



Repton Village History Group Newsletter

Winter 2025

Repton Village History Group – reptonvillage.org.uk

Email Reptonvillagehistorygroup@outlook.com

Members updates

Hello all, Welcome to the winter 2025 newsletter. I hope it is a good read.

The committee has increased by one by welcoming Sian Hales to the team, we are still on the lookout for new committee members so please enquire if you are interested even if its a small task you would like to get involved in. We have been involved in rather a lot this year and hope to continue.

We have had successful speakers on varying topics.

Parks and Gardens - by Philip Heath

Stoneywell House NT - by Michael Elliott

It must be true - by Angela Nightingale

Alms houses past and present - by Robert Mee

Lord Curzon - by Danny Wells

Medieval Pilgrimages - by Tony Perkins planned for 16th December 2025 URC Church 19.30hrs

During the year leading up to the end of September we have been supporting Foremarke Schools 85th Year anniversary via Tom Markham the current history teacher. Much work done interpreting their many portraits and the stories behind them. The development of a picture/photo gallery for the parents similar to our showing at the Gallery at the cross earlier in the year.

There was a late summer Newton Solney history day set up in the churchyard at St Mary, with once again photos, stories and three tours of the graveyard visiting many interesting graves and the people in them.

Just recently RVHG sponsored and organised a Heritage gathering of many local history groups at St Wilfreds church Barrow on Trent. This was a fantastic sunny day with many visitors and wonderful cake to relax with. Well done the team especially John Kidd as it was great effort and much organising to do with many groups.

We also took two groups of classes from Repton primary school around St Wystans crypt as they were studying local history and the saxons.

I have added a small quiz and most feedback is good so will continue to do this, if you do not wish to be in the quiz just let me know and I will remove you from that particular circulation list.

Additional to all above we get many requests from all parts of the country and sometimes abroad for name searches and house enquiries. Thank you to the team and Charles Proud who has deep knowledge of Repton in the yesteryear.

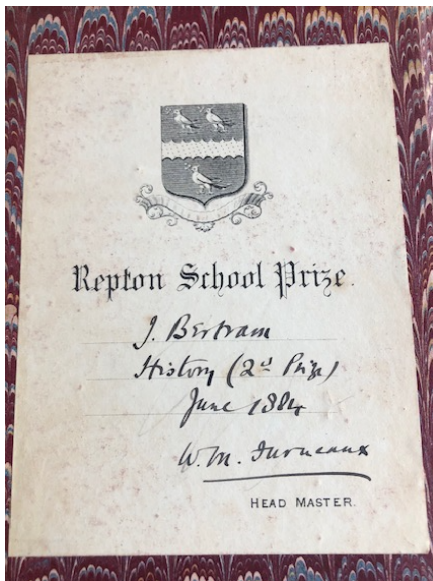
As a reminder yearly subscriptions run from Jan to Jan yearly and currently are at a bargain price of £8 per year or £16 per family (2 Adults + Children)

Payments can be made to John Kidd if you know him around the village or by BACS payment referencing your name To Repton Village History group (RVHG)

A/C No 05851238

Sort Code 60-12-01

I came across this book that was presented to a pupil at Repton School in 1884 as a prize for working hard. Going through his career it has certainly paid off.



The book which is one of two was presented to a Julius Bertram in July 1884 as a second prize for his work on history.

The books were presented by the headmaster at the time, who was a William Mordaunt Furneaux (love the name).

The book itself is about the Life and Letters of Lord Macaulay dated 1883.

Julius Bertram was son of Julius Alfred Bertram (1829–1901) and Martha Janet Gammell (1836–1868). He was educated at Repton School and New College, Oxford University, he was Bachelor of Arts. He was by profession a solicitor, practising in London and was a member of the "Reform Club". He was the author of a pamphlet called "The case for Free Imports" which was favourably reviewed and became the prospective candidate for the North Herts division of Hitchin in 1903. In the 1906 General Election he was elected as the only ever Liberal MP for Hitchin. However he lost the seat in the next election, in January 1910.

