MINUTES OF THE AGM AND 73rd MEETING OF AYNHO HISTORY SOCIETY HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, AYNHO ON WEDNESDAY 26th NOVEMBER 2014

Present: - Rupert Clark – Chairman & Treasurer
Peter Cole - Secreta

1. The Annual General Meeting

By unanimous decision Rupert Clark will remain as Chairman and Treasurer, Peter Cole as Secretary. Keith McClellan and Ted Sutton are committee members.

Subscription fees remain at £10pa with the same concessions as previous, there were no amendments suggested to the Constitution.

2. Chairman's Report

Rupert will book a Sunday afternoon trip to trip to Rousham house for a private tour.

3. Twenty things you may not know about Aynho

a) Pubs and Inns in Aynho

The **Red Lion** (now the Cartwright Hotel) was certainly in existence when Richard Cartwright bought Aynho in 1615, and it must have been in being even earlier than 1540. We know this because in 1633 Bridget Bell (née Davies) had let the building run down really badly, and it was nothing like the building we know today. Richard Cartwright threatened to take her to Court unless she carried out immediate repairs. In the end he offered her the alternative of moving out with £5 compensation, and he had the work done himself.
In the late 1600s, Thomas Morris is noted as issuing halfpenny tokens at the Red Lion, due to the general shortage of small change.
In 1700, when his widow Mary Morris died, John Pruce took over as innkeeper for twenty years until 1720, when he was succeeded by Edward Homan.
In 1813 the innkeeper was Edward Holloway. After he died his wife took it over, but apparently ran it very badly.
Its name was changed to The Cartwright Arms in 1821 or shortly thereafter.
In 1861, 1871, 1881 and 1891 the innkeeper was William Bygrave (he also owned a farm throughout, so it is quite likely that he grew his own barley and therefore brewed his own beer. Part of a large stone bottle has been unearthed which bears a crest: "Cartwright Arms, & Brewer, Aynho").
In both 1901 and 1911 the innkeeper was Frederick Scott.
The **Bell Inn** was on Banbury Road. It existed from at least 1600 until 1720, when it was pulled down. Known innkeepers were Thomas Collins until his death in 1607, then Peter Pruce until his death in 1662, and his son John Pruce from 1662 until he took over running the Red Lion in 1700.
Edward Homan then ran the Bell until it closed in 1720.

It is recorded that there were at least another two small pubs in Aynho during the Shackerley's time in charge. He was advised: - "There are 3 or 4 beggarly ale houses, and often times ill rule kept in them. Better it were to have a couple of honest ale houses who will pay honest fines for licence to brew and bake."

The **White Hart** probably opened in the 1750s in The Square, where the Old Posting House now is. This was first kept by Thomas Bygrave, followed by his wife, and another relative, John Bygrave, is known to have run it during the 1840s.
It closed as a pub in the 1870s, although it became a shop, with an off-licence at the back, with an entrance in Skittle Alley.
In the 1891 census James Tebby (a postman in 1881) is shown as a beer retailer at The White Hart in The Square.

Almost immediately after the Oxford Canal was opened in 1790 a pub was built at Aynho Wharf, which was initially called the **Alfred's Head**.
With the coming of the railway in 1850, it was bought by the railway company, and the name was changed to The **Great Western Arms**.
Richard Howe was the innkeeper in 1861, 1871, 1881, 1891 and 1901, by which time he was 80. In 1911 his widow, Sophia, his second wife, who was by then only 70, was running it.

b) A Point of View: Mary, Queen of Maths,

Dame Mary Lucy Cartwright DBE FRS
Born in 1900, attended St Hugh's College, Oxford, died 1998
First woman to receive Sylvester Medal, serve on Council of Royal Society, and as President of London Mathematical Society

Maths genius Mary Cartwright was a modest soul and one of the early founders of chaos theory. It's time we recognised her massive contribution, says historian Lisa Jardine.

In his Mathematician's Apology, published in 1940, the great mathematician GH Hardy argued emphatically that pure mathematics is never useful. Yet at the very moment he was insisting that - specifically - "real mathematics has no effect on war", a mathematical breakthrough was being made which contributed to the wartime defence of Britain against enemy air attack.
What is more, that breakthrough laid the groundwork - unrecognised at the time - for an entire new field of science. In January 1938, with the threat of war hanging over Europe, the British Government's Department of Scientific and Industrial Research sent a memorandum to the London Mathematical Society appealing to pure mathematicians to help them solve a problem involving a tricky type of equation. Although this was not stated in the memo, it related to top-secret developments in Radio Detection and Ranging - what was soon to become known as radar.

