

Radwinter History

The Newsletter of The Radwinter Society

March 2013

Tim Pratt

A founder Member of The Radwinter Society, Tim Pratt, passed away in his Melton Constable, Norfolk home in November 2011. Tim gave his Radwinter history papers to the Village archives when he left and they have been invaluable. Two contributions are still to appear in print but hopefully they will begin to appear under his name later this year. The first was his article on the Radwinter Prisoner of War Camp which will be a chapter in the Radwinter at War, Home Front book, nearing completion. His second contribution was his valedictory address for Leon Piechocke which I am planning to reprint in the third book in the series, Poles Apart, which is about the Polish Airmen and their wives who established mushroom farms in Radwinter and Wimbish. His contribution will also be acknowledged in the second book in the series, RAF Great Sampford, which Tim pointed out was 95 per cent within the Radwinter parish boundary.

The original idea for the Radwinter at War book was Tim's and he undertook with Tom Chamberlain the initial research in finding the appropriate 1946 RAF aerial photograph which features the airfield and Mess Site.

Tim was a historian through and through and he had both the knowledge and ability to undertake the work required as well as being prepared to invest his time and considerable research and writing skills into saving the past for the benefit of future generations.

Discover Radwinter

The Radwinter internal section of the new long-distance route round the whole district of Uttlesford, took place on Sunday 4th December 2011. The rain had ceased shortly before we began and we had a fine walk through Church meadow followed by a circular route along field edges and emerging through the Mushroom Farm; then up the road, turning left along the road to Little Brockholds, continuing onward along the track and crossing the bridge over the Pant. The homeward stretch took us along the Pant to Radwinter emerging at Bridgefoot.

This was a shortened version of the Radwinter to Thaxted Walk published in Peter Cooper's book *Discover Uttlesford*. The full walk continues along the old Roman road to Thaxted, returning via Tindon End, Sparrows Farm and picking up the Pant further out. A circular walk to and from Ashdon is also described in the book, with a shortened version cutting through Little Bendysh Wood. Although this walk was originally

planned, it was changed because some of the path clearance in the woods had not yet been completed.

We ran into a little trouble on our walk as two or three gates beside the pant were locked and had to be climbed over. As most of the party were experienced walkers, this was not a surmountable obstacle but these obstructions would benefit from the construction of stiles.

The Boxing Day Walk

It was a great pleasure to go on Lord and Lady Walker's Boxing Day walk at the end of 2011, with tea and mince pies afterwards. Apart from being able to see some of the newly planted woodland by special permission of the owners, it was the first time I had seen the Radwinter Pumping Station.

I'm not very up on my Radwinter geography but I presume that this was the very same place where Nobby Clark was Superintendent during the War and where he took the surrender of the German parachutists. If anybody in the village knows whether this is, or has been, the only pumping station and if it has been rebuilt since the war, I would be most grateful for the information. I would like to include a photograph of it in the Radwinter at War Home Front book.

Radwinter Society 2012 AGM

The 2012 Annual General Meeting of The Radwinter Society was held in Radwinter Village Hall on Thursday 22nd March 2012. There being no new nominations, the existing Committee of Michael Southgate (Chair), Tom Chamberlain (Treasurer), Wumf Tuxworth (Secretary) and committee members Sue Taylor, Peter Thomas and Tina Stratton was re-elected.

After a short meeting, it was followed by a talk on the Rushforth Inheritance, telling how a member of this Radwinter arms-bearing family refused to attend Church and how one of his descendants divided his property portfolio amongst his daughters cutting out the fearful Thomas Butcher.

The Radwinter Fête

Following my mention of the Radwinter Fete in the Winter 2011 Ambo, Ken Snow contacted me to say that Fêtes were held on the Red Lion's field which was accessed through a gate at Bridgefoot on the left-hand side of the road leading from the centre of the village up towards The Plough. He remembered scything the field to get the hay off before the fête could take place.

The Red Lion beer tent was erected on the field. The fête was always opened by a personality, usually somebody who had been on the radio and who had to be picked up from the railway station.

