

CAKE AND COCKHORSE



Banbury Historical Society

Summer 1971

20p

BANBURY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

President: The Lord Saye and Sele
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The Society was founded in 1957 to encourage interest in the history of the town of Banbury and neighbouring parts of Oxfordshire, Northamptonshire and Warwickshire.

The Magazine *Cake & Cockhorse* is issued to members four times a year. This includes illustrated articles based on original local historical research, as well as recording the Society's activities. Publications include *Old Banbury - a short popular history* by E.R.C. Brinkworth (2nd edition), *New Light on Banbury's Crosses, Roman Banburyshire, Banbury's Poor in 1850*, and *Sanderson Miller of Radway and his work at Wroxton*, and a pamphlet *History of Banbury Cross*.

The Society also publishes records volumes. These have included *Clockmaking in Oxfordshire, 1400-1850*; *South Newington Churchwardens' Accounts 1553-1684*; *Banbury Marriage Register, 1558-1837* (3 parts) and *Baptism and Burial Register, 1558-1723* (2 parts); and *A Victorian M.P. and his Constituents: The Correspondence of H.W. Tancred, 1841-1859*. A new edition of *Shoemaker's Window, Wigginton Constables' Books, 1691-1836, Banbury Wills and Inventories, 1591-1650, Bodicote Churchwardens' Accounts, 1700-1822* and *Banbury Politics, 1830-1880* are all well advanced.

Meetings are held during the autumn and winter, normally at 7.30 p.m. in the Town Hall. Talks on general and local archaeological, historical and architectural subjects are given by invited lecturers. In the summer, excursions to local country houses and churches are arranged. Archaeological excavations and special exhibitions are arranged from time to time.

Membership of the society is open to all, no proposer or seconder being needed. The annual subscription is £2.00, including the annual records volume, or £1.00 if this is excluded. Junior membership is 25p.

Application forms can be obtained from the Hon. Secretary or the Hon. Treasurer.

CAKE AND COCKHORSE

The magazine of the Banbury Historical Society. Issued to members four times a year.

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With this issue the fourth volume of *Cake and Cockhorse* is completed. That ample material can still be obtained to fill the pages of the journal, and that so many requests for information for research projects are published, indicate the vitality of local historical studies in this part of Oxfordshire. Increasing sales of back numbers of the magazine show that its articles have proved of lasting interest to the general public and of real value to scholars.

Unfortunately increasing costs threaten the maintenance of the high standards which we have tried to set in *Cake and Cockhorse*. Postage alone now takes up ten per cent of the income received from each ordinary member, and the costs of printing have increased well beyond the average rate of inflation. We have therefore decided with some reluctance that rather than reduce the size of the magazine we shall henceforth publish only three times a year. The average number of pages per year will be maintained, but we shall be spared the expense of printing one set of covers and of one circulation by post. There will be no need to reduce the length or the number of articles or illustrations. We feel sure that readers will understand the necessity for this change, and that they will see that this is the best way in which to reduce costs without sacrificing standards.

There is certainly no shortage of material for future issues of the magazine. An outstanding issue planned for the autumn will include transcripts of the recollections of life in Banbury at the beginning of this century which were recorded at the meeting held at the Town Hall last November. The reminiscences will be illustrated with old photographs. We hope also to include new work on the Cherwell area of Banbury and on the Culworth Gang within the next twelve months, as well as maintaining our usual service of news, reviews and queries.

Our Cover. The "piggy-back" principle, by which road trailers are conveyed over long distances on railway waggons, is one that has been adopted by many railways in modern times, particularly those in the United States. This illustration, which comes from *Views and Reviews: Banbury* published in 1897, suggests that the principle was employed at that time by the Banbury furniture removers Hawkes and Son, whose depot was at the Old Town Hall Wharf in Lower Cherwell Street.

SOCIETY NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

Summer Programme

Local members will have received a copy of visits and meetings planned for the summer months. Any member who has not received this will be most welcome and should send notification of intention to join particular visits to Mr G. J. Fothergill, 48 Water St., Kings Sutton. Tel. 485.

Saturday, 22nd May. **Earls Barton Church**, near Northampton, 3.30 p.m.

Saturday, 5th June. **Annual General Meeting**, at **Rousham House**, near Steeple Aston, by kind permission of Mr Cottrell-Dormer. 5.15 for 5.30 p.m. (limited to 80).

Saturday, 3rd July. **Easton Neston House**, near Towcester, by kind permission of Lady Hesketh 2.30 p.m. Limited to 30.

Saturday, 17th July. Viewing of the **Excavations of Romano-Medieval Site**, at **Middleton Stoney** by kind permission of Mr Trevor Rowley. (Limited to 30) Assemble at site near Church 2.30 p.m.

July 1, 2, 3rd. **'Son et Lumiere'** at **Broughton Castle** (Script by Banbury Historical Society) Watch out for Press and other notices.

C.B.A. Group Nine

The Group has produced a Newsletter giving brief accounts of current archaeological work being carried out in the counties of Beds, Berks, Bucks, Northants and Oxon. Copies of the Newsletter are available at 10 N.P. + 5 N.P. for postage or can be collected from:- the Editor, R.T. Rowley, Oxford University Delegacy for Extra-Mural Studies, Rewley House, Wellington Square, Oxford.

University of Oxford : Delegacy for Extra-Mural Studies Archaeology Schools and Courses for 1971

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| Saturday, 15th May. | A day school on <i>Industrial Archaeology</i> at Woodstock Community Centre. |
| 5-6th June. | A weekend field trip to medieval monuments of the Welsh borderland (overnight stay at Ludlow). Inclusive fee: £6. |
| 12th June (Provisional). | Afternoon school on the <i>Archaeology of Milton Keynes New Town</i> at Wolverton. |
| 3-17th July. | <i>Residential Training School in Field Archaeology</i> at Middleton Stoney, Oxfordshire. Fees: Residential £32, Non Resident £12. |
| 16-17th October. | Weekend school on <i>The Roman Army in Britain</i> at Rewley House. |
| 20-21st November. | Weekend school on <i>Science in Archaeology</i> at Rewley House. |
- Further details are available from the Secretary, Oxford University Delegacy for Extra-Mural Studies, Rewley House, Wellington Square, Oxford. Telephone: Oxford (0865) 57203.

Oxford City and County Museum.

The attention of members is drawn to the Archaeological and Historical Newsletter issued by this Museum, a copy of which (No.6) should accompany this magazine. Members who would like to receive this regularly (three times a year, free of charge) are asked to inform the Hon. Secretary. This Newsletter is *not* the same as the wider ranging Newsletter issued by C.B.A. Group 9.

Help Wanted

Mr R. Davies of 15 Valley Avenue, Friern Barnet, London, N12 9PG, is doing research on the former Stratford and Midland Junction Railway, Banbury branch, and on the Kings Sutton - Kingham portion of the Banbury and Cheltenham Direct Railway. He would be grateful if any member of the society could help him with information about the operation of these lines, or if they could lend him photographs.

ERNEST SAMUELSON AND THE BRITANNIA WORKS

When Ernest Samuelson died on 14 May, 1927, the obituary which appeared in the *Banbury Guardian* five days later, claimed that 'he was, perhaps, the best known man in the town and its immediate neighbourhood'.¹ Certainly his record of public service in the Banbury district was impressive. Like his eminent uncle, Sir Bernhard Samuelson, Ernest always took an interest in educational matters. For many years he was Secretary of the Cherwell British Schools before their conversion into an infants school in 1904. He was a Trustee of the Banbury Institute, and was Chairman of the Governors of the Horton General Hospital for several years. He was Chairman of the Governors of the Banbury Municipal School from 1906 to 1923, was made a Justice of the Peace in 1894, and at the time of his death, he was Senior Magistrate in the Banbury and Bloxham Division of Oxfordshire. He served as High Sheriff of Oxfordshire in 1921, and was the employers' representative on the Oxfordshire Employment Committee. In spite of his many public services the obituary recorded that 'the Britannia Works always had first claim on his time'.

Ernest Samuelson was a Yorkshireman by birth. He was born at Kingston-on-Hull in August 1850, the son of Alexander Samuelson. He was educated at Hull schools and at King's College, London, although there is no evidence that he graduated at London University.² After University he returned to Hull, where he worked as a draughtsman at the engine works of Earle's Shipbuilding and Engineering Company during one of the busiest periods in the firm's history when there was a heavy demand for ships following the opening of the Suez Canal.³ He came to Banbury in 1878, taking up the post of Assistant Manager at the Britannia Works, then under the direct control and sole ownership of his uncle, Bernhard Samuelson. Three years before Bernhard Samuelson had lost the services of his partner, Daniel Pidgeon, who had been responsible for technical matters, and Ernest Samuelson's appointment was intended to fill this gap.

Ernest Samuelson took up residence at Bodicote Grange, formerly occupied by Bernhard Samuelson. Bernhard had bought a house at Prince's Gate, Knightsbridge, four years before,⁴ and thereafter spent most of his time at his London home, staying with Ernest Samuelson at Bodicote Grange when he visited Banbury. Ernest married Miss Margaret Penney of Kelso in 1884, and they lived together at the Grange.

