville's Cross in 1346 and again at Otterburn in August 1388. Similarly the numbers of men retained by John of Gaunt who travelled with him to France and Spain, and those who fought further afield indicate no lack of military capacity in Richmondshire. John IV's own political vacillation during the 1370s and 1380s, when he struck up alliances with both Edward III and Richard II, then Charles V of France, must have called into question his independence, and his loyalty and support for the English crown as earl of Richmond. The nobility and gentry of Richmondshire would not want to be too closely associated, through John IV, with the French crown, when the English crown still pursued a claim there.

The *Livre des Domaines* appears, then, to have performed a dual purpose. At face value it was a tool for the specific management of the estates of the Honour of Richmond in England, drawn up to facilitate the smooth running of the lordship following John IV of Brittany's re-acquisition of the earldom. In one contemporary volume he had access to a full list of his tenants, his employees, and his *homagiers*, together with a valuation of the property, which would enable him to assess his future income and to follow up debts. He would also know the precise extent of his lands, and the collection of the various charters which proved problematic would enable him to settle any outstanding matters. The fact that his sister, Lady Bassett, and his two agents, had been enfeoffed of the property in 1398 leaves some ambiguity as to his ability to receive the revenues personally.[10] It is more probable that in appointing them to that role he was trying to create a safeguard against any future challenge to the

[10] *Enfeoffment was the deed by which a person was given land in exchange for a pledge of service. This mechanism was later used to avoid restrictions on the passage of title in land by a system in which a landowner would give land to one person for the use of another. The common law of estates in land grew from this concept.*

rightful holder of the title in the hope that his son, John V, would be granted the Honour on his death.

However, behind the superficial economic and structural aims of the exercise, there was a more deep-seated intention. This collection of documents would have enabled John IV to assess the strength of his lordship in terms of the loyalty of his tenants. He knew exactly who had attended the court at Richmond, and that although they were willing to enact their responsibilities, they did not consider they should pay homage to him as their lord. The local and national alliances which had been built up over 350 years of rule by the house of Brittany were vulnerable to the changing political relationships between Brittany, France and England at the end of the fourteenth century. To ensure that the principal tenants and holders of knights' fees were still working for him, John IV needed to confirm that he had not only the prestige of the title earl of Richmond, but that his tenants' compliance was confirmed in a document which he could then use in the event of any challenge to his authority. An incomplete resolution of this matter still recognized him as the tenant-in-chief of the lordship, but did not satisfy the question beyond all doubt.

It is noteworthy that the *Livre des Domaines*, together with a large collection of contemporary letters, quittances, partial accounts and copies of charters, has always remained in the possession of the earls, then dukes of Brittany, even though their hold on the lordship of Richmond failed. For when John IV died in 1399, and the lands escheated to the crown, neither Richard II nor Henry IV granted them to his heir. Instead, they were granted for his lifetime to Ralph Neville, earl of Westmorland, brother-in-law to Henry IV and one of his earliest and most ardent supporters. John IV's two agents were retained early in 1400 by Ralph Neville, and John IV's third wife, Joan of Navarre, was subsequently married to Henry IV who instigated a severance of her relationship with John IV's heir and his family in Brittany. Although a number of petitions were made during periods of alliance over the next thirty years, during the Hundred Years' War, the title and revenues of the lordship were lost to the dukes of Brittany for ever.

Katherine Carr: a tribute

Meg and Richard Bloodworth



A stranger visiting St Mary's Church, Richmond on 3 November 2012 would have realised the importance of the funeral that was taking place. Serried ranks of clergy and a large choir represented the Church; chains of mayoral office were the visible sign of the local civic community; several pews containing immediate and distant relatives gave evidence of large family connections. A packed church brought together the huge numbers of people whose lives had been touched by Katherine Carr, and the formal ceremony gave us the opportunity to remember her varied and considerable contributions to Richmond and to Swaledale.

Less obvious, however, was the gap that Katherine's death would leave in the hearts and minds of her many friends, a gap that grows, rather than lessens with the passage of time.

Katherine died suddenly while visiting her old school friend Joan Atkinson and her husband Frank, formerly associated with both the Bowes and Beamish Museums. Her death was completely unexpected

following a busy and fulfilling summer of travel and opera with friends and family.