One of the attractions was a miniature railway which was erected round the field. He also remembers playing cricket on Hill Farm Meadow but not until the hay had been cut. As the boundaries were very close to the crease, the batsmen had to avoid damaging the hay across the boundaries. The trick was to hit the ball up in the air as high as possible, either where there was no fielder or for the batsmen to cross as many times as possible before the ball was caught.

Regarding the building of the Recreation Ground, he remembers the early requirement for it to be fenced off and how one of the fund-raising schemes was to charge ten shillings (50p in present money) for people to sponsor each post.

Two New Accessions Transcribed

Two documents covering the years of the Second World War were brought to my attention during the year. The first was Ruby Sowden Diary which she kept from 1936 to 1948 and the second was Fred Housden's notebook in which he recorded his farm sales at Goodloves as well as his activities in the Radwinter Home Guard.

I was alerted to Ruby's diary by Diane Redfern, the source of so much historical information, now in the Radwinter Records. Ruby Sowden was born in New Zealand where she met and married Dick Sowden, an Englishman in 1936 and almost immediately left with Dick to start her married life with him in England. By 1939 they had moved to Plough Hill Farm, Radwinter. The Sowdens brought with them their new baby, Helen Ann and a second daughter, Virginia Mary was born to them while they were here.

The diary has been transcribed by Ruby's Grandson, P I Marshall. Entitled *Grandma's Diaries 1936 to 1948* it is available from the Radwinter Archives or on-line at familytreemaker.genealogy.com/users. Beautifully written by an obviously intelligent and inquiring mind it is a must-read for anybody interested in the history of the Second World War. However, as the international events it describes will not be the subject of the Radwinter at War book, I have extracted from it an account of Radwinter life and times during the war years as told by a farmer's wife.

Fred Housden's notebook came into the possession of Sue Taylor when she and Colin bought Fred's final home in Maple Lane. It has suffered severe deterioration through water damage and decay and much of the earlier pages, as well as some of the later ones, have deteriorated to the extent that they are now totally unreadable, or any attempts to read them without archival help, would result in loss of the information they contain. Before the notebook was sent to Essex Record Office for their conservation and safekeeping, the readable items (the period from 1943 to 1945) were transcribed and are now in the Radwinter Archives. With the help of other sources, I

have turned this into an account of the times, highlighting the fruit and vegetables Fred sold at Goodloves and the people who bought them. Fred's home guard activities make a second article which really puts flesh on the bones of the arid lists of people and places with which we would otherwise have had to be content.

Later in the year Pauline Keiff, who led a party from the Friends of Essex Museum, gave me contact details for the Curator of the Essex Regiment Museum collection there. It turned out however that, other than organisational details of how the Essex Home Guard was manned and constituted, we know more about its activities than anybody else, thanks to Fred Housden and Bob Baynes.

Life in the Radwinter POW Camp

As part of my researches into the Radwinter Prisoner of War Camp, I made contact with a surviving German inmate of the Camp, Horst Vogel, and, thanks to the offices of Radwinter Society Secretary, Wumf, I communicated with him in German, while his replies to me were translated back into English for me by Wumf's work colleague.

I had previously made contact with the daughter of another German PoW, who married in England on discharge from Radwinter North Camp and stayed in this country. Before he died, he wrote a story of life in the Camp and the tricks he and his friends got up to make extra money on the side. The story will be included in the Radwinter at War book and, I was able to give an abridged account of it to the Radwinter Friendship Group at their meeting on 2nd May.

The Plough

I visited the Plough in the company of James Briggs and was shown round by the new owner, David Miles. David allowed me to borrow a collection of framed photographs of former Hawkes Brewery pubs for copying. The pictures included one of The Potash Beerhouse, which Radwinter people may remember seeing hanging in the old restaurant part of The Plough. There were also pictures of The White Horse at Ashdon, which later became the Ashdon Conservative Club, another of Ashdon showing the village centre, The White Horse beerhouse at Old Sampford, More End at Old Sampford, the Royal Oak at Hempstead and the Hawkes brewery at Bishops Stortford, which was pulled down and is now a Waitrose store. The photographs were taken around 1878. The owner of the negatives had researched details the current landlord and other known history, which he had pasted on the backs of the pictures.

