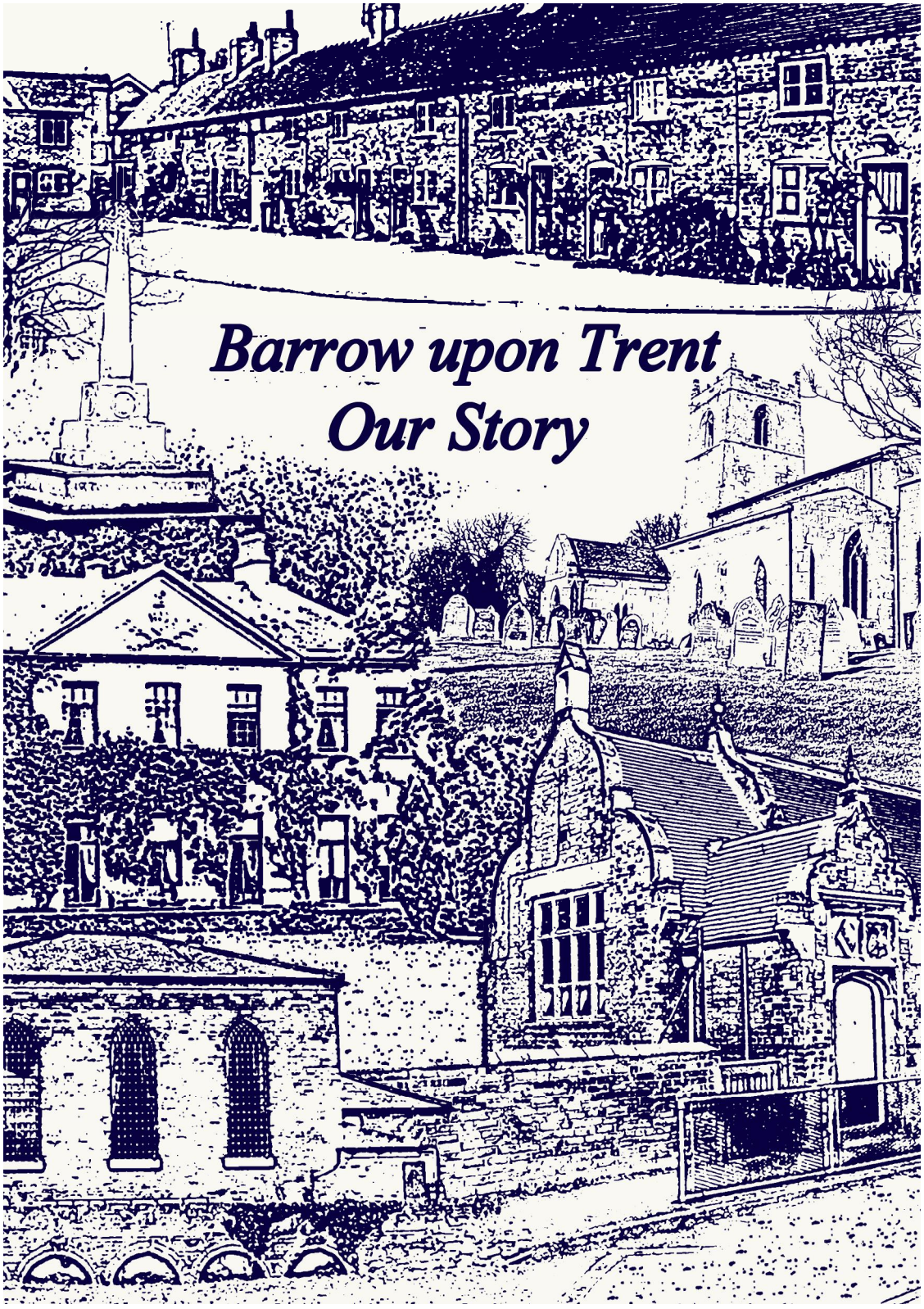

Barrow upon Trent
Our Story

In answer to a question in the House of Commons on the 1st February 1947 Mr. Aneurin Bevan, Minister of Health stated that:

"Barrow on Trent is a remote village where there is little or no demand for accommodation"

How wrong can you be!

Barrow upon Trent Our Story

Jill Scarfe and Kate Webberley

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Introduction

In 2012 Barrow upon Trent Parish Plan History Group was awarded a grant by the Heritage Lottery Fund to undertake an 'All Our Stories' project, collecting oral histories and providing opportunities for our community, from school children through to our senior citizens, to investigate our past. Some of the stories were well hidden and this book will attempt to reveal what fascinating people lived here and what remarkable lives they led. This book is accompanied by a DVD describing the Parish and the Church of St. Wilfrid; two walking trails around the village and around the Parish, and the youth group have created and hidden a 'Time Capsule' for future generations to enjoy. There is also a website where you can find out more www.butphrg.org.uk.

This project has tried to pull together the information that has been around over the last thousand years (and a dip into earlier findings) about our Parish of Barrow upon Trent. We acknowledge the work of modern historians whose specialist knowledge and understandings have helped us shape our ideas and we have listed those at the end.

Our researchers have been fortunate to have had access to Primary Sources: contemporary newspapers, deeds, wills and unpublished contemporary documents. We are very grateful to all those in the Parish who have lent us materials, photographs and other papers; to those who have tolerated our endless questions and to all the team that have spent many hours researching into these matters.

Many of our findings are at variance with those of past centuries; this is not a dismissal of work done before. We have had the benefit of modern technology giving us access to a wide range of resources and exposing many facts not easily found before. We have also had a remarkable team of people prepared to research, interview and support the project in innumerable ways.

We have tried to paint as complete a picture of our Parish and its past as is possible, but we acknowledge that this is just the beginning of the journey. We have tried very hard to be accurate, but do realise that we may have got some things wrong.

We acknowledge the particular contributions from Anne Heathcote; John Spencer; Tony Eley; Duncan Hewitt, Frances Shepherd, Colleen March and Glenis Palmer, and we thank Peter Sale for sharing with us knowledge of the Sale Family. Further thanks are due to Becky Webberley, Ron Scarfe and Judith Mills for the art work and presentation and to Pamela Wills of the Museum of St. John; the staff of the Derbyshire Record Office; the Derbyshire Family History Society; and the Magic Attic Swadlincote for all their help and assistance in the research. To Peter Ryder and Paul Johnston archaeologists, thank you for working with us. To Genes Reunited web site and Google Map, Wikimedia, Ian Wilson, Ian Hey, Maxwell Craven, Keith Slater and many others for allowing us to use their particular photographic material, we also thank you.

We hope you enjoy 'Barrow upon Trent – Our Story'

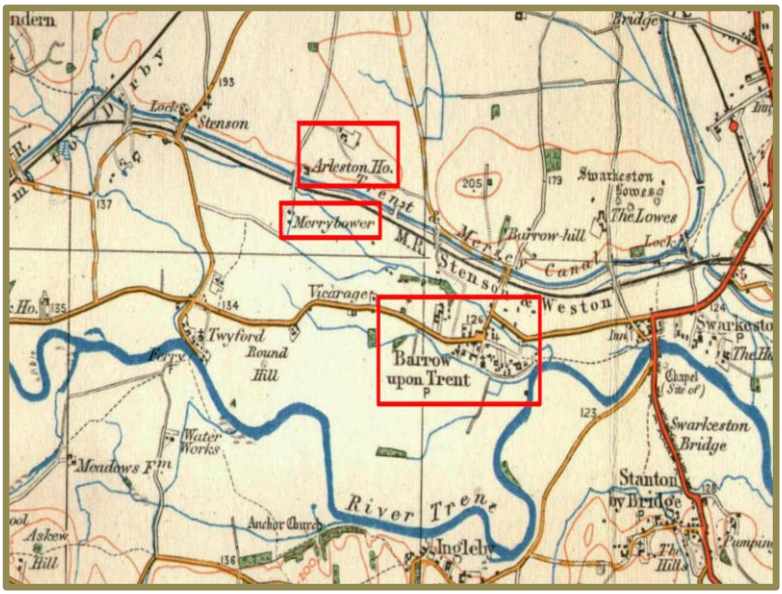
Jill Scarfe and Kate Webberley

Where is it?

Barrow upon Trent is situated in the Trent River valley and the Parish is composed of areas of outstanding beauty and quiet, with the riverbanks providing ideal habitats for many varieties of fauna and flora.

The northern border of Barrow Parish is on the southern fringe of the city of Derby and is bounded to the south by the River Trent, whilst the Trent and Mersey Canal and the Birmingham Branch of the old Midland Railway run through the Parish.

The Parish is made up of three centres of population. The majority of people live in the main village of Barrow upon Trent that sits on the north bank of the river Trent. There are two smaller hamlets, Arleston and Merrybower, which lie to the north-west of Barrow, within the river plain but around one and a half miles from the village centre and the outlying roads that branch out from the village, namely Sinfin Lane leading to Deepdale Lane, the Ragley Boat Stop and Ashlea Farm, and also Moor Lane.



The village borders the flood plain, and building within the Parish is therefore restricted to those areas identified as being higher than 1:100 year flood level. In Twyford Road, there is an Ordnance Survey benchmark that identifies the height of that point in the village as being 127.5 ft above sea level.

Several times each year the river overflows to submerge surrounding fields and the southern roads of the village. The floods are a well-known feature of the area and do little or no damage to property, but do enhance the environment by maintaining the areas available for flora and fauna. The river is also historically responsible for the primary industries in the area, namely mixed farming and gravel quarrying.



View of the Trent flood plains from St. Wilfrid's Church Yard

In 2009, the Parish of Barrow upon Trent consisted of 447 electors and around 100 under 18-year olds. Because of its proximity to Derby, Burton on Trent and Nottingham many of the residents commute to work.

Early Times

Evidence that continuous human habitation has existed in the Trent Valley, where Barrow upon Trent now stands, can be found stretching back to the Iron Age and includes Viking and Anglo Saxon communities. Signs of these people's presence have been found in all areas of the Parish. During the course of the gravel extraction in the Parish, numerous mediaeval and earlier structures have been uncovered, including Iron Age cremation burial mounds (barrows). At the eastern end of the Parish there is evidence of an Iron Age/Romano-British settlement with fish weirs and evidence of Roman field layouts nearby.

Palaeolithic (8,300 BC – 250,000 BC) and Mesolithic (4,500 BC – 8,300 BC) flint bladelets, scraper and flakes have been discovered, along with various pottery sherds (fragment of pottery). Later signs of habitation include the discovery of a medieval strap handle from a jug and other medieval potsherds typically indicative of cheese making, signifying that this area of the river valley was extensively occupied and managed in Early Mediaeval times.

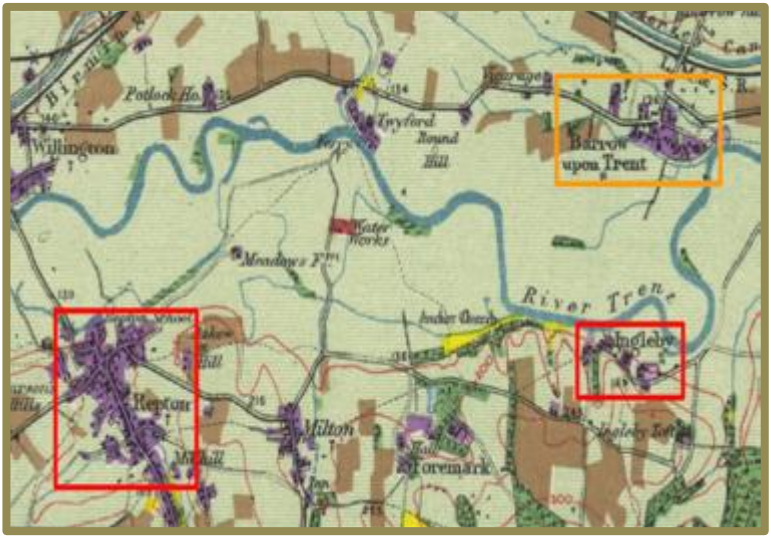


Romano-British rotary quern for grinding grain, broken in antiquity and re-used as a post-pad, located during excavations on behalf of Lafarge Tarmac Ltd. from Captain's Pingle, Barrow upon Trent, Derbyshire (photograph: D Knight)

On the western border of the Parish a tumulus is located. Round Hill Bowl Barrow is a Late Neolithic henge (earth works, dated 2,000 BC – 4,500 BC) within which is a centrally placed Bronze Age barrow. It is also said to contain the remains of Civil War casualties.

The capital of the ancient kingdom of Mercia was situated at Repton, just four kilometers south-west across the river valley. The Vikings are known to have

travelled to this part of the Trent in the Early Mediaeval period. In 873-4 AD the Danish Great Heathen Army overwintered at Repton, the only place in England where a winter encampment has yet been located, and this is identified by a mass grave of some 250 individuals, covered by the kerb stone of its former cairn.



Three kilometres south-west of the Parish on the southern side of the River Trent lies the Viking barrow cemetery at Heath Wood, Ingleby; just across the River Trent from Barrow, it is an almost unique survival of the period. The relics of the Viking presence in this area include a Viking spearhead that was found on the bank of the Trent at Barrow in the early 1950s and is now exhibited at Derby Museum.

One kilometre to the south-east of the Parish lies Swarkestone Causeway, a Grade I listed Bridge and Causeway. It is almost a mile in length, and is the longest stone bridge in England. It is also the most southerly point reached by the troops of Prince Charles Stuart in the Jacobite rising of 1745, but more of that later.

There are many famous battle grounds spread around the country and it appears that Barrow has had more than its fair share over the centuries!

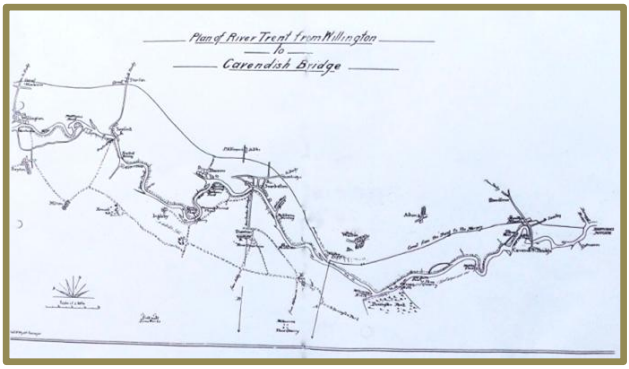
The River Trent and The Mere

The River Trent has been of paramount importance to the development of the village of Barrow. It is suggested that the name ‘Trent’ could have Celtic origins meaning ‘flooding’, or imply ‘fords’, both of which are very relevant to Barrow. It might of course also refer to the number of burial grounds in the area! Barrow homesteads are built (usually) above the Trent floodplain and upon terraces of sand and gravel, good for drainage and providing soil suitable for mixed farming with arable crops and improved pasture for stock.



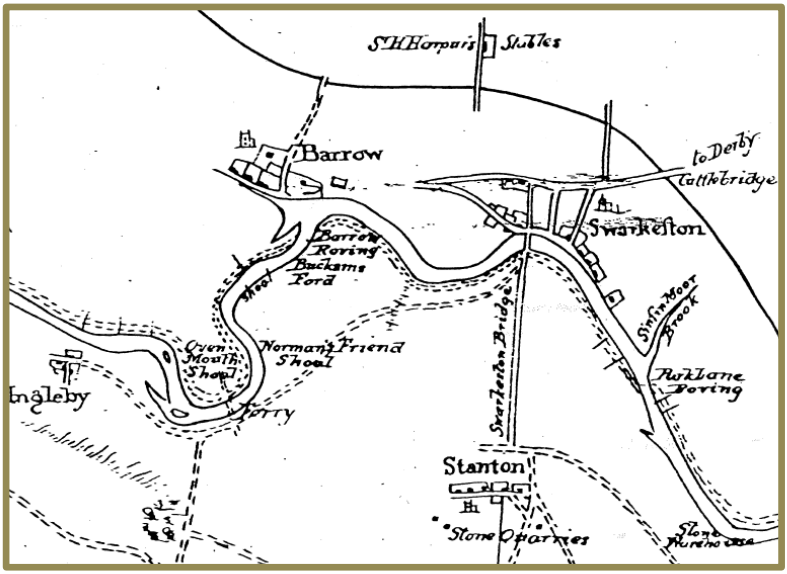
River Trent at Barrow Bend

A specific feature of the River Trent has been its tendency over the years, to meander, altering the course of the river channel. This has been observed in recent times with a significant change in the river course by the bridge in Repton, and historically a derelict channel at Repton has been described on an old map as 'Old Trent Water'. This early map illustrates these ‘meanderings’.



Further downstream, archaeologists have found the remains of a mediaeval bridge across another abandoned channel. At one time the course of the river between Ingleby and Barrow changed considerably, transferring 300 acres from one side of the river to the other. This occasion is referred to by Shakespeare in his play Henry IV - Part 1:

> Methinks my moiety, north from Burton here,
> In quantity equals not one of yours:
> See how this river comes me cranking in,
> And cuts me from the best of all my land
> A huge half-moon, a monstrous cantle out.
> I'll have the current in this place damm'd up;
> And here the smug and silver Trent shall run
> In a new channel, fair and evenly;
> It shall not wind with such a deep indent,
> To rob me of so rich a bottom here.



Barrow Bend and surrounding area

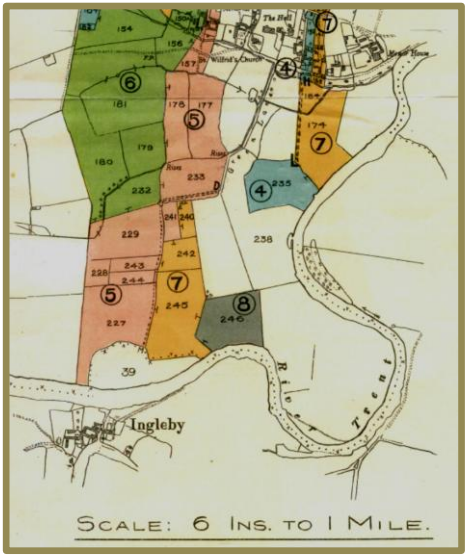
Interestingly, what has concerned the character in the play is not only that he has lost some land, but that that land was of such high quality. Its valuable

agricultural soil was a further reason for the early development of communities along this valley.

The map on page 6 was drawn by a 'Robt. H. Wyatt Surveyor' but unfortunately there is no date and no background to its purpose. However, there was work undertaken by a R. H. Wyatt surveyor working in the Staffordshire area in 1817 and 1821, a name which became R. H. Wyatt and Son for work undertaken in 1828 and we will meet up with the Wyatt surveyors later in our story!

The map clearly shows the meandering of the river between Willington in the west and the mouth of the Derwent River in the east; it has been drawn after the building of the Canal, 1777, and prior to the building of the railway, 1839. This map therefore, may well have been drawn in the first quarter of the 19th century.

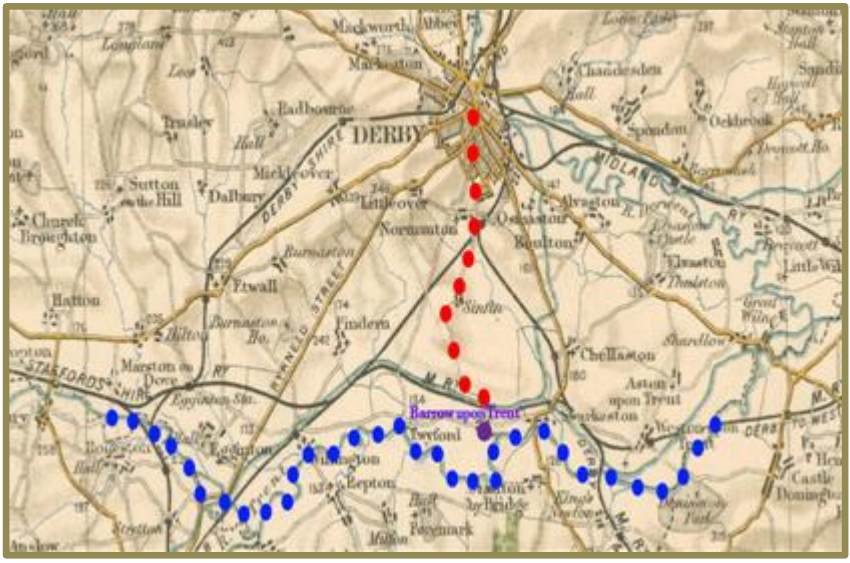
At the point approaching Ingleby on the south, and Barrow on the north, the river is very straight – could this be the stretch of river referred to by Shakespeare? Indeed the land north of it this stretch, field no 39, left white in this 1917 map below, was called Ingleby field.



Field 39 'Ingleby Field'

The Parish boundary, shown as a dotted line on the 1917 map, can be seen running through the centre of the river, around field no 39 and then returning to the centre of the river. It would appear that it was considered to be in the Ingleby Parish but hearsay suggests that the boundary was changed in the 1960s to include it in Barrow.

The Trent Valley has always been an important transport route through central England from west to east and sections of the river that were shallow enough to be crossed at a ford, were additionally important because this opened up the passage from the north and south along the old Drovers route.



Marked on the map of the river to Barrow (page 6) there are several fords: Owen Mouth Ford; Norman Friends Ford; Buckhams Ford and Barrow Roving. These would have made access to the south very easy for all travellers and the marked dotted line route stretching north towards the canal and eventually to Derby would have placed Barrow, standing by the river, at a very central cross road.

Attempts to control the movement of the river were discovered during the extraction of gravel near to Grange Farm (see p.9). Correspondence from Dr. C. R. Salisbury suggests that this structure, of a double row of posts, enclosing large stones and brushwood, might be used as a training weir to absorb the energy of

the river water thus maintaining the banks and might double up as a fish weir and landing stage.



Fish Traps in the River Trent found at Barrow upon Trent

The Mere

There is an area of low-lying water meadow to the north of Chapel Lane that has long puzzled many Parishioners because of the unusual undulations of the ground. This is the area close to the stream that runs eastwards towards the River Trent.





In July 2013 we were awarded a grant from Nottingham University Challenge Fund to commission an archaeological survey of this area. Members of the Department of Archaeology at Nottingham University considered that the unusual mounds may evidence early habitation of the area.

The field has a low path running through it that indicates the old route of foot and animal traffic from the markets of Derby in the north, southwards to the Trent River ford crossings; this was an important communication and trading route that had been recognised and established since the early history of Barrow upon Trent. This was probably the reason why the Knights Hospitallers were so keen to have the land in and around this village, but more of that later.

The outcome of the geophysical survey undertaken in July 2013 was inconclusive. There is little to indicate any archaeologically interesting earthworks under the surface of the meadow, but the undulations, especially those to the south-west, are sufficiently unusual as to suggest that further work – perhaps 'dig a trench' – would be valuable. Could this area be the site of early earthworks; houses or other village buildings? The Mere is very close to all of the known mediaeval activity described above.



Barrow upon Trent and the Hospitallers

Barrow, built on the lush and fertile meadows of the Trent Valley is referred to in the Domesday Book three times. It consisted of two manors, a term which in mediaeval times applied to an area of land owned by a Lord. The third entry appears to refer to one villager who only owned eight acres. Now, unfortunately, in those days people did not keep records in the same way as we expect of our record offices today, and detailed records are thin on the ground. In this case it would appear that the two Lords were Ralph Fitzhubert, the pre-conquest holder of the larger part of the estate including the church, and Henry de Ferrers a close friend of William the Conqueror who possessed the rest. The de Ferrers family whose estates stretched north through Twyford, Arleston, Sinfin Moor and Normanton had great need to supply a church for their estate, so it would appear that during that time the 'advowson', that is, the patronage and the right to nominate a Parish priest, must have been passed from Lord Fitzhubert who already had an established church in Melbourne, to the de Ferrers family.

There is still linguistic evidence of these two manors within the village today. The land to the east of the village, around the Manor House was known as the 'Manor Farm' and a section of land to the west of the village is still referred to as 'Old Manor Farm'.

Henry's son, Robert de Ferrers, the first Earl of Derby, supported Stephen of England during the civil war between Stephen and the Empress Matilda (1135 - 1154), both grandchildren of William the Conqueror with a claim to the throne. Stephen gained the throne but, in the Treaty of Wallingford, recognised Matilda's son Henry – later Henry II – as his heir. When Henry II ascended the throne in 1154 Robert found himself on the wrong side. He rapidly changed sides but – too late – he lost his titles and a Robert de Bakepuze was given control.