The daughter of Dr A. J. Bull, music organiser for Yorkshire, Katherine's early life was surrounded by music, and this early love was confirmed by her years at Westfield College of the University of London. Concerts, singing in the University choir and, in particular, opera were a major part of her life at college and these years gave Katherine the necessary qualifications for her professional life – an Honours Degree in History and a teaching qualification from the London Institute for Education. A year in Avignon teaching English developed another life-long passion – for France, its language and culture, its food and its wine.

Professionally, Katherine was a history teacher, initially in the classroom, then in the lecture hall at Darlington Teacher Training College. After her family had grown up, she became Deputy Head at Sedgefield School and finally (as the first female headteacher of a secondary school in County Durham) at Woodham Comprehensive School. The "glass ceiling" that is still with us today was a major barrier to women's career progression in the second half of the last century, and Katherine, rightly proud of her breakthrough, told with relish the story of Durham's Director of Education opening meetings with the greeting "Gentlemen, and Mrs Carr"!

It was as a young woman living with her family in Yorkshire that Katherine met the love of her life – Tom Carr, a history teacher at Richmond School – and together they made a lifelong impact on many facets of Richmond and Swaledale. In the early years of their marriage, Katherine and Tom lived in Frenchgate, but the arrival of sons necessitated larger accommodation. A beautiful house in Maison Dieu became the family home, together with a group of old lead miners' cottages and a large field in a Swaledale village. Marrick became the spiritual home of the Carrs and they generously shared it with friends, acquaintances and even total strangers.

Tom and Katherine's musical interests found expression in the founding of the Richmond Subscription Concerts – a chamber music society bringing performances and performers of the highest quality to Swaledale.

The Concerts, now in their 66th season, still flourish and make a major contribution to the cultural life of this corner of North Yorkshire. There's more to running a concert series than bookings and organisation, and many international musicians basked in the warmth of the Carr hospitality as part of their visits to Richmond.

An obsessional *Guardian* reader, Katherine's personal views were left of centre and her political gifts were focused in the community of Richmond and her membership of the Town Council. Standing as an Independent she served as a councillor for many years and served as Mayor of Richmond for five terms – once again, the first woman to hold that office. She was also Chair of the Richmondshire District Council on two occasions. Her political career was crowned when she was made a Freeman of Richmond in 2003.

On leaving local politics, Katherine turned her attention to the Church of England. A committed Christian and lifetime worshipper at St Mary's Church, Richmond, Katherine became a lay reader and frequently took services in the town and further afield. In the fullness of time she was elected a lay member of the General Synod of the Church of England and relished her representation of the diocese in the highest echelons of church politics. In recent years Katherine became a regular on the funeral circuit in Swaledale. Her long and detailed experience of the local community enabled her to give eulogies based on personal knowledge, and many recently bereaved families were grateful to her. Katherine recognised this – visitors to Marrick were frequently treated to a summary of her most recent funeral oration!

As a no nonsense ex-headteacher, Katherine was a natural choice for the magistracy and chaired the bench for a number of years. Although she tempered justice with mercy, appearing before Katherine cannot have been a comfortable experience – she could be stern when the occasion demanded it.

All of this tells the story of a woman who was remarkably successful in any area of life to which she turned her attention. Yet it does little to convey the essence of Katherine Carr the person. This is inextricably

bound up with the development of *The Old Post Office, Marrick* as a family country home.

Marrick was purchased around fifty years ago to provide a green space where the growing Carr children, David, Martin and Chris, could let off steam. The cottage, built as accommodation for lead miners, was divided into two and was shared with Maud, the local postmistress. Facilities were basic and the garden non-existent. High on the side of Swaledale, the position was exposed and not propitious for horticulture. From these unlikely beginnings, Tom and Katherine created a sheltered cottage garden with many nooks, crannies, vegetable plots and woodland walks. Over the years, trees were planted, lawns created and local garden centres scoured for hardy specimens. At the same time the cottage was slowly extended and upgraded to include indoor plumbing with hot water, central heating, double glazing and the accoutrements of twentieth century life.

