

Potton History Society



Newsletter Number 43 Autumn 2007

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For access to the archives in our research rooms
just telephone the key-holders;

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Acknowledgements:-

Our appreciation to Camerons Newsagents for selling our books and to Potton Post Office for selling our tea towels.

We also thank the following for their continued support by advertising our meetings;

Lindsay's Bakery,
Tysoe's Hardware Store,
Potton Library
Potton Post Office

Society News

The well-attended meeting in **April** featured a talk by Clive Towner on brewing. He outlined how brewing had been at the heart of civilisation since pre-historic times when it is likely that the development of farming could have been stimulated by the need for grain to produce beer! Potton had its own brewery company which was operational in King Street in the early part of the last century. The present Potton Brewery Company began in the late nineties and has built up a fine reputation with its individual beers such as Potton Gold, Shannon IPA and the Shambles bitter. The Society displayed materials from the archives including the extensive listings of all the known pubs in Potton. We would be interested to receive, or take copies of, any photographs and documents relating to past public houses.

The history of Potton Charities was the subject for our **May** meeting. Peter Ibbett provided a selection of material from the Society archives which illustrated how a collection of individual charities were combined together to produce the current Potton Consolidated Charities. Eric Jakes, the longest serving trustee outlined some of the changes that he had seen in the work of the Charity. He also provided an outline of how charity funds were used to help enhance the community life of 20th Century Potton and support the education of young Pottonians. The Society provided material from its files including balance sheets over the last 150 years that illustrated the healthy growth in the activities of the Charity. The booklet 'Potton Consolidated Charities' by Mrs P.R. Yates is still available from pjibbett@aol.com. (price £3.50).

In **June** the meeting took place in and around Potton's Parish Church. The churchyard contains a unique collection of 18th and 19th Century memorials, all of which have been surveyed by the Society. The details have been collated into a four volume catalogue by Society member Ken Lawson, to enable anyone to trace burials in

Potton. The Rev. Wyn Beynon gave us an outline of the history of St. Mary's Church, which goes back more than 900 years. The most recent refurbishment consisted of the renovation of the charity boards, which list benefactions from the 1600s. Visitors were also able to view the model of the Church made by PHS member Keith Lawrence, as well as historic documents and pictures kept in the Church and in the Society archives.

A true tale of mystery and motoring was the entertainment for **July**. Trevor Ball, author of "The Mystery of Potton Manor" told of the part Potton played in motoring history. Potton Manor, now the site of luxury housing, was once the location of a research attempt to produce a revolutionary new type of fuel to power a small family car to rival the Mini. Otto von Smekal had purchased the Manor during the war and subsequently converted much of the building into a laboratory. He set up the Delta Motor Company with his partner Eva Pokorova, a former racing driver in the 1930s, and hoped to set up a car factory in Potton to sell a cheap family car. The 398cc Champion car was imported from Germany in 1953 but, despite repeated efforts, von Smekal was unable to persuade anyone to sponsor his project and so his hopes and dreams came to nothing.

The **August** meeting welcomed Stephen Coleman from Bedfordshire County Council to talk about the archaeology of the area. Aerial photographs showed Iron Age activity at Sandy and Romano-British sites in the Ivel valley. Although the Saxon era has left few remains in our area the medieval age has rich details at Holme and Stratton as well as deserted villages at Eyeworth and Millow. The greensand and intensive farming on the Boulder Clay has left Potton with very little evidence of pre-historic activity. Our modern era is entering the archaeological age with local river mills and Second World War items such as the type 24 Pillbox and the base of the spigott mortar at Potton. Keith Lawrence supplied a fascinating collection of items from the area illustrating the richness of material still being uncovered.

Our growing collection of scrapbooks featured at the **September** meeting. The oldest come from the Victorian Era and reveal a town where locals made their own entertainment, wedding and funeral reports went into great detail about those attending and the weather was just as extreme as it is today! Newspaper items from the middle of the last century showed a town attracting new industry but also with its fair share of locals getting into unnecessary trouble with the law! Scrapbooks kept by Janet Norman and the W.I. provided a glimpse back into the pre-digital era. Also featured were items from the series of comprehensive scrapbooks begun by Mrs Yates at the start of the History Society in 1977 and which she still continues today providing an invaluable insight into modern Potton for future generations.