In 1165, Robert de Bakepuze gave the Barrow Church and its adjacent Manor to the Knight's Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem. Therefore the most influential early land owners of Barrow were the Knights Hospitallers. It may have been the potentially rewarding farming opportunities that persuaded the St. John's

Hospitallers to accept the gift of land and Church from Robert de Bakepuze or it may have been its central position as discussed earlier!



Stephen (by Mathew Parris 1200 -59)



Henry 2nd (unknown artist)

This is one of the few facts about The Hospitallers' ownership of this estate that is agreed upon by all historians who have written about the Barrow Parish. It is difficult to ascertain from where the various stories have arisen, partly because so many manuscripts are unnamed, unsigned and unreferenced, but certainly Canon Dr. J. C. Cox, in his *Churches of Derbyshire* published in 1877, believed that the preceptory of the Hospitallers of St. John was in Arleston and not in Barrow. Subsequent historians have accepted that fact but our research at the headquarters of the Hospitallers in London would indicate that not to be the case. We will therefore try to suggest a theory taken from our own research findings, accepting the fact that we may also be wrong.

Hospitallers

But first, who were The Hospitallers? The order is correctly called 'The Knights of St. John of Jerusalem' and its history goes back to the middle of the 11th century when a hospital was built in Jerusalem to serve the needs of pilgrims visiting there. During the latter part of the century, these pilgrim Christians travelling to the Holy Land were subjected to increasing harassment and the order developed a more military nature. In 1113 it became a religious Order known as the 'Order of Hospitallers dedicated to St. John the Baptist'. During the next century the Order grew rapidly across Europe; supporting houses became established and its

Knights constantly sailed to the Holy Land in support of pilgrims and crusaders. It is less recognized than its brother order 'The Knights Templar' but, in 1312 when the Templar order was suppressed by the Pope, the Templar land and possessions were passed over to the Hospitallers.



Grand Master and senior Knights Hospitaller in the 14th century

The international headquarters of the Hospitallers moved first from Rhodes in 1309 and settled eventually in Malta. Because of its Roman Catholic allegiance, the order in Britain was dissolved by Henry VIII in 1540 but continued in Malta until 1791. The history of the Hospitallers is complex but fascinating and in various forms its charitable work is still flourishing. Its best known legacy in Britain is the St. John's Ambulance Brigade.



Model of the Hospital run by the Knights of St. John in Valetta, Malta

Returning to the Hospitallers in Barrow, it has been a popular belief that the preceptory (main dwelling house for the Knights) was at Arleston House; the present building having been developed from 1542. However these facts have been disputed by Barbara Hutton in *Derbyshire Miscellany*: Vol. 15, 2 and also by Peter Ryder, archaeologist, who examined Arleston House with the kind permission of its owners. What has been frequently overlooked was the fact that the estate at Barrow was not a preceptory but a 'camera', a small estate that did not entertain and provide hospitality. The land was given to the Hospitallers, but its sole purpose was to raise money for the headquarters of the organization at Clerkenwell, London. This would then be put to providing support for their overseas missions. It would also have been a place where passing officials of the Hospitallers could stop on a tour of their properties. There may have been a dwelling house but it was not there to provide a home for the Brother Knights. All documents pertaining to this camera state that the church and land given by de Bakepuze was in Barrow, no mention of buildings in Arleston can be found in any original document concerning the Hospitallers.

With a few exceptions, the Hospitallers' property in Britain consisted of small parcels of land and the Knights of St. John were collectors of rents and tithes. Therefore it would appear that the property in Barrow consisted of a church and tithe lands which were overseen by a bailiff (who, in 1338, with his groom, his robes and necessities, cost the Order twenty-five shillings!) and this was based in Barrow. The Knight's Hospitallers must have found the site given to them most attractive with its position on this river highway that was then navigable and close to important fords, and with the drovers' road running north to south making it possible to transport goods, and to access various markets.

Sometime around the end of the 15th century the camera at Barrow was annexed to the preceptory of Yeaveley, also in Derbyshire, and was from that time on known as the 'Preceptory of Yeaveley and Barrow'. A piscina (dish for washing communion plate) belonging to the chapel at Yeaveley was given to the Barrow church around 1930.



Piscina from Hospitallers Preceptory at Yeaveley Stydd



Remains of Hospitallers Chapel at Yeaveley Stydd

The fate of the property in Barrow probably followed the fate of the order in England 1540 in the hands of Henry VIII. When his Catholic daughter Queen Mary reinstated the Order in 1557, a brother, Sir Henry Gerard stationed in Malta, was appointed preceptor of Yeaveley and Barrow but his appointment was short lived because when Elizabeth the Protestant Queen ascended the throne two years later, she again dissolved the Order.

In preparation for this project, four friends journeyed to Malta to see where Henry Gerard and his fellow English Knights lived. The building is now a library but we were able to capture some of the images they left behind and see for ourselves documents linking Barrow upon Trent with the Hospitallers in Malta.





The English 'Auberge' in Valetta Malta and the view from an upstairs balcony

After the lands and properties of the Hospitallers were seized in Britain by the crown, they were sold off to various wealthy characters and some of the land in Barrow and the surrounding hamlets found itself in the hands of the Brothers Beaumont, of which much more later.

Arleston and Merrybower

These two hamlets lie to the north-west of the village of Barrow and consist of seventeen dwellings. Of these, three are former farm houses, three were originally agricultural labourers' cottages and eleven are converted farm outbuildings. Its combined population numbers around forty-four.

In 1086, the Domesday Book lists Arleston's population as 31 – namely:

> Aelfric, Alric, Amalric, Dunning, Gamal, Geoffrey, Alselin, Godric, Godwine, Gulbert, Ketil, Kolgrimr, Kolli, Leodmaer, Leofric, Lyfing, Orm, Osmund, Ramkel, Rawn, Robert, Siward, Theodric, Uhtbrand, Ulf, Ulfkil, William, Wulfgeat, Wulfsige, Wulfstan and Ylving

One of our team thought that a formal linguistic study of these names might be interesting and it would appear that these thirty-one names come from Saxon, Viking, Germanic, Norman and Celtic origins. This could make Arleston the oldest documented multicultural centre in the UK!

This area has a very ancient history and it is known that to the west of the present-day Arleston House lies the site of a deserted mediaeval village and a mediaeval strap handle was found just in front of Merrybower Cottages, to the south of the site.

Arleston House





The house you see today is the remnant of a much larger one, set close to the canal and with great contrast between its north and south aspects. The south front has a finely dressed buttressed plinth, carrying a later two-storey brick

facade with an old tiled roof. To the north side, the house is timber with box framing, and this side faces what was once a farmyard with outbuildings.



For very many years it was believed that this house was a remnant of the preceptory of the Hospitallers of St. John at Barrow upon Trent. This suggestion was put forward by Canon Dr. J. C. Cox in 1877. This was possibly because of the mention of a chapel at Arleston in an early 16th century Will of the family Bothe. But, as has been mentioned on page 14, the Hospitallers did not have a preceptory at Barrow; instead they had a small estate called a 'camera' that would have been supervised by a bailiff, and as it already had a substantial church, it would have no need for a further chapel. It is assumed that the chapel recorded at Arleston in the Bothe Will was probably a private chapel.

The Arleston House and attached estate that was leased from the Knights of St. John by the Bothe family was then an important house taxed, in the 1660s, as having twelve hearths. It is believed to have been formerly a moated site, long since ploughed up, whose house was possibly pulled down and built afresh on the present site.

In the mid-sixteenth century a great number of land sales took place due to the Dissolution of the Monasteries. In 1541 the house and estate that had belonged to the Knights of St. John in Arleston plus the much larger estate belonging to the Bothe family that lay beside the Church estate, totalling 2,400 acres of good land spreading along the rest of Arleston into Sinfin and along the Trent, were sold to John Beaumont of Leicestershire (more of whom later). John Beaumont had only bought all this land so that he could sell it on making a profit. In 1542 Thomas Pope, who purchased land all over the country that had been confiscated from the church after the Reformation, bought it from John Beaumont. Thomas Pope became immensely wealthy making his fortune out of confiscated land and was the founder of Trinity College, Oxford.

In 1549 Edward Beaumont, John's younger brother, bought the rectory in Barrow with its attendant land (only about half an acre) creating an income for

himself. Then in 1552 Edward bought the Arleston House estate and the family became known as the 'Beaumonts of Arleston'. It was not until around 1601 that Edward's successors moved to Barrow (see page 23). In around 1601, an enterprising gentleman by the name of Edward Blount, who became known as the 'wicked squire of Arleston' leased the large estate from Thomas Pope (who does not seem to have ever lived there) and bought the Beaumont lands at Arleston, beside it.

The last of that line of the Blount family, Edward, died about 1640, leaving his estate to his cousin Sir Henry Blount of Tittenhanger, Berkshire, who then sold it to Sir Henry Harpur of Calke Abbey. The Harpurs at first used it as a residence for younger sons, but later it was turned into a farmhouse and during the 19th century it was used as such by Richard and Mary Sale. It remained a farm on the Calke estate until October 1983 when it was offered for sale by auction, with 10 acres, in the wake of capital transfer tax problems sparked by Charles Harpur-Crewe's death.



Arleston Farm

Arleston Farm lies on the north end of Arleston, and was by far the largest farm in Arleston. It was built sometime between 1791 and 1836, according to map data, and its barns have been extensively and sympathetically converted into several dwelling homes.

MERRYBOWER

Nowadays the road signs ignore the presence of Merrybower and it tends to be combined with Arleston by name. However, those that live there are proud of

their beautiful surroundings and relish their independence. The earliest written reference to 'Merrybower' that our team has uncovered is a 17th century document detailing those that lived there on what was then the Harpur-Crewe Estate. It is recorded that a John Clarke lived at 'Merry Bower House' in 1663 and had two stretches of land in Stenson Fields amongst others. It is not known if Merry Bower House was the same as the current Merrybower Farm, or if there was another house at Merrybower that has since been destroyed.

White's *Directory of Derbyshire*, of 1857, also mentioned Merrybower as being formerly an open common. Today there are still some small pieces of common land around Arleston House. White's *Directory* also mentions a resident of Merrybower, George Clay, who is reported to have had a public house at Merrybower around the mid-1700s, kept a cockpit there and 'was celebrated as a deer-stealer. His house was a noted rendezvous for similar characters,' but much more of that later.

Merrybower Farm



Merrybower Farm – North face – Old



Merrybower Farm – North face today

The date Merrybower Farm was built is unknown at present; suffice to say that it is the oldest building at Merrybower still standing. It was a cottage farm, relatively small and belonging to the Harpur-Crewe Estate. Rumour has it that Merrybower Cottages, of which there are three, were occupied by labourers working for the three local farms – Merrybower Farm having the use of one; Arleston House and Arleston Farm having the use of the others.

Of red brick construction, with stone lintels over the windows, it was originally thatched but has since had the thatch replaced by Staffordshire Rosemary tiles. It has been extended several times over the years, but the original building can still be made out. The old range is still in evidence in the main living area, and two small windows can be seen either side of the fireplace, looking out over what would have been the yard. John Radford, the retired farmer who lives there with his wife June, remembers the legend that these are the windows through which people used to watch the cock-fighting. Surely a link with the cock fights that George Clay used to hold at his public house here!



Merrybower Farm South Facing 2008

As can be seen in the old photograph on the previous page, Arleston Lane stopped at the farm, and the road became a rougher affair leading down to the cottages and beyond. Looking at the OS map from 1836, you can see one small lane branching off to the south-east, just before Arleston Lane meets Merrybower Farm. This lane cuts through the fields and joins the main Willington to Barrow road just west of the Rectory (now known as the Parsonage). The smaller lane that ran in front of Merrybower Cottages, now the main Arleston Lane, forked at the ditch to the south of the cottages. The west fork is now Arleston Lane proper; the east fork no longer exists, but is still known at Merrybower as 'Mammy's Lane'. This must have marked the western boundary of the Parish. The field shapes and access points still mark the route this old lane to Barrow used to take.



Merrybower cottages

The Clays of Merrybower

There have been many interesting characters in our Parish, but none more than members of the Clay family who lived in Merrybower. The Clays of Merrybower were hard working farmers who are, as we were to discover, closely linked with the other stories in this saga.

We will start with Thomas Clay (1698 – 1769), described as 'of Merrybower' who was married twice. He had five children by each marriage and this story is concerned with two of his sons, one from each marriage; Joseph born 1726 and George born 1748.

Joseph Clay, the older half-brother, moved to Burton upon Trent around 1750. This was common practice for many of those living in the country at the time as they sought their fortune in the newly industrialized cities. At the age of twenty-five he married an Elizabeth Robinson. Today, family tradition has it that he travelled from Derby to Burton on horseback with his wife riding pillion and with all that they owned in a wagon behind. Three months after their marriage Joseph Clay bought the 'Old Lamb & Flag Inn' on Horninglow Street in Burton, although there is no record of where the funds came from. However, Elizabeth's father was an Army Officer at a time when commissions had to be bought, so he must have been relatively well off. At the time Derby was a more important brewing town than Burton, but Burton was on the main road to London and traders there could make use of the return trade from the Baltic into the Midlands, consisting of wood and ore. Many men were, therefore, being drawn to Burton; men with money and new ideas, to take up brewing there.



By 1760, nine years after arriving in Burton, the thirty-four year old Joseph Clay is listed as owning several buildings in Horninglow Street, and producing ale for export, using William Bass's wagons to transport his ale to London and further afield. In those days brewing was a seasonal business, so to utilize his assets Joseph Clay had also moved into the timber market and, along with a J. W.

Wilson, was responsible for the establishment of one of the first commercial banks in Burton on Trent.

By contrast, Joseph's half-brother, George Clay, gained the reputation of being a 'wild one', and he became known as 'the infamous deer stealer and runner of a public house on Merrybower Common for people of similar ilk' that is mentioned in White's *Directory of Derbyshire* in 1857. These stories of cock-fighting being watched from the inglenook windows at Merrybower Farm are still around today – it is very possible that these were the very same cock-fights mentioned in 'Whites' because there are no buildings, other than the farm at Merrybower, that are old enough to link to the story. David Cox, in *The Beaumonts of Barrow* believed that at this time, when the building of the canal had brought to the district a large numbers of 'Navvies' required to work from squalid, temporary camps, they:



'Drank, stole, poached and terrorized the district in which they were working ….Merrybower…. possibly acquired its unsavoury reputation as a low ale house fit only for poachers, wild fowlers from Sinfin Moor, the drunken revels of navvies and boat people, and the setting for cock-fighting' (David Cox: p. 144).

The two brothers appeared to have very different aims in life! Joseph Clay and his wife Elizabeth had thirteen children but only three of these children seem to have survived childhood – William, Joseph and Diana. When Joseph died in 1799, his will records him as a 'Gentleman of Burton-on-Trent'. In addition to several bequests, he also left the house in which he was living; the malt house; brew house, tun house (the tun room is where fermentation takes place, when the non-alcoholic sugary water, wort, is transformed into a barley 'beer') and all buildings belonging to them, all freehold, and the belongings of the house. He was indeed a wealthy man when he died. We have no record of what George left!

It is at this point that we may appear to be moving away from our Parish – however we will return to the brothers Clay and their families at a later point in our story because they have very important part to play.

Beaumonts of Barrow Hall



Early in this document, we said that two of the greatest influences upon the development of the Parish of Barrow were the river and the Hall inhabited by the Beaumont family which was destroyed by fire in 1956. The Beaumonts were a fascinating family, related to the royal families of France, England and Scotland (albeit through illegitimate descent!). The first member of the family to take an interest in Barrow was the infamous John Beaumont.

In 1541, when Barrow village consisted of just over 30 houses, John Beaumont bought the Hospitallers estate there which stretched to part of Arleston. A short time later, in 1545, he was appointed Receiver General of the Court of Wards and Liveries, a job that gave him care over the inheritances of young aristocrats until they became of age; it also gave him ample opportunity to 'massage' the accounts to his advantage. In the meantime, his brother Edward purchased the priest's house and attached land, possibly only half an acre, in Barrow in 1549.

In 1550, John Beaumont bought the rights to be patron and to appoint the vicar in Barrow and meanwhile, for his day job, he was appointed Master of the Rolls for the King, a post held previously by Thomas Cromwell. It was then that his 'forgery and gross betrayals of his judicial office' were discovered and in 1552 when he surrendered to King Edward VI it was discovered that he had embezzled what would be the equivalent in monetary terms today of £3,000,000. He was lucky to escape the Tower but was forced to surrender to the King all his 'manors, lands and tenements'. Fortunately he had protected his Barrow property by leasing it to his brother Edward in 1551 for 51 years and Edward, being aware of his brother's imminent disgrace which might have impinged upon him, moved from the family home in Leicestershire in 1552 to Arleston where he

and his wife became known as the ‘Beaumonts of Arleston’. Here the family stayed until 1600/1 when Edward’s grandson Francis, with his mother, moved to Barrow and built what eventually became Barrow Hall, probably developing an existing building. They also had a house in Derby believed to be in Babington Lane.



A 17th Century Fragment set in the wall of the early 19th Century Hall
Courtesy of Maxwell Craven

The Beaumonts were a staunch Catholic family and for the next two hundred and fifty years of their stay in Barrow this proved to be a major influence on their fortunes. Constantly fighting against the development of the Protestant church they were involved in various incidents, and constantly in trouble because of their Catholic affiliation. As Lord of the Manor and patron of the church, the Beaumonts were able to appoint vicars of their choice. This would have enabled them to appoint someone with Catholic sympathies. On the wall of the church there is a board listing all the vicars from 1343 to the present day that makes interesting reading.

Until 1541 the patron is referred to as the Grand Prior of England of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem. Following the dissolution of the Order in 1540, Edward Beaumont became the patron and this patronage continued with the Beaumonts until 1638. These vicars were officially members of the Church of England, but not all successfully hid their Catholic tendencies. Indeed in the 1640 Parliamentary Survey of Livings referring to the Parish of Barrow it states that ‘Mr. Gervase Weildon is vicar a man noe good repute’ and the self-same Gervase Wheeldon, was eventually forbidden to officiate at church. He was apparently

replaced in 1657 by a Daniel Shelmerdine, resolute Presbyterian, and the vicar list in church points out that the patrons were the Parishioners.

Influencing this appointment must have been the presence in the village of William Sale, a wealthy land owner who moved to Barrow in 1630. William of Barrow (as we refer to him later) was both a social and a religious challenge to the Beaumonts. William Sale was the son of the vicar at Weston, a staunch anti-Catholic, and shortly after Shelmerdine's appointment, the Beaumonts were arrested and convicted at the Derby Quarter Sessions as Catholics refusing to attend Anglican services. Fortunately for them, Oliver Cromwell died that September and the case against them appears to have been forgotten so they escaped penalty.

However there is a document in the Record Office dated 1656 from a Reverend James Brecknock submitting his resignation to Nicholas Wilmot 'the undoubted Patrone thereof' of Barrow cum Twyford, but there is no record of this vicar in the church records. David Cox suggests that the Beaumonts continued to own the patronage of the church but hid this fact, and sold the right of patronage whilst still retaining the ownership. The Nicholas Wilmot mentioned as the patron is referred to as the patron for two vicars after Shelmerdine was driven out of the Parish for refusing to accept the new Anglican Prayer Book in 1662. Shelmerdine moved to farm land at Twyford and was several times imprisoned for non-conformity.



Mary Queen of Scots

This fascinating family continued to live at Barrow Hall but they and their relatives were seldom out of trouble. In 1585 Mary Queen of Scots a prisoner, on her way to Tutbury castle, stayed at Babington Hall next to St Peter's Church where the mistress of the house was a Mrs Beaumont believed to be Alice Beaumont, Edward's second wife. A later Beaumont, Robert, 1655-1727, was a non-juror, refuusig to take the oath of allegiance to William and Mary. Two of the infamous John Beaumont's granddaughters were involved with protecting men implicated in the Gunpowder Plot; in 1689 the Barrow Hall was searched for evidence of Catholic rebellion; a further descendant, John Beaumont, fought for the King in the civil war and a later John was tried as a Jacobite agent and rebel officer following the rebellion in 1715. The Beaumonts do not appear to have publicly supported Prince Charles in 1745, but the whole area experienced great upheaval!

Bonny Prince Charlie's retreat from Swarkston Bridge

Early on Friday Morning their Drums beat to Arms, and their Bag-pipers play'd about the Town; no one then knowing their Route, but most People imagin'd they would march to Loughborough for London, their Advance-Guard having secured the Pass at Swarkston Bridge. However we were soon indeceiv'd, by their precipitate Retreat the same Road they came, marching off about 7 o'Clock in the Morning; the Reason for their return back was not known, but thought to proceed from their Fear of being surpris'd by the Duke of Cumberland's Army; their Chiefs seeming much confus'd, and all in a great Hurry; many of their Men left their Horses, Swords, Pistols. Targets, Shot, Powder, Bullets and other odd Things behind them, where they quarter'd; a plain Proof of their Confusion. Their pretended Prince mounted upon a Black Horse, (said to be brave Col. Gardner's) left his Lodgings about 9 o'Clock, and riding cross the Market Place, went thro' the Rotten-Row, then turn'd down Sadler-gate towards Ashburn, preceded and follow'd by the main Body of his Army.
We were rid of them (except a few Straglers) by 11 o'Clock. Their Hussars were a Parcel of fierce and desperate Ruffians, and were the last Body that quitted the Town; they rode out to the Neighbouring Villages, plundering most of the Gentlemans Houses for Arms and Horses, of which they got a great Number. The honest Farmers hereabouts are also great Suffers, many of 'em having scarce a Horse left, and others forc'd to go with their Artillery.

Derby Mercury 29th November 1745

Several of John's descendants studied at Catholic seminaries in Douai, France, and at least one, Edward, who died in 1820, became a Catholic priest. Conversely, two of the infamous John's grandsons are buried in Poet's Corner, Westminster Abbey.



Barrow Hall in its glory days courtesy Maxwell Craven

The last John Beaumont, 1779 – 1834 to live in Barrow, inherited the estate from his uncle, also John, who, following the Enclosures Act, had built some cottages in 'The Nook' for the villagers. On his uncle's death, this John rebuilt the Barrow Hall 1807/8 by recreating the earlier house, and his estate included 220 acres of land. He was said to be a charming and free-spending man and close friend of the local gentry, including the Duke of Devonshire.



Duke of Devonshire in 1821 Stephanoff



His mother, Georgiana Gainsborough

At the age of 46 in 1825 he married the 17 year old Honourable Mary Curzon, daughter of Lord Scarsdale of Kedleston Hall and they spent their honeymoon at Hardwick Hall, guest of its owner, the Duke of Devonshire. John tried to emulate the lives of his wealthy friends but, like many of the previous Beaumonts, John was neither able to make any money nor retain the money he had.

From the time that he built the Hall his life was spent constantly mortgaging the property and borrowing from friends and family. When he died he left his wife and four sons virtually bankrupt. Shortly after his death, the Hon. Mary Beaumont put the entire contents of the estate up for sale and offered the Hall for rent on July 2nd 1834. For three years the Hall remained empty but when, in 1837, her father died and her mother left Kedleston Hall, Mary returned to the Hall with her mother as her tenant. Mary had received a legacy in her father's Will and from this point on her financial affairs were secure.



Nathaniel 1751-1837



Felicite de Wattines 1767-1850

Parents of the Honourable Mary Beaumont both painted by Ramsay Richard Reinagle

Mary's parents had an interesting history themselves. After the death of his first wife in 1782, her father Nathaniel 2nd Baron Scarsdale of Kedleston moved abroad; he had been rather reckless with money and had vast gambling debts. Whilst in Flanders in Belgium he met Felicite de Wattines. She bore him six

illegitimate children before they married in 1798 and four more followed the marriage. 'Our' Mary was the third child born after they got married.

Now that Mary's finances were secure, she purchased land in Barrow in 1847 that she made available for villagers as allotments. These 21 allotments were created on 'Camps Close', 'Sytch Close', 'Far Nellow and 'Gorsley', and grazing stock or cutting hay was provided on the meadows. These allotments continued for thirty years and were known as 'the Happy Meadows'.

> 'in the year 1847 the Beaumonts of Barrow purchased by sale from the Bristows of Twyford 72 acres of land, henceforth known as the 'Happy Meadows' and let them out to small holders in the form of allotments. Each holder possessed a strip of land one and a half acres in extent one large furrow being the separating line. He held three acres of mowing grass distinguished from his neighbours by a row of upright sticks and he had right of pasture in the Sich grazing field payment being made in this case according to the number of 'cowgates' – the number of cows admitted into the enclosure. It was an experiment lasting for 30 years, the good effects of which we can trace in the expressive title 'The Happy Meadows' a phrase of the villagers own creation.'