Engineers working on the project were having difficulty with the erratic behaviour of high-frequency radio waves. The need had arisen, the memo said, for "a more complete understanding of the actual behaviour of certain assemblages of electrical apparatus". Could any of the Mathematical Society's members help? The request caught the attention of Dr Mary Cartwright, lecturer in mathematics at Girton College Cambridge. She was already working on similar "very objectionable-looking differential equations" (as she later described them). She brought the request to the attention of her long-term colleague at Trinity College, Professor JE Littlewood and suggested that they combine forces. In a memoir written later in her life, she explained that he already had the necessary experience in dynamics, having worked on the trajectories of anti-aircraft guns during World War I. The distinguished physicist and public intellectual Freeman Dyson - who was born in Britain but has, since the 1950s, spent most of his professional life at the Princeton Institute for Advanced Studies in America - heard Cartwright lecture on this work when he was a student at Cambridge in 1942. He gives us a vivid account of the importance of the war work Cartwright and Littlewood did: “The whole development of radar in World War Two depended on high power amplifiers, and it was a matter of life and death to have amplifiers that did what they were supposed to do. The soldiers were plagued with amplifiers that misbehaved, and blamed the manufacturers for their erratic behaviour. Cartwright and Littlewood discovered that the manufacturers were not to blame. The equation itself was to blame." In other words, odd things happened when some sorts of values were fed into the standard equation they were using to predict the amplifiers' performance. Cartwright and Littlewood were able to show that as the wavelength of radio waves shortens, their performance ceases to be regular and periodic, and becomes unstable and unpredictable. This work helped explain some perplexing phenomena engineers were encountering. Cartwright herself was always somewhat diffident when asked to assess the lasting importance of her war work. She and Littlewood had provided a scientific explanation for some peculiar features of the behaviour of radio waves, but they did not in the end supply the answer in time. They simply succeeded in directing the engineers' attention away from faulty equipment towards practical ways of compensating for the electrical "noise" - or erratic

fluctuations - being produced. So while Cartwright and Littlewood were producing significant results on the stability of solutions to the equation describing the oscillation of radio waves, the engineers working on radar systems decided they could not wait for precise mathematical results. Instead, once it had been identified, they worked around the problem, by keeping the equipment within predictable ranges.

Perhaps in part because of her own overly modest assessment of its importance, Cartwright's original work went relatively unnoticed when it was published in the Journal of the London Mathematical Society shortly after the end of the war. Freeman Dyson maintains that this is a classic example of the way in which real mathematical originality and innovation is missed until a generation after the work has been done: "When I heard Cartwright lecture in 1942, I remember being delighted with the beauty of her results. I could see the beauty of her work but I could not see its importance. I said to myself, 'This is a lovely piece of work. Too bad it is only a practical wartime problem and not real mathematics.' I did not say, 'This is the birth of a new field of mathematics.' I shared the tastes and prejudices of my contemporaries."

The "new field" Dyson refers to here, which he and his contemporaries failed to recognise, is chaos theory. Cartwright's early contribution to the field is now acknowledged in all histories of the subject, but was largely overlooked for almost 20 years. The results unexpectedly obtained from the equations predicting the oscillations of radio waves are part of the foundation for the modern theory that accounts for the unpredictable behaviour of all manner of physical phenomena, from swinging pendulums and fluid flow, to the stock market. Steadily increase the rate of flow of water into a rotating waterwheel, for example, and the wheel will go correspondingly faster. But at a certain point the behaviour of the wheel becomes unpredictable - speeding up and slowing down without warning, or even changing direction.

The recognition that chaotic behaviour is a vital part of many physical systems in the world around us came in 1961, when Edward Lorenz was running a weather simulation through an early computer. When he tested a particular configuration a second time he found that the outcome differed dramatically from his earlier run. Eventually he tracked the difference down to a small alteration he had inadvertently made in transferring the initial data, by altering the number of decimal places. Lorenz immortalised this discovery in a lecture entitled "Does the Flap of a Butterfly's Wings in Brazil set off a Tornado in Texas?". Today, when we think of chaos theory we associate it with all kinds of fundamentally unstable situations - but one of the most vivid to imagine is still the idea that one flap of a butterfly's wing deep in the Amazon rainforest is the cause of a weather system thousands of miles away. This is the same kind of unpredictability arising from small changes in initial conditions that Cartwright and Littlewood had recognised and drawn attention to in their work with radio waves several decades earlier.