A reasonable copy was taken of each one through the covering glass framing but I soon realised that access to the original negatives would reveal much greater detail. I managed to track down the owner of the negatives who had bought them at Sotherbys many years ago but had recently moved. However, it would appear that the original negatives had probably been

lost in the move. If this is the case, the Radwinter Plough will have a set of master photographs of Hawkes pubs from which good copies might be obtained.

Friends of Chelmsford Museums Visit

The Friends of Chelmsford Museums visited Radwinter on 14th July and explored the centre of the village before going into the church.

We started in the Recreation Ground where they had parked. I pointed out where the last of the four Radwinter Mills stood. This was a smock mill and had the sails fitted into a revolving cap so that it was unnecessary to move the whole body of the mill. The cap was fitted with a fan-tail, rather like the self-steering gear on a yacht, to ensure that the sails were facing the wind. It was the last to have been worked in Radwinter, being demolished in 1919. It stood 120 yards north of the Church, where now the gardens of West View cottages are.

The party was told that the Rec. was built with money collected at sixpenny hops, held in the Village Hall during the Second World War for the homecoming fund to welcome back our serving men and women after the war. When the War ended, £300 had been collected and it was decided to purchase six acres on which to build playing fields. In 1946 the Parish Council agreed to hold the money in order to purchase the necessary land. Costs went up and further dances, sweep stakes and house-to-house collections were made, the Recreation Ground being formally opened in 1958.

The party had already spotted the drinking fountain in the Rec. car park which was given by the Metropolitan Drinking Fountain & Cattle Trough Association. What they didn't realise was that the gates to the Rec. had been paid for by the Radwinter Coronation Committee, to mark the coronation of Elizabeth II.

Coming out of the car park, the party admired Radwinter School, built in 1854 on land on Limber donated by Jonathan Bullock of Faulkbourne Hall. John Frederick Bullock, (Rector 1844-1865) raised the money for the building from his parishioners and friends. The Committee of Council on Education gave £360 on condition that the School should always be open to visits from Her Majesty's Inspectors. The National (Church) Society also gave £40. This was sufficient until 1871 when, following a demand from the Education Department and to avoid a School Board, the Landowners contributed £200 and the Tenants about the same to enable an Infant Room to be added, the yards walled in, and other improvements made. Rev. Walter Trevelyan Bullock of Faulkbourne Hall gave additional ground, to enlarge the Head Teacher's garden. There have been several extensions and improvements since.

We also looked at one of Radwinter's three surviving pumps, from which the School drew its water until mains water and drainage arrived after the War.

I was indebted to Kaye Pilsbury's excellent *Radwinter's Ideal Village Centre* from which some of

the following paragraphs have been abbreviated. Over a hundred years ago Radwinter centre was a rare and pristine example of both the social and visual aims of the Arts and Crafts Movement. Around about noon on May Day in 1874, a six year old girl was playing with matches and set fire to straw in a barn. The weather was hot and dry and the timber-framed barn to north of the crossroads with a thatched roof was soon ablaze. The fire spread rapidly bypassing the slate roofed Red Lion Inn but its stables and the horses were devoured. By the time the Fire Brigade arrived from Saffron Walden, fire had spread and, when Lord Braybrooke's fire engine arrived, it was thought that the whole of the village and even the recently restored flint built church might be devastated.

Twenty-four dwellings were burnt to the ground, 95 people were made homeless, two horses, a sow and piglets were killed but fortunately no human life was lost.

The houses were owned by four different people, three of them owned twenty cottages between them and were insured but the fourth, who owned the other four, was not, as he had failed to pay his previous year's premium! The tenants who lost their homes also lost all their possessions and their livelihoods with the burning of their stock and tools. Only the Red Lion Inn and the church were left standing in isolation.