He married Marjorie Sutton daughter of Sir Henry Sutton KC on 14 December 1907. Her sisters were married to Sir Alfred Dennis and Herbert Warington Smyth. Bertram had two sons Oliver and Quentin. The elder son Oliver Bertram became a Barrister-at-law and a racing driver.



William Mordaunt Furneaux was headmaster at Repton from 1882-1900.

He went on to become Canon of Southwell 1891, then Dean of Winchester from 1903-1919. He was instrumental in raising funds for the cathedral which was suffering from subsidence, the vast sum of £120,000 was raised.

William was educated at Marlborough and Corpus Christi College Oxford.

When William became headmaster parts of the school were on lease from Sir Francis Burdett, over several years buildings were constructed, extended and a few pulled down. They were still on lease but relations with William and Francis were very friendly and somehow William persuaded Francis to be a governor and eventually sell all the land inside the arch for £15,000. Building continued as the school grew bigger in size and attendance.

Inside the class room William made an influence, he was the born teacher and was firm and fair.

One of the most striking innovations in the school curriculum was the opening of an engineering workshop on Askew Hill. He would of awarded first prize to a James Temple

The 1st position for the History Prize went to James Herbert Temple

Orchard: April 1882 - December 1884

Born: February 19th 1867, the son of James Temple of Park Hill, Burnley.

Clare College Cambridge, B.A., 1st Cl. Law, 1889 served with the Indian Civil Service

Died: of fever at Darjeeling, May 23rd 1906, **aged 39**

Extract from the Indian Daily News below.

UNHEALTHINESS OP EASTERN BENGAL The Bengalee writes :—Last week we published the following telegram from a correspondent at Darjeeling :—"Mr. Temple, I. C. S., District and Sessions Judge of Backergunj, died here this morning of black water fever contracted in Eastern Bengal. He was buried this afternoon. Although the notice of the funeral was very short, every Civilian, at present, in Darjeeling, attended the funeral, His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor also being present." When the partition of Bengal was carried out, it was, we think, the Statesman which called attention to the general un-healthiness of the new Province, and our contemporary pointed out that there were but few district headquarters which might be regarded as sanitary. The death of Mr Temple, under the circumstances mentioned above, illustrates the truth of our contemporary's observation. The un-healthiness of the province must make the service unpopular with the rank and file of the Civil Service. Some of the best men, men like Mr. Inglis, Mr. Streatfeild, Mr. Thompson, have already left the province. We fear the best men will not come to the province as at present constituted, and its administration must therefore suffer. It is the inferiority in the quality of the men who are charged with high administrative offices, that is responsible for the vagaries which have shocked the conscience of the community, and the quality of the men will not be improved so long as healthier districts are not included in the new province by a fresh territorial re-distribution. Look at the matter

Louise Rayner Artist and Derbyshire lass



Louise Rayner was born in Matlock Bath in Derbyshire on 21 June 1832 to Samuel Rayner (1806-1879) and his wife Ann (1802-1890). Samuel Rayner was a watercolour artist of some repute who specialised in architectural and historic subjects. Louise had four sisters and one brother, all of who became artists. The family lived in Matlock Bath and Derby from 1828 until they moved to London in 1842.

At the age of fifteen Louise began to study painting seriously, at first with her father and later under guidance from artist friends such as George Cattermole (1800-1868), Edmund Niemann (1813-1876), David Roberts (1796-1864) and Frank Stone (1800-1859). Roberts, the best known of the four, was a Scottish artist who specialised in architectural and topographical scenes. He trained as a stage scenery painter before travelling through France and Spain, where he made dramatic and evocative pictures of churches, ruins and cities. From 1838 he travelled throughout the Middle East recording the Holy Land. His influence can be seen in Louise Rayner's later works. Her first exhibit at the Royal Academy in 1852 was an oil painting of "The Interior of Haddon Chapel, Derbyshire".