Little Eva

Its time for an update on our Potton Car "Little Eva".

During the summer we requested Brian Ritchie to arrange for the front bench seat to be re-upholstered. Brian duly took the seat out from the car and had the seat re-upholstered with Bedford cord. The seat has been replaced in the car and makes the interior look very much better. A nice job, well done Brian and thank you.

We took Little Eva to Ashwell Show this year on August Bank Holiday Monday. Whilst getting her ready and checked over Brian had been a bit concerned about the steering and some noises from that area. On closer investigation he found problems with the king pin on the front left hand side. We did intend running her at Ashwell but with this problem we decided against this. We still took her as usual on the trailer and displayed her static. Much interest was shown, many questions asked and most people have not seen a car like this before. The look on their faces as they walk towards her is a delight. We sold several car books as well, which brings money in for her upkeep. The weather was beautiful, Ashwell is a good show in a lovely location all making it a very nice outing for Little Eva and her helpers.

George Howe.

Places to Visit

We would like, in the future, to have a regular spot in our newsletter where members who have enjoyed a visit to a place with some kind of historic interest can share the details with all our readers.

Where did this idea come from you may ask. Well, at our last meeting Pat Thwaites passed to me a poster saying she thought it might be an idea to place the information in our newsletter. She thoroughly enjoyed her visit and believes if any of our members went to the area on holiday etc. they might like to make a visit.

So where is this place?

Mechanical Music Museum & Bygones.

At Cotton near Stowmarket Suffolk Tel 01449 613876

Open Sundays with conducted tours

June, July, August and September 2. 30 - 5. 30 pm

Adults £4.00 Children £1.00

George Howe.

Forthcoming Programme

- Nov 22nd The History of Potton Fire Brigade**
The records of our local Fire Brigade and the memories of past and present officers show the changing nature of the fire service over the last 30 years
- Dec 6th Pictorial Potton – 1977 to 2007**
The popular end of year Picture and Video Show will look back over the changes the Society has captured in its 30 years history

Developments in the Archives

We have set ourselves the task of digitising all of our documents. This is a huge task that will take at least a couple of years. To begin with we have purchased new plastic box files (of three sizes) to give extra protection to our collection which fills four filing cabinets and a number of draws, boxes and shelves. We have also succeeded in matching the collection to our photograph albums. The current aim is to index our material onto a computer spreadsheet.

Janet Norman and John Boston have been working a miracle of organisation over the last six months. Janet has succeeded in bringing order to our files and John has indexed the material into computer format. The example below has been taken from part of our files dealing with commercial activities in the town.

Topic	Loc	File	Item	Company/Person
021C Commercial	D11	General	021C-01-01	Castle J. & Co. London
021C Commercial	D12	General	021C-02-01	Morton, J. Huntingdon
021C Commercial	D13	General	021C-03-01	James Rogers, Potton
021C Commercial	D14	General	021C-04-01	Sutton, G. Bedford
021C Commercial	D15	General	021C-05-01	Stearn A. E. & Sons Cambridge
021C Commercial	D16	General	021C-06-01	Williams J. D. & Co. Manchester
021C Commercial	D17	General	021C-06-02	Williams J. D. & Co. Manchester
021C Commercial	D18	General	021C-07-01	Digby Piggott, T London
021C Commercial	D19	General	021C-08-01	Elphick R. Potton
021C Commercial	D20	General	021C-01-01	Unknown

The sample has been split to allow its reproduction in these pages and lacks the final columns giving information on source; number of pages; original or copy and date. A large amount of work has been done in indexing 40 or so files of material. This is only about 25% of the way to completion!

If any other members would like to be involved and help speed up our work they would be most welcome.