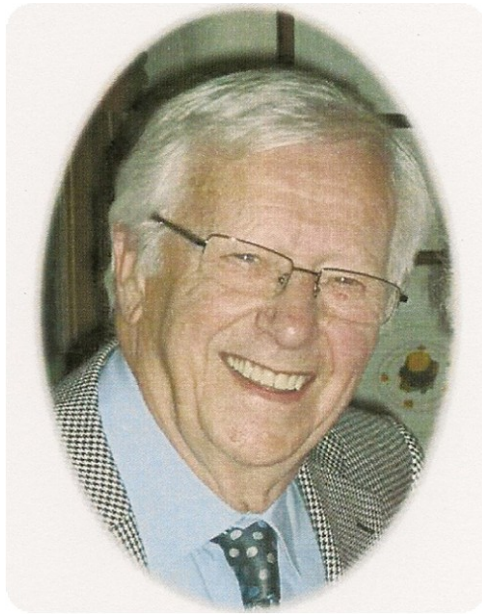
We were lucky enough to witness these developments from 1972 onwards and were frequent visitors to Marrick. We've been snowed in at Christmas and sunburned on the south facing terrace in August. Rain and wind were likely to arrive in any season. Whatever the weather, Katherine and Tom accommodated us, our own families and even our visitors with a genuine Yorkshire welcome. One Christmas, and at very short notice, we were due to host two exchange teachers from Japan. We contacted Katherine to cancel our regular Christmas visit to Marrick. Her response was immediate and typical – "Bring them!" We were persuaded and arrived in Marrick after dark on 23rd December. The electricity supply promptly fused and we experienced a hilarious evening of drinking games, fuelled by sake.

Above all, Marrick was a family home to the Carr boys, and, when they became men, to their spouses and families too. Eight grandchildren have enjoyed this rural retreat.

Katherine was a remarkable woman – successful, strong yet caring and generous. We miss her terribly and know that her many friends in Richmond and the wider world feel the same.

Fred Wood: Chairman of the Society 2005-10

Jane Hatcher



A white-haired man who was always smiling. That will be many members' main memory of Fred. His work colleagues remember with affection and respect his brilliant brain and meticulous attention to detail. His family remembers a keen and competitive sportsman who insisted they always strove to do their very best. The congregation at St Mary's Parish Church knew the man who sat at the back except on the third Sunday of the month when he sang with the Anacrucis Choir – and a few people will still remember him being in the traditional robed choir when his youngest daughter Fiona was head-chorister. Music was dear to his heart, and wherever he lived he was involved in it. As well as singing he played violin and 'cello.

Born in 1927, Fred grew up near Holmfirth in the West Riding, so was very much a Yorkshireman, but at the age of only seventeen, left to take up a scholarship at Corpus Christi College in Cambridge. After gaining his degree he entered the textile industry and before long was an Associate of the Textile Institute. He had a long and distinguished career with Paton and Baldwin's wool company, in Alloa (where he met Evelyn), Matlock and finally at their large factory in Darlington. Here he was a 'boffin' in charge of research and development, using his innovative skills and thorough mentality.

His long retirement in Richmond saw him develop a great interest in and knowledge of local history, and he was one of the town's voluntary guides for many years. He joined the Civic Society's committee in 2002, and then as Chairman he devoted himself, not only to the Society itself, but to representing it on a number of outside bodies, within the town and elsewhere. His sharp intellect enabled him quickly to master the significance of policies, and the benefits of networking with those working in similar bodies.

Fred also had a phenomenal memory. Most Chairmen rely on notes of dates and facts when making announcements at the Society's monthly lectures, but Fred could remember a long list of detailed items in his head, and was still doing so when well into his eighties. He was particularly supportive of David Morris towards the end of his life, another former Chairman held in great affection by members. Fred was fortunate in enjoying good health until just a few months before his death on 23rd June.

Fred was a man who combined great intelligence and energy with equally great kindness, a rare combination. As a Chairman, he was meticulous and rigorous as committee members know, and still, at each lecture, there he was, waiting to greet people with that welcoming and familiar smile. For many of us, that will be an abiding memory.

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Young, Mr.& Mrs. A.

Deaths

John Buttimer
Geraldine Coaker

Editorial Notes:
We would like to thank all of this year's contributors. Without their interest and industry there would be no Review.
The illustrations have been provided by the contributors unless otherwise acknowledged.
Part II of Richard Collier's article on The Rookery, promised for this year, has been postponed to allow for further research.

Subscriptions are due after the A.G.M.
New members joining after the summer recess are asked to pay half the current year's subscription, with a full subscription for the following year, due after the A.G.M.

Copies of back numbers of The Review and its Indexes are available from the Hon. Secretary.

The Society now has its own website where you can keep up to date with activities and lectures. Google 'Richmond Civic Society' or use the full web address:

www.communigate.co.uk/ne/richmondcivic/links.phtml

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	Mr. T. Dykes	co-opted
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	Mr. C. Grant	Retires in 2015
	Mrs. E. Hayward	Retires in 2014
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