A HISTORY OF NEWBOLD VERDON by Mary Fisher.

More Information from Early Parish Registers.

The Rector next on the list to John Abell was James Broke or Brooke, died 1625 and was buried at Whitwick June 21st. After him came Cuthbert Nicholson B.A.

1645 Elizabeth Tomson, daughter of Thomas and Anne was baptised April 6th, the mother of her was buried the next day, which Anne was the daughter of Cuthbert Nicholson, parson, and lieth buried in the chancel on the south side of the table (See footnote)

1617 The Rectory was worth £62.19s.3d.

1650 The Rectory was returned £100 and the incumbent (Cuthbert Nicholson) as weak and scandalous. The explanation, he was a Royalist. He was ejected 1649 July. Depositions before County Committee that he had a warrant from Royal Commissioners at Ashby for collecting tithes; he exorteth the people to glorify God after the parliamentary defeat at Newark. He was charged before C.C. on eight articles 1st August 1646; frequented garrison at Ashby, gave them money, profaned the Sabbath by carrying fodder to cattle and serving swine, frequented alehouses, neglected fasts; recognised only the Parliament at Oxford; ignored Directory observing ceremonies; and using Common Prayer. On the list (1649) as ejected for scandal but returned as Rector in 1652. Died 5th December 1654

1633 3rd Sept. Parish of Newbold Verdon gave 12/- towards the repairs of St.Paul's, London as a free benevolence. Cuthbert Nicholson Rector, Humphrey Atterton and Robert Wilkinson, Church Wardens. Also 5/- in 1635.

Footnote -

This does not refer to the present chancel which was rebuilt in 1898. It was possibly the original building.

To be continued.

A HISTORY OF NEWBOLD VERDON by Mary Fisher.

Bishop Hugh Latimer. There is a connection between Newbold de Verdun and Bishop Latimer, inasmuch as Mrs. Vera J. Beck is a descendant of the Bishop through her father, the late Mr. George Marshall, whose mother's name was Julia Latimer. The latter had a sister whose descendants live at Hinckley.

Hugh Latimer was the son of a Leicestershire yeoman of Thurcaston. "His father taught him to shoot with the bow; not to draw with the strength of arm but with the strength of the body." At fourteen he was at Cambridge, flinging himself into the New Learning. In the time of Henry VIII he became Bishop of Worcester. Disagreeing with the doctrine of transsubstantiation he was imprisoned and forced into resignation of his see. Later he refused to re-occupy the see of Worcester preferring to preach the doctrines of the Reformation up and down the country.

In 1552 he preached in St. Martin's church, Leicester. Mary I became queen in 1553 and terrible persecutions of the Protestants took place. Bishop Latimer and Ridley, Bishop of London, were imprisoned at Oxford.

In 1555 both bishops were burned at the stake in a ditch opposite Balliol College.

Hugh Latimer was now an old man; and as the flames shot up around him cried "Play the man, Master Ridley, we shall this day light such a candle, by God's grace, in England, as I trust shall never be put out."

To be continued.

A HISTORY OF NEWBOLD VERDON by Mary Fisher.

Change of Ownership and Partition of the Lordship.

1574. The Earls of Huntingdon acquired the manor of Newbold Verdon from the Earl of Essex. The family name of the Earls was Hastins (of Ashby and Kirby Muxloe fame). Henry (E. of H.) was succeeded by his brother George. The latter's eldest son Francis died in the lifetime of his father, and his son Henry became successor to his grandfather. This Earl sold part of the lands in 1608 to William Mounteney, a merchant of the staple, who came from Ireland with the Earl of Huntingdon. He was a descendant of Thomas Mounteney of Mounteney's Plain, Norfolk. The family, a large one, resided here 170 years. This land is today known as 'the Chater'. Whether there was a house there in 1608, or whether the Mounteneys built Chater House is not recorded. The family became extinct in 1780 by the death of John Mounteney who resided there upon a small independent fortune, he being the last known heir of the Mounteney family. At the beginning of the 19th century the Poisers of Barlestone, Nailstone and Peckleton were the only descendants. There are tombstones on the south side of the church bearing the name of Mounteney.

1630. George Mounteney was a Governor of the Dixie School, Market Bosworth.

William Mounteney, buried March 25th 1698, married Margaret, daughter of Thomas Gilliflower of Ibstock. Their son William, born 1660, sold the land to Mr. Ralph Trotter in 1712.

To be continued.

Newbold & history around 1. re Gt Plague

A HISTORY OF NEWBOLD VERDON by Mary Fisher.

Change of Ownership, continued.

1610. Two years after 'The Chater' was sold to Wm. Mounteney (1608) the Earl of Huntingdon sold the rest of the manor with the manor house to Nicholas Hearne, who subsequently sold it to Sir Thomas Crewe in 1625. He was serjeant-at-arms in the last parliament of James I and 1st parliament of Charles I.