Please keep on donating material. We can copy and return the originals and we now have a revised donations form that allows donors to specify the uses that their material may be put to in the future.

Peter Ibbett

Business	Type
Importers of Wines & Spirits	Sales Receipt, Items Bought by James Rogers, Potton
Ironmonger	Invoice for Goods Supplied to James Rogers, Potton
?	Promissory in Favour of Mr Geo. Kitchen
Grocer and Tea Dealer	Invoice for Goods Supplied to James Rogers, Potton
Grocers & Confectioners	Receipted Invoices for Goods Supplied to Mr Brown, Potton
Merchants & Manufacturers	Catalogue of Goods
Merchants & Manufacturers	Copy of Catalogue found in office used by Roberts & Son
Queen's Printer	Acts of Parliament, Weights & Measures Act, 1889
Stationer & Printer	Employment General Register, Young Persons under 18
Unknown	Employment Factory Register, Young Persons under 16

Potton Manor - Another Episode.

I would suggest that this one occurred in late 1944. This was at a time when basic materials were at a premium and to have any kind of electrical wiring carried out required permits and licences. Such permits only being issued for work of national importance.

I was a trainee electrician with Bedford Corporation Electricity Department at the time and a similar trainee together with his supervisor was given the task of carrying out some wiring at The Manor. We travelled out seated in the back of a van being dropped off at various places on a circular route. My mate and I were working at Sandy. We were most intrigued in the afternoon when we picked up the pair from the Manor and heard their story.

Having been dropped off in the morning they found the gate locked. Not being sure whether the bell had worked they rattled the gate until the lady of the house arrived. Having unlocked the gate she let them in, locking the gate behind them. Thence to the front door, which she unlocked, let them in locking the door behind them. She used the same procedure at two or three more doors until they arrived at a room sparsely furnished where they were told to wait until called. The windows were barred and shuttered. Nothing happened for an hour or two until, as a result of their banging on the doors the lady reappeared saying they were not yet ready to let them into the workshop. As she locked the door behind her she said she would return. By this time their minds were working overtime wondering what was likely to happen in the workshop and when she eventually returned they demanded to be let out of the property where we found them in the afternoon sitting on their tool boxes on the grass verge. Needless to say nowhere near the gate.

The following day the department supervisor together with electricians went to The Manor and so it continued until the work was complete, the original pair refused ever to set foot in the place

again. It so intrigued the department that we all wanted to know what was going on at The Manor.

The ones working there gleaned from Otto that he was sure he could invent a rotary engine designed to run on very low octane fuel, even mixtures of basic fuels such as liquidized coal. This would save the tragic loss of lives of aircrews crashing and being burned on their return from operations. The general consensus within the department was that Otto's heart was in the right place even if perhaps his head wasn't.

The basic design of his rotary engine involved a three-sided rotor revolving within a round casing. As one flat surface of the pyramid shaped rotor passed the inlet vents it sucked in the fuel, as it turned it compressed it and passing some kind of spark plug it was ignited, before passing to the third and final part of the rotation where the spent fuel was exhausted.

The design of the pyramid shaped rotor and the name of his laboratory, which was, I believe Delta Research, to us, made the whole affair credible.

I mentioned at the start of this missive, to be given a permit etc to have our work carried out means that someone in authority thought Otto's work was worthwhile.

Bob Ingledew
Bedford 17th July 2007.

Footnote.

In the mid 1950s, a German, Felix Wankel, invented the small lightweight rotary engine. It has since been used in some models of the Mazda car. Norton Motorcycles developed one in Britain and the U.S. Marines have a number of special forces vehicles equipped with Wankel engines.

On the Trail Of 'J.A. 1874' – Part 1

It all started back in October 1996 when Eric Jakes, MBE, left the water colour paintings of the Old Manor House, Potton in the hands of the Potton History Society on a long loan basis. The paintings were left to Eric from the estate of the late Miss E.G.L.(Queenie) Smith, daughter of William Smith who purchased the new Manor House from Gouldthorpe Smith in 1915. These two watercolours show the front and rear of the 'Old Manor House' that was believed to exist from about 1750 up to the time it was demolished in about the 1870s, as indicated by one picture showing the date 1874.