Louise Rayner, like Roberts, depicted cities and ruins as well as stately homes and their surroundings. Louise is first recorded as being in Chester in 1869, by which point she had reached her mature style. Her paintings from this period are very detailed and highly picturesque, capturing the "olde worlde" character of Chester and other cities. She often filled her most finished works with figures going about their daily tasks, including street sellers and purchasers. Louise travelled extensively throughout Britain each summer during the 1870s and 1880s, and also visited northern France. Her watercolours include scenes of Edinburgh, Shrewsbury, Gloucester, York, London, Coventry, Windsor, Derby and Salisbury.

Louise Rayner lived at 2 Ash Grove, off the Wrexham Road, in Chester. She was a boarder with Robert Shearing (who owned a chemist's shop in Watergate Street) and his wife Mary Anne. In the 1890s her sister Margaret came to lodge with her at Chester, where they taught watercolour drawing. They moved to Tunbridge Wells about 1910, and Louise sold her last drawing in 1918 at the age of 86. After Margaret's death in 1920 Louise moved to Southwater Road, St Leonards-on-Sea, near Hastings, where she died on 8 October 1924. For nearly fifty years she had been a regular contributor to most of the major exhibitions in London, including the Royal Academy, the Royal Watercolour Society, the Royal Institute of Painters in Watercolours, the Royal Society of British Artists, the Society of Lady Artists and the Dudley Gallery.

Outside London she exhibited in Birmingham, Dublin, Liverpool and Manchester.

The Grosvenor Museum possesses twenty-three of Louise Rayner's watercolours, the largest number in any public collection. There is a lovely story that Louise Rayner used to visit the Museum in the early 1900s. Most depict scenes of Chester streets and individual buildings. Her compositions are highly popular with the public, and they are certainly very charming. Louise Rayner was a very able draughtsperson. Some of her views of Chester, such as Harvie's Alms-houses in Duke Street, provide our only images of these buildings. However, she did use artistic licence to move buildings and alter the perspective to make better images.

Her earlier works are generally thought to be her best, as her later works are less spontaneous and slightly repetitive. It is not surprising that once she found a ready market she continued to supply the demand for similar work. Among her earliest works are a small number of oil paintings, but she soon changed to working almost exclusively in watercolour

As we can see from a Sales catalogue from Newton Park in 1943, item 177 is a water colour named as "Chester" this most certainly would have been an original rather than the many prints out there now, in fact I have a print in my garage of "Irongate" Derby.



- 168 Water Colour Drawing in gilt frame, " Landscape," attributed to Landseer, 10in. by 14in.
- 169 **Water Colour Drawing**, " River Scene," by F. Walton, 13½in. by 19½in., in gilt frame.
- 170 Ditto.
- 171 **Water Colour Drawing**, " Trout Fishing," by F. Walton, 20in. by 48½in., in gilt frame.
- 172 Water Colour Drawings, " Mountain Stream," and another, " Harvest Scene," by W. Condall.
- 173 Water Colour Drawing, " Landscape with Cottage," by F.T., 9in. by 13½in.
- 174 Water Colour Drawing, " Landscape," by B. LeFanu.
- 175 Water Colour Drawing, " Street Scene," by T. C. Cotman, 13in. by 8½in.
- 176 Water Colour Drawing, " The Meeting of the Waters on the Wharf, nr. Bolton Abbey, Yorks," by F. Gresley.
- 177 2 Water Colour Drawings, " Chester," by Louis Rayner, 10½in. by 6½in.
- 178 Signed Artist's Proof Etching, " The Rose Window, Rheims Cathedral," by Brewer.
- 179 Pair of Aquatint Engravings by Mail and Sutherland after S. Alken.
- 180 4 Framed Colour Prints, " Hunting Types," after Cecil Aldin.
- 181 2 Mezzotint Engravings, " The Angler's Repast," and "A Party Angling," by W. Ward and G. Keating after G. Morland, 17in. by 22in.
- 182 Mezzotint Engraving, " The Happy Cottagers," by T. Crozar after G. Morland, 17½in. by 22½in., and another, *Doyle*.
- 183 Mezzotint Engraving, " The Farmyard," by W. Ward, after G. Morland, 17½in. by 22in.
- 184 Oval French Stipple Engraving in colours by P. Simon and another by J. R. Smith.
- 185 Pair of Old Coloured Mezzotint Engravings after Morland, 21in. by 32in.
- 186 Pair of Old Mezzotint Engravings, " The Fishermid," and " The Fisherman."
- 187 3 Coloured Engravings after John Leech.