Rev. Fred Bullock, put the Church rebuilding on hold and engaged William Eden Nesfield, to design and rebuild the village. Nesfield was an ardent exponent of the Arts and Crafts Movement, as was his better known partner Norman Shaw. He used this chance to re-plan the centre along the lines of the social aspirations of the movement. The rebuilding plan had to promote the ideal village life for its occupants. All crucial facilities were grouped around the hub of the village, in this case the crossroads. The church, village inn and windmill (upwind) had all survived and to these were added the reading room, now called the Village Hall with its two dwellings and dispensary as well as the village shop and five dwellings.

Nesfield's original builder's working drawings in the Victoria and Albert museum are dated 23rd September 1874, less than five months after the disaster. This was a remarkably quick response seeing that Fred Bullock had to purchase the burnt out cottages, clear the site and, presumably, agree with his architect the general overall re-planning of the village and the extent of the facilities to be provided to each house, bearing in mind the cost.

The service elements of the Nesfield houses in Church Hill were very advanced for rural houses of the day and they were all tenanted by 3rd July 1875, just fourteen months after the fire, a remarkably quick rebuild even by today's standards. The cost was £453 2s 4d.

The cottages have solid red brick walls on the ground floor with jettied timber framed first floors. Dormer windows mimic the pleasing varying styles of windows found in old cottages - very typical of Nesfield along with his love of parged (indented patterning) lime-

plaster on timber lath. All had "fireproof" peg tiles instead of thatch. The tiles were handmade; no doubt expensive even then when cheaper machine produced tiles were becoming more common. The essential shop premises at the north end had an adjacent timber framed storage barn – all part of the traditional integrated setting.

About this time Nesfield became ill (he withdrew from work in 1881 and described himself as an invalid by 1883) and Temple Moore, a pupil of G. G. Scott, took over (we assume on Nesfield's recommendation) supervising building.

The Village Hall was originally built as a Reading Room. Members, who had to be at least 18 (lowered to 16 in 1884), were charged at two rates. Ordinary members paid five shillings a year, although this could be by quarterly instalments. Full members paid ten shillings, while those aspiring to be Vice Presidents, paid £1.

Full members could have the newspapers at their own homes, weekly papers when four days old and daily papers the next day but they couldn't be kept for more than twenty-four hours. Old newspapers were sold by auction at the AGM.

Publications available in 1884 were the Morning Post, Graphic, Illustrated London News, The Field, Punch, Judy, Fun, Chelmsford Chronicle, Essex Herald, Herts Observer, Farm and Home, The Banner, England and the Saffron Walden Magazine.

Games of draughts, chess, bagatelle, dominoes, etc. were provided but no cards, gambling, drinking, swearing, bad language, or noisy or disorderly conduct was permitted.

Some members gave books and The Guardian, newspaper. The Rector gave the Church Times and the Temperance Chronicle while the Rector's brother, Herbert, gave The Craftsman. It was agreed in 1884 to discontinue The Field.

A Dispensary was built on the south side, where the Post Office now is and next to that the curate's cottage as the western most part of the village hall. A second cottage (generally referred to as the caretaker's cottage) was added to the north. The latter part of the work was probably passed over to be completed by Temple Moore after the initial architect, William Eden Nesfield, had retired.

On 3rd September 1921 Miss Emily Bullock from Oxford, sister of the former Rector, Fred Bullock, publicly handed over the Deed of Gift of the Parish Hall, Curate's Cottage, Reading Room, Cottage Dispensary and Almshouse to the Rector and Churchwardens as representing the Trustees. She handed it over in memory of the late Rector and their sister, Miss Agnes Bullock, for the benefit of the Parish forever.

The last part of the housing to be rebuilt was the Almshouses. Built to commemorate Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee in 1887, they were generous for their day with high ceilings and rear service facilities, brick

built laundry outhouses and eighteen inch thick flint walls. Residents have had great difficulty in hanging or fixing anything to the main walls but it was a cheaper way of building. However machine made peg tiles were used on the roof.