On the 13 February, 1888, Samuelson and Co. was converted into a limited liability company,⁵ and Sir Bernhard Samuelson sold the following assets to the newly-formed company:

'Freehold lands, offices, works, workshops, buildings, wharves and hereditaments of the Vendor situated at and near Banbury aforesaid and known as the Britannia Works and used in and about the said businesses of the Vendor comprising:

- (1) The offices and works called the Upper Works heretofore the property of James Gardner with some additions, purchased of other persons.
- (2) The offices and works called the Lower Works constructed on land purchased as to part that of Thomas Draper as to other part that of Mary Bryan Draper and adjoining the Oxford Canal.
- (3) A close of land in the Parish of Warkworth in the County of Northampton purchased of James Stockton with shedding and other works constructed thereon.

And all the tramways and other roads and wayleaves of the Vendor connecting the several works and all other lands, works and other hereditaments of the Vendor used in connection with the said businesses—and all other rights and appurtenances connected with the said premises. And also all the plant, machinery, fixtures and engines, tools, horses, carriages, stocks in trade, stores, materials and other effects in upon and about the said works and businesses, and all patent rights now vested in the Vendor or in any other person or persons in trust for him or for his benefit and used in connection with the said business of any of them. And also the goodwill of the said businesses as going concerns.⁶

The price to be paid by the Company for the above assets was £92,035.5s.6d. The purchase was to take effect from 1 October, 1887, with interest at the rate of 4½% per annum, being paid from then until the completion date of 15 February, 1888.⁷ Sir Bernhard was to receive £88,000 of this money in the form of £10 shares in the new Company. The nominal capital of the Company was £150,000 divided into 15,000 £10 shares in order 'to carry on all or any of the trades or businesses of iron founders and engineers and manufacturers of implements and machinery and any other trade of business subsidiary or auxiliary to the business aforesaid'.⁸ The Prospectus of the Gatling Gun Company was used as a model for the new Company's Memorandum of Association.⁹

The Articles of Association of Samuelson and Co. Ltd.¹⁰ set out the rules for the internal management and regulation of the new Company, and these Articles show that although the firm had 'gone limited' and was therefore technically owned and controlled by its shareholders, the control of the firm remained in the hands of Sir Bernhard Samuelson. Voting rights within the Company were based upon one vote for every additional ten shares held beyond the first ten. In February 1889, Samuelson held 8,346 of the firm's 10,972 issued shares. (For list of shareholders on this date, see Appendix A). Therefore, he could, if he choose, out-vote any combination of shareholders ranged against him at shareholders' meetings.

The number of Directors was to be not less than three, and not more than eight. The first Directors were:

Sir Bernhard Samuelson, M.P. Chairman of the Company,
F. A. E. Samuelson and G. B. Samuelson, M.P. (two of Sir
Bernhard's sons),

Ernest Samuelson, described in the Articles as
'an Engineer of Banbury',

Josiah Patrick Hardy, a Banbury accountant,

James Stockton, a Banbury solicitor,

and

Henry Armistead of Forest Hill, London.

The Articles laid down that Sir Bernhard was to remain Chairman for life or until he chose to retire. Directors had to hold shares to the nominal value of £500 or upwards (although this rule was not enforced) and every two years, commencing in 1890, two of the Directors had to submit themselves for re-election to the Board. The Board had the power to appoint Managers, and Ernest Samuelson and J. P. Hardy were appointed Joint-Managers of the Company. Ernest Samuelson to be responsible for technical matters and Hardy to handle the commercial side. Frederick Hoble was appointed Company Secretary, although by 1892, he had been replaced by J. E. Riley.

Samuelson and Co. had been built up on the manufacture of agricultural machinery, but with the onset of agricultural depression in the 1870's, there was a falling off in the demand for its agricultural implements. In March 1880, at an election meeting, Bernhard Samuelson quoted figures showing the drop in wages paid at the Britannia Works in the late 1870's, and at another meeting he explained how the depression had forced his firm to dismiss some of its employees. However, he was able to say 'that trade is reviving with us, and that we have been able, and were able before this election was announced, to increase the mens' time and to employ additional hands'.¹¹

The improvement in trade proved short-lived, however, and in 1885 Samuelson confided to an election audience that if he had not laid something by for 'a rainy day' he would have ended up in the Bankruptcy Court.¹² The fear that his firm might go bankrupt involving him in huge personal losses, for by law he could be called upon to sell all his personal possessions to settle his debts, was probably the main reason why Bernhard Samuelson decided to convert his firm into a limited liability company in 1888. His liability to cover losses would then be limited to the amount he had invested in the firm, and his other investments and properties would not be involved. The reason could not have been to raise fresh capital by offering shares to the public because, as we have seen, Samuelson held the bulk of the new Company's issued shares.

Samuelson and Co's problems were not due to the depression alone, however. Another factor involved in the weakening of the firm's trading position was the emergence of strong competition from other agricultural engineering firms such as Bamford and Massey Harris.

Ernest Samuelson was largely responsible for the firm's decision to develop new engineering products in order to lessen the Company's dependence on agricultural machinery.¹³ The Britannia Works continued to manufacture agricultural machinery, but from the 1880's onward, the firm began to produce a wider range of engineering goods. For example, in 1893, the firm obtained a licence from Samuel Griffin of Bath, to manufacture his patent petrol engines.¹⁴ It also held a licence to manufacture Longworth's patent power hammers, and made steam hammers patented by Ernest Samuelson. Among the Samuelson Papers, there is a list, dated December, 1906, of machinery, manufactured by Samuelson and Co. Ltd., for Briddon and Fowler, Flour Mill Engineers of Manchester. This list includes the following items:

Wheat measuring machines,	Centrifugal dressing machines,
Wheat washing, stirring, and rinsing machines,	Oscillating tailings sieves,
Whizzers,	Dividing hoppers,
Drying machines,	Flour and offal feeders,
Flour roller mills,	Flour posers,
Reel scalpers,	Elevators,
Double purifiers,	Worm conveyors,
Air belt purifiers,	Ironworks for exhaust boxes.

The above milling machinery manufactured at the Britannia Works for Briddon and Fowler was done under the terms of a contract signed between the two firms on 18 October, 1902. Under this agreement, Samuelson and Co. Ltd., was to supply milling machinery 'at such prices as would be charged for similar machinery by firms of equal standing'.¹⁵ and Briddon and Fowler were to add the words 'Works:- Banbury' to the letterhead on their business notepaper. In other words, Briddon and Fowler were sub-contracting work to Samuelson and Co. Ltd. The Contract laid down that any disagreement between the two firms was to be settled by means of arbitration under a suitable person, nominated by the President of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers. The agreement was still operating in 1907, when Ernest Samuelson complained to Briddon and Fowler that they were ordering milling machinery from other firms in preference to Samuelson & Co. Ltd., and so acting in breach of the agreement.¹⁶ In reply, Briddon and Fowler claimed that they had lost £250,000 of business over a period of three and a half years, because Samuelson and Co's prices were uncompetitive with other firms. In accordance with the terms of the contract, a Mr C. M. Bailhache was appointed to act as arbitrator between the two firms. His award was generally in favour of Samuelson and Co. Ltd. : Briddon and Fowler were to pay the costs of the arbitration, amounting to £61 – 10 – Od, and half of Samuelson & Co.'s legal costs.¹⁷

By 10 February, 1905, the number of the firm's Directors had been reduced to five. They were:

Sir Bernhard Samuelson,
F. A. E. Samuelson,
G. B. Samuelson,
Ernest Samuelson,
and Oliver J. Stockton.

The number of shareholders had also been reduced to nine, and 9,894 of the firms 9,901 issued shares were held by members of the Samuelson family. (For list of shareholders on this date, see Appendix B).

Sir Bernhard Samuelson died on 10 May 1905, and at an Extraordinary General Meeting of shareholders held at the Britannia Works, on 14 August, 1905, it was decided to wind up the old Company and reconstitute it under the same name.¹⁸ The aims of the reconstituted Company were:

'To carry on all or any of the trades and businesses of iron founders and engineers and manufacturers of implements and machinery, boilers, motor cars, locomotives and any other trade or business subsidiary of auxiliary to the business aforesaid, of which it may, for the time being be expedient to carry thereof out in aid thereof'.¹⁹

The nominal capital of the Company was to be £100,000 divided into 20,000 shares of £5 each. Otherwise the new Company's Memorandum and Articles of Association were very similar

to those of the old Company. Ernest Samuelson was appointed Managing Director of the Company and held this post until his retirement in 1926. These were years which saw Samuelson & Co. Ltd. struggling to survive in the highly competitive conditions of the 1920's. Writing of the Britannia Works in his 'Memories of Late Victorian Banbury' John L. Langley recalled:

'so trade declined until the works closed in 1929. My brother, Thomas H. Langley, was the last member of the staff, and he, with Mr Ernest Samuelson, had the unenviable task of locking up the premises at the close'.²⁰

Mr Langley's memory must have failed him on this point, for Ernest Samuelson died on 14 May, 1927. The Britannia Works were closed in September 1928,²¹ and were re-opened in March, 1930, when all plant and machinery was transferred from the Lower Works in Canal Street to the Upper Works in Britannia Road.²² Three years later, on 21 March, 1933, Samuelson and Co. Ltd., went into liquidation.²³

A. Potts.

Sources.