After the renovations of both frames - November 1996 to January 1997 - I made a few attempts to discover the artist's full name. First I tried the Cecil Higgins Art Gallery at Bedford, without success. I then decided to try Sotherby's in London. They could only suggest it was a locally known person, so again no luck there.

With other things pressing for my attention, I set my photographs of the paintings to one side. At the beginning of 2001 I again pondered over the artist. Was it the work of a lady or a gentleman and to whom should I turn to next to solve this puzzle?



It was whilst watching the 'Antiques Roadshow' one Sunday that I decided to try the BBC, Whiteladies Road, Bristol. Their response to my enquiry was sent by return of post, stating that they did not give information by mail. However, all was not lost because the B.B.C were recording more 'Roadshows' for a new series and the nearest one was to be at Kettering on the 15th March. Thankfully, a complimentary ticket was enclosed, which meant that I would be able to avoid the meandering stream of treasure bearing people patiently queuing.

I was soon seeking George Howe's approval to take our pictures for the experts to cast their eyes over part of Potton's heritage. With approval given, arrangements were in hand for Jean and I to set off for Kettering.

15th March 2001 - A sunny day boded well for our trip to Kettering Leisure Village where the Antiques Roadshow was being staged. We decided to head up the A1 and then at St. Neots we took the A645 passing through Kimbolton and on past the 3 Shire Pillar between Covington and Hargrave - a journey that reminded us of our History Society's North Beds tour. Our mid-morning drive was almost traffic free allowing us to view the rolling countryside from an almost leafless view. Early Spring blossoms on the trees with daffodils and crocuses glowing in the morning sun added to our previous tour. However, we did miss George and Peter's historical information on route.

By the time that we arrived at the Leisure Village car park it was chock-a-block full and the queue fronting the building extended halfway along it's length. We were directed to park on the grass verge, then we eagerly set off, with a picture each, towards the Antiques Show venue. By-passing the long queue of people with their variety of bundles clutched securely in their arms - reminiscent of a wartime queue - we entered by a side door and showed our pass

to the receptionist at the desk. Then we waited to one side for the steward to take us to our appointed area. We stood watching as the main queue slowly inched its way through the main door, across the large reception hall and on through into the main hall.

After a few minutes our steward guide led us into the main hall and there we had to wend our way through several queues. Jean struggled to keep up as we made our way through the packed throng. We were then met by another clip-board carrying steward who ticked us off their list and, sighing with relief, Jean managed to get a seat. Soon we were directed to the far side of the hall and to the end of the queue for the Pictures and Prints. Luck was with us again with several chairs against the wall and thankfully Jean was able to move along chair by chair.

Joining the picture queue we were able to take in part of the scene. Spotlights streamed down from above, lighting up the throng below, where for a brief moment I thought of Long Island and of the immigrants having just disembarked from steerage, all of them eager for a fresh start in the New World of America. Each one carrying their life's precious bundles of all shapes and sizes, joining the endless queues in the large processing shed, each to their designated line leading to their vision of passing the official's approval at the far end of the gateway to the realisation of their dreams. Here it seemed was the same crowded shed and the same anticipation and eager expectation on the crowds faces but this time there were no barriers of regimentation, just a meandering line of people from young to the elderly, all clutching their most treasured bundles and all hoping that when they reached the round table at the end of the line they would be face to face with the expert to confirm their wildest dreams.

Near the end of our queue, sitting at a table with pots and a figurine on top was the Toby Jug figure of Henry Sandon sorting out the genuine from the also ran Porcelain or Wedgewood. Close by on the next table the film crew were already zooming in on the tousled haired and moustachioed figure of David Battie as he pronounced

his first gem of the day to the amazement and delight of its owner. Our queue looked on with knowing nods and winks as if we all knew a good thing when we saw one.