After the war, Mary Cartwright moved away from knotty differential equations and ended her collaboration with Littlewood. She went on to have a distinguished academic career in pure mathematics and academic administration, earning a succession of honours. In 1947 she was the first woman mathematician to be elected to the Royal Society. In 1948 she became Mistress of Girton College Cambridge, then reader in the theory of functions in the Cambridge mathematics department in 1959. From 1961 to 1963 she was president of the London Mathematical Society, and received its highest honour, the de Morgan Medal, in 1968. She was made a Dame Commander of the British Empire in 1969.She lived long enough to see the field in which she had made those early, important discoveries become a major part of modern mathematics, and to see it take its place in the popular imagination. She was, however, characteristically modest to the end about the part she had played.

Freeman Dyson claims that Littlewood did not understand the importance of the work that he and Cartwright had done: "Only Cartwright understood the importance of her work as the foundation of chaos theory, and she is not a person who likes to blow her own trumpet." He records, however,

that shortly before her death, he received an indignant letter from Cartwright, scolding him for crediting her with more than she deserved.

Dame Mary Cartwright died in 1998 at the age of 97. In one of the many obituaries paying tribute to her, a friend and colleague described her as "a person who combined distinction of achievement with a notable lack of self-importance". She left strict instructions that there were to be no eulogies at her memorial service. Her remains are in Cambridge

The original article can be found online.

c) Flora Thompson Dilemma

Flora Timms was born on Dec. 5th 1876. In 1891 she went to work in the Post Office in Fringford. In late1897 she left Fringford for temporary post office jobs, then to Grayshott in Hampshire. She only returned to Juniper Hill (via Aynho station) to see her brother Edwin in 1909. In 1939 her book “Lark Rise to Candleford was published. She died on 21st May 1947.

In one book Christine Bloxham states:-

> “While she was working in Fringford she (Flora) encountered Cecelia Slater-Harrison, Sir Edward’s second wife, the greatest lady in her immediate area, to whom she gave the name of Lady Adelaide”.

On page 465 of Lark Rise to Candleford Flora describes Lady Adelaide as “being tall, thin and aristocratic looking”. Later she mentions that Lady Adelaide tried to persuade Laura to join the the Primrose League, which Laura politely declined.
However Martin Greenwood states: -
“Cecelia Slater-Harrison (Lady Adelaide), Edward’s first wife, makes a brief appearance in the book”. Later on, talking about the big house at Shelswell Park he writes “Edward died in 1911 but his second wife, Emma Cecelia (née Cartwright) continued to live here until her death in 1943”.

So there is a dilemma here. Was Sir Edward’s first wife Cecelia the true Lady Adelaide, or was it his 2nd wife Emma Cecelia, who was grand-daughter of our own Wm. Ralph Cartwright of Aynho?

Peter said that on one of his many visits to the Northampton Records Office, he was going through the microfiche records of Aynho marriages and he found the marriage of Sir Edward Slater-Harrison to Emma Cecelia Cartwright. We know that Flora left Fringford towards the end of 1897, but Sir Edward’s first wife lived until 1898, and the record shows the second marriage took place on July 10th 1900, three years after Flora left. So it appears that the second author is correct.

<u>However</u> Peter can prove that Sir Edward Slater-Harrison knew Emma Cecelia Cartwright quite well during the time that Flora was living in Fringford, and moreover it is extremely likely that Flora would have seen her as well.
He showed copies of extracts from Emma Cecelia Cartwright’s scrapbook, held in the Cartwright Archive, which showed that her younger brother, the Revd. Stephen Frederick Cartwright was the

leader of a group who performed at least 30 concerts locally. Emma was quite versatile. She sang, played the piano and the banjo.
In particular concerts were held at Fringford on March 30th 1894 and at Hethe on 22nd Feb. 1895. A later one that Flora would certainly have attended was when Sir Edward Slater-Harrison hosted three concerts in aid of Indian Famine Relief, one on 18th Feb 1897 at Finmere, and two the following day at Shelswell Park in the afternoon and Hethe in the evening. These were extremely well attended, and he raised £52.50 for the fund (At a time when farm wages were 50p per week this would equate to about £40,000 today). The concert party would have stayed at Shelswell Park overnight.

d) **Lili Revisited** – several of Lili's landscape drawings from Elizabeth Cartwright-Hignett's collection were shown. They demonstrated her maturity and breadth as an artist.

e) **William Peckover's Evidence to the Bounty Mutineers' Court Martial 13th Sept 1792,** was re-enacted by Peter and Rupert. The transcript will be posted on the Society section of the village website.

f) **The Glebe** development was built in two stages. The western end followed by the eastern. Residents moved into the eastern end in April 1954. The houses are solid (no cavity) built of local oolite limestone. An unusual feature is the asymmetrical roof profile; the front dropping further and steeper than the back. This is to allow for the dormer windows. Kimberly's of Banbury built the eastern end properties. I have not discovered who built the western ones. I presume that the council architects designed the properties. If so, they would have been the architects of Brackley Rural District. The BRD was absorbed into South Northants in 1974. To this end I have failed to trace the records of the BRD.