1. *Banbury Guardian* 20 May, 1927.
2. London University Yearbooks.
3. Joyce M. Bellamy, 'A Hull Shipbuilding Firm : The History of C. and W. Earle and Earle's Shipbuilding and Engineering Co. Ltd.' *Business History* V. VI No. 1. December, 1963.
4. Samuelson Papers – Solicitors' Bills 1871–75.
5. Samuelson Papers – Certificate of Incorporation (copy) Samuelson & Co. Ltd., 13 February, 1888.
6. Samuelson Papers – Articles of Agreement between Sir Bernhard Samuelson and the Company, 14 February, 1888.
7. Supplemental Agreement to the above Articles.
8. Public Record Office – File BT31/4050/25873 Memorandum of Association of Samuelson and Co. Ltd.
9. Samuelson Papers – Prospectus of Gatling Gun Company with comments and amendments.
10. Public Record Office – File BT31/4050/25873 Articles of Association of Samuelson & Co. Ltd.
11. Audrey M. Taylor, *Gilletts : Bankers at Banbury and Oxford* p. 165.
12. *Ibid.* p. 174.
13. Proceedings of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers V.1. 1927, p. 588.
14. Samuelson Papers – Contract Samuelson and Co. Ltd. and Briddon and Fowler, 18 October, 1902.
15. Samuelson Papers – Business Correspondence – Samuelson & Co. Ltd., and Briddon and Fowler.
17. Samuelson Papers – Award of Arbitration.
18. Public Record Office – File BT31/4050/25873 Special resolution of Samuelson & Co. Ltd. passed 14 August, 1905.
19. Samuelson Papers – Memorandum and Articles of Association of Samuelson & Co. Ltd., 5 September, 1905.
20. John H. Langley, 'Memories of Late Victorian Banbury' – *Cake and Cockhorse* II No. 4.
21. *Banbury Guardian* 12 September 1928.
22. *Banbury Guardian* 20 March 1930.
23. Information provided by the Public Record Office. Unfortunately, the Board of Trade File on this Company (Company No. 85764) has not been preserved.

List of Persons Holding Shares in Samuelson and Company Limited on 12 February 1889

APPENDIX A

(Public Record Office BT31/4050/25873)

<i>Folio No.</i>	<i>Surname</i>	<i>Christian Names</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Occupation</i>	<i>No. of Shares Held</i>
1	Samuelson	Bernhard	56 Princes Gate London	Baronet M.P.	8346
2	Samuelson	Henry Bernhard	Torquay	Esquire	2
3	Samuelson	Francis Arthur Edward	Middlesbrough	Ironmaster	10
4	Samuelson	Godfrey Blundell	56 Princes Gate London	Esquire M.P.	10
5	Samuelson	Herbert Walter	56 Princes Gate London	Esquire	6
6	Mitcalfe	Leonard	Banbury	Mercantile Clerk	1
7	Webb	Henry Richard	Newland, Banbury	Foreman Smith	2

8	Bolus	George (Junior)	10 Albert St., Banbury	Mercantile Clerk	5
9	Danks	German Wheatcroft	Morton Vicarage Gainsborough	Clerk in Holy Orders	2
10	Mawle	John	High St., Banbury	Ironmonger	1
11	Cross	Thomas Charles	Market Place Widicomb	Ironmonger	25
12	Paul	Robert and Margaret	Blackhall Place Dublin	Engineer and Wife	10
13	Ponting	Daniel	Queen's Parade Clapham Junction	Ironmonger	5
14	Barber	Joseph Henry	Dean Row Near Wilmslow	Machinist	10
15	Barber	Thomas	Dean Row, Near Wilmslow	Machinist	10
16	French	William Henry	Buckingham	Ironmonger	25
17	Drake	Edward	15 Calthorpe Rd., Banbury	Commercial Traveller	2
18	Baylis	Joseph	Britannia Rd., Banbury	Engine Driver	25
19	Mold	John	9 Marlborough Place Banbury	Iron Fitter	10
20	Mold	John Henry	19 Newland Place Banbury	Iron Fitter	100
21	Essex	James	20 North Bar St., Banbury	Smith	100
22	Cave	John Henry	13 Marlborough Place Banbury	Mercantile Clerk	500
23	Ponting	John Edward	High St., Malmesbury	Ironmonger	100
24	Proctor	William	24 Lower Cherwell St., Banbury	Engine Driver	10
25	Briggs	George	45 Upper Windsor St., Banbury	Smith	10
26	Huckerby	William	13 West St., Banbury	Mercantile Clerk	10
27	Wheeler	Joseph	Calthorpe St., Banbury	Smith	25
28	Lewis	John Timms	68 Bridge St., Banbury	Iron Fitter	25
29	Egan Egan	Patrick Henry	Bridge House Tullamore, Ireland	Hardware Merchants	20
30	Ison	Josiah	Ashby-de-la-zouch	Ironmonger	25
31	Ison	Edward	Ashby-de-la-zouch	Ironmonger	5
32	Nasbey	George William	Crouch St., Banbury	Engineers' Draughtsman	13
33	Jones	Matthew	Broad St., Banbury	Mercantile Clerk	12
34	Perry	George Senior	Rathdowney, Ireland	Hardware Merchant	10

35	Hornby	Watson	50 Christ Church Terr., Banbury	Iron Fitter	20
36	Pinning	John	8 Calthorpe Rd., Banbury	Commercial Traveller	2
37	Furse	John	Holsworthy, Devon	Machinist	2
38	Robins	George John	Market Place, Banbury	Ironmonger	5
39	Foley	Charles Carrique	Castle St., Nenagh, Ireland	Hardware Merchant	20
40	Tovey	Joseph	Market Place Cirencester	Ironmonger	25
41	Collins	Maurice	3 Laurence St., Drogheda, Ireland	Seedsman	5
42	Collins	Anne	32 Shop St., Drogheda, Ireland	Ironmonger	5
43	Watson	George Stephen	22 Middleton Rd., Banbury	Foreman Iron Turner	4
44	Hyde	Samuel Gasquine	1 Gatteridge St., Banbury	Foreman Carpenter	10
45	Watson	Alfred Burling	49 Queen St., Banbury	Mercantile Clerk	10
46	Clark	John Goffee	Brackley, Northants	Ironmonger	10
47	Cave	Charles	17 Newland Place Banbury	Mercantile Clerk	3
48	Pargeter	Henry	10 Merton St., Banbury	Iron Fitter	2
49	Watson	James Edward	106 Causeway Banbury	Iron Turner	3
50	Denton	Henry	Wolverhampton	Engineer	10
51	Yardley	John	Model Mill, Furnival Road, Sheffield	Agricultural Engineer	20
52	Goldsworthy	Thomas	Trelissick, Hayle, Cornwall	Farmer	5
53	Corbett	Thomas	Shrewsbury	Agricultural Engineer	10
54	Green	Stephen	Haverfordwest	Ironmonger	20
55	Rice	Thomas	East Grinstead, Sussex	Agricultural Implements Dealer	5
56	Rice	Joseph	East Grinstead Sussex	Agricultural Implements Dealer	5
57	Rice	George	Godstone, Surrey	Agricultural Implements Dealer	5
58	Rice	Henry	Uckfield, Sussex	Agricultural Implements Dealer	10
59	Corbett	George Wycherley	Bolnhurst, Wellington Salop	Agricultural Engineer	10
60	French	George Watson	Buckingham	Ironmonger	5
61	Matterson	Henry	Cross Cheaping, Coventry	Ironfounder	20

62	Tate	John	Downpatrick, Ireland	Agricultural Engineer	25
63	Paulson	Henry	49 North Bar St., Banbury	Engineers' Draughtsman	10
64	Babbs	Frederick	19B, Gatteridge St., Banbury	Engineers' Storekeeper	1
65	Lovegrove	James	31 Fish St., Banbury	Carpenter	1
66	Robinson	William	96 West St., Banbury	Carpenter	2
67	Riley	John Edward	9 West St., Banbury	Mercantile Clerk	5
68	Finch	George	101, West St.,	Mercantile Clerk	5
[69-72 Inclusive missing from list Probably shares not taken up. A.P.]					
73	Hardy	Josiah Patrick	Oxford Rd., Banbury	Accountant	200
74	Manwaring	William George	Grimsbury, Banbury	Engineer	200
75	Samuelson	Ernest	Bodicote Grange, Banbury	Engineer	200
76	Hobley	Frederick	Horse Fair, Banbury	Accountant	150
77	Armistead	Henry	Forest Hill, London	Gentleman	200
78	Stockton	James	Oxford Road Banbury	Solicitor	200
79	Pilber	John George	24 Rue Albert, Paris	Agricultural Engineer	50

Total Number of Issued Shares

10,972

List of Persons Holding Shares in Samuelson and Company Limited on 10 February 1905
APPENDIX B (Public Record Office BT31/4050/25873)

<i>Folio No.</i>	<i>Surname</i>	<i>Christian Names</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Occupation</i>	<i>No. of Shares Held</i>
1/4	Samuelson	Bernhard	56 Princes Gate London	Baronet	7509
26	Samuelson	Henry B.	Braywick Grove Maidenhead	Esquire	688
28	Samuelson	Francis A. E.	Breckenborough Hall Near Thirsk	Ironmaster	283
30	Samuelson	Godfrey B.	Kenfield Hall, Petham Kent	Esquire	681
32	Samuelson	Herbert W.	19 Pont St., London	Esquire	283
24	Samuelson Samuelson Samuelson	Henry B. Francis A. E. Godfrey B.		Jointly Held	400
38	Samuelson	Ernest	Banbury	Engineer	50
42	Armistead	Henry	Forest Hill London	Gentleman	1
45	Stockton	Oliver J.	Banbury	Solicitor	1
109	Riley	John Edward	Banbury	Secretary	5

Total Number of Issued Shares

9,901

THE BRITANNIA WORKS FROM LIVING MEMORY

The Britannia Works occupied the area on the eastern side of Banbury bounded by Fish Street, Britannia Road, Lower Windsor Street and Windsor Terrace, Canal Street, Upper Windsor Street and Swan Close.