By Direction of the Executors of Mrs. O. M. Ratcliffe Deceased.

A CATALOGUE
of the
PRINCIPAL CONTENTS
OF
THE CEDARS
NEWTON SOLNEY, BURTON UPON TRENT

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION BY
JOHN GERMAN & SON
in a Marquee, at the Residence, as above
on **WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY**
8th and 9th SEPTEMBER, 1971

Commencing at 10.30 a.m. each day

On View: Saturday, 4th September, from 10.30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Admission by Catalogue only—each Catalogue to admit two persons.

Auctioneers Offices:
The Rotunda, 131a High Street, Burton upon Trent (Tel. 5001/2) and
at Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Atherstone, Derby, Eccleshall, Ramsbury and
Shrewsbury.

CATALOGUE PRICE 20p

This print above is one of Derbys Irongate, Louise Rayners watercolours were very unusual for a lady to paint ie buildings and streets. There is aarently some artistic licence within the walls and shapes

From another catolouge from 1971 of the Cedars in Newton Solney item 613
A watercolour drawing of Windsor, the castle in the background, the busy main street of 18th century buildings and shop front in the foreground by Louise Rayner, 12 x 17 ½ inch. Unfortunately I have no record of the sale price if sold and where it is now? (Some more detective work I feel)

Louise Rayner died at the ripe old age of 92 at Saint Leonard.

Tons of Names

The suffix 'ton' is one of the most common elements in English place-names. It is especially common in the Mercia, and the East Midlands in particular. I found 25 within about ten miles of Repton. The earliest meaning is

'farmstead, estate' but it came to mean simply 'settlement'. Some stayed as small villages, like Milton, others grew into cities like Preston.

The prefixes attached to 'ton' are commonly either personal names or topographical descriptions, but within these categories there are many variations. I shall consider 10 names of villages along the Trent, working from Barton-under-Needwood to Swarkestone. As is the case for most place-names in England, they all derive from Old English, the language of the Anglo-Saxons.

The modern spellings of place names must always be treated with caution. We need to look at earlier records, and the records of Anglo-Saxon Mercia include a large number of early charter recording grants of land, as well the Domesday Book.

The first element of 'Barton' (first recorded in 942) means 'barley', so it must originally have been an estate noted for barley production. 'Barton' is a common name so 'Under- Needwood' was added in the fourteenth century as a distinguisher. 'Needwood' means 'poor wood' or possibly 'wood used as a refuge'. The soil is poor on the plateau, and would not have been easy to cultivate with the early medieval plough, so it may well have been left as a place where the dispossessed could shelter. Any such people were cleared off the land after the Norman Conquest, when the area became a royal hunting forest.

Moving on, we find 'Walton'. This means 'settlement of the Britons' from the Old English word 'walk'. This word also gives us modern 'Welsh'. It seems that Britons were still living peacefully in the area, but the newcomers had the power to change the name of their settlement, which must once have had a Celtic name.

'Branston' is an example of a personal name: the farmstead of Brant.

'Burton' means 'fortified settlement'. Recent research suggests the first person to establish defended 'burhs' was King Offa in the eighth century. His main aim seems to be to protect communication routes, especially near river crossings and Roman roads, which were still important arteries. Burton fits this pattern, along with nearby 'Stretton' (settlement on a Roman road), though no traces of any defensive works remain. Once again, because the name is so common it acquired a distinguisher: 'On-Trent'.