Derbyshire Archaeological Society Journal; 1904

She also had other plans for her money. Amongst their many visitors following their return to Barrow Hall were two Catholic priests, Rev. Thomas Sing and Rev. Joseph Daniel. Mary and her mother were very involved in the raising of money to build the new Catholic Church of St. Mary's in Derby which was dedicated in 1839.

The Hon. Mary Beaumont was the last Beaumont to live at Barrow Hall. In December 1850 Mary's mother, Lady Curzon, died and Mary discovered that, apart from small bequests, she had apparently been written out of her mother's will. As it turned out, there had been a mistake in the copying of the will and some of the money her mother had intended her to have was restored. However, she only returned once to the house and that was presumably to list her mother's possessions.

The financial fortunes of the Beaumonts, particularly Mary's heir John, continued to fluctuate. The Hall was rented out to Mrs. Charles Arkwright of the textile family and then, in 1859, following Mrs. Arkwright's death, the estate, comprising the Hall, 2 well-built farm houses and 295 acres, was put up for sale. Efforts to sell were not successful and in 1860 the same advert with the addition of two dairy and sheep farms tenanted by John Jordan who farmed the Grange Farm, was published. In March 1863 the Hall was advertised for lease and was taken over by a Mr. Dent to use as a school. This turned out to be an unsuccessful venture because in August 1864 the furniture from the school was advertised for sale.



The Hon. Mary Beaumont continued to be involved in controversy. In 1857 Mary bought the house beside the new and splendid St. Mary's Catholic Church in Derby and two years later gave it to the priest, Rev. Joseph Daniels. There were barely concealed hints regarding her relationship with the priest Daniels and when she died in 1868 she left the residue of her estate, outside the Barrow Estate, to him.

In 1869 her feckless son John mortgaged the lands for £1500 and in 1874 received £835 from the compulsory purchase of three acres by the Midland Railway Company that built the railway through the Parish of Barrow. Several attempts were made to sell the estate but eventually, in 1878, Colonel John Pountain a prominent wine merchant from Derby, acquired the Hall, Grange Farm and estate. The sale of the property, totalling just over £30,000, paid off feckless John's debts but he died in Belgium seventeen months later leaving a widow and two daughters.

Following the death in 1889 of Colonel Pountain, the estate was purchased by James Eadie and family members stayed there until 1939. It then became a home for war refugees escaping from the cities and was purchased in 1947 by

Mr. Castledine who later turned it into five flats. Sadly in 1956 it was destroyed by fire and is now the site of modern houses and bungalows.

High Society in Derbyshire in the 19th century

Whilst undertaking this research and questioning 'why' things happened the way they did, we were curious to know why Mary Arkwright moved to Barrow Hall after her husband died in January 1851 when her home was in Dunstall, Staffordshire and the Arkwright family were based in Cromford – in those days a long journey from Barrow upon Trent. We were fortunate to have access to contemporary reports of how life was for those considered the 'fashionable and principal families of the county' (Derby Mercury February 1854) and we discovered that, despite the distances they lived apart, the Beaumont and the Arkwright families mingled in the same small group.

In 1823 we find that Charles Arkwright and John Beaumont (Esquires!) were stewards of the Meynell Hunt Club who held their Hunt Ball at the New Assembly Rooms, and in 1827 we discover that the Hon. Mrs. Beaumont (then 19 years old) was 'Lady Paramount' at the Derbyshire Society of Archers Fete held at Kedleston Hall. A description of the day in which archery started at 12 noon, then 175 Ladies and Gentlemen sat down to dinner, archery is continued until eight o'clock followed the by Prize Giving then Dancing, is delightfully presented in the Derby Mercury:

> But many circumstances conspired to make the meeting we are describing unusually gay, so far especially as the attendance of spectators contributed to make it so. The delightful state of the weather, the day being a kind of general holiday, the attraction of Kedleston as a scene of beautiful country, and of the archery as an elegant pastime, combined together a more numerous concourse of spectators than we ever remember on these occasions'

Descriptions of the 'Ball and Supper' that the two young couples attended invariably listed the guests in hierarchical order starting with 'His Grace the Duke of Devonshire' and ending with 'several officers of the 15th Hussars' (depending, of course, as to who was attending)!

Their meetings were not limited to social occasions. The Act of Emancipation in 1829 returned to Catholics the right to vote and to hold public office. This, of

course, included John Beaumont and in 1833 we find him listed with Charles Arkwright along with thirty-seven other 'gentlemen' as magistrates on the bench at the Derbyshire Quarter Sessions. He was the first Derbyshire Catholic to be made a magistrate following the 1829 Act.

All this changed for our two families when it was reported in January 1851 that

> The lamented deaths of Lady Scarsdale and Charles Arkwright, Esq. prevented many of the county families from attending the Christmas Ball.

We therefore find Mary Arkwright newly widowed and her friend, Mary Beaumont (daughter of Lady Scarsdale) devastated by the apparent betrayal of her mother. It is therefore easy to imagine that the leasing of the Barrow Hall to Mrs. Arkwright was seen as a sensible solution for both women.

Many people in the village who lived here when the Hall burned down have talked about the inherent beauty of the mansion and their sadness at its parting. However, opening it up to new housing meant that many people have been able to make their homes in Barrow, who would not otherwise have been able to do so.





Barrow Hall following the fire in 1956 – courtesy Maxwell Craven



The Sale Family of Barrow



Grey hairs have been created in Barrow upon Trent in our attempts to investigate the Sale family, and the intrepid researcher should be warned that every generation has a Richard and a William! Indeed to add to the confusion, most generations have a Mary – sometimes several of them! We will attempt to identify these people either with a nickname or – if we cannot think of one – a number. We only number those we include – not the dozens of others and we have included a simplified family tree including those we talk about.

Like the Beaumont family, the Sale family can claim lineage back to the Royal Families of Europe, and to do the Sales justice would require a book of its own! The history project team have amassed a great deal of material regarding the Sale family and it is therefore only possible to include an outline of this fascinating family here.

The first Sale to move to Barrow was William Sale, 1589 – 1663, who settled here in 1630. William's father Richard was the rector of Weston on Trent for fifty years and a staunch Protestant. Richard of Weston had eight children and there are splendid effigies of him and his whole family in Weston Church. During the reigns of Elizabeth I and James I he was given the task of housing several of the wives of well-known Catholics, including relatives of the Beaumonts, who

refused to attend Anglican Church services, presumably in the hope of 'converting' them.

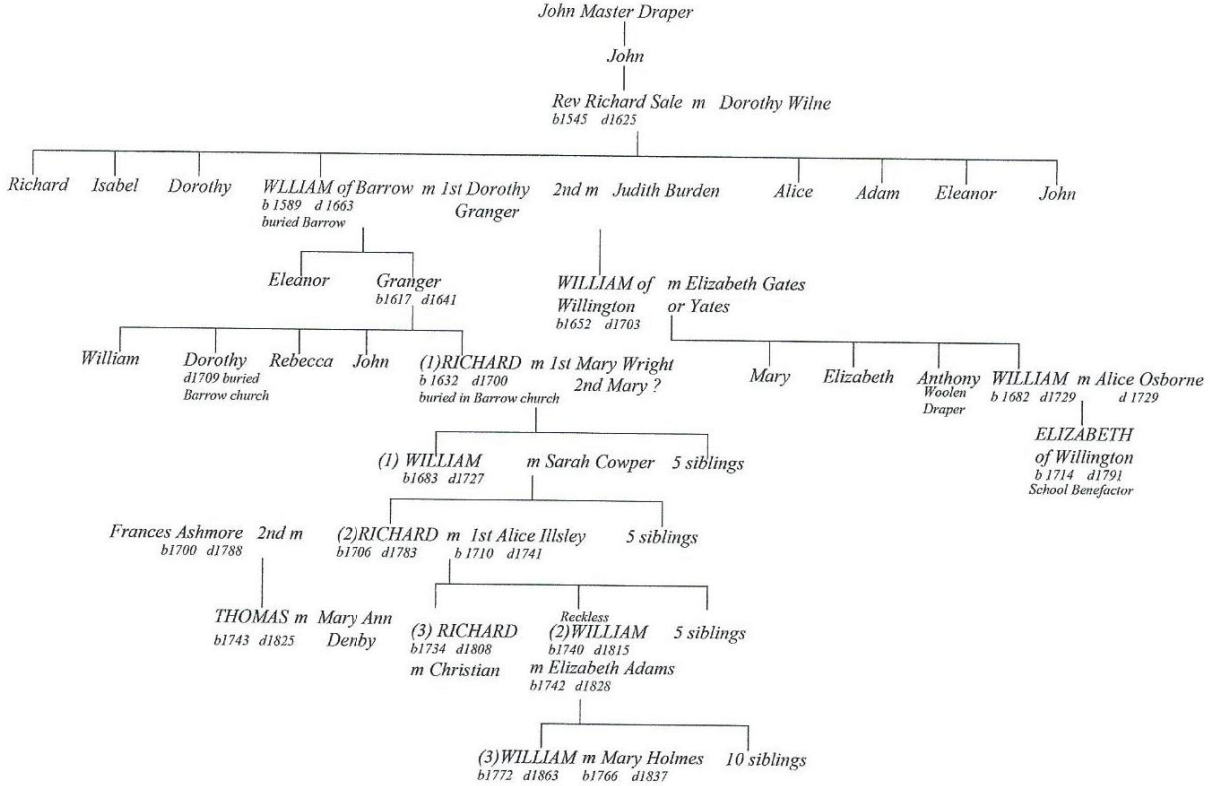
During his life time Richard acquired a large amount of land in Barrow upon Trent, including some from Francis Beaumont of Barrow Hall. He also owned fishing rights and a 'cottage house'. In his will, dated 1625, he left all his Barrow properties to his second son William – we will call him William of Barrow.

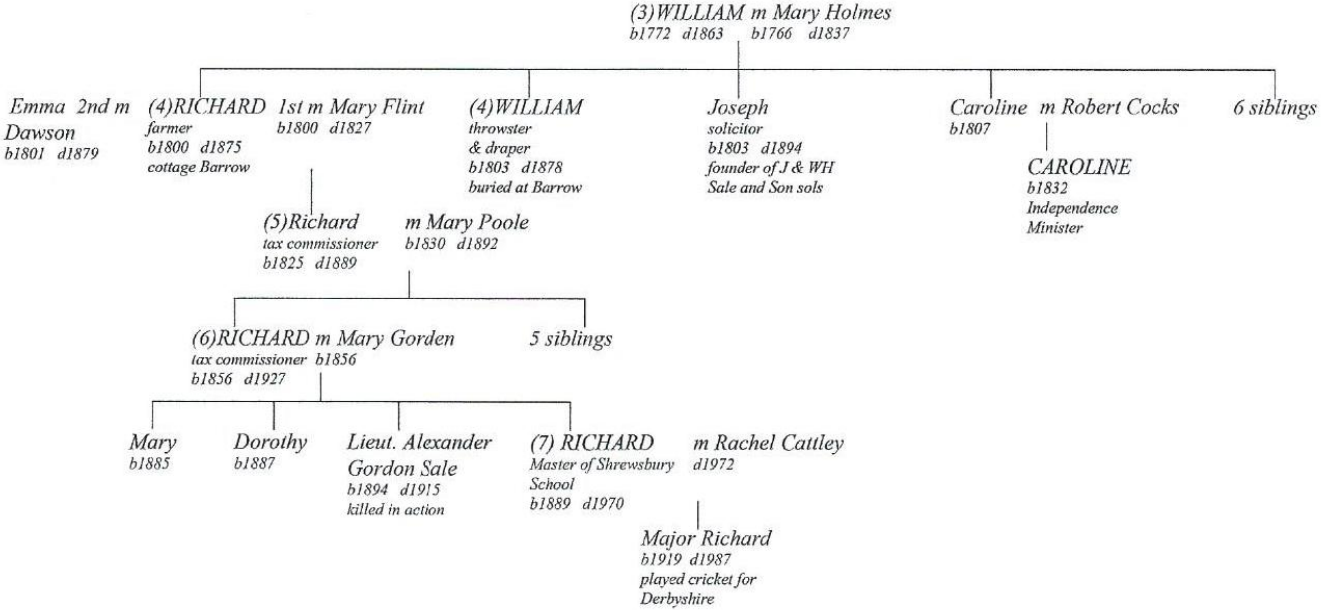
We now ask the reader to have patience with us. William of Barrow married twice; his first wife was Dorothy Granger and they had two children Eleanor and Granger. His second wife was Judith Burden and they had just one child – William, and he became William of Willington. We study the Willington branch of the family elsewhere (page 44) but now we will look at the Sale family of Barrow who descend from William of Barrow's first marriage to Dorothy. Unfortunately Granger Sale, William of Barrow's son and heir died before he did, and so William of Barrow was succeeded by his grandson, Richard! We will call him Richard (1). William of Barrow died in 1663 and there is an alabaster monument to him in Barrow church where he is buried.

It is not clear where William of Barrow lived when he came to start life here but we are fairly certain that the Cottage mentioned in his father's will must be the house now known as St. Wilfrid's. In his will he writes about his 'new dwelling house' so the search is now on to see which building that might be! When it came time for grand-son Richard (1) to write a will in 1770 he stipulated that on his death, his sister Dorothy, who had been living with him, should leave his house and go to live in the 'Cottage by the Dovecote Yard'.

There is still a dovecote above the stables beside St. Wilfrid's House and a lady in the village, Irene Marson whose grandfather, Arthur Morris, bought the property from Richard Sale (6) in 1915 remembers running across the 'Dovecote Field' behind St. Wilfrid's House towards the rest of the village. In the early part of the 20th century that field stretched from St. Wilfrid's House to the Old Post Office and is now built on by the New School, the Vicarage, the War memorial, site of the former shop and a private house. The Dovecote field or close is mentioned in several documents belonging to the Sale family.

The Sale Family Tree




(3)WILLIAM m Mary Holmes
b1772 d1863 b1766 d1837
Emma 2nd m Dawson
b1801 d1879
(4)RICHARD 1st m Mary Flint
farmer
b1800 d1875
cottage Barrow
b1800 d1827
(4)WILLIAM
throwster & draper
b1803 d1878
buried at Barrow
Joseph
solicitor
b1803 d1894
founder of J & WH Sale and Son sols
Caroline m Robert Cocks
b1807
CAROLINE
b1832
Independence Minister
6 siblings
(5)Richard
tax commissioner
b1825 d1889
m Mary Poole
b1830 d1892
(6)RICHARD m Mary Gorden
tax commissioner b1856
b1856 d1927
5 siblings
Mary
b1885
Dorothy
b1887
Lieut. Alexander Gordon Sale
b1894 d1915
killed in action
(7) RICHARD
Master of Shrewsbury School
b1889 d1970
m Rachel Cattley
d1972
Major Richard
b1919 d1987
played cricket for Derbyshire



The Dovecote situated between St. Wilfrid's House and The Pinfold

It is interesting to speculate what life was like in the household when nearly a hundred years later the first bequest in the Will of Richard (2) in 1783 was

> to my dearest loving wife Frances, one bed and bedstead with bolster hangings and all appurtenances the same to be took to her election

His Will continues to say that his second son William - we will call him 'Reckless William' (2), should be left

> only one shilling for being very undutiful and extravagant and does not merit equal share.

Richard (2) was married twice and the child of his second marriage was named Thomas, who was a draper and a great friend of the artist Joseph Wright. He married Mary Ann Denby, one of the young people featured in Wright's famous painting *A Philosopher Lecturing on the Orrery* now in Derby art Museum.

According to family records, she is the one on the left 'dressed up, as young girls do, to look much older than they are'. Joseph Wright also painted other family members. Thomas inherited the lime works and land in Ticknall from his elder half-brother and is buried at Ticknall.



'A Philosopher Lecturing on the Orrery' by Joseph Wright

Richard (2)'s eldest son, Richard Sale (3), who inherited his father's estate and married Christian, had no children, whilst his brother 'Reckless William (2)' was married to Elizabeth Adams, and had 11 children. By his death Richard (3) had amassed a sizeable fortune; an estate in Swadlincote; interest from making and maintaining a navigable canal from Ashby de la Zouch to join with the Coventry Canal, a great deal of land in Donisthorpe and Melbourne land and, of course, his Barrow lands.

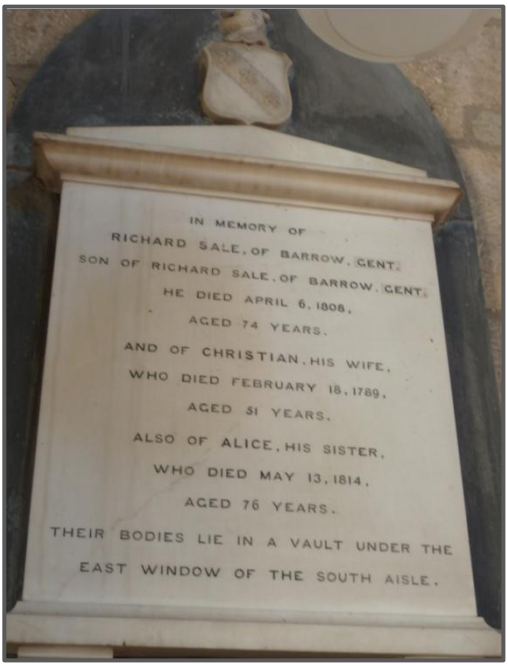
The grandson Richard (4), of 'Reckless William' would have made his great-grandfather very proud of him. He was the builder of the Chapel and appears to have been a hard working farmer. By the time of his death he had acquired a vast amount of land and property and also left £20,000. Our information from this point on is from family trees, directories and the ten-yearly censuses. In 1841, Richard (4) appears to be living in 'The Cottage' whilst his sisters Caroline Cocks and Elizabeth Sale, with Caroline's four children and no senior male relative (although William (3) might have been away that day), two visiting babies who are apparently the children of brother William (4), and five servants, are all living together in a large dwelling house, presumably the Manor House. The most astonishing piece of information that we gleaned about this generation of Sales was that Caroline Cocks, nineteen and the great granddaughter of 'Reckless William' (2), was listed in the 1851 census as 'Chapel Independence Minister of Repton and Barrow'. William (3) was also living there on this date.

In 1861 the census lists Richard (4) as now living at the Manor House with his second wife Emma, an employer of nine farm labourers and eight boys, whilst William (3) now eighty-nine is living with his daughter Caroline and the Independence minister granddaughter Caroline in what appears to be Trent Cottage. His son, inconveniently called Richard (5) is farming from Arleston House with his wife, Mary Poole, daughter of a vicar, and the first couple of the Sales to return to the Church in 1856 (see page 63). By the 1891 census they have moved to 'The Hill House' that had been built in 1871. His father Richard (4) died in 1875 and in the same year, his wife, Mary, paid for the massive alterations made to the church: the West Gallery removed, the box pews removed and the church re seated and decorated. This last Richard (5) died in 1889, the same year as the Grange Farm and the Hall were sold to James Eadie and the Sale family gradually moved away from Barrow.



Mary Poole Sale died in 1892 and in 1893 her daughters presented the church with the Chellaston alabaster pulpit which still stands there. In 1894 her son Richard (6) left 'The Hill' renting it to a Samuel Crick. He then moved to Repton and by the 1911 Census there were no Sales left in the village.

In 1912 George Edwards, the architect who designed the alterations to the school building, bought Holly Bush House from Richard Sale(6) and in 1914 The Hoults bought the Manor House from Richard (6) now living in Anglesey. There is evidence in Richard (6) will that an agreement had been made on his marriage that half of the money from the estate would return to his wife's family on his death thus depleting the money in the estate to go to his blood heirs. In 1914 the son of Richard (6), Lieutenant Alexander Sale, was killed in action, age 21 and Richard Sale (7) another son was a solicitor who changed his career to become a teacher at Shrewsbury school. The relationship with the Sales and Barrow upon Trent was over.



The History of the Sale family traces the development of the English Middle Class. The Sales of Barrow were land owners and aspired to the title 'gent' (indeed the memorial plaque in the church to Richard has had the word 'gent' added after it was made – the story goes that the letters Esq. had been inscribed and 'somebody' demanded it be replaced with the word 'gent') and they were Vicars, pillars of society and farmers. However, William of Barrow's great-grandfather, John of Coventry, was a master Draper and this tradition was continued in succeeding generations. Our local Sales of Barrow, Willington and Derby were involved in many businesses and trades. Earlier, members of the Willington family were drapers and mercers, trading in the Corn Market Derby. Anthony Sale, who was uncle to 'our' Elizabeth, who died in 1733, and his son William were woollen drapers in Derby. The newspaper reports following the deaths of these Sales clearly demonstrates the respect in which they were held by their peers.

In the Will of John Sale, father of Rev. Richard of Weston and Rev. William of Aston, and son of John Sale (Master Draper) dated 1556 he states that he leaves 'sonne William my velvet dublet and sonne John (also a vicar) my best gowne fured'.



Richard Sale (4) 1800-1875 the one who lived at The Cottage in Barrow, was a farmer. He had four brothers in rapid succession; his brother George 1802-1890 lived at Donisthorpe and also appeared to be a farmer; he supported the Chapel and was the last Sale to do so. William Sale (4) 1803-1878 was a throwster (a person who twists silk fibres

into thread) and draper who lived at Charnwood Street Derby and is buried in Barrow. These draper Sales were also hatters, and it may be assumed that, with the development of the silk industry in Derby, the 'Top Hats' that they manufactured were made of silk.

Many of the Sale family trained to be solicitors and another brother of Richard (4) above, Joseph Sale (could he have been a twin of William (4)?) 1803-1894 was founder of J. & W. H. Sale & Son solicitors, Iron Gate, Derby. When he died in 1894 he was reckoned to be one of the, if not THE oldest solicitors, in England. His younger brother Thomas Sale 1805-1881 was also a solicitor and several Richard Sales feature in the deeds and other legal papers that we have studied.

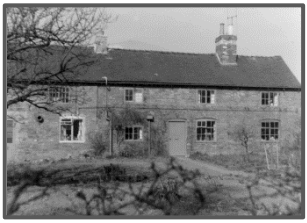
They also featured in the political life of the nineteenth century. In addition to being religious, mainly Protestant, some of the Sales were early members of the Primrose League whose first aim was 'To Uphold and support God, Queen, and Country, and the Conservative cause' and whose promise was:

> I declare on my honour and faith that I will devote my best ability to the maintenance of religion, of the estates of the realm, and of the imperial ascendancy of the British Empire; and that, consistently with my allegiance to the sovereign of these realms, I will promote with discretion and fidelity the above objects, being those of the Primrose League.

They held meetings in the School room. Richard Sale (5) chairman of this branch of the League who was a tax Commissioner and the lay Rector of Shardlow and Normanton, had lived at The Hill and later at the Manor House, Barrow, and died suddenly in 1889.

Our Sales were, for the most part, hardworking pillars of society and owned a great deal of property in the nearly three hundred years that they lived in Barrow upon Trent. From a study of rent records we discovered that the following properties in the village had been owned by the Sale Family.

These included 'The Hill', Hill Lodge, Rose Cottage, Holly Cottage, (now demolished), Trent House, The Cottage, Eve Cottage, Holly Bush Farm, The Manor Lodge, Nook cottages, Manor House, St. Wilfrid's, Dove yard, possibly Grange Farm and others for a short while.



Holly Bush House



The Hill



The Manor House



Trent House



The Nook



The Cottage

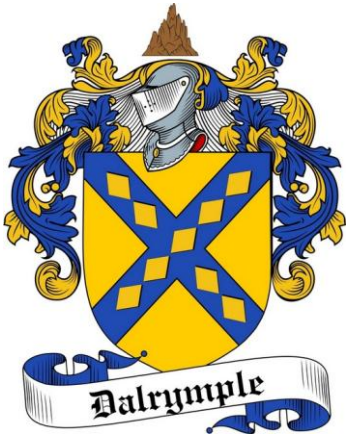


Eve Cottages



St. Wilfrids House

Daniel Dalrymple and the Des Voeux Family



Living in a village with access to an ancient church yard, names like Beaumont and Sale become familiar, but we now come across a group of people who influenced the village by their existence and yet they never lived here; the Absentee Landlords. Though they had limited presence, their connections with the world outside Barrow add a new dimension to our story.