The works was split up into two parts, 'Upper Works' and 'Lower Works'. The 'Upper Works' was situated in the block bounded by Fish Street, Britannia Road, Windsor Terrace, and Lower Windsor Street. Here were the time and general offices, along Britannia Road and Windsor Terrace. Behind these were four fitters' shops for turnip cutters, flour dressers, lawn mowers, etc. Here also were the lawn mower grinding machines, moulding machines, and the flour milling machines with their long steel grinding rolls which were fluted spirally.

These machines were constructed and tested in this part of the works. The rest of the upper works consisted of long machine shop bays with centre lathes, turret lathes, shapers, slotting machines and grinding machines, and saws. There was a tool stores and pattern shop, electro-plating shop, tapping screwing machines.

The pride of the works was the twin-cylinder steam power plant with its huge central driving wheel and main shaft and belt, which drove all the shafts and belts and wheels of the other machines. One corner of this engine room was devoted to large air compressors which were kept running at full blast. The din from this part of the works was deafening and could be heard streets away.

The 'Lower Works' stretched from Canal Street, behind the houses on the east side of Upper Windsor Street; to Swan Close Road and alongside the canal where pig-iron, furnace coke, and moulding sand were brought to the foundry in narrow boats. In this part of the works were the two cupolas which roared their blood-red flames skywards nightly and the men worked from six o'clock, a.m. till eight o'clock, p.m. during the week and twelve, noon on Saturdays. Here also was the fettling shop, a dark place with huge sandstone wheels sunk into pits in the floor.

The fettlers worked on their hands and knees grinding the rough castings on the wheels, their eyes protected by frames of fine mesh. Smaller castings would be put into large revolving boxes full of round marbles of iron. This process made a terrible din, but the action of the iron balls took away the sharp edges on the castings and left them highly polished. The part of 'Lower Works' facing along Swan Close Road consisted mainly of carpenters' shops, pattern makers' shops and paint shops. The men working in these shops wore white aprons and pill box hats. All the paints used were made, blended and mixed in this part of Britannia Works. These shops were gutted by fire on Banbury Fair night, 1912.

In a long yard by the canal stood a time office and stables. It was in this yard that the completed machines were 'parked' awaiting dispatch. These machines included reaping machines, binding machines, turnip cutters, and mowing machines for hay-making. One of the lawn mowers produced at the Britannia Works is at present on display in the Banbury Museum. This particular machine was not a huge success owing to its heavy gearing.

On the reaping machines was a complicated piece of apparatus called the 'knotter', which was designed to tie a knot after the sheaf of corn was bound, and then cut the twine before the sheaf was thrown off the machine. This apparatus was a 'jig-saw' of brightly polished steel knuckle joints, which when well oiled would work as smoothly as a good watch.

The two parts of the works were connected by a 2 ft. gauge tramway which ran from the top works, along Lower Windsor Street into Canal Street and thence into the lower works through the gateway to the right of the present Midland Red Bus Garage. The trucks which ran on the tramway were drawn by big sleek shire horses. From the lower works the tramway ran from the long yard, out of the gates and over the canal and river bridges down to the railway sidings.

Here stood the Britannia Works Depot, comprising the large wood sheds where timber was stacked and seasoned. All the smaller machines were loaded from here straight onto the railway trucks. Demand for mowers during the 1920s and 30s was so great that at times they were painted on the train en route to their destination. Most of the other implements and plant would be hauled to the G.W.R. goods station on the specially designed low-loading cart drawn by shire horses, or on a steam-powered wagon.

The steam wagon was a three wheeled machine designed and built at the works. It had a large chain-driven wheel at the front and the body consisted of a solidly constructed low-loading platform supported on small strong wheels. During the winter months when the roads were often icy, the steam wagon would fail on the hump of the canal bridge, and would have to wait while the two large shire horses were sent for from the lower works. The horses would then be hitched up to the steam wagon to assist it over the canal bridge and into Station Road.

The large field next to the Britannia Works Depot, and which is now the home of Banbury United Football Club, was provided by Sir Bernhard Samuelson as a sports field for his workers. There was a fine pavillion which had a thatched roof and comprised a dining room with dressing rooms on either side. Behind the pavillion, and facing the river, there was a rifle range and club house, a skittle alley, and clay beds for quoits. The works also sported a fine football and cricket team.

The growth of the Cherwell district, due to the development of Britannia Works, called for some provision for young children unable to go to more distant schools. Sir Bernhard Samuelson, therefore, built at his own expense the Britannia British Schools, later called the Cherwell British Schools. This school still stands today, and is situated on the west side of Britannia Road opposite Windsor Terrace.

The two almost identical buildings which stand on either side of the school gates were provided for use as a library and games room, and a hot slipper bath, also at the personal cost of Sir Bernhard. The building on the left of the gates was the library and games room, and the one on the right the hot slipper bath.

G. C. J. Hartland.

Acknowledgements

I am indebted to Mr A. W. Jones and Mr B. Boscott, former employees of the Britannia Works for providing information for this article.

HOOK NORTON GENERATING STATION 1928–1932

In 1926 three gentlemen from London applied for permission to generate and supply electricity in the village of Hook Norton. After several months of hard negotiating and advertising, the necessary Act of Parliament was passed permitting the erection of a generating station. A further nine months passed before wayleave rights were acquired from landowners for the erection of poles and distribution cables around the village. A site was selected for the station in a field known as Shearing Close, on the site of a former monastery, and work was commenced on the crection of the generating station.

In charge of the project were Mr J. G. Jackson, electrical engineer, B. Knight, builder, and C. J. Hewett, electrician. They were assisted by two local labourers. The station was constructed of corrugated iron and steel, and had an asbestos roof. The generating plant comprised a 48 hp. Fielding and Platt Diesel Engine and Generator. Electricity was generated at 240 volts D.C. A set of Exide batteries were installed to carry the night load and to act as stand-by during low load periods, when maintenance could be carried out on the generator. Cooling water for the engine was obtained from a nearby well.

The station was opened late in 1928. By Christmas 1929 a butcher's shop and Greens the milliners in the High Street were 'on the mains', and by the end of the following year a total of 69 consumers were being supplied. During the first year, electricity was supplied at one shilling and a penny per unit with a penny discount within seven days of the meter being read. This was meant to encourage consumers to pay their bills promptly. During the years 1930–31 a further 30 consumers were gained from advertisements.

By this time the 66kv power line from Stourport Power Station was nearing completion. (See 'History of Banbury Power Station', C. & C. H. Summer 1970). A 66kv substation was erected at Epwell and the Shropshire, Worcestershire and Staffordshire Electric Power Company applied for the contract to supply Sibford and surrounding area at 8d per unit. Needless to say the contract was accepted. The S.W.S. took over Hook Norton Generating Station in 1932 and the plant closed down.

G. C. J. Hartland.

THE CLAY TOBACCO PIPE

The practice of smoking came to Britain sometime during the reign of Elizabeth I and has been with us both as habit and pleasure ever since. Laurence Harley puts the date of its introduction as between 1565 and 1588. Berry shows that it was fashionable to smoke in London theatres. Adrian Oswald quotes a German lawyer writing in 1598 'The English are constantly smoking tobacco. They have pipes on purpose made of clay'. Certainly therefore the clay pipe was being used in England before 1600. In 1619 the Company of Tobacco Pipe Makers was incorporated in London, and this was the main manufacturing centre for the first part of the 17th century. In the latter part of the century Bristol and Broseley began to rival London, and in the 18th century Liverpool and Chester also became important centres. The second half of the 18th century saw some diminution in the pipe trade as snuff taking became fashionable, but there was a large increase in the number of active firms during the period 1800–1840. Bristol was no longer so important; London still had the largest concentration of makers, but this was the period of the small local manufacturer, and most country market towns had at least one pipe maker. The Crimean War brought the cigarette to Great Britain, and the manufacture of pipes fell during the latter part of the 19th century. Few makers continued into the present century, but some pipes are still being made in the British Isles. Pipes made by McDougall of Glasgow were on sale in Northampton last year. Locally the last manufacturer was probably A. Roberts of Scarletwell Street, Northampton, who was still active in the 1930s.