Next we looked at The Red Lion. There were two licensed ale houses in Radwinter 1644, the Red Lion, kept by Ann Allen and the White Horse kept by Sarah Smith. Although when the Red Lion was listed the surveyors recorded it as a 17th century timber-framed and plastered building, Muriel Muckleston, employed a dendrologist to date the timbers and he found the classic smoke inundated rafters that signified a hall house, dating the premises to at least the 14th century.

It was then time to look at the Churchyard. Details of the proposed enlargement of the churchyard and the decision to pull down the old almshouses is given in the Radwinter Vestry Minutes of 1876. The Terrier of 1891 gave details of additions to the churchyard on 25 May 1882, additional ground consecrated on waste land on which stood the Parish Cage. The old Almshouses on the south side of the Church were pulled down and a public house purchased by the Rector was demolished and the land given to the parish. The name of this public house was not given but is almost certainly The White Hart, formerly The Falcon and Nazes.

The vestry minutes for 1877 record the completion of a cellar for Coals with a chamber over it at the South West corner of the churchyard (called the Zeta House) by the rector at his own expense.

From the Registry of the Consistory Court of London for 31st October 1610 we learn:

On the south syde of the Churchyard toward the west end thereof are two Mansions one called commonly the greate Vicaredge the other the lesse, the first was when Nicolas Samme Doctor of the Lawe (Rector of Radwinter from 1506 to 1527) came to be Parson there, "An outd House but he pulled it downe and re-edified it of new from the ground." Both were called in Ancient tymes domus Capellanorum (which means the Chaplain's House).

It now seems clear that 1, 2 and 3 Church View, was what Dr. Samme rebuilt in 1506 and is the same that William Harrison described as his vicarage in his Description of England. Divided in the past into three properties, 2 and 3 have recently been restored to a single property and all three are now in common ownership.

The Consistory Court reading continued "The other remayned as it was - it hath about it with the ground it standeth upon and the Chase leading from it to the Highway forty and four Poles more or lesse and serveth for the Ease of the Parson and also as it appeareth by the Evydence first given to the end that yf any of the Parish were sicke the Party might be sure to find the Parson or Curate neare the Church ready to goe and visit him, it hath a chase waye lyeinge east and West and leadinge to the same houses from the greene".

The doorway on the south side has a richly moulded oak frame. Inside the building, one room on the ground floor is lined with original oak panelling. Across the entrance lobby at ceiling level is a low balustrade with turned balusters. The staircase has an original octagonal newel and, at the top, a short balustrade with a moulded handrail and turned balusters. In the attic is an original panelled door.

From this point we went into the church. This has been well documented in the Church Guide, available in the Church.

However, over Christmas, I received a Christmas card celebrating West Gallery Carolling. It told me that West Gallery Music is a compellingly melodic form of English traditional music developed in parish churches and chapels between 1700 and 1850, after which time it was suppressed. Originally developed to improve the quality of church music in the wake of Puritanism, it was sustained by music publishers such as John Playford and grew from unaccompanied part singing to incorporate contemporary instruments such as the serpent, fiddle, cello, oboe and bassoon.

Many churches built galleries for musicians and singers above the rented box pews used by other worshippers. These, like the instruments, were often paid for out of the proceeds of church ales and other social activities.

As we all know, Radwinter Church did have a West Gallery which was removed by Fred Bullock during the 1867 restoration of the church. In 1980 a woodwind instrument that had formerly been played in the church orchestra, before Radwinter had an organ, was exhibited at a local history exhibition in Radwinter School. The instrument was then in the possession of Mrs Victoria Reeve, née Richardson, although its whereabouts today is unknown. Mr Richard Lloyd recalled the instrument being described as a "flute" although it was obviously incomplete, without mouthpiece or bell.