Daniel Dalrymple first came to our attention when we discovered that 'our' Elizabeth Sale left most of her estate to him. So we set out to discover why Daniel, the son of a Dublin lawyer, Thomas Dalrymple married to a Dorothy Osborne of Sutton on the Hill at St. Martin in the Fields in London in 1746 and related to the Scottish Earl of Stair, should become one of the first School Managers of the National School in Barrow upon Trent! We found our answer by studying his mother's family, the Osbornes, an important Derbyshire family, a branch of the Fitz Herbert family, very wealthy and major land owners in Tissington.

Returning to Daniel, there is no information as to when and where he was born although it was around 1750, and Barrow has been suggested in some records, though there is no evidence of this. Daniel's early life must have been very sad for him; his mother Dorothy died in 1754 when Daniel was only about four years old; his father Thomas returned to live in Ireland where he re-married in January 1755 to a Rebecca Walker; Daniel remained behind and was raised by his

Osborne relatives in Derbyshire and that is where we find the foundation of his future link with Barrow!

Before we leave Thomas Dalrymple, it is worth mentioning that Daniel inherited two traditions from his father; first, he became a very successful attorney at a very young age and second, one of the features of his relative the Earl of Stair's coat of arms, may be seen in Daniel's coat of arms above the central window of our village school!

The connection between Elizabeth Sale of Willington our school benefactor and Daniel was through their mothers, Alice Osborne and Dorothy Osborne, who were related; Elizabeth and Daniel were second cousins. Elizabeth was orphaned at an early age and it is believed that from the age of fifteen she was also raised by the Osborne family. Elizabeth never married and would have been in her late twenties when Daniel came to live with the Osbornes. He must have been a very cared for boy by the Osborne family because not only did Elizabeth leave him all her land and properties in Barrow upon Trent but he featured in a major way in many of the Osborne wills and was left large amounts of land in Tissington.

Daniel was a very successful business man and involved in many different trades. He was first appointed attorney at law in Burton on Trent in 1774 which led to partnership with his second cousin William Osborne, also a lawyer, in 1794. He was a partner in a timber firm in Swarkestone with Thomas Grimes, Thomas Bates and William Davys; this William Davys was the father of Thomas and John Davys, school benefactors; incidentally, could this timber business have been situated in 'Woodshop Lane' which exists in Swarkestone still?

He formed a bank with Joseph Clay, who was by then his father-in-law, called 'Clay Dalrymple Bank'. In the late 1780's he was a partner in James Wood, Musgrave and Co. merchants and brewers and in 1800 he purchased the Lordship of the Manor of Barrow upon Trent from Lord Melbourne in whose ownership it had been since the 12th Century. It is not clear if he purchased any rights with this 'Lordship' other than the right to call himself 'Lord of the Manor'. It would however, have conferred some social status on Daniel, making him the 'squire' of the area and may have had some monetary benefits as well. One thing that we did discover was that Daniel Dalrymple signed the enclosure document

'Master Extraordinary' following the enclosures agreement at Barrow upon Trent in 1788.

In 1779 Daniel married Diana Clay who was the daughter of Joseph Clay, Burton brewer and business man, who had been born in Merrybower. Now the reader may recall the Clay family of Merrybower (page 21)! This Diana was the daughter of Joseph, son of Thomas of Merrybower's first marriage and a successful business man – George was a son of Thomas's second marriage and into cock-fighting. We have drawn a family connection tree to help make it clearer!

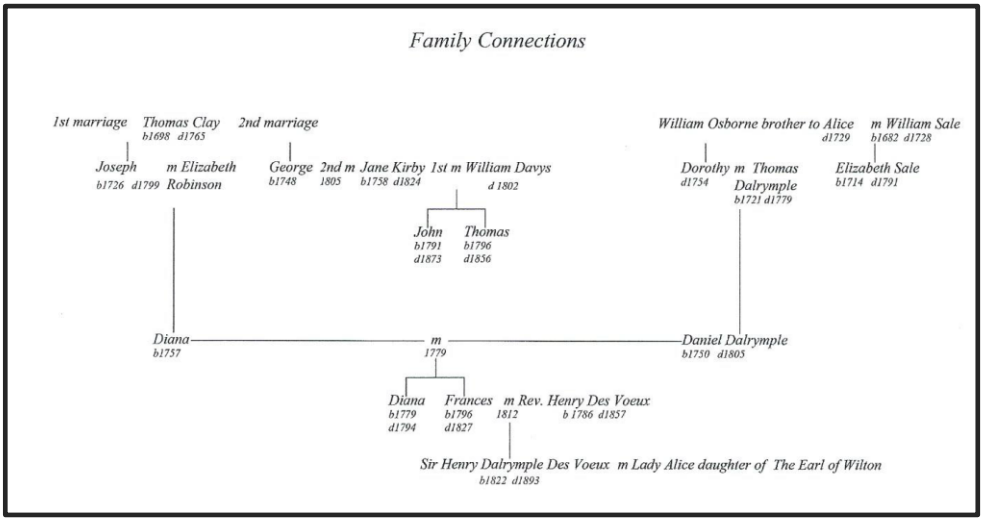
Daniel and Diana had two children, Diana who was born in 1779 and died in 1794 aged 14 and Frances born two years later in 1796. Daniel died in 1805 leaving everything that he had to his wife and daughter, which included all the lands he inherited from 'our' Elizabeth Sale and also land at Tissington. Diana died not many years later so by the time their daughter, Frances, was fifteen she too was an orphan and a very wealthy one.

A close friend of Daniel, Joseph Pycroft of Nether Hall, married to the beautiful Elizabeth, became her guardian and he appears to have encouraged her marriage to the vicar of Stapenhill, Rev. Henry Des Voeux, the son of the first Baron Des Voeux - a title created for him in 1787. They married in 1812 when she was only sixteen presumably with the permission of her grandfather Joseph Clay. Joseph had a further interest in this relationship; Rev. Joseph Clay, Curate at the bridegroom's Church in Stapenhill was his grandson! This young lady Frances took to her marriage and to the Des Voeux family all her wealth including the land that had belonged to 'our' Elizabeth Sale.



Elizabeth Pycroft with whom Frances Dalrymple lived, painted by Gainsborough
Courtesy of the Huntington Art Gallery

Before we take a quick look at the Des Voeux family, it is necessary to make a brief return to Frances Dalrymple's ancestors the Clay family, because there is one more marriage that is significant to our story. On 12th December 1805 a certain Jane Davys (signed Davies in the register), widow of Thomas Davys, Swarkestone (mentioned above as business partner of Daniel Dalrymple), married a George Clay of Arleston. The only George Clay of Arleston that we know of is Joseph Clay's half-brother George, the reputed deer stealer and uncle to Diana who became the wife of Daniel Dalrymple and mother of Frances. The bride Jane Clay was also the mother of Thomas and John Davys, benefactors of the School in Barrow upon Trent that later became known as Sale and Davys Church of England Primary School. So now, through this relationship of marriage we have a further link between Daniel with his second cousin Elizabeth Sale, and the other benefactors Thomas and John Davys!



Having traced how the des Voeux family became such major land owners in Barrow we decided to investigate this fascinating family. The Rev. Henry's grandfather was a Frenchman called Anthony Vinchon de Bacquencourt. Many of this aristocratic family who helped to rule France went to the guillotine at the time of the French Revolution. He incurred the wrath of his family because he had abandoned the Catholic faith. Assuming the name Des Voeux he moved to Ireland. His son, the first Baron, made his fortune in India and was Governor of Masulipatam on the east Coast of India.



Lt. C. F. Des Voeux

Rev. Henry and Frances had several children but their fifth child and first son became Sir Henry Dalrymple Des Voeux (1822 -1894), later the fifth baron and in 1844 he played cricket for England. There is evidence of adventure and exploration amongst their children. Their second son born in 1826, called Charles Champagne Des Voeux, became the 6th baron and lived in Taranaki, New Zealand for a while. There is a field on the Grange Farm that is named 'New Zealand' presumably in honour of this.

In a newspaper obituary to Sir Charles Champagne Des Voeux it was reported that his younger brother, Lt. C. F. Des Voeux R. N. perished in Sir John Franklin's Lost Expedition. This British voyage of Arctic exploration departed from England in 1845 and was meant to traverse the last un-navigated section of the Northwest Passage. There had long been a desire to find a sea route through the Arctic Ocean and along the northern coast of North America via waterways, connecting the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. The entire expedition complement, including Franklin and one hundred and twenty eight men, was lost.



Visit to Chief Canimapo in British Guiana showing George Des Voeux first from right, Pub. 1903

Daniel's daughter Frances died in 1827 and in 1828 Rev. Henry married again to another Frances, Frances Hutton. They had five more children, the youngest of whom was George William born 1834 in Baden Baden Germany. He was the most famous member of the family.

He studied at Charterhouse and Oxford, but did not finish his degree. His father gave an ultimatum; finish his degree and join the clergy, or seek his fortune in the colonies. He had already decided that all religious beliefs were unfounded so instead, sought his fortune in the colonies!

Although not directly connected to Barrow, it is interesting to know that this brother of 'our' des Voeux had a long and very prestigious colonial career. In 1869 he wrote a very detailed report to the Secretary of State for Colonies in which he described the appalling working conditions and many abuses he had found in British Guiana. When the report became public there was an outcry and an inquiry was commissioned which led to many improvements in working conditions. He became Administrator and Colonial Secretary in St. Lucia; acting governor of Trinidad; Governor of Fiji where the second highest mountain in Fiji is called Des Voeux peak; Governor of Newfoundland and governor of Hong Kong, where there are several roads and streets named after him. He was knighted in 1883.

Returning to Barrow, when the Rev. Henry died, the Barrow estate was left to his eldest son Sir Henry Dalrymple Des Voeux who was married to Alice Magdalen, daughter of the second Earl of Wilton. When Sir Henry died in 1893 all Barrow land came under the sole ownership of Lady Alice des Voeux, and was sold by her instructions under her will following her death in 1927.



Des Voeux Road, Hong Kong

The Enclosure of the Parish of Barrow upon Trent

A very important change to rural life in England occurred with the implementation of the Enclosure Acts.

> An act for dividing and enclosing the several Common and Open Fields, Meadows, Pastures, Commons an Waste Grounds within the Manor and Hamlet of Barrow-on-Trent in the County of Derby'; Enclosure Act 1788; Barrow on Trent

We felt that it was very important that this aspect of the Parish's history should be included in this 'story'. A transcription of this complex Act is with the research team (59 pages and virtually NO punctuation) and it is hoped that a detailed study may be made of it sometime. However, for the purposes of this book we have turned to an analysis by David Cox in his unpublished manuscript 'The Beaumonts of Barrow' from which to gather our information.



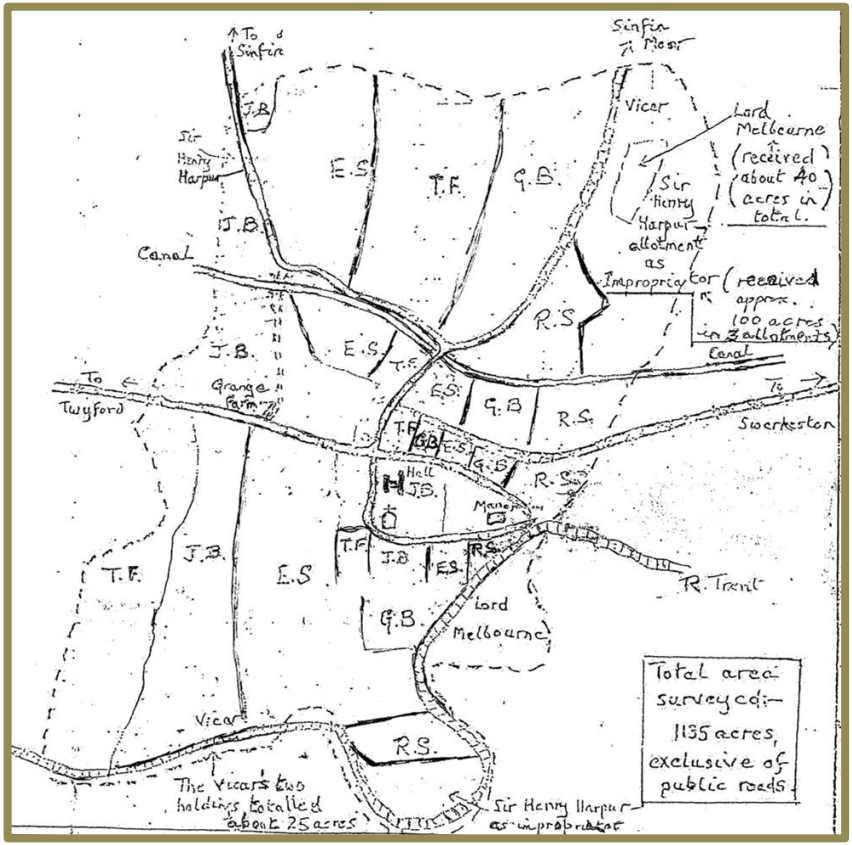
We have included a diagram here of how a typical mediaeval Manor might be laid out, showing common ground. A typical rural cottager would have had land on which he cultivated some vegetables and fruit trees, kept some hens and perhaps a pig or goat, and common land was available for grazing and for collecting firewood. They worked hard to be as self-sufficient as possible. However, the mediaeval custom of ploughing in an open field system creating field patterns of ridge and furrow, that showed where each worker's land began and finished without the need for fencing, was inefficient and was about to change

BARROW UPON TRENT ENCLOSURE AWARD 1788

Showing approximate positions and areas of lands allotted to five main proprietors, and to the Lord of the Manor (Lord Melbourne), the Impropriator, and the Vicar

	Acreage allotted (known or estimated)	
John Beaumont		JB
	190 acres	
Elizabeth Sale		ES
	280 acres (est)	
Gervase Bancroft		GB
	129 acres	
Thomas Fisher		TF
	110 acres	
Richard Sale		RS
	75 acres (est)	

Taken from Beaumonts of Barrow
By David Cox



The big land owners were determined to improve the efficiency of their land, and the building of the canal that split up existing fields interfering with existing farming practices, made the desire for change even more pressing. Land was not logically proportioned throughout the Parish and the strips of land that made up a landowners portion were often far apart from each other. According to David Cox, there were three purposes for this exercise:

- Exchanging land between landowners so that they were in more manageable units and thus more efficient.
- Redistributing common land amongst the existing owners and those villagers who could claim common rights. These common lands in Barrow Parish were estimated to be over 1,000 acres.
- Compensating those in the Parish who benefited from receiving 'tithes' as these rights were demolished. The giving of a 'tithe' was a form of tax usually paid to a religious organisation, or the person who 'owned' those rights, consisting of a tenth of the yearly earnings of a property, and could be in produce (a chicken or grain).

Attempts to enclose the land in the Parish of Barrow upon Trent started in 1766 with a meeting on neutral ground at Willington. Those concerned with discussions regarding the future of the Parish included the nine or ten existing land owners, Elizabeth Sale, Thomas Fisher, Richard Sale, Gervais Bancroft, Samuel Middleton, John Bancroft, John Beaumont, with the Lord of the Manor, the Vicar who had existing rights to the 'small tithes', Sir Henry Harpur owner of the large tithes and the Church Wardens.

Interestingly it was Elizabeth Sale who refused to sign the papers to agree to this redistribution of land that stopped the plan going ahead in 1766. As she owned at least 25% of the land in the Parish the other land owners could not go ahead without her consent. It was to be in 1786, twenty-two years later that she relented and the papers were signed in 1788.

The immediate result was an increase of landowners from thirteen to twenty, with six of the new land owners owning very little at all. These new land owners were presumably given land to compensate for their loss of access to common land. However eight years later the number of land owners had shrunk back to

thirteen. David Cox suggests that there were around fifty families in the village at the time and about a dozen would have suffered. This is not as bad as it was in other parts of the country, but that could be down to how the land had been divided historically.

It was the following year in 1789 that the Parish cottages, The Row, were built by public levy and at around the same time more cottages were built in the Nook, some by John Beaumont. Could the upheaval created by the Enclosures Act in Barrow have in anyway created this generosity? What level of poverty was in the village? How did the local families continue to survive? We do not have that information.

Two points of interest. The surveyor for this particular enclosure act was a Samuel Wyatt, a member of the well-known family of surveyors who drew that map we have on page 6 nearly half a century later; and the document was signed, in his capacity as 'Master Extraordinary in Chancery', by none other than Daniel Dalrymple whom we have already met!

Unfortunately we do not know where the land was divided prior to 1788. The map of the enclosure award is on page 50 and we can now see that John Beaumont had most of his land gathered together to the west of the village and this was the formation of the Grange Farm.



Grange Farm

Education in Barrow

There has been education provided under the name of The National School in Barrow from the late 18th century. At one point teaching took place in No 16a of The Row, and later at the Old Post Office. Then the purpose built school (known as The Old School) was built in 1843 on land belonging to Sir Harpur Crewe.



National School Barrow upon Trent 1843

This delightful Jacobean style building in what was then known as 'Village Street' had two rooms, the larger for the infants and the smaller for the older children. In a deed of 29th January 1876 signed by Sir John Harpur Crewe Bart; 'An Act to afford further facilities for the Conveyance and Endowment of sites for Schools', it stated that it be used:

> as a School for the education of children and adults or children only of the labouring, manufacturing and other poor classes in the said Parish of Barrow upon Trent and for no other purpose. And it is further declared that the School shall always be in union with and conducted upon the principles and in furtherance of the ends and designs of the incorporated National Society for promoting the Education of the Poor in the Principles of the Established Church throughout England.

In the documents it further says that the school will be managed exclusively by the Vicar and members of the established Church; the first committee to

comprise of Sir Henry Dalrymple des Voeux, Richard Sale Esquire and Richard Sale the younger, all major land owners in the district.

The Balfour Act of 1902 and the development of a national public system of education gave Barrow the opportunity to appoint Foundation Managers, but it also made the property liable for inspection which in 1912 caused the then Board of Managers deep concern. The minutes of meetings held between March 1912 and May 1913 makes several references to HMI (His Majesty's Inspectors) requirements. The managers felt obliged to consider the desks, the heating, an extension to the playground and 'we hope to put a scheme before the (Education) committee very shortly that will satisfy all requirements'. At the meeting on July 22nd 1913 the architect, George Edwards who lived in the village, presented his plans for the necessary alterations and Mrs. Morris (St. Wilfrid's) was offered 5 /- for the hire of a room for school purposes during alterations. The village raised the money to fund this project but in May 1914, the vicar was forced to complain that nearly £40 was still required and that 'ratepayers should remember that the work was done in order to save their pockets; a new school would have cost ten times as much'.



School with extension



and with toilets on the left

This project appeared to provide outside toilets, possibly built the extension with its front porch (the vicar commenting that there are now more window panes than children) and enlarged its tiny playground with land gifted by Lady Alice des Voeux in 1914. It was only in the 1950s that its coal fires were replaced by pot-bellied coal burners.

More changes were afoot for our ‘Barrow upon Trent C. E. School’. In May 1953, the school took on ‘Controlled’ status and one of the requirements was to ‘name’ the school. After much discussion it was agreed that the school be named after the pioneer benefactors of the Barrow School; Elizabeth Sale of Willington (died 1791) and the brothers Thomas (1856) and John (1873) Davys of Ashby de la Zouch.

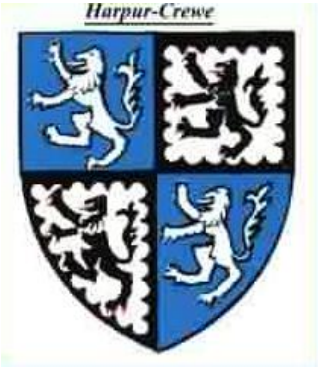
One of the challenges of this project has been to find out why a lady from Willington and two men from Ashby de La Zouch should concern themselves with education in a small village in which they did not live. This we discuss elsewhere, but what was known was that Miss Sale left £100 in trust to the village, the interest of which should go towards the teaching and instructing the children of the inhabitants of Barrow whose parents were unable to pay for their children’s education. Thomas Davys, in his will left £100 in trust so that each child leaving ‘the National School lately established at his native place of Barrow upon Trent’ should be presented with a Bible, and also go towards increasing the stipend of the school teacher, at the discretion of the trustees. John Davys also left money to the School in trust. These funds had been administered by a Foundation set up in 1928 and called the ‘Barrow on Trent Educational Foundation’. In later years, pupils leaving the school and going to ‘High’ school were able to apply for financial assistance towards books and travel.

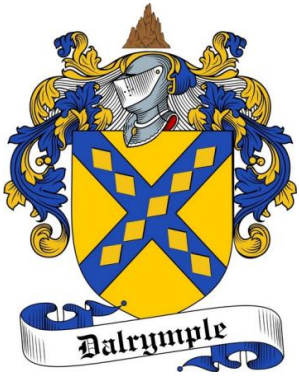
As the School was named ‘Sale and Davys’ more than a hundred years after it was first built, the question now arose: whose coat of arms grace the school window and door?





Above the window, dated 1843, the carving is much worn but these appear to be signs of the lions to be found in the Harpur Crewe coat of arms. We believe that the coat of arms on the right is those of the Dalrymple family. The Bishops mitre above the door would indicate the place of the diocese in the life of the school in 1913 and beside it, is an adaptation of the Sale coat of arms.









The Coat of Arms of major influences on the development of The National School

The Benefactors of Sale and Davys School

One of the major questions the research group was asked was 'who were Elizabeth Sale and Thomas and John Davys, benefactors of the school'? This proved to be a considerable challenge and again we offer our findings as close as we can manage from the evidence available to us.

Elizabeth Sale

It has often been assumed that the benefactress Elizabeth Sale who left £100 to the Barrow school would have been one of the Sale family who lived in Barrow for just short of three hundred years. As said previously, the Sale family were a large family with branches all over England and over the years our interest has centred on the Barrow branch of the Sale family, many of whom are buried in our Churchyard. But despite much searching we could not trace Elizabeth Sale after whom the school is named. Nor could we find the history of Thomas Davys, nor his brother John, who were the other benefactors of the Sale and Davys school. For the information that we have found, we have present members of the Sale family to thank, in particular Peter Sale, who has been very generous with his time helping us to trace the story.

To find Elizabeth the benefactress, we needed to retrace our steps to William Sale the first member of the Sale family to live in Barrow. As we have seen, William of Barrow was married twice and his descendants, who inherited his Barrow estate, were from the first marriage. His second marriage was to Judith Burden and they had one child William who was born in 1652. The descendants of William then became established in Willington and Derby.

We do not know when this William, (we have called him William of Willington), moved away from Barrow but he married Elizabeth Gates or Yates in 1679 whose family owned the land that Willington Hall was built on. They had four children but here our interest is with the first son William who married Alice Osborne and had one child, a daughter Elizabeth – our Elizabeth of the Barrow School! We know very little about Elizabeth's life except that regrettably her parents died when she was only fifteen and she never married.

When Elizabeth's father died in 1729 he left all his lands to his wife including land recently purchased from Thomas Sharp in Barrow, plus other land in Barrow. Later the same year Alice, mother of Elizabeth also died and passed her estate onto Elizabeth. Interestingly, both parents left money for the poor of Barrow; William left five pounds and Alice left fifty shillings. This demonstrates several things; firstly Elizabeth was nurtured in an atmosphere of philanthropy, secondly they felt an obligation towards Barrow and thirdly – there were a lot of poor in Barrow!

As in most parts of rural England, land in the Parish of Barrow upon Trent was divided up and reallocated between the main landowners at the time of 'the Enclosures'; Barrow enclosures were signed in 1788. Despite the fact that the Willington branch of the Sale family had left Barrow in the latter part of the 17th century, Elizabeth, its remaining descendant, owned one third of all the land whilst the Richard, the main Barrow descendant owned one tenth. When Elizabeth died in 1791 she was a very wealthy woman. Her main benefactor was her second cousin Daniel Dalrymple, a solicitor in Burton on Trent who, as will be seen, had several and complex connections with Barrow families.

However, one of Elizabeth's twenty-seight bequests in her Will was for the education of the poor children of Barrow. She left £100, instructing her executors to raise 4% interest to pay a school master resident in Barrow to educate the poor children of Barrow. By the early 19th century this bequest was raising £3.00 annually of which £2.14s.0d was paid to a school mistress to teach eight girls reading, knitting and sewing and £1.6s.0d for the distribution of six 'two penny' loaves every alternate Sunday amongst the poor of the Parish in rotation. Prior to the building of the school in 1843 it is believed that the school room was in number 16a The Row. She also left an additional £5 to the poor of Barrow.