Our queue edged slowly forward. I was sandwiched between a chap with a picture frame almost as tall as me and behind was a lady gently leaning on her 4ft bubble wrapped picture. We chatted as if over the garden wall. She was a farmer's wife and they farmed just outside Kettering; so far their livestock was free of Foot and Mouth disease but the worry and precautions they were having to deal with were taking their toll. The picture she was bringing for appraisal was a portrait of two horses and from the snap of the picture she showed me it was impressively detailed. In addition she was pleased for the break away from the farm. She also was equally approving of our snaps of our Old Manor House and wished us luck.

Nearby, where Jean was seated, stood a couple of local press reporters and they were soon joined by a steward and Michael Aspel, the Antique Roadshow's presenter, although the beehive buzz-like murmur rippling through the queuing throng concealed what was said. Then with one more hopeful to be seen before our turn Jean had inched her chair nearer to the two picture experts, Peter Nahum and Stephen Somerville. However, when our turn came both experts disappeared to the far end of the hall. Jean and I looked at one another then at our watches only to find that it had just gone 12.00! We could see the same question on both of our faces, "Have they gone for their mid-day meal?"

Anyway, after what seemed an age Peter Nahum came back and then beckoned us over. We unwrapped our Society's treasured watercolours and explained that, if possible, we would like the name of the artist for our records. His non-committal lack of recognition on his close inspection of the artist's initials brought us down to earth with a bump. Even so, Peter Nahum got out his book containing hundreds of artist's initials (our hopes soared even more). Although he had about a page and a half of J.A's none matched ours, though he

did approve of our artist's skill and quoted an insurance valuation for us.

For Jean and I that was a disappointing end to our search for J.A but at the same time worth the experience to see behind the scenes of the B.B.C's great Antiques Show. We wrapped up our pictures and with hardly a word returned to the car - - - now bogged down on the waterlogged grass verge. With motorists helping one another we were eventually back on the road and on finding a 'Little Chef' we pulled in for a well earned meal.

Our journey back to Potton was somewhat overcast, like the sky, but the pleasant countryside of North Beds and the signs of Spring at every turn made up for our disappointment. I wonder where the trail will lead next?

Keith Lawrence



Front of the Old Manor House, Potton.
Sketched from a Watercolour by J.B. 1974.

To be continued

Byng, Torrington, Whitbread – The Potton Connection

In 2007, the reports of two local events, well illustrated, appeared in the Biggleswade Chronicle. First, Sam Whitbread's book 'Plain Mr. Whitbread' was published in February. Secondly, on March 14th, the 250th anniversary of the death of Admiral John Byng, (a member of the Torrington family), was commemorated in Southill Church. Although not mentioned, members of both of these families had held land in Potton. It is interesting to be reminded of their individual involvement.

In 1751, Admiral John Byng purchased land in Potton. Wisely he engaged Joseph Cole in 1754 to draw a map of the town to identify his areas of ownership. This invaluable document enables one to make comparison with subsequent enclosure maps, the awards and agreements dated 1771, 1775 and 1815. Mary Leigh wrote an excellent article on this subject in 1986 for Newsletter No. 8.

Sadly, Admiral Byng was shot on the quarter deck of the Monarque on March 14th 1757, his crime quoted as being his failure to relieve the British Garrison at Minorca from the French. Voltaire wrote of the English that 'It pays them to shoot an Admiral from time to time to encourage the others'. It is believed that the Government of the day sent him into battle ill equipped. This recent article has highlighted a campaign to obtain an official pardon for the Admiral.