A history of the site is worth comment. Situated on the northern side of the "London Great Road" the land on which the Glebe now stands was called "Butts Peece" in 1696. Interestingly, church land was on the south side of the road. The map of that date, by James Fish shows the Grammar House, as we call it today, and a property next to it further to the east. In the garden of the Grammar house is the ruined footings of a building. This may be one and the same or due to the vagaries of scale the property could be under the most westerly Glebe house. Possibly, land was swapped between the Church and the Cartwrights hence the use of the name "The Glebe" rather than the Butts. Certainly this action would have helped the Cartwright consolidate their ground around Aynhoe Park on the south side of the village.

An estate map of 1790 probably by Robert Weston, shows that the Grammar House has neighbours to the east. There are eight dwellings in a terrace in the exact footprint of the current western end of today's Glebe. Assuming the scale is reasonably accurate they have a similar frontage as the central block of Aynhoe Park. It is not a surprise that extra properties were built as in the intermediary century there was considerable population pressure in the village. Several hundred folk left Aynho for America and other parts of Britain. What I can't explain is why this terrace no longer exists, as plenty of properties from that era and earlier are still inhabited today. Perhaps they were all cleared to make way for the Grammar House gardens to the east of the house.

During the Second World War on the site of the Glebe, Nissan huts were built. Within these was the NAAFI building used by the soldiers who lived in the fuel dump built in Rylands wood. In the immediate post war period a number of families were housed in them. Some moved from the huts into the new Glebe properties. Others moved in from similar Nissan huts in Croughton.

When the Glebe development was announced, Aynho's Rectory, Reverend Banham MC campaigned alongside the Miss' Watts and Dolby that the homes should be stone built in keeping with the rest of the village. Miss Watts left further legacies to the village. Firstly, she had built The Pediment. She commissioned the now famous architect, Raymond Erith to create

a property of rare merit. Secondly, she paid for the original version of the villages "official" history; Aynho a Northamptonshire Village by Nicholas Cooper. She also placed a covenant on the garden of the Grammar House to stop any building in its garden. I believe it fair to say that between them and maybe others, they were determined to protect the architectural and aesthetic quality of the village. The Glebe is the gateway from the east. The Glebe exactly fronts the Bothy and walls of the Aynhoe Park estate gardens. There is an understated symmetry to the eastern end of the village.

This report was submitted to South Northants Council in support to the PCC's campaign to keep this part of the village in the Conservation Area. The campaign was successful.

g) **Magna Carta and Baron John FitzRobert** A transcript copy of the Magna Carta has been added to our Archive. John FitzRichard, who owned Ayno from 1212 until 1241, was one of the 25 barons who witnessed King John putting his seal to the documents at Runnymede on 5th June 1215. Next year will be the 800th anniversary.

h) **Items in the previous Church** In his Aynho book Nicholas Cooper says on page 31 that Elizabeth, widow of Sir John Arundel, owner of Aynho died. She was buried in the Church, which has a small brass in her memory as "Lady of Aynho". Peter found a two-page document in the NRO: – "Inscriptions in Aynho Church, from a Manuscript of Dr. Hutton formerly Rector of this Parish, dated Dec 23rd 1658 (i.e. before the Church was pulled down in 1725 and rebuilt) – communicated by Browne Willis Esq. July 23rd 1753.
It records a brass to Thomas Drope, Rector, stones to Henry Alsop & Richard Hanslappe, a great gravestone for Thomas Hanslappe, a marble on a gravestone for Henry Watkins and a huge Latin inscription for the first Cartwright, Richard.
Then: - "On a stone on the ground in the Chancel within the rails – A Latin inscription to Elizabeth widow of John Arundel and the date – CCCCLXXIX".

i) **Details of Baptisms, Marriages and Burials** Peter has produced Family Timelines for the Aynho families (Borton, Eely, Mayo, Peckover, Seccull, Tebby and Wrighton)

j) **1911 Census** records are being added to the Society's Archive

k) MIsc Items – a copy of a menu from the Cartwright Arms circa mid 1960's will be added to the Society's Archive. I was probably the finest restaurant in the area, the Bentley Driver's Club used the CA as a regular stop when touring **4. Forthcoming meetings** the Cotswolds.

l)

Wednesday 28th January 2015	William Gill - Victorian Explorer and Spy
Wednesday 25th February	Women at War
Wednesday 25th March	Votes for Women – The Suffrage Movement