John and Thomas Davys

From the wills of both Thomas and John Davys, benefactors of Sale and Davys school, we know that they considered Barrow to be their 'native place' but we have not been able to find out where the Davys family lived in the village and the records show that they were christened in Swarkestone. Their father, William

Davys was a timber merchant in Swarkestone who in 1789 married Jane Kirby of Ashby de la Zouch. (Jane's brother is buried in St. Wilfrid's churchyard.) They had three sons and a daughter. The two younger sons, John, born 1791 and Thomas, born 1796 moved to Ashby de la Zouch at some time, we may presume to live with other family members. Their father William died in 1802 and, as we have seen, his wife Jane remarried in 1805!

The next information that we could find out about the brothers is that they were working as 'woolstaplers' in Ashby. Since medieval times the wool industry had been of great importance in England. The job of the wool-stapler was to buy wool from the producer, sort and grade it, and then sell it on to manufacturers. This connection with the wool trade led them into the hat making trade and in 1817 John took over a wine business and they developed this until they became established as wine and spirit merchants. In addition to being very successful wine merchants, the brothers bought and sold a great deal of property including inns, farms and land.

They were also both highly respected in other aspects of life in Ashby. At a very young age, in 1836, Thomas was a trustee of the Ashby de la Zouch savings bank and in 1867 we find that brother John was Chairman of the same bank. The brothers appear to have mirrored each other in their careers if not their love life! Thomas, the younger brother was the first to be married for in 1833 he married Sarah, three years older than himself whilst John waited until 1842 when he was over 50, before he married Rhoda. There is no record of Thomas and Sarah having children but when John was 54 he and Rhoda had a daughter, called – Sarah! Thomas was not destined to enjoy his status as an uncle for long as he died suddenly when visiting friends in 1856. John was to live for another sixteen years until, following an accident in 1872 when his horse reared and overturned his vehicle, he was badly hurt and never fully recovered.

THE LATE MR. THOMAS DAVYS, who it will be remembered died suddenly, whilst on a visit to his friends in Leicester, upwards of two years ago, we learn has left £50 to the Bible Society; £50 to the Church Missionary Society; £50 to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel; £50 to the Trustees of the National School in Ashby; £120 to the Trustees of the "Blue Coat School" at Ashby; £100 to the Vicar and Churchwardens of Ashby, to be invested, and the income applied to the purchase of coals, to be distributed yearly on St. Thomas's Day, amongst the deserving and aged poor inhabitants of Ashby, being Protestants, in quantities of not less than three nor more than five hundred weight; also £80, the income to be applied in the purchase of blankets or warm woollen shawls, to be distributed during the winter months amongst the poor inhabitants of Ashby, being Protestants; and £50, the income to be applied in the purchase of bibles, to be distributed yearly, on St. Thomas's Day, to deserving poor inhabitants of Ashby, without regard to their religious creed. Also £100 to the Woodville National School Trustees, and £100 to the Trustees of the National School of Barrow-upon-Trent, his native place.

Leicester Mercury, 8 January 1859

Not only were the brothers very successful in business and highly respected as citizens they were also most aware of their responsibilities to others and worked hard for the local churches and charities. This sense of responsibility was reflected in their Wills in which they left many legacies to trustees for the poor of Ashby and for various schools. Included in these bequests was £100 for the National School of Barrow!



Swarkestone Bridge

Religion in Barrow

As has been discussed, the Beaumont family were a staunch Roman Catholic family, who although they attended the local Anglican Church and many are buried there, refused to recognise the Established Anglican Church. Conversely, the Sale family were staunch Protestants and a very important part of the impact of these two influential families upon the village was attributable to their religious convictions. Many of the Sale family are buried in the Church Yard and the church itself contains a stained glass window and alabaster pulpit in memory of Sale family members. However, it would appear that between the years of 1838 and 1854, matters within the Parish appeared to go very astray and the Sale family voted with their feet – apparently walking out on the Church of St. Wilfrid, and they built their own chapel.



Beaumont graves on one side



Sale graves on the other!

In 1825, the year that John Beaumont married the Hon. Mary Scarsdale, a William Heacock was appointed vicar of the Church and his patron was Lord Scarsdale! It was still to be four years before the Act of Emancipation would return to Catholics the right to vote and hold public office so Catholic John would have lost the right to appoint the vicar – his new father-in-law did so for him!

The Rev. William Heacock referred to was known to live in Etwall and to be in charge, not only in the Parish of Barrow cum Twyford with Sinfin and Arleston, but also of Foremark and Ingleby in Derbyshire and Newton in the Thistles in Warwickshire. He certainly appeared to be an absentee Vicar. All the weddings and burials in the church were undertaken by Curates. Studying the baptismal records, W. Heacock prepared the register for May 20th 1832 for five baptisms, but obviously did not officiate because they are signed by R. Hollings, Curate.

Richard Hollings seemed to have very strong views regarding his Parishioners. When he baptised a child whose mother was unmarried, he underlined the word Spinster under the heading of Trade or Profession and under the child's name wrote Bastard son/daughter of, with a great flourish. It is not too surprising that some of the Parishioners were unhappy!

John Beaumont died in 1834 and the almost bankrupt Mary left Barrow only returning after her father died in 1837 having left her a legacy. Things do not improve! The church records now show that, upon the resignation of William Heacock, a John Latham is named as both Patron and Vicar in 1838. However, there is a hand written note beside John Latham's name in an unsigned document seen in the record office Matlock, to say that John Latham was never a vicar. According to our research, he appears to have been a solicitor.



John Latham certainly did not appear to officiate in church, because Curate Richard Hollings continued to sign the baptismal registers until June 30th 1844. According to the church registers, the Rev. William Heacock, Vicar, returned to officiate at baptisms from July 1844 till March 3rd 1845 and then the church was returned to the care of curates until September 30th 1855.

At some point in this period when the Parish church was being indirectly overseen by a Catholic family and no proper provision was being provided for the Parishioners, the Sale family themselves decided to turn their backs on the Church and it was then, in 1839, that they built the Chapel. The building of the chapel did not please everybody however, and it is recorded that

> a young man resident at Barrow Hall, the grounds of which are on the opposite side of the road, shot at the Memorial Stone with his gun, and the incidents can still be seen on the Stone.

Derby Telegraph 1949.

In 1855 the Rev. J. Edwards was appointed and stability appears to return to religious life in Barrow. By now the Sales appear to have returned to the Church. Richard and Mary Sale had two children baptised at St. Wilfrid's; daughter Mary Alice in February and son Richard in March 1856. They, however, did not ask either the curate or the vicar to officiate; but instead the baptism was performed by a Rev. Alexander Poole, incumbent of the Trinity Church, Chesterfield (and the father of Mary Sale)! Could this family connection, coupled with the return of a stable clergyman have influenced the family's return to the Established Church? Throughout her life this Mary Sale proved to be a major benefactress of St. Wilfrid's Church.



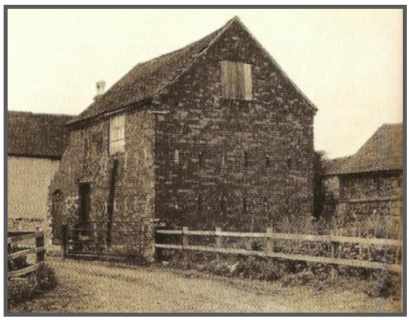
Non-Conformists in Barrow

The history of Non-Conformity in Barrow is complex and again sources do not agree. According to the Derbyshire Record Office Nonconformist Register Guide, a Congregational Chapel was founded in 1800 in Barrow and its register was kept

in common with the Repton Congregational Chapel. It is not clear where this Chapel was but at one point the preacher was the Rev. William Pritchard whose memorial stone, 1836, in the church yard says

> In memory of the Revd William Prichard who for 20 years filled the office
> Of pastor to a Church of Protestant Dissenters in this village, and at Repton
> With great credit to himself and to the comfort and edification of his flock

There was a Wesleyan Methodist Chapel noted in Barrow in 1829 at No. 7 The Nook, and in 1897 this Methodist group was worshipping in a barn in front of Poplars Farm in Church Lane.



Chapel in barn in front of Poplars farm



The Bethel Chapel

In 1837, following the problems with the Vicar of the Anglican Church as outlined above, Richard Sale bought land from his neighbour William Bancroft, on marshy land known as the Mere and built the Chapel. The Bethel Chapel as it was named, was built in 1839 and in 1840 Richard Sale, Gent, and his brothers William of Derby, a draper and George of Donisthorpe, Gent and eleven others, set up a trust:

> UPON THE TRUST and confidence that they the said Trustees and the survivors of them and other new trustees ..... to be used as a place for the public worship of Almighty God and for a burial or Grave Yard by the congregation .... *Trust papers*

At its initiation, four of the trustees lived in Barrow; Richard and William Sale with Robert Camp, Tailor, and Charles Low, shoemaker. Of the additional trustees two were Sales, George and Cousin William, the draper of Derby. The chapel was obviously frequented mainly by worshippers from outside the village

although a young nineteen year old woman Caroline Cocks, granddaughter of William Sale (3)) was listed in the 1851 census as 'Chapel Independence Minister of Repton and Barrow'. The burial ground that had been planned by Richard Sale in 1843 was never built and the main Sale family returned to worshipping in the Church in 1855.

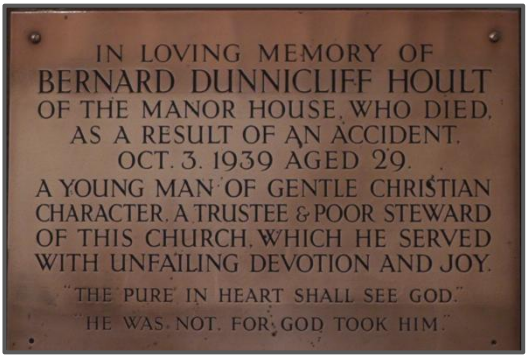
By 1883, only George Sale had retained links with the Chapel and, now living in Oakthorpe, accepted new trustees to the Board of Trustees. This time there were four trustees who lived in Barrow; Samuel Bucknall, butcher, Joseph Smith, farmer, Charles Roome, baker and Joseph Garratt, farmer.

The next forty years in the history of the chapel would appear to be a time of sad deterioration and when in July 1925 the next appointment of trustees that we can find was made, a change had taken place. Samuel Bucknall had moved to Colton Bassett in Nottinghamshire and this time there were no Trustees based in Barrow. The chapel building had lost its relationship with the Independent Congregationalists and had been taken over by the Wesleyan Methodists.

As was said above, the Wesleyan Methodists had been worshipping in the barn in the front yard of Poplars Farm in Church Lane. The Independent Congregationalists chapel, built by Richard Sale was now in a sorry state of repair with only a handful of worshippers and without a single Barrow person prepared to stand as trustee, but it was made of very solid stuff. By 1915, Joseph Hoult of the Manor House, a fervent Methodist – with money- was prepared to negotiate with the trustees to take over the chapel for the Methodists to hold their services there. Of the seven names prepared to rent the Bethel Chapel for religious services four of them were from Barrow; Joseph Hoult of the Manor House, Eli Holmes of Poplar Farm, Edward Holmes of Poplar Farm and Percy Reed Turner of Walnut House. Joseph Hoult negotiated an annual rent of £2 because the building was in such poor repair and the Bethel Chapel was about to start a new chapter.

The Hoult Family and Manor Court

Joseph and Florence Hoult, farmers from Aston-on-Trent bought the Manor House from Richard Sale in July 1914 and moved to Barrow. As stated earlier, when they moved to Barrow, the Methodists were still worshipping in the barn in front of Poplars Farm. The Chapel was in a very sorry state of repair and badly needing some tender loving care. Thanks to the Hoults that was now about to happen. They continued to rent the building for some 20 years until they purchased it outright in January 1935. The Hoults then handed it over to the Methodist trustees. Sadly, the Hoults' only child, 29 year old Bernard, was killed in a carting accident in October 1939 and this change in the family's fortune, led to a very major change in the characteristics of the village of Barrow upon Trent.



Plaque in memory of Bernard Hoult still displayed on the Chapel Wall

Joseph, who amongst other activities was a highly respected member of the National Farmers Union and a District Councillor, farmed in Barrow for 30 years until he died in 1945. In 1946 his widow, an equally respected Methodist, having no children bequeathed her house and the adjacent fruit orchard, consisting of nearly three acres, to the Methodist Retirement Fund. The Manor House itself was subsequently converted into two households for use by ministers, the converted house being occupied for the first time in January 1947. The remainder of the estate was auctioned off in 1948.

Immediately after the war there was a great housing shortage which left Methodist ministers who had previously lived in ministry houses nowhere to move to when they retired. The Methodists Housing Society was formed which planned to build twenty maisonettes on the orchard land gifted by Florence Hoult. An architect by the name of John Poulson, a staunch Methodist from Yorkshire, was appointed and he submitted plans to Shardlow Rural District Council in March 1947.

Will the reader please forgive a small digression, but this may be the opportunity to remind the older reader, and inform the younger, of the sensation that John Poulson created later, in 1972, when his involvement in a major political scandal using bribery to obtain contracts was disclosed. He had consistently used influence and gifts of money to build his business and the Conservative Home Secretary Reginald Maudling was forced to resign because of his involvement in this scandal. He was the highest-ranking figure to be involved. On 22nd June 1973 Poulson was arrested and charged with corruption in connection with building contracts. He was convicted in February 1974 and sentenced to 5 years imprisonment. This term was subsequently extended to 7 years. Although Poulson served his sentence, he continued to protest his innocence, claiming that he was 'a man more sinned against than sinning'. He died on 31st January 1993.

Returning to our story, the development of Manor Court was not without its interesting moments! Attempts to obtain the necessary building license were fraught with difficulties. Because post-war restrictions on building materials were still in force, the application was rejected by both Shardlow Rural District Council and the Ministry of Health. An approach was made directly to the Housing Minister and it was suggested that the application would not be hindered by the council's building constraints if it were submitted by a Housing Association. Thus the Methodist Ministers Housing Association Limited was born.



Following the Second World War there was a great shortage of building materials and therefore restrictions were imposed on the size of accommodation that could be built. Poulson claimed to be very aware of this and stated that the plans for the maisonettes were designed accordingly. He rather tactlessly informed the council that his plans had:

> ….. helped in this connection by the knowledge that the tenants will be from sixty to sixty five years of age with very little furniture and little inclination to purchase anymore.' (*Private correspondence*)

It is interesting to note just what splendid sized accommodation, by today's standards, these maisonettes actually have!

Approval for commencement of the project is dated 29th November 1948. The building works were put out to tender and awarded to Ford & Weston of Osmaston Road, Derby on, 23rd April 1949, at an agreed price of nearly £24,000. The final construction comprised five blocks of four 2-bedroom maisonettes with a total floor space of 728 sq. ft. allocated to each flat; soak-aways for surface water installed adjacent to either side of each block, and the central area of land between the blocks designated a bowling green. However, further problems were afoot before the construction could commence!

Firstly, there was the thorny issue of 'sewage'. At that time the village was generally dependent on cesspits but if these were installed for the new development, the SRDC would not take responsibility for their emptying! John Poulson then proposed to the Council that two new cesspools, (one being only 40 feet away from the first block, should be installed). This proposal was viewed

with derision by the Council considering that those responsible for looking after them would be the retired, elderly occupants of the complex and

The flow from twenty flats will entail emptying every day.

The provision of a small treatment works was therefore strongly recommended and quotations were subsequently obtained for a temporary purification plant for use until the Council's main drainage scheme was complete.

The next obstacle involved confrontation between the architects and the owner of adjacent land. The neighbouring Mr. Yeomans did not appreciate contractors inadvertently trespassing on his property, and he further refused permission for a drainage system for the maisonettes to cross his lands; he had spent £1500 obtaining TT (Tuberculin Tested) status for his fields. Heated correspondence then took place between the offices of John Poulson and Mr. Yeomans' solicitors. The matter was eventually put into the hands of the Methodist Church's London-based solicitors, and although the outcome of the dispute is not fully known, local knowledge suggests that Mr. Yeoman emigrated to South Africa shortly afterwards.





The final plans were submitted to SRDC on 2nd May 1949 and work began shortly afterwards. Foundation stones were laid by Mrs. Hoult on 15th June 1949 with the Reverend A. C. Staniland, Superintendent Minister, Derby South Circuit presiding. Building work at Manor Court, so named in February 1950 by The Methodist Ministers' Housing Association, was completed in April 1950. A formal opening ceremony was held in September 1950 with a brief service of dedication conducted by the vice-president of the Methodist Conference, The Reverend Clifford Towlson. Florence Hoult who benefitted so many people through her generosity left the village in 1946 and settled in Littleover where she died in 1950 aged 73.

Major (later Colonel) John Thomas Pountain
Sherwood Foresters (Resident 1879-88)

Following the death of Mrs. Arkwright who had rented the Hall from the Beaumonts, the building was empty for some years. In 1879 the Beaumont family eventually succeeded in selling their Barrow estates; firstly the Grange Farm and then the Barrow Hall to a Major Pountain. John Pountain a Captain, then Major in the Royal Sherwood Foresters, ran a successful wine merchant business that had first been established in the Market Place in 1763 and which he inherited from his father in 1867. He was educated at Derby School from 1852 to 1854 and later attended Repton School. Before he arrived in Barrow he lived in the family home at Cowsley, Chaddesden where he was a Churchwarden in St. Pauls Church, Little Chester, as had his father been before him.

When Major Pountain bought Barrow Hall he was obviously anxious to acquire the position of a country gentleman, and before arriving there the Major went to great trouble to have the Hall redecorated and the pleasure grounds tastefully laid out. The villagers were clearly delighted to see the Hall lived in again, and it was reported that he was apparently given a tumultuous welcome:

> He arrived at 7 in the evening and his carriage was pulled by 2 magnificent horses, he was greeted by a cheering crowd and he gave a humorous speech thanking them for such a warm welcome.

Derby Mercury May 14th 1879

He threw himself into Parish life, supporting church fund raising events and taking an interest in village activities. But he also had other pursuits. He retained an interest in the district where he used to live and, along with other wealthy friends, Sir Henry Wilmot (awarded the Victoria Cross in 1858) and Frederick Girardot, both of Chaddesden, he was a shareholder in the Cowsley Freehold Land Society. In 1884 it sold numerous individual building plots on what appears to have been the land his father had owned, the 15-acre estate fronting Nottingham Road. An ominous announcement was made in The London Gazette, September 24, 1895 which informed the reader that:

the names of the undermentioned Companies will, unless cause is shown to the contrary, be struck off the Register, and the Companies will be dissolved

The London Gazette, September 24, 1895

Included amongst these was the above mentioned 'Cowsley Freehold Land Society' and a document held in Matlock record office dates the life of the Society from 1880 to 1889. A further announcement in the London Gazette in 1885

NOTICE is hereby given, that the Partnership which has for some time past been carried on by us the undersigned, John Thomas Pountain, John Francis Girardot, Frederick George Girardot, and Joseph Flinn, under the firm or style of Girardot, Flinn, and Co., at Derby, in the county of Derby, Bishop's Stortford, in the county of Hertford, and at Dullingham and Newmarket, both in the county of Cambridge, in the trade or business of Maltsters, was this day dissolved by mutual consent.— Dated this 30th day of September, 1885.
J. T. Pountain. Fred. G. Girardot. J. F. Girardot. Joseph Flinn

London Gazette October 6th 1885

Major Pountain undoubtedly lived beyond his means and in 1887 bankruptcy was imminent. His estate which included not only Barrow Hall and Grange Farm, but also the Derwent Buildings, Market Place, Derby, wass up for sale. It was then discovered that he had, in actual fact, mortgaged all his possessions in 1878, including Barrow Hall and estate – and had cheated his mortgagors by sub-letting the Derwent buildings without permission.

At the court case when his sister Anne contested his Will it was reported that:

Mr. Pountain after his retirement went to live at Barrow Hall, Derby. He had no wife or children and lived a fast life, spending his money on himself. He was very anxious to acquire a position in the county, and undoubtedly lived beyond his means'

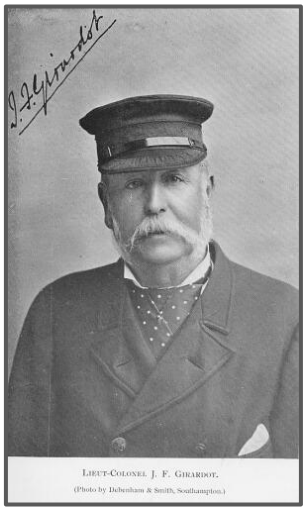
Derby Daily Telegraph 26 June 1890

About the same time that he feared bankruptcy, action was taken by his next of kin to declare him a lunatic. Sometimes his behaviour was irrational and he spent some time in an institution but no one was sure if he really was ill. It was suggested that he was pretending to be mentally ill so that he might escape his financial responsibilities. When the friend to whom he had promised to leave a large portion of his estate told him that he was in danger of being declared bankrupt, the Major asked what would be best for him – bankruptcy or lunacy! He feared that if he was declared bankrupt, he would be removed from the command of his regiment and struck off the role of magistrates. In June 1888 he was indeed declared a lunatic and confined in Peckham House, London. Due to his poor physical health he was moved to Teignmouth in Devon to enjoy the sea air but in 1889 he died at the age of 47.

Regrettably Pountain had massively over valued his assets. His will was disputed in court by his family and it was estimated that his estate, heavily overvalued at £100,000, was so much in debt that even when everything was sold there would not be enough to pay his creditors.

It seems remarkable today that respectable organisations were prepared to ignore Pountain's health, both physical and mental, when appointing him to important positions. He was appointed 'Colonel' in 1886, and shortly before he was declared 'a lunatic' he was appointed a magistrate!

There is mention in the Notice above of 1885 of John Francis Girardot who, like Sir Henry Wilmot, was praised for his bravery and was 'mentioned in Dispatches'. We do not know a great deal about Girardot's stay in Barrow, but he was obviously quite a character, so we have decided to include him.



LIEUT-COLONEL J. F. GIRARDOT.
(Photo by Debenham & Smith, Southampton.)

LT-COLONEL JOHN FRANCIS GIRARDOT

In 1881 during the time that Colonel Pountain was living in The Hall, his business colleague Colonel Girardot was living in the Manor House, Barrow upon Trent, with his first wife and step-daughter. Like Major Pountain and Sir Henry Wilmot, Colonel Girardot was, amongst many other things, an officer in the Sherwood Foresters Militia.

We do not know how long Girardot lived in Barrow, but his presence must have created a great deal of interest. He had been involved in the sinking of the HMS Birkenhead on the 26th February 1852 after she hit uncharted rocks south of the Cape of Good Hope, South Africa. Approximately 450 perished, but it was the first time that the protocol of 'Women and children first', or as it was known at the time, the 'Birkenhead Drill' arose when abandoning ship. The decision by the men is described in the Captains report later:

> When the vessel was just about going down the Commander called out, "All those that can swim jump overboard and make for the boats!" Lieutenant Girardot and myself were standing on the stern part of the poop. We begged the men not to do as the Commander said as the boat with the women must be swamped. Not more than three made the attempt'.
>
> *(from Captain Wright's report)*

The incident attracted a great deal of interest: Frederick William IV of Prussia, recognising the bravery of the soldiers, ordered the incident to be reported to every regiment in his army; an official monument was erected on the order of Queen Victoria, and copies of Hemy's painting 'The Wreck of the Birkenhead' was distributed to the public.

> 'Everyone did as he was directed and there was not a murmur or cry amongst them until the ship made her final plunge – all received their orders and carried them out as if they were embarking instead of going to the bottom - I never saw any embarkation conducted with so little noise or confusion.'
>
> *(from Captain Wright's report)*

Lt-Colonel John Francis Girardot died in Southampton in 1902

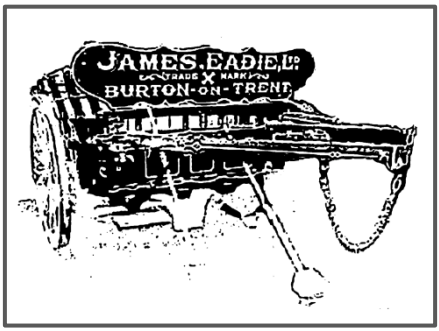


The wreck of the Birkenhead by Thomas M Hemy

James Eadie (1827 – 1904)
(Family resident 1889-1939)

The next person to live at Barrow Hall was James Eadie, who was born in Scotland. His father ran a large posting house and developed a small brewery, presumably to sell ale to his customers. James therefore had experience of the brewing process. Whilst working for his father, James once served Queen Victoria and Prince Albert as a post-boy, a fact recalled many years later when he met King Edward at a Shire horse show.