The history of the pipe industry is fascinating in itself, but the pipe is of much wider importance to the archaeologist as a means of dating sites than as an indication of past smoking habits. Parsons puts the value of the pipe as follows:-

'The combination of greater fragility, negligible cost and a shorter life, plus known chronological changes of form, gives the clay tobacco pipe a dating advantage over the pottery of the 17th and 18th centuries'.

Clay pipes can be dated within a possible thirty year span if the complete bowl is found. It is not possible here to go into great detail, describing all the various types of bowl and makers, since this would only duplicate work done by Parsons, Harley, Atkinson and Oswald.

Manufacture of Clay Pipes

Methods of producing pipes have not changed very much over the years. The clay generally used was a form of china clay found in Devon and Cornwall. This was soaked and mixed with the 'spew', the waste from former productions. The mixture was allowed to stand for a few days when it was again well kneaded to the correct consistency. The maker then took the clay and broke it up into the correct size. He then rolled it into a rough shape or blank, which was allowed partly to dry before the next stage was attempted. This was the making of the hole in the centre of the stem. A wire has the clay drawn over it; the pipemaker does not, as would at first seem more obvious, force the wire through the clay. This was found to break the delicate stems of the large churchwarden pipes. The clay was then trimmed, and the blank put into the mould. These were of metal, and many survive in museums. A mould was formed of two parts hinged together. It incorporated the pipe's shape, decoration, and often the name or initials of the maker.

Then the mould was placed on the 'head' of the 'head and handle' tool which pressed out the shape of the bowl. The operation is simple. The handle was pulled down, the stopper forced into the mould, and the bowl pressed out. The pipes were then dried again and afterwards placed in 'saggers', capable of holding about 30–50 pipes. The kiln was filled with the saggers, and fired. The early type of kiln would almost certainly have been very crude and primitive. Many manufacturers used the bottle shaped updraught or 'Belgian Kiln'. Others preferred a down draught kiln. The pipes were fired for some 8–10 hours at a temperature of about 960 F. The number of pipes in one firing would be somewhere in the neighbourhood of 4,000–5,000.

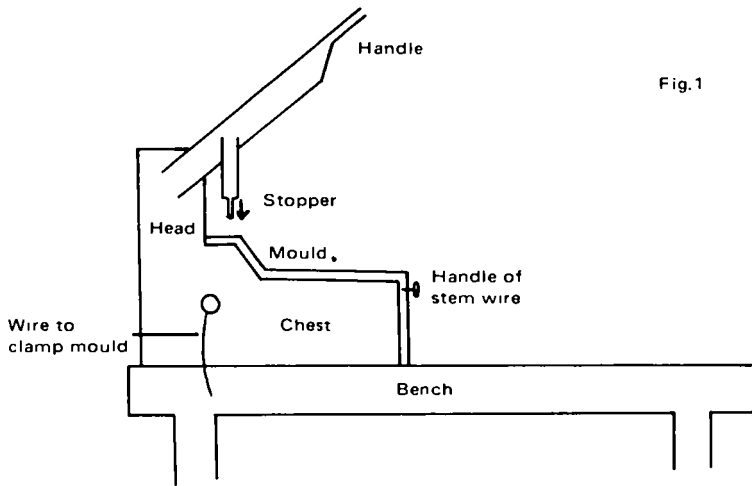


Fig.1

A HEAD AND HANDLE MACHINE

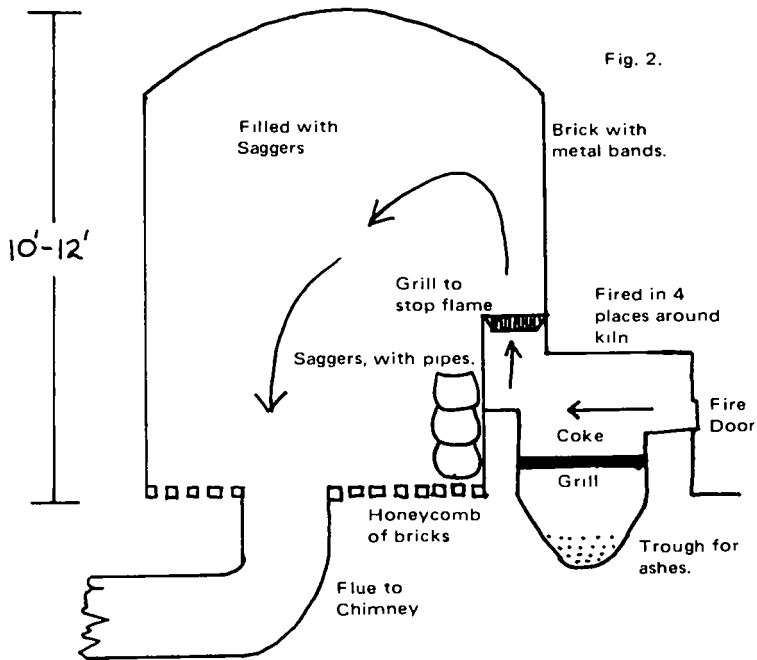


Fig. 2.

A DOWNDRAUGHT INTERMITTENT KILN
(Cross section)

After the kiln had cooled, trial pipes were taken out for testing. As the pipes were so fragile and many broke in transit they were usually sent in loads measured in 'pipe maker's – gross', of 192 pipes. They were packed very carefully in boxes often filled with chaff, and were then dispatched. Their destination was not usually far from their place of origin and if a pipe say marked EH is found the chances are that among the many EHs that appear the nearest one is often the actual maker. Naturally many of the processes that are here illustrated as being done by machine would have been done by hand in earlier times. This is certainly true when it came to hollowing out the bowl.

Not all pipes were made from white china clay, some have been found that are black and others were made of terra cotta colour. Some were glazed but the vast majority were not. Although it seems fairly certain that the earliest European country to make clay pipes was England, we had to face foreign competition from Holland in the earliest days and later from France and Ireland. Pipes from France have been found in North Buckinghamshire.



Fig. 3

POSSIBLE DATING AND IDENTIFICATION OF PIPES

FOOT OR SPUR MIGHT BE:-

Roughly cylindrical, heart shaped, conical.

LIP OF BOWL MIGHT BE:-

Plain, rouletted or grooved.

BOWL MIGHT BE:-

Plain, fluted decorated.

While it is true that most pipes manufactured at a given time have certain characteristics, it is well to warn here that there are always certain local variations. In the example that I give, I shall attempt to give a norm, if that is possible, in each case. The following points for identification are only rough general guides. Pipes or pipe fragments are found almost anywhere. Many pieces are found in the fields, and in particular on the sites of present or old allotments. Parsons states that in his opinion the spreading of night soil can well provide the answer. They are also to be found in town churchyards, on the site of old public houses and cottages.

Marks on Pipes

- (1) On the bottom of flat heel – early in period, 17th century.
- (2) On bowls – usually from say 1650 onwards, on the back of the bowl, incised or in relief. Marking on the bowl was unusual in the period 1700–1810, but was revived in the 19th century, when this method is quite common.
- (3) On the spurs – by 1650 some pipes with spurs (known as the plague pipe) are marked on the bowl. Later, towards the end of the 17th century, a radical change took place in pipe design. The top of the bowl became parallel with the stem, and the flat heel was replaced by a spur. Initials were often incorporated with the mould and appear on each side of the spur. If you hold the pipe with the stem towards you, the christian name initial appears on the left with the surname on the right.
- (4) On the stem – initials occur, usually on the top of the stem from 1650. By the 19th century, this method of marking was incorporated in the mould. Usually the maker's name appears on one side, and his town on the other. This method was very common on all the later pipes.
- (5) On early pipes the maker's name sometimes appears in the form of a 'rebus'. Other makers used a sign instead of his initials. Many spurs are to be found marked with * in various forms.

Many pipes found in the Northampton area carry the initials FS. This must almost surely be Francis Street who made pipes at his workshop in Horeshoe Street towards the middle part of the 19th century. This would seem to be the logical conclusion. If however, pipes marked FS were to be found in Lincolnshire, the chances are they would be the work of one Francis