Even in 1939, Mrs. Potts, could remember the church gallery. It was where the children sat, and in very impure style the singing was led by a man called Bunten playing a barrel organ. It was the barrel organ that led to the demise of church orchestras and appeared in churches in the late eighteenth century, quickly overspreading the country.

The Radwinter Gallery was probably installed by John Bullock (Rector 1750 to 1794) but such intrusions were anathema to 19th century church restorers; Fred Bullock would have none of it and it went. The architect, William Eden Nesfield condemned it, writing "The present modern gallery (across the whole of the West end of Church) utterly destroys the interior, both by its ugly appearance, and by its cutting away the beautiful Tower arch, which is bricked up & masked."

Fred Bullock had other things in mind for music in the high tractarian tradition and obtained an organ on loan from the Revd. J Wix, Vicar of Littlebury before a new one could be afforded and installed. The original design and specification for the new Radwinter organ was drawn up by the architect, William Eden Nesfield

in 1871 as part of the great restoration. It was built by A.T. Miller & Son of Cambridge in 1872. Nesfield went to great pains to make provision for the organ and in this he had the advice of the Revd. R H White of Little Bardfield, then the greatest authority on organs in the Country.

Order of the Garter found at Radwinter

In 1917 the Rev. G Montegu Benton recorded the digging up of 'a brass or latten seal in a moated enclosure which forms part of the Rectory garden at Radwinter. This seal, which was at one time in the possession of the rector, was a nearly flat, circular disc bearing a device of St. George and the dragon and the legend DIEV : ET: MON DROIT. F G Emmison, former County Archivist wrote in 1973, "It seemed to be the official seal, but who could want to use the device of the Order of the Garter in Radwinter? The seal was undoubtedly in the possession of our renowned social historian, William Harrison, rector of Radwinter and author of the *Description of England*, who was made a canon of St. George's Chapel at Windsor in 1586 and, as such would have been robed for the Garter ceremony".

Emmison's conjecture look odd because the motto was that of the British Monarch and not the *Honi soit qui mal y pense* of the Garter. It sounded to me and others as though it was more likely to have been connected with the courts and/or the judiciary. Perhaps the owner of it may have been a magistrate. I was not therefore sure why it was thought to have some connection with the Order of the Garter.

Harrison himself says that the thirteen canons have mantles of murrey (*mulberry colour*) of the order with a roundel of **the arms of St. George**. Their motto then, may have been the Monarch's. Whatever the case, by the time Emmison wrote about it in 1973, the seal had gone missing and it was not then in the possession of the current Rector. If the seal was Harrison's, his rectory would have had to be at the parsonage in the grounds of The Gables next to Radwinter Manor. If, however, it could be proved that Harrison was never at the Gables site, it might prove that the old Parsonage was the centre of the lost manor of Radwinter Parva.

I therefore wrote to St. George's Chapel Windsor and told them about the find. They replied:

"With regards to the seal, while it is true that the Canons wear the badge of St. George with the motto of the Garter, the badge is the cross of St. George, not George and the Dragon. The Knights of the Garter and the Officers of the Order wear the same badge on their mantles. The badge is surrounded by the words "Honi Soit...", and not "Dieu et mon droit". Honi Soit qui mal y pense is the only motto associated with the Garter.

"Knights (and Lady Companions) of the Garter are required to wear mantles (ceremonial robes) at Garter services and ceremonies. The original Garter Statutes ordered that the mantles should be blue, but in the 16th and 17th centuries they were sometimes purple. They are now made of dark-blue velvet, fastened with blue and gold rope strings. The badge of the cross of

St. George upon a shield encircled with the Garter is embroidered on the left shoulder.

“Since the foundation of the College of St. George in 1348, the Canons of Windsor have been required to wear [murrey coloured] mantles at Garter ceremonies, with the cross of St. George in a roundel on the left shoulder. The St. George and Dragon is used on the Great George and Lesser George, the regalia of the Order, but the Canons do not wear these. It is also the badge of the Prelate of the Order, but this wasn't determined until 1685, and is a position held by the Bishop of Winchester. More pertinent is the fact that the only member of St. George's Chapel who has any role within the Order is the Dean, as Register. The Canons are not part of the Order, do not take part in the ceremony [other than being present] and would not be referred to as a priest of the Order of the Garter.