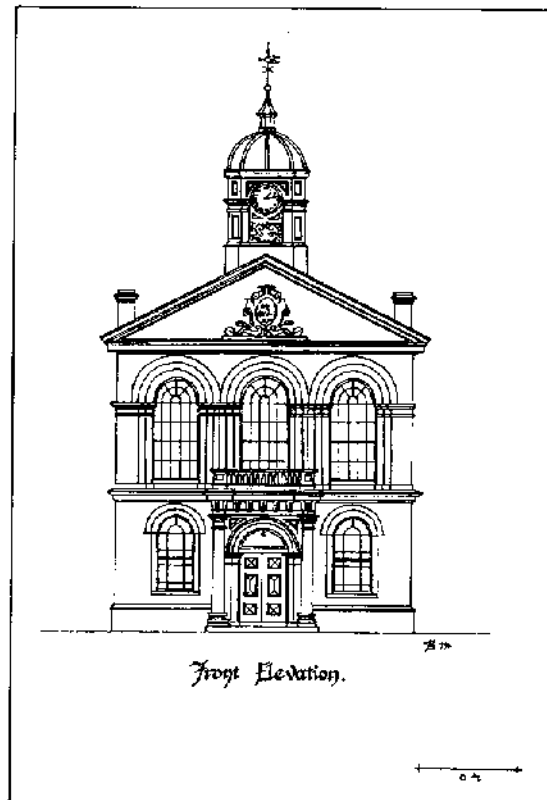
Admiral Byng's Southill Estate and his land in Potton passed to members of his family. By 1774, the Manor of Potton Regis had been passed from the Burgoynes to George, Lord Torrington. A Court Baron of the Manor was held on April 12th 1793. Twenty nine orders, connected with the management of the estate, were passed. Seven field reeves, three flesh searchers, two ale tasters and one hayward were appointed. The Leet Jury consisted of twelve members. Much is revealed of life at the time.

Twenty years later, the fourth Viscount was facing financial difficulties. Samuel Whitbread loaned him the sum of £7,500, which was followed by other payments. Finally, in 1795, he purchased the Southill Estate for £95,000 and the Potton land and properties were included in this deal, although not mentioned in 'Plain Mr. Whitbread'. (The information about Potton was given to Potton History Society on May 22nd 1980, when the present Sam Whitbread spoke about his family history researches to an appreciative audience.)

Having become the owner of the Shambles, Samuel Whitbread, through his agent, received many complaints of 'leaking stalls' from the traders. He considered rebuilding in an elaborate style (the plans

of which are in the Society's archives) but the estimated cost was deemed too high, so a compromise was made.

An interesting painting of the brick side of the improved Shambles, by Thomas Fisher circa 1822, appeared in a Southerby's catalogue advertising a sale of Fisher's Bedfordshire watercolours on June 12th 1980. A pillar included in the painting is wrongly attributed to the commemoration of the Great Fire of 1783, but according to a letter



written by the Rev. Whittington, Vicar of Potton at the time, it was to celebrate the end of the war in 1814. The full, fascinating story of the Shambles and the present Clock House is told in the well illustrated booklet by Peter Ibbett.

Over many years, the people of Potton had requested the building of a hall to celebrate the various stages of Queen Victoria's lengthy reign. Finally, in 1901, the Parish Room was built at Brook End on a small piece of land owned by Samuel Whitbread. This site was considered suitable as 'carriages could turn in the forecourt' of the Chequers Public House, now No 8 Brook End. A town collection was made to help defray costs. The Parish Room became the venue of many social and public events.

On March 30th 1917, the Biggleswade Chronicle reported the sale of S Howard Whitbread's Potton Estate. A large company was in attendance as F.W. Western sold, in ninety-five minutes, the seventy one lots, consisting of 485 acres of land, Belle Vue Farm, (the house now known as 71 Everton Road), two houses and the Smithy for £37,445. It was noted that a great number of tenants became purchasers of the land they had previously hired. The ground on which the Parish Room was built was gifted to St. Mary's Church, making them owners of the building, although money raised for its construction had been mainly donated by townspeople.

After 122 years, future members of the Whitbread family could no longer be regarded as 'Lords of the Manor'.

Patricia R. Yates. July 2007.

I wonder how it would have changed the fortunes of Potton if the grand edifice proposed in Mr Whitbread's plans (see previous page) had actually been built. What a shame he did not have a higher regard for his Potton acquisitions. Ed.