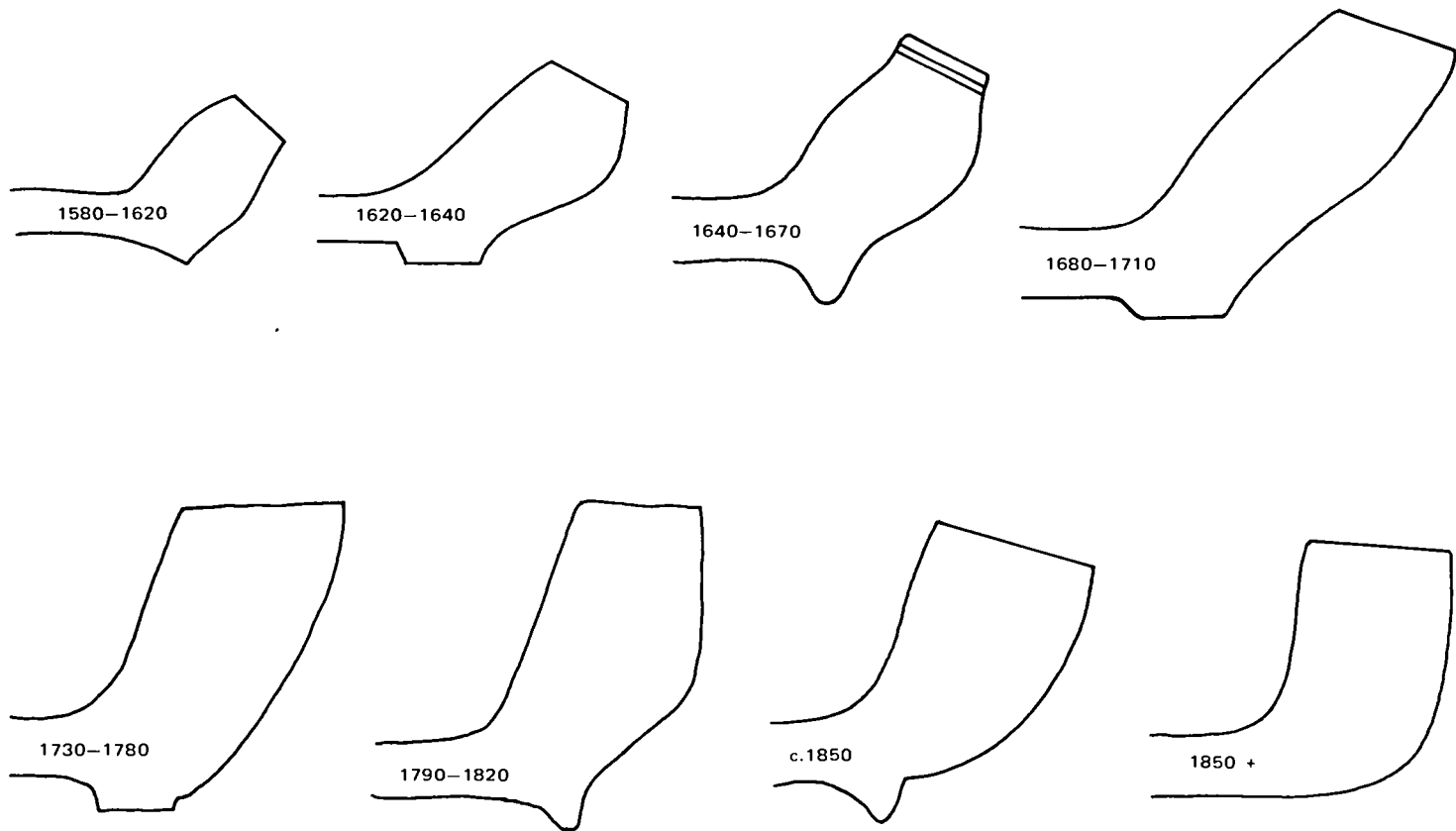


Fig. 4 Types of Bowl

The bowl shapes above might be considered as 'norms' if this is at all possible with pipes. They do not show any decoration which can occur on the bowl as say wheatsheaves etc, or on the stem, which can be quite decorative on some later pipes.

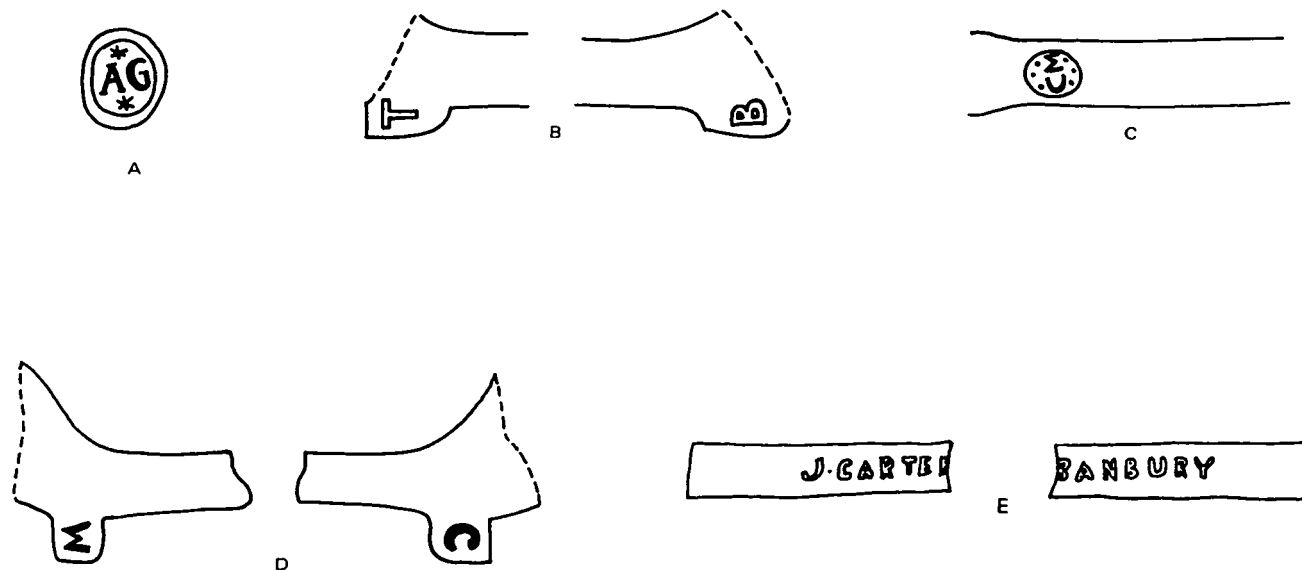


Fig. 5 Examples of Marked Pipes in the Possession of the Author

- A. Marked on base of flat foot. London? 1670–1730. Unknown maker.
- B. Marked on each side of flat foot. *Perhaps* Thomas Bowskill, Bedford c. 1660.
- C. Marked on top of stem near bowl. *Could* be Charles Mason, Bristol 1770–1808, but doubtful.
- D. Marked on either side of small spur. *Perhaps* Matthew Charlton, London c 1800, or Mary Careless, Birmingham c. 1835.
- E. Marked on either side of stem. Either Joseph or James Carter, Banbury 1850–1870.

Sutton of Retford. Of course not all makers marked their pipes. Harley states that less than 10% of pipes will be found to be marked so that their makers can be identified or at least guessed at. Many bowls are decorated. Usually these are 19th century, and as that century progressed, the more elaborate became the bowl. Pipes were made to commemorate the Great Exhibition of 1851, to celebrate battles and games. They were fashioned in the heads of the great, Queen Victoria, Nelson, Gordon. Public houses had their own pipes, as did the Royal Ancient Order of Buffaloes and the Oddfellows. The design of later pipes is legion. In America, Harrington and Omwake have put forward a theory whereby a pipe can be dated by the bore of the stem. They are working on the theory that as pipes got larger then the stem bore became narrower. There is a paper on this subject in the first volume of *Post-Medieval Archaeology 1976* by Iain C. Walker called 'Statistical Methods for Dating Clay Pipe Fragments'. He goes into great detail and explains this rather involved method of dating, which involves working in 64th of inches.

To identify a pipe

- (1) Ascertain approximate date of pipe by typology or other means.
- (2) If a spurred type, the initial of the Christian name is on the left with the bowl pointing away from the body.
- (3) If there are many identical initials within a date bracket bear in mind the locality in view of comparatively narrow distribution.
- (4) The style of mark may give a clue.

Some Local Makers

Oswald calculated that some 3,400 makers of clay pipes had been traced. He admitted that there was bound to be some gaps. He further said that he thought that the picture for the 18th and 19th centuries was fairly complete. But he included only some seventeen makers in the North-East of England. Parsons in his research has turned up the names of some 264. Oswald misses out the names of seven Northampton men, and also the Banbury makers. If this is true for these parts of the country it should also be true for the country at large. Some makers only produced in a small way, and for a short space of time, so fresh makers will continue to turn up.

This has recently been proved by Oswald himself. A recent article by David Atkinson and Adrian Oswald appeared in Vol. XXXII of the Journal of the Archaeological Association, entitled 'London Clay Tobacco Pipes'. This contains the names of traced makers in London during the 19th century. The list has some 550 makers, nearly all additions to the original list made by Oswald in his first article in the 1960 Journal. Last month, I also found some new makers while checking through a Post Office Directory for 1854. It is very interesting that none of the Banbury makers traced by Barrie Trinder mainly from Rusher's Directories are to be found in the P.O. Directory. The only name common to both books is that of Samuel Carter. Listed in the P.O.D. as being a 'China and glass dealer'. That pipes were made at Banbury is proved. A fragment marked J. Carter Banbury was found in 1969 near the Canal Museum at Stoke Bruerne. The following list of 'local' makers has been made up from many sources. I have used Oswald's list of 1967, also information from H. Oak-Rhind, mainly on the Northampton and Bedford makers, information from B. Trinder on known Banbury makers, and those discovered by myself. I here must emphasise that this is not a full list.