“It would seem that this seal is not connected to the Order, but could well be connected with the Royal Family in some way.”

I suppose, with the advantage of the Internet, it is easier to check the facts that it has been in the past. However, this does seem a schoolboy error. The question remains, whose was it and what was it doing in the moat? Perhaps it was deliberately discarded in the time of the Commonwealth to hide royalist sympathies. I would be grateful for any suggestions.

The question also remains as to where Harrison's rectory was. The most likely contender still therefore remains Church View, called domus Capellanorum (which means the Chaplain's House) in the sixteenth century.

The Radwinter Lectures

The Village Hall Committee staged three lectures by the historian, William Tyler. The first of these was on Monday, November 5th and was entitled *The Romans Arrive – and stay!* and was about the road from Great Chesterford to Radwinter. I had given a little information to William Tyler about our latest Roman research so the Radwinter Society paid the fee for any of its members who wished to attend. In consequence, a contribution of £60 was made to the Village Hall Society.

Subsequent talks were on Edward & Mrs Simpson on Monday 19th November and *Frontline Essex During World War Two* on Monday 10th December. For this final talk we were able to welcome our new volunteer, Denise Piper and her husband, David.

All the talks were brilliantly presented by William Tyler who really knew his subjects and had great skill in presentation. Thanks are due to James Briggs for arranging the talks and to Sue Bright for making the Village Hall arrangements.

1838 Tithe Apportionment Schedule Digitised

Thanks to the services of a new volunteer for the Radwinter Society, Denise Piper, the 1838 Tithe Apportionment Schedule has been typed. This means that it can be searched on the computer so all the

details of Radwinter properties existing at that date, can be made available to researchers and current occupiers. The Schedule lists the owner of each property and the occupier – the farmer in the case of farms. The name of each field against each occupier is shown with its acreage in acres, rods, poles and perches and the tithe due to the Rector.

The numbers given to each property and field match up with the Tithe Map that was produced at the same time, so it is possible to see the location of each property and the location and shape of each field.

I have researched the meaning of all the field names and at this year's AGM I will give a presentation on the many exciting discoveries that the field names reveal. If any farmer, or occupier of a property dating from or before 1838, would like a copy of the Schedule, I will be happy to provide it.

This could be a useful exercise, as my researches are based mainly on the Saxon meanings of the field names and further light as to the accuracy of the names may be revealed by farmers who would know their own fields. Some may discover that their land hides unexpected features below the surface. The same applies to home owners who are resident in properties that may have been farmhouses in the past or built on agricultural land.

Denise went on to transcribe the pre-1813 Radwinter parish registers and has digitised some of our Radwinter School information, with the same lightening speed and high accuracy as she gave to the Tithe Apportionment Schedule. We current have a grant application submitted to enable us to transcribe all the published censuses and Denise has offered to continue with that should we receive the grant.

The Brockholds Inheritance

Bruce Munroe put me in touch with the new owner of Great Brockholds, Alan Covey, and with the former Estate agent, Paul Gooderham. As a result of a meeting with them, I have exchanged much useful information on Great Brockholds and obtained permission to walk the old airfield perimeter and photograph remaining structures on the airfield. The Great Sampford Airfield book is very nearly ready for publication. David (Dick) Thake and Julie Haines have both volunteered to help with any photography required. David used to work at Great Brockholds and knows the location of the former airfield buildings.

Christ was buried in Radwinter!

You heard it here first. Christ and Melchisedeck were both buried in Radwinter.

Denise Piper has transcribed Browne's Transcript of the Radwinter Parish Registers onto Excel which means that they can now be searched and arranged if necessary in name order. This has made family history researching a great deal easier. Some surprising things have come to light. Among them is the startling news that one Radwinter resident was actually Christened 'Christ' and another had the unusual name of Melchisedeck.