A Local Football Match

Reported in 'Bedfordshire Times & Independent' Dec 1874

On Saturday a match between teams of the Bedford and Newport Pagnell Football clubs was played in Bury Field, Newport. Mr Sheldon playing captain of the home team and Mr Barnes of the visitors, who were a man short. The weather was most unfavourable and the melting snow rendered the ground very slippery, so that it was difficult to maintain a foothold.

At three o'clock Newport, winning the toss, set the game in motion through their captain, according to the authorised rules of the Association, but it was soon sent back flying by the visitors, who never allowed it to pass the centre of the ground at any time, and so closely did they press up that corner kicks were the order of the day, the home team being compelled to act on the defensive. The tripping and charging from behind was carried out so much that no run could be made with the ball; it was a great drawback for Bedford, as their opponents



were not well acquainted with the rules, the hands being used as frequently as the feet. Some sharp scrimages took place in front of goal, but the ball passed both sides continually, and the spectators took possession over the lines so that it was impossible to tell who were players. No doubt they were inspired with enthusiastic sympathy for their team, but it was not fair to the visitors and it was a disappointment that no goal was obtained. The Bedford players were Messrs, Barnes, Smith, Tempary, Brimley, Humphrey, Thompson, Read,?, Pearson, Fowler, Stock, Bray, Farmilow and Hawksworth.

I find this list of players for Bedford rather odd, there are 14 and yet it indicated in the report that Bedford were a man short. Can anyone enlighten me as to how many players were in a team in those days? Cheers!
Keith

One other point, there was no list of 'injuries' at the end of the report, however, it must have been hilarious to watch!

--oo0oo--

Changing Times?

When I was at school us kids would sing :-

Rule Britannia two tanners make a bob,
Three make eighteen pence and four two bob.

I just can't get my tongue round the metric version :-

Rule Britannia two 2½ps make 5p.
Three make 7½p and four 10p.

I reckon it's something to do with Inflation

Family History

I have received enquiries from the following people with ancestors who have been associated with Potton.

Mrs J S Nordberg is trying to trace anyone who would have any information on her Grandmother, **Geraldine Tedder**, who had a house in Great Hallingbury but, in fact, is buried in Potton.

She is also interested in any information regarding the licensee of the Shannon Public House in 1891, **Mr Baltrop**. She would be pleased to have any information on this gentleman or his relations. Please contact me with any information and I will pass this on to her.

Mrs Joan Croucher (nee Ward) is interested in finding out more information about her Grandfather **Henry Ward** who was the Manager of the Gasworks around the turn of the century. He is, I understand, buried in Potton with his wife **Martha Harwood** and daughter **Frances Elizabeth**. The latter's daughter **Alice Isabel** married into the Potton **Croot** Family.

Can anyone assist this lady? If so I have contact details.

Ann Votier has written to me as follows:-

"I have been trying to locate a lady from America who had dealings with a **Mrs Nellie Schwartz** before she died in 1981. As **Mr Schwartz** had a daughter in 1937 I was hoping this lady may have been her. After her daughter was born she had her adopted in America as far as we know. I am Mrs N Schwartz niece and would love to make contact with this lady. I don't know if the lady I am seeking was the person who organised Nellie's funeral back then".

Ann Votier now lives in Spain and I have her address and e-mail address – please contact me if you can assist her and I will pass on any information.

Jean McLennan, Secretary, Potton History Society

I can be contacted at Society meetings or by phone at 01767 260234

NOTICE BOARD

Places to visit

Don't forget to tell us about all those interesting historical visits you have made recently, so that we can start up a regular feature. Just pick up a leaflet while you are there or jot down the details. Who knows, we may even get some new ideas for one of our coach trips.

AGM

Another year has flown by and once again our Annual General Meeting is imminent. We look forward to hearing from anyone who would like to be more involved in the running of the Society. One or two new committee members would be a wonderful way to round off the 30th anniversary celebrations and ensure that the Society continues to flourish.

Newsletter no. 44

Your articles, letters, comments and memories are always most welcome, no matter how short or long. Please pass items to Vera Parry, Mary Leigh or any committee member. The deadline for copy to be included in the next issue is 1st February 2008.