The same applies to Newton Solney, which has the obvious meaning 'the new settlement'. There is no evidence to suggest when it was founded, but it was recorded in the Domesday Book. It acquired the distinguisher with its new Norman owners, the De Solennio family from Solesmes (which is actually South of modern Normandy, but not all William's followers were from his heartlands). Within ten or so miles of our Newton we also have King's Newton, Newton Regis and Newton Burgoland (from the de Burgilon family).

Repton, which was of course an important religious centre for the Mercian kings, is named in a charter as early as the 730's when it is called Hrypadun. It is not actually a 'ton' name, since it means 'hill of the Hrype tribe' – the same people who gave their name to Ripon in Yorkshire. We have to imagine the incomers using the Humber as a gateway; one group moved South down the Trent, the other North up the Ouse and the Ure. There are several Old English words for 'hill'; 'dun' seems to mean a rounded hill, as in the modern word 'down'.

'Willington' means 'willow tree farm'. There is a 'Weeping Ash Farm' in Ingleby today, so this type of name carries on.

The name 'Milton' can mean 'the middle settlement' or 'settlement with a mill.' It is recorded in Domesday as 'Myddletun', which means the former, but ironically it also had two mills.

'Swarkestone' is 'the farmstead of Sverkir'. This is a Scandinavian name, so here we have an example of a Norseman acquiring property which is designated in Old English, (in contrast to the Old Norse 'by' of Bretby and Ingleby). Scandinavian names are much more common to the East of the Trent, but there is no clear boundary in actual settlement of land. The Vikings certainly captured Repton, and the cemetery above Ingleby suggests that some of them settled in the area, but they did not feel any need to change the name.

'Stanton' means 'settlement on stony ground'. There is another Stanton near Burton, hence the addition of 'by-Bridge' at a later date.

We all know these villages as they are today, but they have a long history, part of which is reflected in their names.

Thank you to Shelagh Wain for this article

St Wystan's Tower and Spire

Here are some extracts from articles and papers relating to damage of St Wystans church spire and some less safe ways of doing things like we do today.

There has been confusion about the date of the tower and spire. Cox's *Churches of Derbyshire* (1877) records that in 1710 a visitor, Bassano, a resident of Derby, noted a scroll of lead which recorded that the tower and spire were completed in 1340. Bassano's note referred explicitly to "the prior's church", but Cox believed that this must have been a mistake. (The priory church was demolished by Gilbert Thacker in the reign of Queen Mary to ensure, so it was said, that the priory would not be refounded.) Taylor believed that the developed perpendicular style of the windows and plinth of St Wystan's Church tower point to a date in the 15th century. Nevertheless, it seems increasingly possible that Cox may have been right. If so, details of the plinths, buttresses and windows suggest that, though built in the early 14th century, the tower was modified in the 15th. The slender spire rises to 212 feet. The belfry has a vaulted roof, which has been pierced to allow the bells to be rung from the floor level. The earliest bell in the bell tower was cast by Richard Brasyer of Norwich, who died in 1513. The oak screen in the base of the tower was built in 1973 as part of the partition surrounding the organ pipes that stood briefly at the west end of the north aisle. It incorporates panels from mediaeval pews saved in the 1792 alterations, some of them carved with the arms of families connected with Repton.