In 1842 at the age of 14 he was invited by his uncle to join him in Tamworth in England. Here, working beside his uncle who was in the tea trade he learned to sell tea, and quickly developed business abilities that were to be invaluable throughout his life. He then extended his business by using his skills as a maltster to sell malt to small breweries in Burton. He was so successful that he started his own brewing business in Burton on Trent in 1852 and moved there in 1854. Recognising the growing possibilities in providing good quality pale ale, he bought land in Cross Street and built his own brewery. Like many other breweries at this time his company ran into financial difficulties but he successfully restructured it in 1896. Despite fierce competition the brewery flourished and growth was rapid. His brewery was one of the first to have tied public houses. When the business was sold to Bass, Ratcliffe and Gretton Ltd in 1933, it owned 308 Pubs and sold for £678,000.



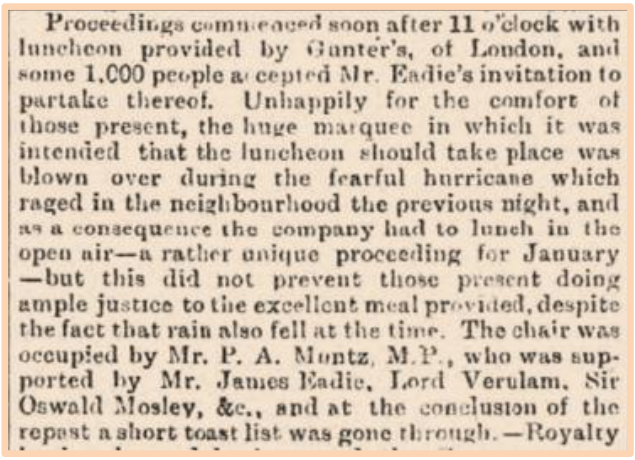
When he bought the Barrow Hall in 1889 from John Pountain's estate, it included not just Barrow Hall but also Grange Farm and as his business was extremely successful he was able to pursue his hobby of breeding shire horses. This love of horses probably arose from his years as a post-boy working for his father in Perthshire. With his considerable knowledge of horses he was able to establish a

very prestigious stud at Grange Farm which he built to the very highest standards using the latest in technology.

In 1899 he held a horse sale selling thirty-eight of his animals raising 6,355 guineas. The highest price paid for a horse was 550 guineas. The buyers included The Prince of Wales, various Lords and noblemen including Sir Oswald Mosely who paid 370 guineas for 'Barrow Belle' a two year old filly. Many of his shire horses were named after the place where they were sired including 'Barrow Lassie' that he maintained was the best animal bred in Barrow. Other prize winners included Barrow Queen, Barrow Sir James, Barrow Duke and many, many more with Barrow in their name.

He was a great patron of outdoor sports and was president of Derbyshire Cricket Club. His two sons, John and William were well known in the cricketing world and played cricket for Derbyshire. He was also heavily involved supporting many local charity institutions.

He was a generous benefactor to the community and responsible for building chapels in Burton on Trent and Fazeley. Fazeley benefited from Eadie's wealth not only from his help in paying for the Methodist Chapel, but also by the provision of the Parish Hall.



Proceedings commenced soon after 11 o'clock with luncheon provided by Gunter's, of London, and some 1,000 people accepted Mr. Eadie's invitation to partake thereof. Unhappily for the comfort of those present, the huge marquee in which it was intended that the luncheon should take place was blown over during the fearful hurricane which raged in the neighbourhood the previous night, and as a consequence the company had to lunch in the open air—a rather unique proceeding for January—but this did not prevent those present doing ample justice to the excellent meal provided, despite the fact that rain also fell at the time. The chair was occupied by Mr. P. A. Muntz, M.P., who was supported by Mr. James Eadie, Lord Verulam, Sir Oswald Mosley, &c., and at the conclusion of the repast a short toast list was gone through.—Royalty

Derby Daily Telegraph,
13 January 1899

As the years went by he amassed a considerable fortune, so much so that when he died (24th June 1904) he left his Scottish estate of 7,000 acres and his personal fortune of £32,396, while his gross estate was valued at £337,966. Although he supported the Methodists, his generosity benefitted many other causes as well, and we have not been able to ascertain his religious preferences. Interestingly, one of his daughters married a Mr. Robinson, a well-known

nonconformist minister who was obviously sufficiently accepted by the family as he officiated at James Eadie's funeral in 1904.

In 1889, James Eadie made a further purchase in the village – he bought the Dwelling House known as 'The Cottage'. He bought it, not as one would expect from the Sale family who reputedly built it, but from John Wormald, John Wormald and William Wormald who were bankers. These gentlemen are the same who in 1889 held the mortgage on Grange Farm.

In 1895 there is a report of the wedding of his daughter, Agnes, to Mr. Frederick Dobson of Shardlow Hall in St. Wilfrid's Church. The report is of a wedding most magnificent, the Bride's personal presents alone included; Bridegroom to Bride, diamond brooch, diamond and sapphire ring: from her sister; diamond necklace and set of sables; from her brother, diamond and pearl bracelet – and this before the household presents and interesting items like 'cheques'!

It reports that:

> The village folk were not forgotten, a supper being provided for them together with an immense bride-cake specially manufactured. It may be mentioned that it is the ultimate intention of Mr. and Mrs. Dobson to settle in Barrow-on-Trent, where a new house for them is at present in course of erection.

Derby Daily Telegraph, 13 September 1895

This is one mystery we have been unable to solve. Two years later it is reported that Mrs. Dobson gave birth to a son – at The Cottage, Barrow upon Trent. We were fortunate to have access to the deeds of the Brookfield Club that include the drawing of the dwelling house, 'The Cottage' that James Eadie bought, presumably for his daughter. The outline of the drawing appears very similar to the outline of the Brookfield today.



Part of the stables built by James Eadie

Questions therefore arise; from the time of William Sale of Barrow who inherited 'The Cottage', the Sale family always owned a house called The Cottage. This 'The Cottage' was built the same time as the Manor House according to Frank Clayton late 18th century. Where therefore is the new House that was being built for the Dobsons?

His son John Eadie, who died in 1923 at the age of 61, continued the stud farm in the manner of his father; he was a leading judge and breeder of shire horses, a member of the Council of the Royal Agricultural Society and, also like his father, very involved in supporting local charities.

John's son, James Alistair Eadie (1900 -1961) who inherited Grange Farm from his father had, in addition to being classified as a brewer, a distinguished military career being decorated with the award of the Territorial Decoration (T.D.) and with the award of the Companion, Distinguished Service Order (D.S.O.) He also held the office of Deputy Lieutenant (D.L.) of Staffordshire in 1949. Interestingly, the tradition of being involved with the drinks industry was continued with the son of the above Colonel Alastair Gordon Eadie who was born on 25 June 1940. He eventually became Managing Director of Westminster Wine between 1969 and 1972 and was managing director of W&A Gilbey/Morgan Furze Wine and Spirit Wholesalers between 1977 and 1987.

The Colonel and his family were the last of the Eadie family to live in Barrow Hall, leaving at the beginning of the war in 1939. The property was commandeered during the war, first to house soldiers and later to provide a temporary home for refugees – some from Birmingham and some from London. It was eventually sold in 1946 to William Durose of Ireton Wood Hall, Idridgehay, who proceeded to take the magnificent wrought iron gates that were at the entrance to The Hall and re-instating them at his own estate, much to the annoyance of the Barrow residents. Grange Farm was then sold on to Bill Atkin. The Atkin family still farm here.

BARROW HALL description 1888

After passing Willington, Repton, and Twyford Cross, we traversed along stretch of field and pasture, and then Barrow came in sight It is a sweet, retired spot, centred in a neighbourhood of variegated sylvan scenery. The approach to the village is rather striking, as the road lies through a row of picturesque thatched cottages, some facing the street, others standing sideways to it, and all surrounded by trim gardens. The village is terminated by Barrow Hall, at the side of which there is a little gem of a Parish church. We entered the grounds by the western lodge gate, and then drove beneath a fine avenue of trees to the portico entrance of the mansion, where on alighting from our carriage, we were ushered into a magnificent hall.

The house is of a Grecian style of architecture, having on either side twenty-two tall windows. It is situated In the midst of delightful grounds, and In a most beautiful spot The gardens are bordered by plantations full of ornamental trees, adorned with rare shrubs and fine timber, beyond which, In front of the house, stretches the park, divided, by a sunken road leading to the banks of the Trent, which is about loo yards distant, and the situation Is most retired and delightfully rural. We stood a few moments on the lawn to admire the beauty of the scene before us. The sun was dying out in the heavens, in all the glory of an autumn sunset, and across the verdant meadows, and the silver bosom of the Trent, a golden radiance shimmered in the dancing shadows. Barrow Church, dedicated to St. Wilfrid, is situated on the estate and close to the hall—indeed, the organ could be heard from the drawing room.





The demesne is enclosed by a high brick wall that must have cost a fortune to build. On the outskirts of the tastefully laid out grounds are several old fashioned kitchen gardens, also walled In, and full of choice fruit trees of every kind; and beyond these, there is a model farm. Nearer the house is the stabling, built round a quadrangle, and entered by lofty gates, containing coach-houses, hay and provender stores, and head coachman's dwelling. Adjacent, are extensive kennels, capable of accommodating forty dogs; and adjoining the house is a large laundry.

After inspecting the greenhouses, hothouses, vineries, and conservatories, we entered the house beneath an elegant Corinthian porch, and found ourselves in a noble and lofty hall, from which two arched doorways give access to a corridor, running the whole length of the building, at one end of which is a lofty stained glass window. In the hall, there is an elaborately carved mantelpiece, reaching almost to the ceiling, and on the walls are hung many of the old masters. Numerous cases of stuffed birds stand on the tesselated floor, and statues and statuettes adorn the recesses in the walls.



To the right of the corridor there is a library and other rooms, opposite .to which there is a music room, leading into a magnificent drawing-room, which has a richly painted ceiling, and an exquisitely carved mantelpiece, with groups of figures supporting it The furniture of the room is partly of the Louis Ouatorze style, and comprises numerous inlaid cabinets of rare woods and marbles, filled with old china of almost priceless value, which with many other curios, paintings and articles of vertu, were purchased by Mr. Eadie at the late sale by auction. The upper rooms are similarly situated on opposite sides of a long corridor, those over the library and hall forming the billiard room, with its subsidiary apartments. The limited time at our disposal would not admit of our visiting all the rooms, with which the hall abounds.

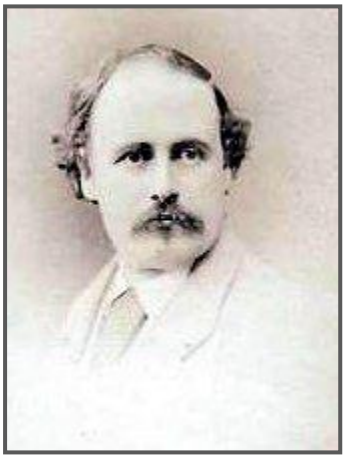
Mr. G. Turner, the landscape -painter, is a tenant on the estate, and lives in a quaint old-fashioned house situated in a most sequestered spot, near the Trent, which here presents a fine broad sheet of water with a swift current.

Noted Breweries of Great Britain and Ireland: Barnard 1889



The Walnuts

George Turner (1841-1910); landscape painter
Resident 1865-1900



It was love and marriage that brought George Turner to Barrow upon Trent. Known as *Derbyshire's John Constable,* Turner was born in Cromford, North Derbyshire, in 1841 and was largely a self- taught painter. His father Thomas was a tailor and the family moved to Derby where they lived at various addresses in the town.

Whilst there he discovered the beauties of Barrow upon Trent, one of his favourite locations for painting, and he met his future wife Eliza Lakin who lived with her parents at 'The Walnuts'. They married in 1865 and then lived with Eliza's parents, and George became a part-time farmer. They had four children, and one of them, William Lakin Turner, also became a professional artist, with eleven of his works exhibited at the Royal Academy. George's other children were Florence, Percy and Mary.

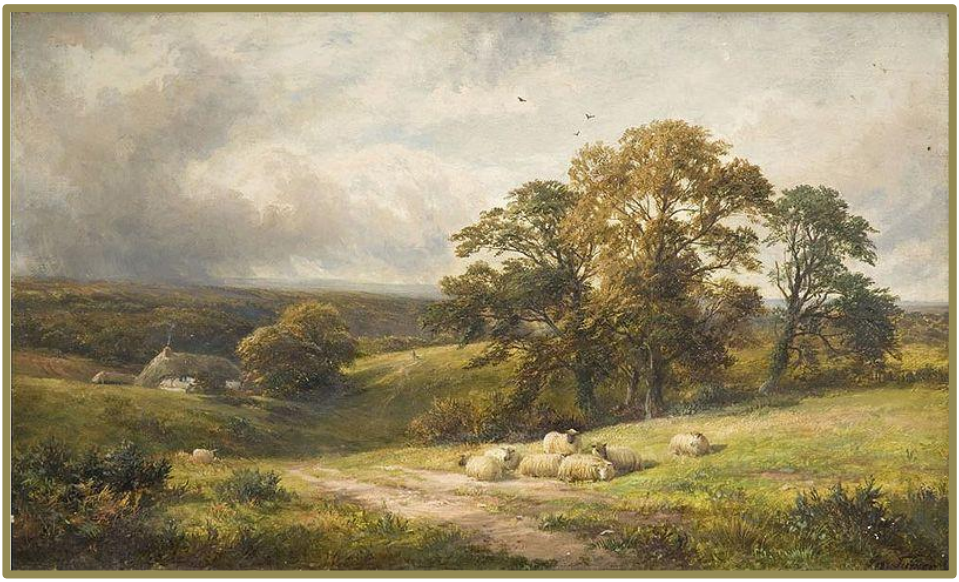


Barrow upon Trent Scene



Shepherd and Flock by the Trent

He painted countless scenes in and around Barrow upon Trent, depicting harvest time, the river and rural country scenes. Turner worked in oils and painted hundreds of pictures which depict rural life in Victorian England before the coming of the motor, tarmac roads and mechanised farming implements. From around 1860 he exhibited frequently at the Birmingham Society of Artists and at Suffolk Street Galleries in London. Derby Museum and Art Gallery have many examples of his work.



A quiet scene in Derbyshire

He was also a very gifted teacher and his house was the centre for many of his students, some, such as George Edwards, the architect, actually living there. Amongst his other successful students were David Payne, Louis Bosworth Hurt and Kate Stephens Smith.

In 1900 his wife Eliza died and is buried in the churchyard at Barrow. George moved into The Barley Mow at Kirk Ireton, leaving Percy and Florence at The Walnuts to run the farm. Percy remained there until his death in 1936. In 1903 Turner married his pupil Kate Stephens Smith, 30 years his junior and they set up home at Cliff Ash Cottage in Idridgehay. He died seven years later in 1910, leaving the main part of his estate to his second wife. William; his painter son received a small legacy of £100.



Fishing on the Trent near Anchor Church

David Payne (1843 – 1894)
Resident 1873 and 1884

David Payne lived at Trent Cottage in Barrow upon Trent in the 1870s and 1880s. He was born in 1843, the son of an Annan, Dumfriesshire, mason and was a contemporary of the artist George Turner, probably one of his students. He was educated alongside another famous Victorian painter, W. E. Lockhart at Annan Academy. As was often the custom for those who showed artistic talent he was apprenticed to a house painter until he could make his living as an artist and he moved to Derby in 1869. He then moved to Barrow where, between 1873 and 1884, seven of his fourteen children were born.

David Payne was a gifted landscape painter and the influence of George Turner can be seen in his work. This picture, *Sweet Summer*, was painted in 1876 and was typical of the idealised style of the late 19th century. David Payne won many medals and competitions; he exhibited in various places and was a member of Royal Scottish Academy. Like his mentor George Turner, he exhibited at the Royal Birmingham Society of Artists, and Derby Museum and Art Gallery have examples of his work.



Sweet Summer 1876

During his lifetime Payne was also well known for his use of the *Trompe l'oeil* technique (where the artist attempts to deceive the viewer) in his pictures. The *Trompe l'oeil* style of painting gives the two dimensional work of art the illusion of being three dimensional and is very hard to create. It requires painstaking attention to detail by the artist with every tiny detail of light and colour being cleverly manipulated in order to produce the required effect.

When Queen Victoria came to Derby in 1891 to lay the foundation stone for the Derby Royal Infirmary, Payne was commissioned to paint the scene of the Queen in the Derby Market Place.



This picture is to be seen in the Derby Museum and Art Gallery. Interestingly, his classmate, W. E. Lockhart at Annan, was also commissioned to paint for posterity, this time of Queen Victoria's Jubilee celebration in 1871.

There are local memories of him when he lived in Barrow and of his many children living in Trent Cottage. This was one half of the cottage now known as Millstone Cottage; the other half was called Trent View. The mother of Dorothy Evans (see page 85) who lived between him and the river at 'Crow Trees', often used to comment, 'there were so many of them'! He died in Sheffield in 1894.

Anne Mozley (1809 –1891)
Resident 1867-89

Anne Mozley was a daughter of Henry Mozley who ran a successful printing business in Derby. She moved to what is now known as St. Wilfrid's, Barrow upon Trent, in 1867 upon her mother's death, and lived there with her youngest sister Elizabeth until, in 1889, failing sight forced her to return to live with a remaining sister in Derby. She and her sister Elizabeth are buried in the churchyard of St. Wilfrid's Church and Elizabeth (1821 – 1883) is commemorated on an alabaster plaque in the church.



Anne was the second daughter and sixth of twelve children born to Henry and Jane Mozley and was raised by governesses in an intellectual and artistic household led by a father who was a leading citizen and supporter of the church.

Interestingly, when Henry Mozley moved to Derby from Gainsborough, he brought with him an apprentice called William Bemrose whose family eventually became large printers and publishers both in Derby and London. They were to have a considerable influence upon the City.

As Anne grew up she was surrounded by academics; three of her brothers studied at Oxford and two became leading clergymen, contributing much to serious journalism. Her brother Thomas Mozley had John Newman (the future

Cardinal Newman) as his tutor and he and another brother married two of Newman's sisters. John Newman was the leading initiator of the 'Oxford Movement' that wished to reform the Anglican Church and move it nearer to the Church of Rome. This was the intellectual atmosphere in which the young Anne was raised. John Newman eventually joined the Catholic Church becoming a Cardinal in 1879 and was 'beatified' by Pope Benedict XVI in 2010.



Cardinal J. Newman

With two of her other brothers developing her father's printing business into a publishing house, it was not surprising that the talented Anne became an essayist and later a journal editor, but for the most part of her life her writings were published anonymously as was the case with many women writers of the time. Many of her essays were 'social' comments and included titles such as 'Schools of mind and manners', 'Commonplace People', 'Dress' and 'Temper' etc.. She may well have felt that anonymity allowed her to continue her life as a genteel spinster lady, living in a provincial town and conducting good works for local people and the church, without people wondering upon whom she was basing her observations!

In her early writing days, Anne prepared collections of religious poetry to be published by her brothers and this led to her editing a children's magazine



The home of the Mozley family in Derby

named *Magazine for the Young* a magazine that continued into the 1880s, with Anne as its editor. She also published essays in many of the 'serious' periodicals and we have been able to 'download' *Tales of Female Heroism* published in 1846, a collection of essays about famous women in history. Her further views regarding the place of women in society can be seen in her critique of *Mr. Mill on the subjection of women* (1869).

Anne was the first person to recognise that the novel *Adam Bede* written by 'George Eliot' was actually written by a woman namely 'Mary Ann Evans'. George Eliot was so impressed by the critique that Anne had written that she sent her a copy of her next work, *Mill on the Floss*. Anne also critiqued the work of many other authors including Charlotte Bronte and Jane Austin. She appears to have been in the fore front of literary discussion and for most of her writing career she hid her female sex.

She contributed essays and articles to the *Christian Remembrance;* the short-lived *Bentley's Quarterly Review; the Saturday Review* and *Blackwood's Magazine.* All this work was unsigned and even the two volumes that were created from her work and published as *Essays on Social Subjects: from the 'Saturday Review'* (1865) do not identify the author.



George Eliot



St. Wilfrid's house

Did George Elliott and Anne Mozley correspond while Anne lived in Barrow?

She did however, step aside from her anonymity when, upon the death of her brother, Canon James B. Mozley, a leading vicar, theologian and lecturer, she edited his papers to great acclaim. The now Cardinal Newman was most impressed by the manner in which Anne had achieved this task and invited her to edit his letters and writings from his 'Anglican Period', on condition that they were not published until after his death. Her nephew Francis Mozley, writing after her death, quoted her as saying that she felt that:

> no one besides was left having such freedom of position and such personal recollection of the events that happened fifty or sixty years before.

In an obituary written by Charlotte M. Younge, another important woman writer of the day, she refers to Anne Mozley as 'one of the ablest women of her day'.

It is impossible in a book of this nature to more than dip into the life and achievement of such an extraordinary woman but there is a great deal of information and downloadable material now available on the web and this article has been informed by the work of Ellen Jordan, University of Newcastle.

Francis Ley (1846-1916)
(Resident, Manor House 1880s-1890s)

In the early 1880s Richard Sale rented The Manor House to Frances Ley, of Leys Malleable Castings. By this time Ley was already a very successful business man, having set up Leys Malleable Castings, Derby in 1874. A visit to The United States in early 1880's led to great developments in his company, including ownership of a foundry in Cleveland Ohio, and it grew to be one of the most extensive business concerns in Derby. Later in 1905 Francis was knighted and around this time he also became High Sheriff of Nottingham.



The 1890 Derby County Baseball team with Francis Ley at centre

For about ten tears he lived at The Manor House with his wife Georgina and his son and two daughters. Unfortunately Georgina died in 1886 and she is buried in Barrow upon Trent churchyard. He married his second wife Alison in 1888 and she bore him two more sons. These two young men, Christopher born 1893 and Maurice born 1895, were killed during the First World War, the younger son died at Ypres in 1914 and the other died in a plane crash over Croydon in 1918. They were not living in Barrow when they joined up so their names were not, therefore, included on the Barrow memorial cross

Francis Ley was a very generous and caring employer and during the time that he lived in Barrow he built a sports arena adjacent to his works in Derby which was for his employees to use; he felt this was a way of ensuring a healthier and more productive workforce.



The mess room for Ley's Malleable Castings in Colombo Street, Derby



A 1912 Ley's Cricket team that includes three members of the England Football team

He also introduced baseball to this country, a sport he had enjoyed watching whilst in the United States. He formed a very successful baseball team which became the National Champions three times in the early 1890s. Their star player was a young man who lived in Normanton called Steve Bloomer but, regrettably, the English public did not take to baseball, so the sport gradually died out.



It was then that Francis Ley offered his sports ground to Derby County Football Club. Up until this time the football club had shared facilities at 'The Race Course' with the Cricket Club. From 1895 Derby County rented the Baseball Ground from the Ley Family, and in 1924 they bought it and played there for over a hundred years until 1997 when the new stadium was built in Pride Park. Steve Bloomer, who had been the star baseball player, now became a Derby County footballer; he was one of their most successful players and he also played for England. Today at every home game, before the match starts, the club anthem *Steve Bloomer's watchin*' is played to the crowd. There is a bust of him at Pride Park.



Francis Ley gave his staff paid holidays for good time keeping and paid their train fare if they wished to take their families away. He was extremely kind at Christmas with every employee receiving a turkey or goose, and meat vouchers to use through the rest of the year. He bought fishing rights at Weston on Trent so his that employees could enjoy one of his favourite past times.

He was a very generous supporter of charities including local churches and hospitals and he owned extensive estates in Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Yorkshire and Cumberland. When he died in 1916 he left over £448,000.



The Manor House

Thomas Weston 1880 – 1927
(Resident 1914 – 1927)

Thomas Robert Weston of Ford and Weston Builders bought Millstone Cottage in 1914. Built on land known as 'Tomma Hills', it consisted of two cottages when he bought it, namely 'Trent View' and 'Trent Cottage', and had been part of the Bancroft estate. These dwellings were at the far end of Church Lane on the 'Barrow Bend'. In that same year Mr. Weston also bought the cottage behind called Trentside Cottage and the surrounding land from Lady Alice Des Voeux, and here he housed his staff.