1630 Sir Thomas Crewe Lord of the Manor.

Other Freeholders - Wm. Mounteney Chater, John Chapman, John Houcke, Robert Atterton.

At this time Newbold was a very small village.

1564 only 16 families and 2 in Brascote.

1633 The Parish of Newbold Verdon gave towards the repair of St. Paul's in London, the 3rd day of September 1633 the sum of twelve shillings as a benevolence. Cuthbert Nicholson, Rector. Robert Wilkinson, Humphrey Atterton Churchwardens. 5/6d was given in 1635.

1660 The parish of N.V. gave unto the fire at Fleckenham, Norfolk, nine shillings and threepence. The parish of N.V. gave unto the fire at Mountsorrel in the county of Leicester two shillings and ninepence.

1665 That our parish gave the first feast day 2nd August to those whom it has pleased God to visit with pestilence, the sum of ten shillings and ninepence. Great Plague of London. 1666 That our parish gave to the relief of those distressed citizens of London, by reason of that late dreadful fire 10th day of October, the sum of Two Pounds fifteen shillings and threepence

1669 That our parish gave unto the distressed captives in Algiers and in the parts of the Turkish Dominion this 18th July the summe of five shillings and sixpence.

1670 That our parish gave unto the distressed captives in Algiers this 23rd day of October

A HISTORY OF NEWBOLD VERDON by Mary Fisher.
More Information from List of Rectors and other sources

1626. Rector Cuthbert Nicholson. Ejected under Cromwell in 1649. Returned in 1652. Died 1654. Sometimes spoken of as Sapcote Nicholls.

1657. John Hubbard died Dec. 14th 1657.

1690. John Pate died July 4th 1690. aged 58.

1693. John Corbet 1690 died Sept. 12th 1693.

1693. William Gilbert died April 7th 1719.

During this time the lord of the Manor was Sir Thomas Crewe who bought it from Nicholas Hearne in 1625. He was created Baron Crewe of Stene in Northamptonshire in 1660. He left Newbold to his second son John who left it to his brother.

Nathaniel, Lord Crewe, Bishop of Durham.

Note. Nathaniel, Lord Crewe, was owner of the Manor but not the rector. He did not reside at the Manor. There hangs in church a picture of two churches. It is really a page from a copy of Nichols. The upper picture is that of the church of Stene, where all the family vaults of the Crewe family are. The lower picture is that of the church in Newbold as it was in those days.

To be continued.

A HISTORY OF NEWBOLD VERDON by Mary Fisher

The Bells in the Tower of St. James', Newbold Verdon

In the tower are two bells, of different dates. 1663 is the date on the larger bell, the third year after the Restoration of Charles 11. The inscription is very significant, viz. "God save his Church". This was immediately after Cromwell's death.

The smaller bell bears the date 1754, and the inscription, "The Church's praise
We sound all ways".

The writer has a great affection for the church bells. As a child, being very unmusical, singing lessons were dreaded. The Tonic Solfa Modulator was used, and to sing any interval beyond the common chord was an impossibility. In later years, an examination in Tonic Solfa had to be passed. Amid moans and groans and loud bewailings that if 'Doh-lah' were required to be sung, failure was a foregone conclusion, a gracious lady brought the solution to the problem. "Church bells, church bells, have you never heard the church bells? Don't you know the bells sound Doh' lah, Doh' lah, or in reverse lah Doh'?

Several years later, still grumbling about not being able to sing in tune, especially in a minor key, the Rector of those days remarked that, however bad the singing, one must make "a cheerful noise unto the God of Jacob".

To be continued...

A HISTORY OF NEWBOLD VERDON by Mary Fisher.

The Family of Nathaniel Lord Crewe, Bishop of Durham. In the January history notes there is an error. Sir Thomas Crewe, who bought the Newbold estate in 1625 was not Baron Crewe or Lord Crewe. His only son John was created such in 1661. Sir Thomas Crewe, the grandfather of Nathaniel Lord Bishop of Durham was brother to Sir Randolph Crewe, of the ancient family of Crewes, of Crewe, in the County Palatine of Cheshire. Sir Thomas died 1633 and was buried at Stene, having married Temperance daughter of R. Bray of Stene. She died in 1629 and was buried at Stene in the then new chapel. Newbold passed to their only son John, who became First Lord Crewe of Stene.

Having been greatly instrumental in the restoration of King Charles II he was created a baron of this realm by the title of Lord Crewe of Stene with succession to the male heirs of his body, 20th April 1661. He married Jemima daughter of Edward Walgrave of Lawford, Essex. They had six sons and two daughters, Thomas, John, Edward, Samuel, Nathaniel, Walgrave, Jemima, Anne. Nicholls states, "My Lord Crewe created Baron of Stene 1661, and cost him nothing. The Chancellor of the Exchequers place offered him and kept void for him for three months but he would not take it. He was bred in the law but never practised, was a Commoner in Magdalen College, Oxford, a studious man and a good scholar; a man of manners and good breeding and a critic in the Latin tongue." He died December 12th 1679 aged 82, buried at Stene leaving the Newbold estate to his second son John, Thomas the first being already deceased. John, the second Baron Crewe died in France unmarried in 1681 leaving the Newbold estates to his brother Nathaniel, Edward and Samuel having previously died unmarried.