Repairs From the Parish Magazine of April 1899

The earliest mention of (the spire) being repaired is in 'Churchwardens and Constables accounts', under the year 1609, where there is the following entry:- 'It. Payde fore poyntinge the steeple £5.' Bigsby refers to this, and adds that 'the whites of a large quantity of eggs were mixed with the mortar. The eggs were collected by a poor widow of the parish.' In the year 1721 (*now thought to be 1720*), it was struck by lightning, and was rebuilt by John Platts and Ralph Tunnicliff, of Ashbourne, at a cost of £67. In 1784 the upper part was again injured by lightning, and rebuilt by Mr Thompson, of Lichfield, and cost £60. In the year 1804, Joseph Barton, a native of Repton, fixed a series of twelve ladders to the south eastern facet of the spire, mounted to the weathercock, and brought it down. Adorned with streamers of ribbon, it was carried round the village, then repaired and replaced. Barton received £10, plus a goodly collection made among an admiring crowd of villagers, and others. Sad to relate, a few years later, he met with his death whilst repairing the spire of Twyford Church; the scaffold gave way, he fell to the earth and was picked up dead.

(*In 1783 the spire was also hit by lightning.*) During the years 1857-8 the spire was again repaired, a new weathercock was placed on it, and to guard against lightning a conductor was fixed to the north-western facet. For some time past now a crack has been observed on the eastern facet of the spire, three or four courses from the top. On Friday, the 17th March, Robert Holmes and Thomas Bignall, steeplejacks in the employ of Mr J W Furse, of Nottingham, made an ascent (up the same south-eastern facet used by Joseph Barton) by ladders, eleven of them, each ten feet high. A careful examination proved that, in the repairing done in 1857, iron clamps were used to brace the stones; these clamps have oxydised and swollen so as to split many of the stones and joints. The pinnacles and about thirty feet of the spire will have to be taken down and rebuilt, and in addition the whole of the tower and spire require pointing and other repairs, which the architect, Mr R Naylor, of Derby, estimates will cost £400

From the Parish Magazine of November 1925

You will see great things happening to the Church Spire during the coming months. Another firm has been employed, viz Messrs Thompson of Peterborough, and they are going to remove the faulty stone, which has been very badly cracked owing to iron girders running through the Spire. Each stone, 78 in all, is to be taken out separately and new ones put in their place. The bells also are to be re-hung on a new cage which is to be considerably lowered. This will give more strength and will do away with a great amount of vibration, which has undoubtedly done a great deal of damage to the Spire. I am sure it will be a delight to all to hear the old bells ring again. The cost of the whole work is to be roughly £950. This seems a lot of money, but there will be no work needed to our Spire, at any rate, in our lifetime."

From the Parish Magazine of February 1926 Inglethorpe Manor, Wisbech 28 November 1925

Dear Sir, Noticing that some repairs to the steeple of your church are necessary recalls an incident of 67 or 68 years ago when the weather vane needed attention. A small line was cleverly carried over the apex of the spire by a kite and dropped on the ground. A heavier line was attached and pulled up by the workmen employed. As might have been anticipated the join stuck on the rod extending above the stonework of the spire and the efforts of the workmen to dislodge it resulted, to the astonishment of the onlookers, and presumably to their own, in seeing some twenty feet of the spire totter and fall. In its descent it broke some of the pinnacles of the tower and I believe killed some sheep at its foot. The operation was regarded as so slight that the steeplejack was content to ascend by the rope to examine the vane and so avoid the expense of a scaffolding. Fortunately for him that the break did not occur when he was aloft had the rope been adjusted in proper manner.

I wonder if any Repton inhabitant is alive and can confirm my tale, though the Parish Accounts will go far to do so.
Yours faithfully, *J M Bland (an old Reptonian)*

In the course of Sunday Services (April 15) the Vicar offered special thanks for the providential escape of the Church from serious injury, during the recent severe thunderstorm." The disturbance caused by the lightning to the upper part of the spire has been reported upon by the experts called in to inspect. The Church Council were much gratified to receive a further report from the Vicar's Warden, who on May 1, at 9 a.m. climbed to the weathercock and made a thorough investigation. We are quite sure that the village generally will share in the appreciation of Mr Fuller's voluntary and hazardous service in the interests of the parish."

A view of the damaged spire possibly late 1880. The height of tower is 90 feet and that of the spire 112 feet, although many references have a different height?