He made many alterations to Millstone Cottage and his initials are still visible over the door at the rear of the property. He attached a bell to the roof of his cottage so that when he rang it, his chauffeur would 'bring the car round'! The chauffeur lived at Trentside Cottage! He only used this house as his country residence; he usually lived at Malcom Street in Derby with his brother and sister.

The firm that became Ford and Weston originated in around 1873-74 when Thomas's father Richard Weston, then aged 26, opened a builder's yard in Leacroft Road, Derby. Richard was a hardworking man from Staffordshire who

learnt his trade under Sir Abraham Woodiwiss, renowned for his honest workmanship and business integrity. Sir Abraham's developments included the Strand located in the Derby City Centre Conservation Area, Hartington Street, and his company also constructed bridges, railways and a variety of other buildings.

The firm of Weston Builder's early work in the town included the Ice and Cold Storage Depot, St. Osmund's Church on London Road and the Carnegie Library on Peartree Road. However the firm's greatest early challenge came when it won the contract to build Rolls-Royce's first Derby factory, on Nightingale Road.



Thanks to the increasing popularity of the car, Rolls-Royce firm expanded, and 'Westons' were awarded the building contracts. Richard Weston had been joined in the business by his son Thomas and by the middle of the First World War the firm had a workforce of ninety full-time workers. Westons must have been a very impressive outfit as the son, Thomas Weston, was offered the post of Managing Director in a rival firm called J.K. Ford, another substantial concern!

Richard Weston did not wish to lose his son, so his answer to this threat was to buy the Ford business in 1916 and appoint Thomas Managing Director of the newly amalgamated firm. The Weston father and son were involved with many flourishing businesses in Derby. Following the First World War the firm carried out major housing schemes for various local authorities and other significant projects including the Derby County Directors' stand at the Baseball Ground,

Nightingale Road Schools, the first permanent premises for the Derbyshire Building Society on Victoria Street, and of course our own Manor Court.

Regrettably, the father Richard Weston died in 1923 to be followed in 1927 by Thomas, leaving the firm without the dynamic leadership which had made its reputation. Thomas was only 47 when he died and he left Millstone Cottage to his sister and brother, his sister Mary living there until 1968. The east facing stained glass window in the Church of St. Wilfrid is dedicated to Thomas Weston by his sister Mary.

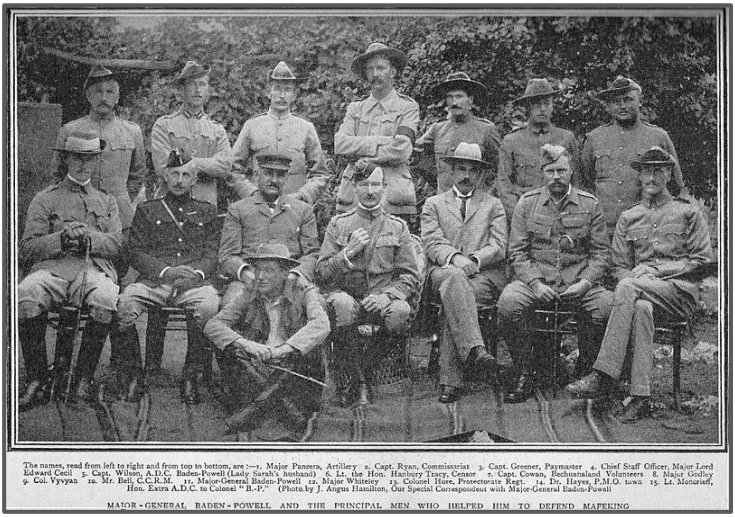


Captain C. J. Bennett (190? - 1919)



Captain Bennett lived with his mother at The Cottage (Brookfield Club) and was at the centre of scouting in Derbyshire for 50 years. As a young man he served in the Boer War with the Imperial Yeomanry and it appears that he was present in Mafeking at the same time as Lieutenant Colonel Baden-Powell, founder of the Boy Scouts movement who, whilst besieged at Mafeking, was first putting forward his ideas for training army scouts. It was from this initiative that Baden-Powell started the Boy Scout movement in August 1907.

Norman, the brother of C. J. Bennett, wrote to Baden-Powell early in 1908 on behalf of his brother indicating C. J.'s interest in the movement. In return Baden-Powell sent him advice on how to set up a patrol of boy scouts. Captain Bennett then founded the Barrow upon Trent troop, one of the first in the country. The group became known as the Cycle Troop and their bicycles were painted khaki in colour. When he moved to Derby in 1919 he became leader of the Derwent scouting troop



The names, read from left to right and from top to bottom, are :—1. Major Panzera, Artillery 2. Capt. Ryan, Commissariat 3. Capt. Greener, Paymaster 4. Chief Staff Officer, Major Lord Edward Cecil 5. Capt. Wilson, A.D.C. Baden-Powell (Lady Sarah's husband) 6. Lt. the Hon. Hanbury Tracy, Censor 7. Capt. Cowan, Bechuanaland Volunteers 8. Major Godley 9. Col. Vyvyan 10. Mr. Bell, C.C.R.M. 11. Major-General Baden-Powell 12. Major Whiteley 13. Colonel Hore, Protectorate Regt. 14. Dr. Hayes, P.M.O. town 15. Lt. Mafarlett, Hon. Extra A.D.C. to Colonel "B.-P." (Photo. by J. Angus Hamilton, Our Special Correspondent with Major-General Baden-Powell

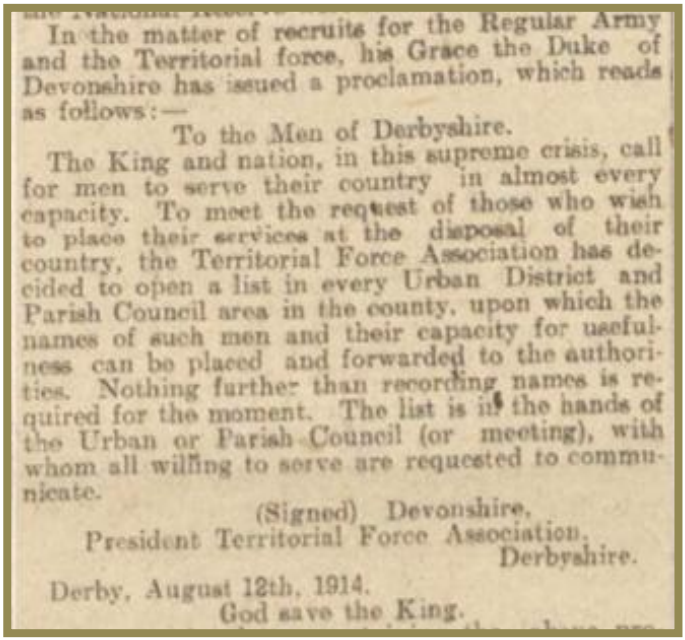
MAJOR-GENERAL BADEN-POWELL AND THE PRINCIPAL MEN WHO HELPED HIM TO DEFEND MAFEKING

and by 1930 he was acting District Commissioner, a post he held for the rest of his life. He was also involved nationally in scouting events, and ran leadership training courses for Scouts in London. He was now employed at Ley's Malleable castings as personnel manager, but scouting was his life. He played host to Baden-Powell during his many trips to Derbyshire. He also enjoyed producing concerts, shows and pantomimes which he produced both with the scouts and with parishioners. There is a record of Bennett being a member of the Ley's Operatic and Dramatic Society in 1932 and he appears to have been running the Derwent Scout Group during the early years of the Second World War.



Captain Bennett with scouts celebrating the coronation of George V in 1911

In an article in the Derby Daily Telegraph C. J. is listed, with several others, as recommended for a commission in the Derbyshire Imperial Yeomanry, a reserve regiment that was eventually to become part of the Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Mounted Brigade. The article refers to the appeal made by the Duke of Devonshire for soldiers to join this regiment.



In the matter of recruits for the Regular Army and the Territorial force, his Grace the Duke of Devonshire has issued a proclamation, which reads as follows:—

To the Men of Derbyshire.

The King and nation, in this supreme crisis, call for men to serve their country in almost every capacity. To meet the request of those who wish to place their services at the disposal of their country, the Territorial Force Association has decided to open a list in every Urban District and Parish Council area in the county, upon which the names of such men and their capacity for usefulness can be placed and forwarded to the authorities. Nothing further than recording names is required for the moment. The list is in the hands of the Urban or Parish Council (or meeting), with whom all willing to serve are requested to communicate.

(Signed) Devonshire,
President Territorial Force Association,
Derbyshire.

Derby, August 12th, 1914.
God save the King.

Lt-Colonel Winterbottom, interviewed for the article stated that:

> We are getting a most respectable class of recruits - and the majority of them can ride. I shall be proud to have such men under me for every one of them is intelligent and enthusiastic.

Daily Telegraph 9 October 1914

It must indeed have been a very successful recruiting campaign and it is believed that the recruiting office in Barrow was held in the school, open each evening and was 'manned' by Mr. Elkin, leader of the Parish Council, and the vicar. Thirty - six men volunteered to go to war and one of our team has researched into this aspect of our Parish story under the title of 'The Memorial Cross 1916'.

We, of course, may never know - could it have been the experience of being part of that early scout group or having such a successful scout troop in the village that persuaded so many young men from Barrow to join the army in 1914-15?

Captain Bennett must have returned to South Africa because he died in Cape Town in either 1958 or 1961; there is conflicting evidence about the exact date.



The neighbours of Barrow

	1880	1890	1900	1910	1920	1930
Sale	Sale family					
	Sale family descendants in the Manor House					
Pountain	John – bought the Hall and Grange Farm					
Girardot	John – The Manor House – hero of Birkenhead					
Eadie			John, James, John – owners of the Hall, The Grange and The Cottage			
Turner	George – landscape artist at The Walnuts					
Payne	David – artist at Trent Cottage (Tomma Hills)					
Mozley	Anne – lady of letters at the Cottage (St Wilfrid's)					
Ley	Sir Francis Ley – The Manor House – started the Baseball Ground - philanthropoist					
Bennett			Capt. C J – started Boy Scout troop in Barrow			
Hoult				Joseph and Florence – the Manor House, Benefactors of the Bethel Chapel and the donors of Manor Court land		
Weston				Thomas and Richard – builders in Tomma Hills (Ford and Weston)		

Bringing them all together

When Aneurin Bevan, Minister of Health stated that “Barrow on Trent is a remote village where there is little or no demand for accommodation” he obviously knew little about the parish or its people.

As we wrote this book we became increasingly astonished by the story of those who chose to live in Barrow upon Trent. Surrounding one of the very few remaining churches developed by the Knight’s Hospitallers, the parish was home to saints and sinners; generous philanthropists and cheating swindlers; religious zealots of all persuasions; artists and sportsmen; industrialists and farmers. It was home to heroes and distinguished soldiers; High Society bankrupts and entrepreneur tradesmen. There were also an incredibly large number of people connected to Barrow who were in the drinks industry! Many were extremely successful in their field, touching not only the world within which they lived, but also the worldwide community. One of our team has created a snap shot of those who were living here during the later part of the 19th and beginning of the 20th century, and who must have known each other. So far this book has told the stories of those who were renowned; famous and infamous. Their stories are available, and we have tried to portray them accurately.

But these people were surrounded by others who worked in the community; labourers, blacksmiths, grooms, laundresses, servants, cooks. Their stories are not available in books or on the web; we may know from general history books what their lives might have been like, but we cannot know what in their lives has influenced our parish as it is today. But what is certain is that their lives and their stories have influenced what our parish is today.

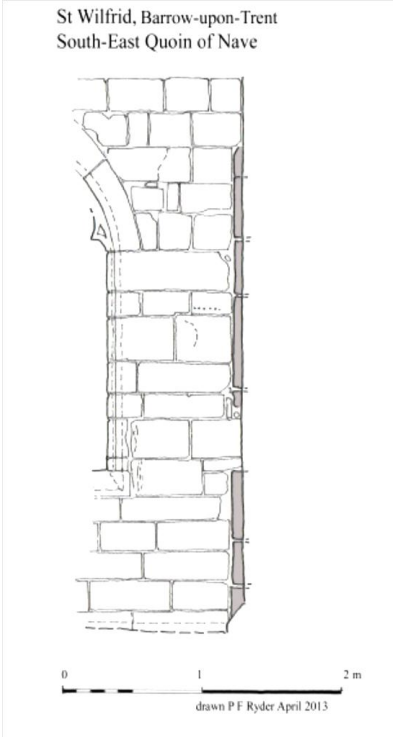
Thanks to the censuses that were taken every ten years, we know who they were though not always where they lived. The earliest census that tells us some detail about the residents of the village is the one taken in 1901 and we have listed those residents and shown what they did for a living. The map accompanying this shows how few dwellings there were and how spread out.

First we will look at the Church of St Wilfrid around which it all started.

Archaeological study of St. Wilfrid's Church



Barrow Church by Howard Gresley



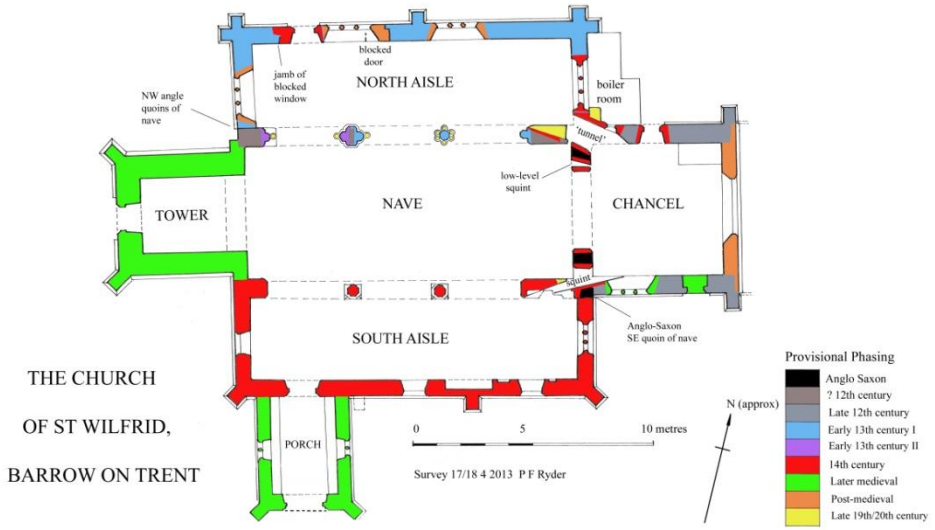
Over many years, several and various views have been put forward and published about the origins and history of our Church building. These have often been at odds with each other so, in an attempt to put an end to the speculation, the services of a distinguished historic building expert were employed to try to give a definitive view of the actual age and development of this building that we all think we know so well.

This archaeologist, Peter Ryder MPhil, states 'This is an intriguing building, and its development is not easy to reconstruct'. However, he goes on to say that, following intensive examination he comes to the following conclusions:

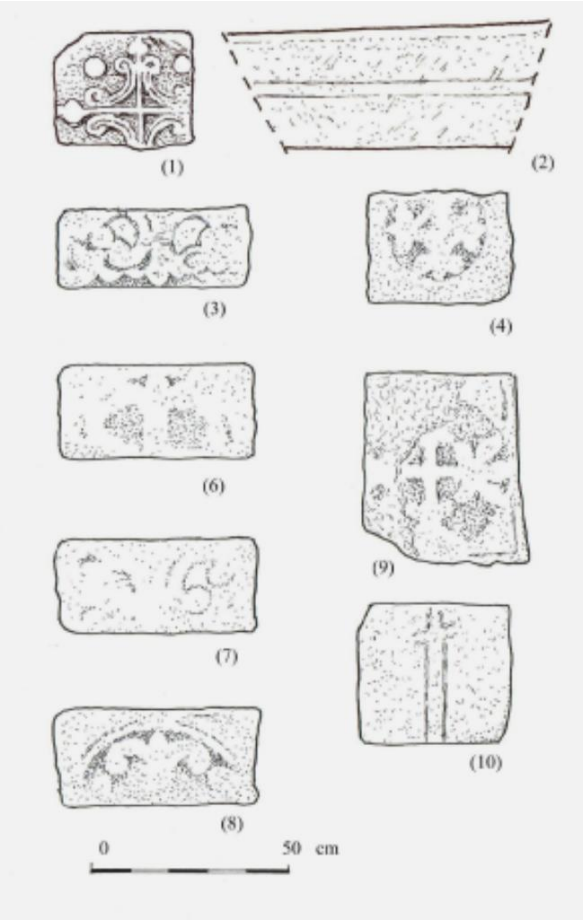
The Nave, the main body of the church is essentially an Anglo-Saxon building, rectangular in shape. The original Anglo-Saxon quoins (distinctively large and square stones that form the corners of the building) are visible at the corners of the nave where it now adjoins later extension walls. On the eastern side of the nave, the wall between the Nave and the Chancel, the original wall and original roofline can still be clearly seen. This part of the Church was probably built in around 800-900 AD and is mentioned in the Domesday Book.

At about the time that the Church and surrounding lands were given to the Knights Hospitallers in 1165, a series of new building works began. The North aisle appears to have been built around this time as was the Chancel – the area that houses the altar.

The South aisle was added about 100 years after the North aisle, and the Tower and South porch appear to have been the final phase of building in the 1400s. At about this time, the roof of the Nave was raised and the small high windows, the Clerestory, added.



The Chancel has been shortened in its lifetime; priests were responsible for the upkeep of the Chancel in Mediaeval times whilst the Parishioners looked after the upkeep of the main body of the Church. It would appear that we had a series of delinquent priests who neglected their duties to the extent that the eastern



end of the Chancel fell down and had to be rebuilt, probably around the time of the 15th century. At the time of repair, the Chancel was reduced to about half of its original length.

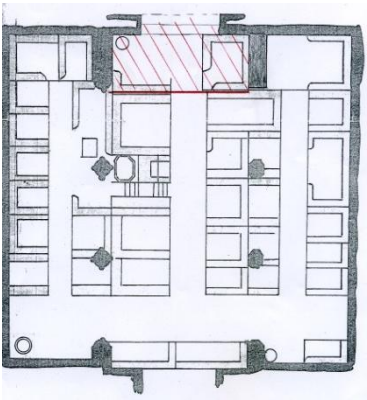
This period in our history was one of tumult and disorder. The Great Famine and Black Death in the 14th century led to the devastation of the population, and many rural people left their villages to try to find work in towns. Could this have been what caused the fall into disrepair of our Church?

Several of the external walls of the building contain Grave slabs. These are ancient grave markers that have been recycled by successive builders of the church when making alterations to the Chancel. The grave slabs are sculpted with pictures of various types of crosses, swords and other designs. Details of these may be seen in the report on the web-site.

The body of the Church is supported upon several large pillars. These were provided to support the wall structures when the Church was enlarged from its original rectangular box. The builders of the North and South aisles will have punched through the original walls to create the new side aisles.

The pillars of the South aisle are original structures but have been crudely hacked away at their bases by our vandal forefathers who decided that the installation of their box pews (to keep themselves warm from the winter

draughts) was more important than the beauty of the original stonework of the columns! The following drawing shows the manner in which the pews were laid out in the eighteenth to nineteenth century and the damage done to one of the pillars so that the pews could be fitted in.





There are squints that give visual access from the side aisles to the altar in the Chancel. The one from the south aisle is an extensive structure, whilst that of the north aisle is even bigger – in effect, this is a tunnel that leads from the north aisle into the Chancel. At some point, the builders decided that they had been a little too cavalier with the amount of wall stone that had been taken away! The infill can clearly be seen at the east end of the north aisle, presumably restored rapidly before the wall fell down!



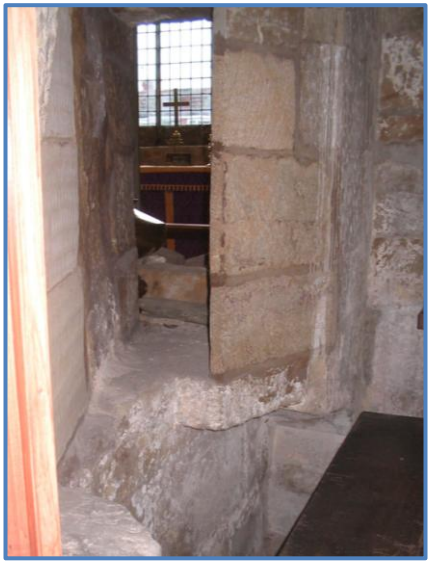
A small squint is also visible from the north part of the east wall of the Nave through to the area that would have contained the high altar prior to the foreshortening of the Chancel. Could this have been a squint from an anchorite cell located in that corner of the church? (Anchorites were religious recluses who were confined within a cell within the church building.)

At the east end of the Nave is evidence of a substantial rood screen, (a partition between the nave and the chancel), with the marks of a West Gallery on the west wall where Parishioners would provide music for the services during the 18th century

Our ancestors were not above defacing their Church with graffiti. There is evidence all around the building at various levels, and there are sword and spear sharpening marks on the doorways, and on the Nave arch.

In conclusion, it would seem that earlier historians did not really understand the importance of this modest Parish church. It would appear that St. Wilfrid's is possibly one of only a very few almost intact Knights Hospitaller's churches still existing, and as such, should stand proudly alongside its close neighbours, Melbourne and Repton.