Lord Crewe

A HISTORY OF NEWBOLD VERDON by Mary Fisher.

Will of Lord Crewe, Bishop of Durham, September 18th 1721. Nathaniel, Lord Crewe died aged 88, after being Bishop of Durham for forty seven years. Leaving no issue, his estates at Newbold came to his nephew, James Montagu, who went abroad with him at the time of the Revolution, returning when the new King, William III took no reprisals against those who had opposed him. Nicholls states he left to the Poor of the city of Durham 200l, Poor of Bishop Auckland 100l. Mr. Richard Stonehewer, Mr. Ralph Trotter, Mr. Francis Pewterer, and every one of his domestic servants, a year's wages over and above what was due to them. His coachman's wife 10l. His servant Thomas Bately £100. Mr. John Wallis and Mr. Richard Grey, clerks, 80l each. His nephew the Dean of Durham 100l for mourning. His nephew the honourable James Montagu the elder £100. To build a schoolhouse at Newbold Verdon £30. To the schoolmaster at Newbold Verdon £20 a year. To the trustees of the Hundred of Sparkenhoe, for the relief of widows, orphans and children of poor clergy deceased 10l yearly. 20l to each of 12 exhibitioners of Newbold Verdon. He gave to the Chancellor, Masters and scholars of Oxford, the pictures of Charles II and Catharine his consort, and of James II and Mary his consort, all drawn by Riley.

By a codicil dated September 17th 1721, he gave Mr. Edward Wortley, late Ambassador to Constantinople, his silver cistern; to Mr. James Montague his gill tankard; to Mr. Ralph Trotter the picture of Dorothy, Lady Crewe. To Dr. William Lupton his picture in his baron's robes, drawn by Sir Geoffrey Kneller. To the Mayor and Corporation of the city of Oxford 12 silver plates for the use of the Corporation. A silver plate for the Altar of North? Newbold Verdon and 30l towards the Altar piece. To his secretary Mr. Richard Grey his silver seals and seal manual.

To be continued...

A HISTORY OF NEWBOLD VERDON by Mary Fisher.

Lord Crewe Close, a street in Newbold Verdon is named after Nathaniel Lord Crewe who became the Bishop of Durham. He inherited the Newbold estate from his brother in 1681. Nicholls gives many details of his life before his connection with Newbold. Born at Stene on Jan. 31st 1633 he showed very early a good ear for music. Quoting Nicholls "Memoirs of Bishop Crewe" compiled chiefly from 'An examination of the life and character of Nathaniel Lord Crewe, Bishop of Durham' wherein the writings of his several biographers and other authors are critically reviewed, and compared with a manuscript never before published containing various anecdotes of that prelate printed 1790. The original manuscript, it is said, belonged to one of the Prelate's domesticks, Mr. Trotter, who survived him many years, and to whom the gentleman was nearly allied, whose library was sold. Our Prelate's grandfather the first Crewe to own the Newbold estate died on Jan. 31st 1633, on the same day and six hours after the birth of his grandson, Nathaniel. By his last will he bequeathed £100 legacy to all his grandchildren and named them; which his heir at law John Crewe Esq. gave to my Lord (The Bishop) although he was unknown to his grandfather.

Library at Newbold Verdon. It has been suggested that Mr. Bennett's article on the Library in last month's magazine might have presented a picture which is out of perspective.
To redress this, I am asked to give prominence to the fact that for ten years the Parish Council has been pressing the County Council consistently for a library for the village, and that, during the last five years it has been known that one would be available in 1974. Nevertheless, Mr. Bennett's efforts are very much appreciated.

C.J. Hall.

Free School

A HISTORY OF NEWBOLD VERDON by Mary Fisher

The Free School of Newbold Verdon.

The first school was built, with master's house attached, on the narrow strip of ground on which the war memorial now stands. Lord Crewe left a perpetual endowment for the master's salary of £20 a year, but made no provision for repairs to the building. If repairs were required the cost came from the master's salary.

Headstones in Church Yard to Masters of Old Free School.

Near East window "To the memory of Nathaniel Ball who died 1st April 1745." Stone not in original position.

Lying flat on the ground under the E. Window is another stone which has been moved, "Sacred to the memory of John Phipps who departed this life May 20th 1788 in the 54th year of his age." He was for 27 years master of the Publick School of this town.

John Phipps was succeeded by the Rev. Joseph Edmundson who was also Rector of the Parish 1786-1794.

Half way up the main path on the left was a stone "Sacred to the memory of Charles Eames for several years master of the Free School in this town who died February 26th 1818.

Succeeding masters were

Richard Herrick, George Rowley, George Priestnall, and for a short time George Dean (died 1912)