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 The Manufacture of Clay Tobacco Pipes in Rainford – Berry
 The Archaeology of the Clay Tobacco Pipe in North-East England – Parsons
 London Clay Tobacco Pipes – A.A.J. 1969 – A. Oswald & D. Atkinson
 Post Med. Arch. – Journal of Society for Post-Med. Arch. – Vols 1 & 3

List of Clay Tobacco Pipe Makers

For Sources:- (A) Oswald (English Clay Tobacco Pipes)
 (B) Correspondence with H. Oak-Rhind
 (C) Correspondence with B. Trinder
 (D) Found by author

Abbot	Ben	Ramsden, Oxon	c. 1758	A
Abbot	Catherine	Tuckwarr, Glos	c. 1723	A
Abbott	Thomas	Banbury	1833-1835	C
Ash	Obadiah	Wickwarr, Glos	c. 1715	A
Averne	Tim	Warwick	c. 1718	A
Barton	Francis	Rugby	c. 1679	A
Benbow	George	Stony Stratford	c. 1684	B
Benbow	Samuel	Stony Stratford	c. 1684	B
Benbow	William	Stony Stratford	c. 1684	B
Betts	William	Northampton	1722-1768	B
Briant	Henry	Nr. Wallingford	c. 1854	D
Brooks & Hughes		Northampton	1864-1890	B
Brown	R.	Daventry	c. 1723	B
Brunston	John	Reading	c. 1854	D
Carter	James	Banbury	c. 1850	C
Carter	Joseph & Mary	Banbury	c. 1850	C
Carter	Samuel	Banbury	1857-1865	C
Carty	Elizabeth	Banbury	c. 1847	C
Chick	James	Northampton	1835-1880	B
Chuck	Thomas	Daventry	c. 1723	A
Cullemore	Thomas	Gloucester	c. 1664	A
Davis	John	Brackley	1724-1729	B
Davisse	William	Towcester	c. 1740	B
Derby	Samuel	Coventry	c. 1800	A
Derham	William	Coventry	c. 1741	A
Dewy	Henry	Gloucester	1877-1897	B
Dower	William	Stridewater, Glos	c. 1644	A
Draper		Banbury	c. 1717	C
Gadney	Robert	Oxford	1656-1670	C
Gregory	William	Neithrop	1847-1848	C
Grosvenor	Mary	Coventry	c. 1741	A
Hams		Banbury	c. 1680	C
Harris	Thomas	Bugbrooke, Northants		B
Head	William	Wickwarr, Glos	c. 1715	A
Henshaw	George	Northampton	c. 1768	A
Henson	Lucy	Northampton	c. 1832	A
Hester	Charles	Aylesbury	c. 1715	A
Hester	Edward	Aylesbury	c. 1707	A
Holmes	Thomas	Wallingford	c. 1854	D
Hopkins	William	Ramsden, Oxon	c. 1758	A
Huggins	S & T	Banbury	1851-1855	C
Hughes	George	Daventry	c. 1850	A
Lovett	Samuel	Coventry	c. 1741	A
Mason	Henry	Rugby	c. 1717	A
Mayo	Thomas	Rugby	c. 1679	A
Morgan	James	Northampton	c. 1722	B
Norris	William	Reading	c. 1854	D
Owen	Thomas	Towcester	c. 1740	B
Pottinger	James	Neithrop	1849-1860	C
Roberts	Alfred	Northampton	1884-1936	B
Roberts	Edward	Northampton	1831-1864	B
Roberts	Harriet	Northampton	1861-1871	B
Roberts	Richard	Northampton	1774-1790	A

Roberts	Robert	Northampton	1768-1820	B
Roberts	Robert (Jn)	Northampton	c. 1818	B
Sedall	John	Aylesbury	c. 1724	A
Simmonds	William	Coventry	c. 1835	A
Smith	James	Whitney	c. 1854	D
Smith	John	Aylesbury	c. 1709	A
Smith	John	Coventry	c. 1835	A
Street	Francis	Northampton	1835-1850	B
Street	Sarah	Northampton	c. 1861	B
Street	Thomas	Northampton	1854-1858	B
Strong	Edward	Oxford	c. 1760	A
Taylor	Joseph	Oxford	c. 1760	A
Taylor	Joseph	Coventry	c. 1835	A
Veers	James	Northampton	c. 1768	B
Waterfield	Thomas	Coventry	c. 1741	A
Webb	John	Rugby	c. 1717	A
Wiggins	Thomas	Brackley	c. 1850	A

The above list contains the names of 67 makers who can be called 'local' to the Banbury area. Almost certainly pipes from other areas were introduced into the area. Bristol pipes were very common in the earlier days of tobacco smoking, and West Country pipes have often a distinctive shape. I should be very pleased to hear of any pipes found in the area.

School House

Roy Kitchener.

Stoke Goldington

Newport Pagnell.

Steam Engines in the Banbury area

North Oxfordshire was not a heavily industrialised area in the 19th century and its economy was certainly not directly transformed by the steam engine. Nevertheless it is interesting to see how much the steam engine was employed in an area which was largely agricultural. On 19 February 1857 the *Banbury Guardian* reported that there were eighteen steam engines at work within a mile of the town. Some of these can easily be identified. One was certainly that at the Britannia Works mentioned elsewhere in this issue. One was employed to operate the wool carding machinery at Messrs. Baughen's mills. Another, a 16 h.p. engine, drove a wood turning factory built by Messrs. Gilletts alongside the Oxford Canal near to the Banbury Baths in 1856. We should be glad to publish information about any others of the eighteen engines which readers can supply.

A much earlier and much more distinguished engine than any of the above was supplied by Boulton and Watt to John Brockless of the Sulgrave Flour Mills in 1788. This was an engine of the 'sun and planet' type, with a 16 in. x 4 ft. cylinder. The Boulton and Watt Catalogue of Old Engines in the Birmingham Reference Library records that it was purchased from the Sulgrave mill in 1797 by a man called Cobbin and two years later sold to Hodgson and Co. of Battersea. More information about this engine would also be welcome.

B.S.T.



These photographs show a parade of carriers' carts in the Horsefair and South Bar, Banbury, during the mayoralty of William Hefford, 1906-07. Further information about the event would be welcome.



THE LAST DAYS OF THE WOODFORD BRANCH TRAIN

A local train for Woodford awaits departure from Banbury on an August afternoon in 1965.



HEAVY FREIGHT FROM MERTON STREET

The morning goods for Bletchley, its load inflated by a large number of ironstone waggons, is hauled out of Merton Street Station, Banbury, by two locomotives. 1954.

With Cheerful Voice. Bloxham's Chapel 1871–1971. L. F. P. Gunner. Bloxham School. 1971. n.p.

This delightfully produced pamphlet commemorates the centenary of the completion of the chapel at Bloxham School. It includes a well-documented history of the building, illustrations of personalities and parts of the chapel, and a facsimile of an interesting page from an offertory book of 1872. Some letters reproduced from the *Banbury Guardian* of 1903 show something of the acrimony which arose between the Tractarian school and Puritan Banbury. A work of this kind could easily have been pious but monumentally dull. *With Cheerful Voice* is certainly not dull. It is well written, shows an awareness of broad social and religious issues, and will be of interest to many people who have no particular concern with the school.

B.S.T.

Mrs V. S. Wickham Steed

We record with great regret the death of Mrs Violet Wickham Steed in December 1970. Mrs Wickham Steed had been a member of the Society for over ten years, and had contributed to our activities in various ways.

Her talk on 'Ancient Roads and Tracks in North Oxfordshire' as long ago as October 1961 is still remembered with great pleasure – she had a most infectious enthusiasm with which she enveloped her audience. Then her article 'Roman Roads of the Banbury District', in the most popular 'Roman Banburyshire' issue of *Cake and Cockhorse* of January 1964, developed this theme. She epitomised the local historian who was not afraid of getting her boots muddy, and had a great knack of discovering unsuspected ancient tracks and sites.

Quite recently she held an exhibition of large scale maps of Oxfordshire, showing the great network of tracks of different ages that she had identified – a most impressive achievement. She was also a great authority on Wychwood Forest, and had published a number of papers on this in *Top. Oxon.* and elsewhere.

Her last 'outing' with the Society was when we visited North Leigh Roman Villa in the summer of 1969 – where her guidance to the site was the highlight of the excursion. She will be much missed.

J.S.W.G.

Banbury Historical Society – Thirteenth Annual Report – 1970

The Committee have pleasure in submitting the Thirteenth Annual Report and Statement of Accounts, for the year 1970.

Membership: There has been a small decrease in membership, to 356. During the year three valued friends died: Mr Keith Bigwood, Mrs D. Shirley and Mrs V. Wickham Steed, all of whom had been members from the Society's earliest days. On completion of Mr George Fothergill's term of office as Chairman of the Committee he was succeeded by Mr Frank Willy, but Mr Fothergill has continued to organise meetings and excursions. Mr A. Woodcock has resigned on his departure from Banbury, and we await the appointment of his successor at the Museum with keen anticipation. Another friend of the Society to leave Banbury is the Revd. Derek Eastman – his encouragement to us to examine documentary material in his care has been much appreciated. We welcome the new Vicar of Banbury, the Revd. I. Beacham.