We are grateful to Peter Ryder for his archaeological report which we have adapted for the purposes of this book. The full version may be found on our website: www.butphrg.org.uk



View of altar through squint in the south aisle

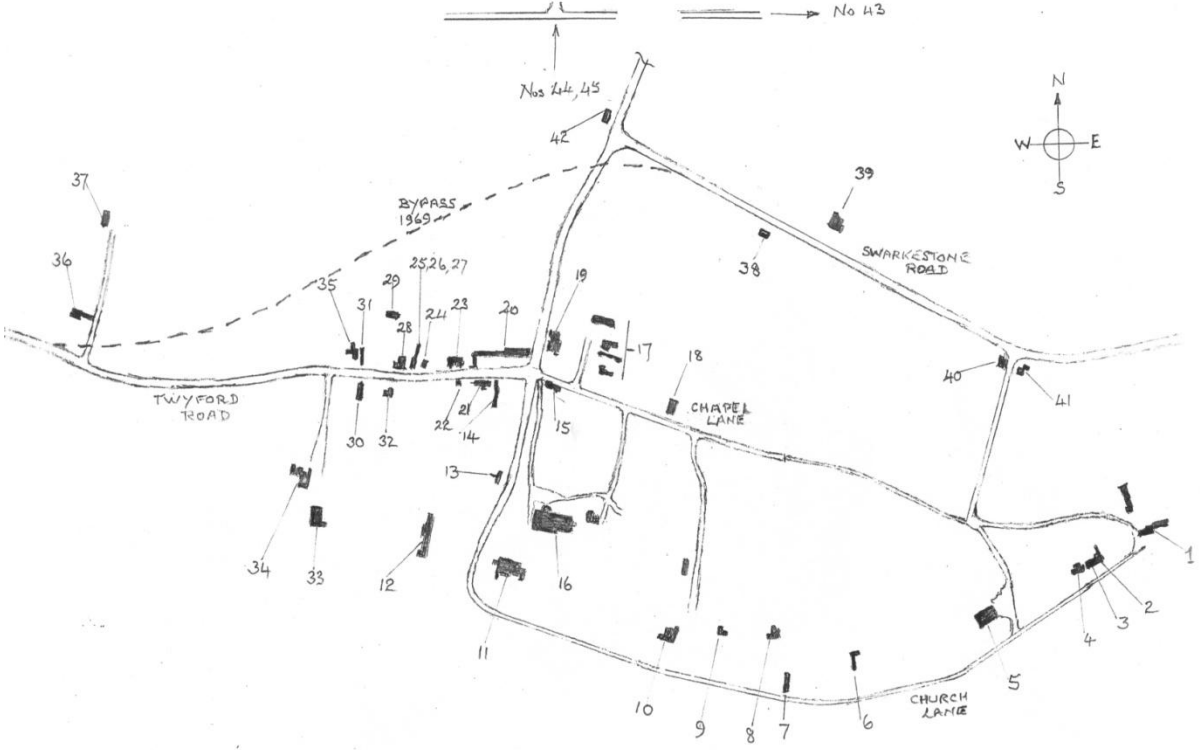
A snap-shot of 'Working Barrow' in 1901

Location		Family names	Occupation
Church Lane			
1	Crow Trees	Garratt	Farmers
2	Tomma Hills / Trent Cottage	Hulse	Tractor engine proprietor and Thrashing machine feeder.
3	Trent View	Morrey	Coachman and Retired game keeper
	(The 2 properties above are now Millstone Cottage.)		
4	Trent House	Elkin	Store manager - Co Op
5	Manor House	Eadie	Brewers and Domestic staff.
6	Meadow Farm	Haynes	Farmer and Plate Layer
7	Eve Cottage X 2	Garratt	Wheelwright, Coachman and Joiner.
8	Elm Farm	Sharpe	Farmer, Railway clerk and Farm servant.
9	Poplars Farm	Holmes	Farm Labourer, Cook and Dressmaker.
10	The Walnuts	Turner	Farmer. Railway clerk and Domestic servants
11	**St Wilfrid's Church**		
12	St Wilfrid's	? empty	
13	Ivy House	Bucknall	Butcher and Farmer
14	Hollybush House	Piggott	Farmers.
15	Hall Lodge	Jowett	Gardener and Dressmaker

16	Barrow Hall	Eadie	Brewers and Domestic staff.
17	The Nook		
	1	Twells	Farm Labourer and Groom.
	2	Lane	Farm Labourer.
	3	Thorpe	Plate layer on railway.
	4	Coulton	Farm labourer.
	5	Fletcher	Tin smith, formerly game keeper.
	6	Lumbers	Boot repairer.
	7	Morris/Bentley	Blacksmith and Retired farmer
	8	Heath	Groom
	9	Gidlow	Wheelwright
	10	Thorpe	Retired farmer
18	**Bethel Chapel**		
	Twyford Road		
19	The Cottage (now The Brookfield)	Dobson	Paper Manufacturer, Nurse and Domestic staff
20	The Row		
	1	Bancroft	Laundress
	2	Spencer	Retired
	3	Dimmocks	Agricultural worker
	4	Whittaker	Agricultural labourer
	5	Whittaker	Retired

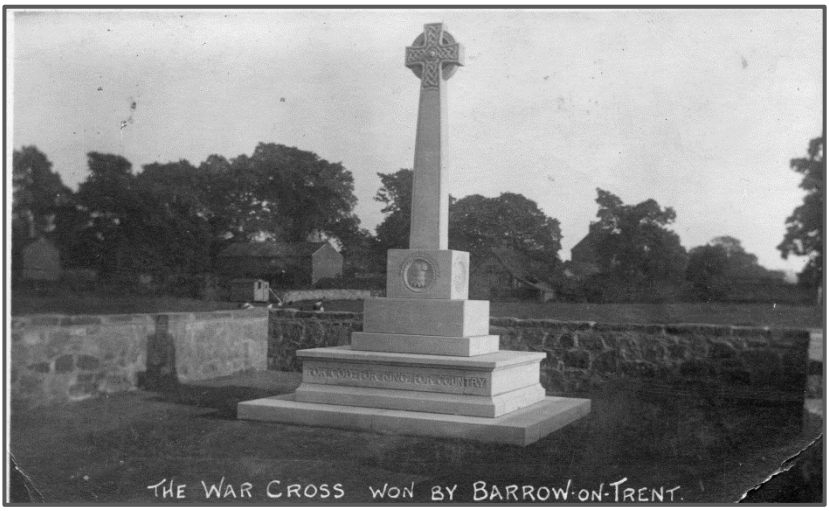
	6	Whittaker	Labourer
	7	Whittaker	Plate layer
	8	Sharpe	Farm Labourer, son a farm bailiff and preacher
	9	Goodwin	Grocer and baker
21	Opposite The Row (1)	Harvey	Plate layer railway and Apprentice blacksmith
22	Opposite The Row (2)	Smith	Gardener
23	Greycote	Roome	Retired
24	Moorcroft	Spencer	Farmer, bootmaker and Plater on railway
25	Pump Yard (1)	Archer	Farm labourer
26	Pump Yard (2)	Hicklin	Farm Labourer
27	Pump Yard (3)	Lumbers	Agricultural Labourer
28	**The National School (Now Sale and Davys)**		
29	Little Croft	??	
30	Ridgers Cottage	Sharp	Coal merchant
31	Vine Cottage	Horspool	Stud groom
32	Old Post Office	Robinson	Postmaster, basket maker, schoolmistress and assistant school teacher
33	Fir Tree Farm	Shaw	All Farmers - not sure who lived where.
34	Old Manor Farm	Sharp	
35	Walnut Farm	Allsop	

36	Grange Farm	Holmes	Farm Bailiff, dress maker and staff
37	Grange Stud Farm	Bailey	Stud groom
	Swarkestone Road		
38	Holly Cottage	Smith	Gardener
39	Ash House	Holmes	Farm labourer
40	Manor Lodge	Hallam	Farm labourer
41	Manor Lodge	Thorpe	Coachman
	Sinfin Lane and Moor Lane		
42	Rose Cottage (now called Old Forge/ Pedleys Cottage)	Haynes	Blacksmith, platelayer
43	Gravel Pit Cottage (Hill Cottage)	Evendon	Gardener and groom
44	Hill Lodge	Tucker	Gamekeeper
45	The Hill	Crick	Retired army captain



BARROW UPON TRENT 1901

The Memorial Cross, 1916



In 1915, Mr. F. C. Arkwright, the great-grandson of Sir Richard Arkwright organised a competition for Derbyshire villages, the prize of which was a Memorial Cross to be erected in the winner's village.

A Derbyshire newspaper reported the outcome of the competition in 1916:

BARROW'S NOBLE RESPONSE TO THE CALL OF DUTY.

The Winners of Mr. Arkwright's Village Competition.

MR. ARKWRIGHT ENTERTAINS REPRESENTATIVES OF THE HEROES.

The parents and wives of men from the village of Barrow-on-Trent who are serving with the colours were kindly entertained to tea by Mr. F. C. Arkwright, on Shrove Tuesday, when a party of between 50 and 60 assembled in the schoolroom representing all the 36 men who volunteered.

After a substantial tea and flash photos, the vicar introduced Mr. Arkwright, congratulating the village on winning the cross so kindly offered for competition among the Derbyshire villages.

Mr. Arkwright then addressed the company, with congratulations on the noble response the village had made to the call of King and

Country, saying though this was his first visit, he would always take an interest in Barrow, and hoped it would by no means be his last visit. The fact that Barrow was so far ahead of all the other competitors had made it an easy task for the judges to decide the winner. He also expressed his sympathy with those parents whose sons had already made the supreme sacrifice by giving their lives for others, a sympathy that was all the more heartfelt by reason of his own bereavement. He invited the Parishioners to make suggestions as to what, when and where the memorial should be. Mr. Elkin (chairman of the Parish Council) said that a pleasure almost as great as that of winning the cross was that of making Mr. Arkwright's acquaintance. Mr. Dobson, commanding the Home Guards, pointed out that, in addition to finding so many men for the colours, Barrow also had a platoon of Home Guards, who had given up a great deal of time to do their drill.

The company was then entertained with songs by Mrs. Hoult, Mr. Martin Hoult Miss Darby, and Mr. Fred Spencer, adding greatly to the pleasure of the evening. The vicar added that the object of having the photos taken was that a copy might be sent to all the men who are serving. He also regretted the unavoidable absence of Mr. Eadie and Mr. Bennett. After a few parting words from Mr. Arkwright, complementing Mrs. Robinson on the good effects of her teaching in school, 30 of the men having been pupils in former days, the proceeding closed with 'God Save The King'.

It will always be a pleasure to those who were present on this occasion to picture Mr. Arkwright in their midst, with a soldier's child upon his knee endearing himself to everyone. Barrow is looking forward to a repetition of this pleasure in time to come.

Barrow had in fact, the greatest number of men who volunteered to go to fight for King and Country in the Great War of Nations in 1914-1918 in proportion to its population than any other village in Derbyshire, and possibly the country.

The village was overjoyed and at a meeting the discussion took place as to where the memorial cross was to be sited. Mr. J. Eadie the Burton brewer who owned

some land in Barrow, kindly offered a site in the centre of the village, across the road from the National School (now Sale and Davys school). The decision then had to be taken as to who would supply and build the memorial. Mr. W. Haswell and Son of Chester and London were the preferred stonemasons; they were a nationally well-known firm, established in 1774, and whose masons had on many occasions carried out work on Chester Cathedral.



The above photograph was taken in March 2013.

The design of the Memorial Cross was agreed, as were the inscriptions to be carved. The design broadly takes the form of an Anglican Cross of the 9th or 10th centuries.

During May and June of 1916 Mr. Haswell and his team designed and manufactured the memorial cross. On completion of their task they promptly delivered the memorial in several sections. It was then erected by Councillor J. Hardy Walker of Derby on the dedicated site in the centre of the village, where it stands majestically today.

The Armour and Brave Volunteers on the Cross.

The Cross is situated in the centre of the village on Twyford Road. The area is a raised ground and is surrounded on three sides by a three-foot high stone wall, with an open front being approached by steps. Above the engraved panel depicting the men who fought in the Great War, are four carved panels representing the Armour with which St. Paul the Apostle, in the last chapter of his epistle to the Ephesians, exhorts the faithful emblematically to arm themselves The front or north facing carving is devoted to:

The Breastplate of Righteousness



The Breastplate covers the chest. In our case the breastplate is made not of iron but of righteousness.

A soldier with his breastplate on goes boldly into battle full of confidence. Righteousness allows us to stand before God, men and demons.

To the right, which is facing west is depicted:

The Shield of Faith



The Shield of Faith not only defends our whole body but also our armour. It keeps the darts of the enemy away from our head, chest, waist, arms and legs. No wonder the Bible says we should have it 'above all'. None of the other pieces of weapon mentioned so far are exalted as highly as the Shield.

At the rear of the Cross and facing south is the:

The Helmet of Salvation



The next piece of Armour is a Helmet,

Something to cover the head. The importance

Of the head does not need much convincing.

A soldier can survive a broken arm, but a broken

Head, depending on the severity of the wound, can

Be life threatening.

On the forth side, which is facing to the east is the:

The Sword of the Spirit



A sword is an unmistakable weapon of

Offence. No doubt that it can be used as a tool for defence.

This however is no Ordinary sword.

This sword is made of the Spirit of the Word.

In Spiritual warfare the battles are fought with words.

Words packed and backed with the Spirit of God.

The Cross was adapted from a well-known Derbyshire example at Ilam. The upper part or Head is based upon authentic examples of a pre-Norman date.

As stated above, the front panel is devoted to the 'Breastplate of Righteousness,' the right hand panel depicts the 'Shield of Faith,' at the rear is the 'Helmet of Salvation,' finally is the 'Sword of the Spirit.' Then below the armour carvings on the large panel are carved the names of the 36 men who volunteered from the village (see below):



The above photograph was taken in March 2013.

Robert Anderson, Wm. Allsop, Frank Bancroft, Wm. Bancroft, Chas.J.Bennett, Frank Brentnall, Ernest Coulton, Wm. Dimocks, Thos. Wm. Ford, Sampson Garratt, Alf. W. Goodwin, John E. Goodwin, Fred Goodwin, Thos. F. Goodwin, John Harvey, Alf. Harvey, Harry H. Harvey, Arthur Holmes, Harry Holmes, Arthur Horspool, Richard Lane, Albert Lumbers, Walter Lumbers, Arthur R. Morris, Chas. J. Robinson, John Spencer, Wm. Salt, Frank Sharpe, Christopher Wm. Thorpe, Geo. Herbert Thorpe, John Henry Thorpe, Thos. Twells, Fred Twells, Wilfred Smith, Thos Oliver Whitaker, Edward Yates.

We shall remember them.

Dorothy Evans

This next section will feature the experiences of our Parishioners who lived during the 20th century. We start with an article written by Dorothy Evans. This highly respected lady cared greatly for her village, and her family had lived at Crow Trees for several generations. She was a great supporter of both Church and School, and much loved.

This is followed by recollections from some of our other senior citizens who generously agreed to be interviewed for the project. Extracts from these will be placed upon our web-site, www.butphrg.org.uk .

BARROW IN THE 20th CENTURY

As a very small child my earliest recollections are of Barrow in the 1914 -18 war. It must have been a very self-sufficient village when you think that there were no main services, no public transport and no deliveries. Anyone going to Derby either walked to Chellaston Station, or over Sinfin Moor (not Sinfin) unless you were lucky enough to possess a pony and trap. The Post Office where Mr. and Mrs. Cotton now live, was kept by Miss Robinson who was also Parish Clerk. Mr. and Mrs. Woolley and Mrs. Salt kept the shop and bread was baked where Mr. Charlesworth's cottage now is. The forge on Sinfin Lane was moved to St. Wilfrids and taken over by Mr. Morris, members of whose family still live in the village. The garage at the Cottage housed the joiners and wheelwrights.

The main landowners were the Harpur Crews, Lady Alice De Voeux and the Sale family, and living at the Hall were the Eadies, at the Hill the Dobsons, and at the Manor the Sharpes. Of the larger farms, it is interesting to note that those in Church Lane have gone, the land being sold and the houses now private dwellings. Captain Bennet lived at the Cottage, and was Scout Master, and who is remembered after all these years for his work amongst the boys of the village. The Hall was destroyed by fire in the 50's, and the Cottage is now the Club. The cottages on the site of Mr. Marson's shop, and those by the school known as Pump yard, sadly were demolished, conservation being unheard of at that time. The school catered for 30 - 40 children who sat at combined desks and forms without backs, and who began and finished their education there. A lady in the village tells this story

of a Headmistress who was well loved but very strict and very particular about children getting enough sleep. Each had to record bed times in a note book and this little girl had been allowed to stay up till 10.00 for a family party. Next morning she had to lie on the floor with her head on her sewing bag. It must have had a great impression on her to remember the incident.

The Cross was given by Sir Richard Arkwright to the village sending the greatest number of volunteers to the war. Their names are inscribed on the base, and the roll of honour can be seen in the Church. Barrow and Swarkestone had a very good cricket club which was disbanded during the war, reformed and again disbanded in 1939. It came back again later on but never in quite the same way.

Life didn't perhaps change very much until the 20's when people were no longer satisfied with the quiet life. A concert party was formed, whist drives were organised and the need being felt for a larger room the Village Hall project was launched in 1926. Higgs and Waller started a bus service between Melbourne and Derby making life easier. A branch of the Mothers Union and W.I. were active for several years.

The 1938 Munich Crisis shocked people into an awareness of the serious situation, and a number of people volunteered for Civil Defence, going to Chellaston each week for training. Mr. Eyre and later Mr. Meredith were chief wardens and everybody met in the saddle room at the Hall. W.V.S collected waste paper, scrap metal and were in charge of stores in the large room over the club. A reception centre was organised at the school, and on the day war was declared children from the Cotton Lane area of Derby were evacuated to the village. This proved to be a mistake as within a few days most of them had gone home, only one or two staying-on. The Hall was requisitioned as a Hostel for children from Birmingham suffering from skin diseases, and stayed till after the war.

W.I. made jam in the room at the back of the Methodist Church. This was no mean achievement when you consider the primitive conditions it was made under and the high standard set by the Ministry of Food. Every pound of sugar had to be accounted for, and no one was allowed to buy any. The Home Guard was manned by those over the age of call up. Royal Engineers evacuated from Dunkirk were in camp on the field where Riverside now stands and in other parts of the village and the river was used for bridge building exercises. As they moved on others came, and later on Military Police were stationed at the Cottage. They were all made welcome and entertained by private families, or organised efforts. It was a grim and for

many a very sad time, but everybody worked together in one cause. The roll of honour for this war can also be seen in the Church.

The council houses were built in the mid 1950's, the Vicarage was sold and the present one replaced it. Manor Court was officially opened in 1950, although Ministers had been living in the Manor House for some time. Hall Park was started and the first owners moved in 1962, followed by Brookfield and Twyford Road. This brought a welcome change to the village as quite a few young people had moved away because of lack of housing, After a long and very successful run the Pantomime group did their last production in 1951 and the Drama group disbanded about the same time. It is a great pity that lack of support has brought this activity to an end. In the last two years however Mr. Draper has been the means of presenting two very successful extravaganzas.

The long awaited by-pass was completed in 1969, but the ever present problem of gravel extraction is still with us and we doubt if our Trent valley will ever be restored to its former beauty. The Parish Council are to be congratulated on restoring the Parish Houses so beautifully and mention must be made of previous councils who have struggled so hard to retain them for the village.



Recent Memories

As part of the project, several of our senior citizens were interviewed both by school children and by members of the research team. We have put together a few of these recollections told to us by local people about what life was like living in Barrow upon Trent in earlier years.

Farming

Most of the village was connected with farming. Many properties had cowsheds and each owner would walk their cows to various fields and meadows around the village each day, and fetch them back in the evening. Very often, fields were named after their owners; Wass's, Eli's, Taylor's etc.

Many of the fields around the Parish had 'lants' in the pasture fields – these were regular parallel undulations across the fields and indicated the different parts of each collectively owned pasture that were shared out to Parishioners during mediaeval times and prior to the Enclosures Act when these fields were taken over by a few individuals. The term 'lant' is an Old English term for the land left unploughed between furrows.



Farming was a much more labour-intensive activity than now. Men would travel around the area working at different farms to undertake specific jobs, such as threshing and harvesting. Men would also be loaned to neighbouring farms to help out in busy times. There were many more farms in the village at that time.

Most of the pasture fields around the village were mown using scythes; a very labour-intensive way of making hay. 'Loppy Ted mowed 5 acres in one day at the field near to the Church'.



Farmers' wives had the task of providing meals at midday for all the family plus all of the workers on the farm – these were very large affairs!

Horses were used for all of the pulling of carts and other machinery. Cows were milked by hand - 'about ten minutes each cow'.

A binder would be drawn by horses to cut the corn; the sheaves were picked up by hand and placed into 'stooks' to dry before being taken into the barns. A threshing machine would come in the winter to thrash the sheaves and separate the grain from the chaff and straw.



Early in the last century, sheep washing would take place in the canal at the bend at the bottom end of Moor Lane for one week every May.

Occupations



Many different occupations were found in the village; blacksmith, hairdresser, shoe repairer, wheelwright, gardening and so on, with many people engaged in working for the Hall as gardeners, grooms and maids.

Mrs. Garratt and her two daughters lived at No. 7, The Nook, and their outhouse was the Laundry for the Hall.



Mickey Sharpe, who lived in Twyford Road, behind the school, was employed to keep the grass mown on all of the road verges around the village. This was

done by scythe and he transported the grass home in a wheelbarrow to make into hay to feed his two cows.

The School

Mrs. Wilson was the teacher most remembered by everyone, and Miss Huxley, who married a GI and went to America leaving only one teacher for the whole school.



About 30 pupils from 5 – 11 were housed in the school, warmed by open fires and later large cast iron coal/coke burners. Classes were all together in one room, later in two rooms, with children sitting closely side-by-side.

The school was expanded by terrapin buildings in the 1960s on the Dovecote field; these were followed by the current new school.



The playground was the only playing area, but Sports Day took place on the meadow near to the Grange Farm.

Water supply – wells



The water supply in the village until recent years was by several wells around the village. The well in front of The Row is still visible outside No 8, but other wells were located close to housing in Pump Row (now demolished but located just to the east of the Old School) and most cottages had their own supply.

The Hall was served by three wells located in Hall Field, the field across Church Lane from the Church. Water from here was pumped each day to the top of the

Water Tower which was located in what is now Beaumont Close.





The Hill House was served similarly by a well in the field next to Hill Farm. It was the duties of the workers at each house to ensure that the pumps were operated regularly to ensure a good supply of water to the big houses each day.

Transport

There was no bus service for the village. Anyone wanting to travel by bus would walk to the Crewe and Harpur at Swarkestone and travel to Derby. There was no guarantee of a bus home; so many journeys back to Barrow were made on foot!

Mabel operated the ferry at Twyford, summoned by a bell, to ferry people across the river towards Repton and Milton. 'She was as strong as any horse….'



Travel was mainly on foot or by bicycle, with many young people cycling to Chellaston each week to attend dances in the Chellaston Institute, or to Swadlincote to dance at the 'Rink'.

The Shop

This was originally located in The Row (now No 16a) next to the Bakery. Mr. Woolley and then Mr. Charlesworth kept the shop and sold everything including newspapers. A halfpenny would buy a lot of food or sweets.

Milk was sold directly from the farmer's cart with the fresh milk in a churn- ½ pint and 1 pint metal measures were used to sell into housewives' jugs.



The Shop and Bakery

Many people worked allotments in the village to provide their families with fresh vegetables and fruit– there were around 30 allotments on the field opposite the old Parsonage on the road to Twyford, and others dotted around the village.

Rook shoots took place each year. There were many very large trees in which the birds nested, and the rooks were made into pies.

The Club in Club Lane

The club room was located in the two floors of a building behind the Walnuts. The lower floor housed the bar, whilst upstairs there was dancing, music and films. Access to the upstairs was via outside steps. The upstairs floor was legendary for being a plaster floor that 'bounced' under the dancers' feet.



When films were shown, youngsters had to ‘graduate’ through the room, starting on the front row, and finishing on the back row when ‘courting’. Westerns were a great favourite! Many Derby County players made Barrow Club their base for socialising during the war years and later.

Music was often provided by a local band made up of Alice Page on piano, Mr. Page on violin or trumpet and Stan Page on the drums.

Sport

Barrow boasted several very competitive teams after WW2; a football team that played on the football field close to Grange Farm, a cricket team that played on two pitches, both located on the land on Swarkestone Lane, and a darts team that played at the Club.

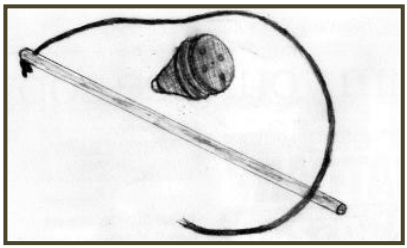
Pantomimes

Pantomimes were a regular feature of village life, written and produced by Alice Page, with around thirty Parishioners taking part each year. These were staged in the old Club and only finished in 1951.



The local Barrow pantomime company put on shows for many years and travelled around to many local villages

Games



Village children made their own entertainment. A great favourite was Whip and Top on Shrove Tuesday. Mr. Lumbers, the shoe maker in The Nook, would put the studs in the top of the 'tops'.

Gymkhanas were also held regularly at Old Manor Farm.

Traffic through the village

Until 1969 when the new by-pass was built, all traffic going between Swarkestone and Willington passed through the village centre. Huge lorries negotiated the narrow street and often rode up onto the pavement at the crossroads. Evidence of lorry damage is still visible on the corner of No. 2 The Row.



Most of the roads / lanes in the village were gravel lanes and gated to keep cattle from straying.

Sundays

These were special – no work was allowed, and Parishioners would attend all of the services, usually two each Sunday, with children also attending Sunday School in the afternoon.

World War 2 / the Home Guard / Land Girls / Prisoners of War

Guns were located at Hill Farm and on the Moor to defend Rolls Royce and Melbourne. The sound of the 'Ack-ack' was terrifying.

Local men joined the Home Guard under Mr. Eyre and Mr. Meredith, for army exercises and local protection. A German airman was captured by the Home Guard when following the railway to try to reach the Rolls Royce aero engine factory.



Italian prisoners of war were used to provide labour on the farms



and many women, Land Girls, were also used to provide labour on the farms or to drive lorries.

The Cottage, now the Brookfield Club, was the headquarters for the Redcaps, Military Police, in the area during the war. Troops were also billeted under canvas on the Cricket Field – now Bridge Farm. The river at the end of Church Lane was used as a practice area for the building of pontoon bridges by the Army Engineers.

There was a fantastic street party in Twyford Road to celebrate the end of the War.

Evacuees

Evacuees were brought to Barrow Hall from London and Birmingham. Around twenty children were housed at The Hall at any one time.



Some of the Evacuees who stayed at Barrow Hall during World War II

The first impressions that the children had of the village were of peace, trees, the beautiful house, and the kindness of the villagers who welcomed them to the Parish. The children were taken to church every Sunday, and had some lessons during the week. Boys and girls were housed in dormitories; boys on the first floor and girls downstairs. American soldiers often passed through the village in transit to camps, and would throw sweets and chocolate to the children at The Hall gates. After a while, the children were rehoused to individual families in neighbouring villages.

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Research material:

Whilst researching the Story of Barrow upon Trent, we have been very fortunate to have access to primary sources; original material through deeds, sale catalogues, wills, family and private documents, contemporary news articles and interviews. The book has also been informed by a wide range of data and the following list of books and papers we have found particularly useful. We have tried hard to ensure that we have asked permission to use all the materials; we apologise if we have inadvertently omitted to do so.

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