Dazzled by Display

On Saturday, Oct. 25th some of us were privileged to hear a talk by the Very. Rev. David Hoyle, Dean of Westminster, on the coronation of Charles III.

We heard first about the unusual nature of work in the Westminster Abbey. It is a 'royal peculiar' and was founded by Edward the Confessor as a new 'West' minster, in contrast to the 'East' Minster, St. Paul's. Edward brought masons over from Normandy, and built his own Royal Palace of Westminster next to his new church. Traces of this first building have recently been found by archaeologists. Every coronation since then has taken place in the Abbey.

The Abbey has no parish, and it is a major tourist attraction, but its prime function is still as a church and every day there is a sung Eucharist and a choral Evensong. It is also both a national and a royal church, and so was used for the late Queen's funeral. Although royal funerals are planned in advance, there is still a huge amount of work involved in the final preparations, including the headache of providing security for over 140 heads of State. The Dean gave a moving account of the day itself, beginning with the moment when he stood on the steps of the Abbey to await the cortege, looking out over a vast empty space, as the area was cordoned off for security reasons, and going on to the universal nature of the funeral service, with its private and public grief.

We then came to the coronation, which was not pre-planned. The 1953 coronation provided a template, but the service had to be re-designed for a new era, and to be more cost-conscious. The King himself did not attend planning meetings, but was represented by his private secretary, who acted as liaison officer.

The first decision was that the time taken should be reduced from four hours to two. This was achieved by having a single pledge of loyalty to the crown, 'The People's Homage', rather than one taken by each peer individually as happened in 1953. No new robes or vestments were produced. The King's robe was first used by George Vth. The Dean's scarlet cope had been in use since the coronation of Charles II.

There were many purely secular matters to consider. The number of guests present had to be reduced, as modern fire and historic building regulations would not permit the addition of temporary galleries in the Abbey. Once again, security had to be provided for Heads of State. Several policemen with guns accompanied the Crown Jewels into the Abbey a few days before the service. Even more policemen accompanied the Stone of Scone, temporarily removed from its home in Edinburgh to be placed (very carefully) under the seat of the throne. All the rehearsals had to take place at night, to avoid traffic problems, so many of those involved went without sleep.

At the King's behest, the emphasis was placed on Service, not royal power. To emphasize this, he was greeted at the entrance to the Abbey by a boy chorister from the Choir of the Chapel Royal. For the first time, different branches of the Christian faith were present to bless the King. The most sacred aspect of the service is the anointing. This was carried out by the Archbishop of Canterbury, but the Dean was present to hold the anointing spoon – the oldest single item in the regalia. He was very moved to see that the King was wearing the same white shirt that his grandfather, George VI, had worn – complete with oil stain down the front.

The talk was amply illustrated, with slides of the area under the lantern which is known as 'The Coronation Theatre.' The beautifully patterned floor of inlaid stone, known as the 'Cosmati pavement' was uncovered for the occasion.

The dean summed up by telling us how privileged he felt to be such an important part of an historic occasion – but he wouldn't want to do it again!

Though he never mentioned it himself, David Doyle was made Knight Commander of the Royal Victorian order for services to the coronation.

REPTON – Changes 1965-1978 to date. A Collier 6.3.78

(Hand written notes typed up by Jenny Sayers, thank you Jenny)

Start of house building and farm demolition on the site of Brown's farm in Main Street adjacent to the Mill. 1965.

Completion of the filling in of the old Gravel Pit to the West of Pinfold Lane (Mount Pleasant Road). Ash from the Power Station at Willington was used as bulk filling and top soil was added and seeded down to restore the field to its original shape and condition. 1966.

Houses built on the Mill Hill at Mount Pleasant on what was agricultural pasture land. 1968?

New Repton Rural District Council transport depot built on the site of the old tip to the West side of Main Street opposite the Mill. 1968.

Two houses added later for employees. 1970?

Houses completed on the site of 2 rows of terraced cottages to the West of Main Street near Bank House Farm. 1975.