From the Radwinter Burial Registers	
12 Apr 1641	Seaman, Christ
3 Mar 1686	Suklyn, Melchisedeck

I have tried to find Christ used as a forename elsewhere and can only find a reference that somebody in the 1891 Census for London was so styled. It does appear to be very unusual. Melchisedek as a surname, however, is more revealing.

Melchisedek or Malki Tzedek; Hebrew: מֶלֶךְ יְיָ צַדִּיק (mal[□]-i sédeq) translated as "my king (is) righteous(ness)") was a king and priest mentioned during the Abram narrative in the 14th chapter of the Book of Genesis.

He is introduced as the king of Salem, and priest of *Elyon* ("God most high"). He brings out bread and wine and blesses Abram and El Elyon. Chazalic literature, specifically Targum Jonathan, Targum Yerushalmi, and the Babylonian Talmud, presents the name (מלכי־צדק) as a nickname title for Shem, the son of Noah.

In Christianity, according to the Letter to the Hebrews, Jesus Christ is identified as *a priest forever in the order of Melchisedek*, and so Jesus assumes the role of High Priest once and for all.

Was Melchizedeck Jesus?

Some say, that Melchisedeck was in fact Jesus. Having no mother, no father, no beginning no end. In Hebrews 7.it says, "For this Melchisedeck, king of Salem, priest of the most high God, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings, and blessed him; To whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all; first being by interpretation King of righteousness, and after that also King of Salem, which is, King of peace; Without father, without mother, without descent, having neither beginning of days, nor end of life; but made like unto the Son of God; abideth a priest continually".

Others say Melchisedeck was not in fact Jesus. Jesus did not pre-exist! Jesus was "of the order of Melchisedeck ". Also, Jesus did have a mother and an earthly father. To say otherwise denies a profound truth of Christianity.

The Melchisedeck family is an old lineage that has migrated all across the world over time, and as the name Melchizedeck has spread, it has evolved making its origin difficult to uncover.

The Cheffins Archives

Shortly after meeting with the Chevins archivist, Paul Gooderham, whom I mentioned earlier, I received from him a copy of a poster for the auction of The Maple beerhouse, a double tenement and The Thatched Cottage in Maple Lane. Together with Amanda Rivers from Maple Cottage we have identified her home as the former beerhouse which will feature in the forthcoming Radwinter at War book.

As can be seen from the poster below, the auction also involved the neighbouring properties in Maple Lane.

Paul also invited me to visit him at his most historic house at Clair to photograph some of the auction documents he had relating to other Radwinter properties. These included Fred Bullock's purchase of the land on which the almshouses were built.

Sadly, shortly after visiting him Paul died. His Cheffins archives are in excellent state of preservation and he had a near complete run of auction records which he had had beautifully bound in annual volumes. Commiserations to his wife, Stella and their family. He was a man after my own heart and Bruce Munroe tells me that Paul and Stella were always mentioned as an inseparable item. She became his chauffeur in his last days, as his distance vision deteriorated.

Just before Christmas Saffron Walden Archives invited me to copy the archives that they received from the Solicitors, Heckford Norton, which they are preparing for accession to Essex Record Office. The archives contain a number of Radwinter documents dating back well into the beginning of the century before last. They have some very interesting information on a number of Radwinter properties, including another ale house on the Sampford Road.

Radwinter Society AGM

The 2013 Annual General Meeting of The Radwinter Society will be held in Radwinter Village Hall at 7.30 p.m. prompt on Thursday 21st March 2013. After a very short AGM meeting, it will be followed by an illustrated talk on the treasures below our feet in Radwinter. This will be one of our most interesting talks as a volunteer, Denise Piper, has typed up the 1838 Tithe Apportionment Schedule and I have translated all the field names (mostly from the Anglo Saxon and Latin) which has revealed medieval common land, a Roman Camp, a Roman burial ground, fortifications, windmills, deer parks, and Saxon droveways etc. all beneath our feet.

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