Lectures and Meetings: Eight general meetings have been held; the following lectures were given:

January	:	Thetford – Excavation of a Saxon Town – Mr B. Davison
February	:	Local Maltings and Breweries – Mr G. H. Starmer
March	:	Population Patterns in Banbury's Past – Dr E. A. Wrigley
April	:	Village meeting at Wroxton – Dr E. R. C. Brinkworth and Mr G. Forsyth Lawson
June (A.G.M.)	:	Broughton Castle

September	:	The Death of Becket – Dr W. Urry
October	:	The Battle of Cropredy Bridge – Brigadier Peter Young
November	:	An evening of reminiscences – Mr F. Anker, Dr Brinkworth, Mr D. Braggins, Miss D. Bromley and Mr N. Scroton

As always we are most grateful to our speakers, all of whom gave their services without charge.

It was a delight for two of our meetings to revisit local houses closely linked with Banbury's history, Broughton Castle and Wroxton Abbey, by very kind invitation of the President and Lady Saye and Sele, and the Dean of Wroxton College, respectively.

There were also visits to the City and County Museum at Woodstock, Farnborough Hall (grounds) and Compton Wynyates.

The annual dinner was held at the White Lion Hotel on 20th November, attended to capacity (85). The toast of the Society was proposed by Professor R. H. C. Davis of Birmingham University and Editor of *History*, and replied to by the President, and was followed by an 'Restoration Extravaganza' presented by the Bloxham Consort.

Notices of all these events occur regularly in the local press, and for this we must thank the diligence of our Hon. Press Officer, Mrs G. Brinkworth, who has now undertaken this important work for many years.

Research: The Society continues to answer numerous enquiries on the local history and genealogy of the Banbury area.

Archaeology: Work continued on the Roman site on Mr J. Gardner's land south of Deddington, where three stone courses of the foundations of a circular building were uncovered, under the direction of Mr J. H. Fearon and Mr Woodcock, with the assistance from other members and pupils from Banbury School. Further work is planned for 1971. We have continued to co-operate in the activities of the City and County Museum, C.B.A. Group 9 and the Northamptonshire Federation of Archaeological Societies.

Cake & Cockhorse: Contributors to this year's four issues have included (in addition to the Editor and other committee members) Mr A. H. Cheney, Mr H. Compton, Mr D. E. M. Fiennes, Mrs M. Halford, Mr G. C. J. Hartland and Mrs P. Horn.

Printing costs have risen a further £20, to £398, and this in spite of a year which has seen average length issues and no extraordinary expenses such as the index. Sales have been maintained, and the renewed grant of £40 from the Recreational and Amenities Committee of the Borough Council, together with a donation from Mr D. Fiennes, has kept the total cost to the Society down to £328. Nevertheless this sum exceeds the total amount available from subscription income (excluding the proportion attributable to records publications). Moreover the cost of postage has risen by 50%. It has therefore reluctantly been decided that with effect from the Autumn of 1971 (Volume Five) issues will have to be reduced to three a year, though it is hoped to increase the number of pages.

Records Volumes: The two volumes mentioned in last year's report, *Wigginton Constables' Book, 1691–1836*, ed. F. D. Price, and the new edition of *Shoemaker's Window*, ed. B. S. Trinder, have taken longer to produce than was expected, but should appear during the summer or autumn. In addition fascicules of the Banbury Section of *Historic Towns, Vol. 1* are being distributed to members. Volumes still in preparation or planned include *Banbury Wills and Inventories, 1591–1650*, *Bodicote Churchwardens' Accounts, Banbury Politics, 1830–1886*, and a revised edition of *My Life* by Sarah Beesley. Meanwhile the Tancred Letters have been well received in national journals and continue to sell steadily. Grants have again been received from the Borough Council and promised by the British Academy, which we most gratefully acknowledge.

Accounts: The difference between total expenditure and subscription income is only just covered by sales of booklets, cards and pamphlets, though the cost of *Old Banbury* is now met and this will contribute to income henceforth. The publications reserve is fully earmarked for the two volumes in production, but it is hoped that thanks to a joint publication agreement with Messrs. Phillimore & Co. Ltd. the cost of these will not exceed that amount. The accounts reveal what remarkably good value members receive for their subscriptions.

BANBURY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Revenue Account for the Year ended 31st December 1970

1969	Expenditure	1969	Income	1969	
378	<u>Cake & Cockhorse</u>	398	496	Subscriptions	472
40	Less: Grants	52	168	Less: Proportion attributable to Records	161
56	Sales	107			
<u>96</u>		291			
282		328			311
73	Cost of postcards, pamphlets, and 'Old Banbury' - written down	-		Sales:	
6	Subscriptions	5		22 Christmas cards	76
				- Less: Printing costs	55
24	Lecture and meeting expenses	26	22		21
87	Printing, stationery, postages, telephone and sundries	70	69	Postcards	35
			11	Pamphlets	6
128	Annual Dinner	153	41	'Old Banbury'	56
<u>120</u>	Less: Receipts	141		Less: Reduction in stock	50
8	Banbury Development Inquiry	5	41		6
-	Excess of Income over Expenditure	2	-	Calendars	11
18		102		Sales to Museum	-
		25		Donations	1
		12		Deposit account interest	20
		31			
<u>498</u>		411	<u>498</u>		411

Publications Account for the Year ended 31st December 1970

388	A Victorian MP & his Constituents (1967)	3	451	Publications Reserve & Provisions, balance as at 1st January 1970	106
471	Banbury Register Part 2 (1968)	-			
-	Historic Towns Map (1969)	150	168	Subscriptions - proportion attributable to records	161
-	Shoemaker's Window (1970)	-			
-	Wigginton Constables' Book (1971)	-		Sales:	
-	Wills & Inventories (1972)	-		114 Tancred letters	37
<u>959</u>		-	153	<u>15</u> Other back vols.	39
7	Postage & Packing	20			76
106	Publications Reserve and Provisions, balance at 31st December 1970	355	129	Grants:	
				50 British Academy	100
				35 Banbury Borough Council	35
			185		135
			139	Donations	50
<u>972</u>		528	<u>972</u>		528

Balance sheet as at 31st December 1970

1969	Liabilities	1969	Assets	1969
46	Subscriptions in advance	54	Cash in hand	3
6	Sundry creditors	16	Deposit account	180
			Current account	69
18	Unexpended grant for archaeological expenses	150		252
		16	Payment in advance	1
106	Publications Reserve and Provisions	355	Grants receivable	100
	Capital account	29	Sundry debtors	158
70	As at 1st January 1970	88	Subscriptions overdue	20
	Add: Excess of Income over Expenditure for the year ended 31st December 1970	2	Stocks on hand "Old Banbury"	-
88		90	Note: Stocks on hand of Christmas cards, postcards, pamphlets and other publications have not been brought into account.	
<u>264</u>		531	<u>531</u>	531

I have examined the foregoing accounts of the Banbury Historical Society and in my opinion they give a true and fair view of the state of the Society's affairs at 31st December 1970

Bloxham, Banbury

A. H. Cheney
Chartered Accountant

The activities and publications of some or all of the following bodies should interest readers:

- Arts Council of Banbury (Miss Rosemary Hall, Flat 33, 20 Calthorpe Road, Banbury). Minimum 21/-.
- Banbury Art Society (Hon. Sec., R. Edgson, Print's Cottage, Bloxham, Banbury) 20/-.
- Banbury Geographical Association (B.E. Little, 2 Burlington Gardens, Banbury) 10/6d.
- Bicester Local History Circle (Hon. Sec., Miss G.H. Dannatt, Lammas Cottage, Launton Road, Bicester, Oxon.). 10/-.
- Buckinghamshire Record Society (Hon. Sec., E.J. Davis, County Record Office, New Council Offices, Walton Street, Aylesbury, Bucks.). 42/-.
- Council for the Preservation of Rural England, Oxfordshire Branch (Mrs. E. Turner, Woodside, Woodgreen, Witney, Oxon.). Minimum 10/-.
- Dugdale Society (publishes Warwickshire records) (Shakespeare's Birthplace, Stratford-upon-Avon). 42/-.
- Heraldry Society (59 Gordon Square, London, W.C.1.). 30/-; or to include "The Coat of Arms", 50/-.
- Historical Association (59a Kennington Park Road, London, S.E.11.) (Oxford Branch: A.J.P. Puddephatt, 93, Old Road, Headington, Oxford). 20/-; or to include *History*, 35/-.
- Northamptonshire Record Society (Délapre Abbey, Northampton). 42/-.
- Oxford Architectural and Historical Society (Ashmolean Museum, Oxford). 15/- or to include *Oxoniensia*, 42/-.
- Oxford Preservation Trust (The Painted Room, 2 Cornmarket Street, Oxford). Minimum 5/-.
- Oxfordshire Record Society (Dr. W.O. Hassall, Hon. Sec., Bodleian Library, Oxford). 40/-.
- Shipston-on-Stour and District Local History Society (H.G. Parry, Hon. Sec., 8 Stratford Road, Shipston-on-Stour, Warw.) 7/6d.
- Warwickshire Local History Society (47 Newbold Terrace, Leamington Spa.) 10/-.
- Woodford Halse Historical Society (J.W. Anscorb, 7 Manor Road, Woodford Halse, Rugby, Warw.) 5/-.

The Local Historian, published quarterly is available from the National Council of Social Service, 26 Bedford Square, London, W.C.1.-single copies, 3/6d; annual postal subscription 21/-

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for the Banbury Historical Society

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