Extensive modifications were carried out to Bank House Farm involving much earth moving, change of road access and the building of a large building for cattle. 1975 & 1976.

The Old Mill was demolished having been empty and vandalised for years. A fire occurred which, although it did little damage, caused the authorities to order its demolition due to hazards to children etc. 1968?

Pinfold Lane Farm vacated by Whirledge's, farming ceased 1973?

The Recreation Ground was established, extending the former football/cricket pitch. 1967?

A new pavilion was erected later.

A shop in Boot Hill ceased to be used as a Barbers shop, became a DIY shop and was finally incorporated into a private house.

Askew Grove was extended for house and bungalow building, through to High Street.

Fisher Close and the OAP flats were built.

The Dales residential OAP's home was built.

Health centre site prepared on premises previously used as coal merchant's business – corner of Askew Grove/High Street.

Taylor's grocery shop stopped trading late 60's. Land subsequently sold for building and 3 houses erected. Shop converted to a fashion house and building society branch office.

Loscoe farm sold as a private house (early 70's).

Paper shop opened in the Square on premises previously shut up – these were originally a bakery and grocery shop. 1972?

The New Inn closed. 1977.

Houses built opposite the Shakespeare on land previously agricultural meadow 1968/9?

Grocery shop closed as stores 1973? and converted to Hairdressers before finally closing.

Bungalow built on the Mill field off Main Street as replacement for the Mill house. 1974?

Cobblers shop in the Square closed (1969?) due to the retirement of the cobbler. Shop still exists adjacent to the forge building.

House built on the site of the old butchers shop at Matthew's. 1974? Shop demolished 2? years earlier. Trading stopped 1970? Originally of a slaughter house also.

3 houses built on site of former village hall (burnt down 1960). Former village hall annex converted into village library.

Electrical shop (next to Mrs Strickland's drive) ceased to trade. 1976?

Cobblers shop in Mrs Strickland's drive ceased to trade – terminal illness of cobbler.

Dentist's premises converted into bungalow in Mite Drive. 1975/6.

Former Co-operative Soc store/shop incorporated into the Shakespeare Public house modifications. 1972?

Court Room ceased to be used for village functions and subsequently sold to the School. 1975?

Toilets and car park built in Burton Road.

Lloyds bank branch office opened in High St (was in wooden hut on Cross house premises).

GPO Exchange built in the vicarage grounds.

2 houses built in the vicarage grounds, one 1970? and one 1976?

Chestnut Way extended through to 'Perry's drive'.

Primary school closed at half term in the Summer term 1974. High Street.

New Primary school opened half term in the Summer term 1974. Springfield Road. Site was formerly agricultural meadow.

Extensions to new Primary school started 1977.

Shop premises in the Square converted into private house. Shop was formerly haberdashery, groceries etc and ceased to trade in the fifties.

Various new private dwellings built in the Pastures and towards Mitre Drive.

Squash courts built on the site of the old tip off Willington Road.

All weather pitches built on the site of the old tip off Willington Road.

The laundry buildings in Tanners Lane extension were demolished.

New Village hall built in Askew Grove 1970?

A new estate was built to the rear of the Village hall 1977/8.

Houses built on the former gravel pit site off Pinfold Lane thro' to Fisher Close 1976/7/8.

Large house opposite the garage in High St converted into an old peoples' residence. The house was previously a private dwelling, outbuilding converted into a staff flat.

Former Melen's bread and cake shop stopped trading and converted into a hairdressers. 1977?

A fruit shop opened in the Square in premises not used as a shop since the fifties. 1977.

Houses built in Monsom Lane adjacent to the Milton Road junction. 2 on the site of a farm yard and 2 on the site of a cottage and garden after cottage demolition. 1968/9?

Please feel free to forward me any local stories or items of interest and we would happily include them in future newsletters if appropriate. All previous newsletters are catalogued on the Repton Village History Group webpages.

