Montague Close

A HISTORY OF NEWBOLD VERDON by Mary Fisher.

The Montagus at Newbold Verdon. The name Montagu or Montague is familiar to the inhabitants of Newbold Verdon; first on account of the Montagu Charity, secondly some bungalows for older people in the area named Montagu Close have been built in recent years. James Montagu inherited the Newbold Estates from his uncle Lord Crewe 1712, and held them until his death November 8th 1748. He was Member of Parliament for Camelford in Cornwall 1715. His grandfather was Edward Montague created Earl of Sandwich July 12th 1660 who was admiral of the English fleet, and killed in a grand naval engagement May 28th 1672. He married Jemima, sister of Nathaniel Lord Crewe. They had ten children, six sons and four daughters. Edward 2nd Earl of Sandwich; Sidney of whom more later; Oliver, bred to the law, died unmarried 1693 aged 38; John, Master of Trinity College, Cambridge, Dean of Durham 1689, died unmarried 1728 aged 70; Charles, father of James who inherited Newbold; James, died unmarried April 9th 1725. Daughters - Jemima, Paulina, Anne, Catharine, married Nicholas Bacon Esq. Mr. Sidney Montagu married Anne Newcomen who was the illegitimate daughter of Sir Francis Wortley of Wharncliffe Lodge; who was long separated from his wife. She inherited her father's estate on condition that her husband assumed the name of Wortley. Their son, Edward Wortley Montagu succeeded to the Newbold estate on the death of his cousin James. Much more of this gentleman will be noted later. James Montagu who succeeded Lord Crewe at Newbold was the son of Charles the fifth son of Lord Sandwich by his first wife. This James was the gentleman who left the Montagu Charity of which more will be told later. His half-brother, son of the second Mrs.Charles became the husband of Elizabeth the famous Blue Stocking. The society called in derision the Blue Stockings was started by Mrs.Eliz Montague and her friends, women who met together for conversation without the adjunct of cards or frivolity.

The School

A HISTORY OF NEWBOLD VERDON by Mary Fisher.

James Montague 1721 - 1748

James Montague held the Manor House and estates (left to him in 1721 by his uncle the Bishop of Durham) until his death in 1748, when he left them to his cousin Edward Wortley Montague, having no children of his own.

Lord Crewe left £30 for the building of a school and left a perpetual endowment for the master's salary, £20 per year. The school was built on the small plot of land, now the site of the War Memorial, on the left side of the entrance to Brascote Lane. The school was free and was called "Newbold Verdon Free School". At one end was the master's house. This school served the village for 150 years. The master's salary of £20 yearly was to be paid out of his Lordship's estate in Northumberland. The master was to be appointed by the future possessors of the Newbold Estates. Nathaniel Ball was the first master, died 1754.

The Rector at this time, 1719, was Robert Sanderson whose name was on the list of voters 1741. He followed William Gilbert who was the rector from 1693-1719. William Gilbert, as well as being rector of Newbold Verdon, was also rector of Cadeby, but at which village he resided is not stated. His name is on the list of rectors in both churches. In those days the rectory was the old thatched house in Main Street, which was very recently demolished, after serving as a fish and chip shop for some little time.

James Montague had a cousin, Montagu Bacon, whose mother was Lady Catherine Montague youngest daughter of the first Earl of Sandwich and sister to Charles Montague, father of James. She married Nicholas Bacon of Shrubland Hall, Coddenham, Suffolk. Montague Bacon born 1688 took his degree at Cambridge and had previously entered Holy Orders. He is supposed to have been curate at Newbold Verdon. However, in 1743 he was

A HISTORY OF NEWBOLD VERDON by Mary Fisher.

November 8th 1748. Death of James Montague. His wife was the widow of Sir William Chester but there was no issue. He bequeathed the Newbold estates to his cousin Mr.Edward Wortley sometimes known as Edward Wortley Montague who was the second son of Sidney Montague, the second son of Lord Sandwich. He married Anne Newcomen, the illegitimate daughter of Sir Francis Wortley who had long been separated from his wife. Anne inherited her father's estate on condition that her husband took the name of Wortley. Mr. Sidney Montague enlarged Wharncliffe Lodge but allowed Wortley Hall to fall into decay. He built another house for a favourite mistress at St. Ellen's well near Carlton.

In his will James Montague left £100 to the poor of Newbold Verdon. By indentures of lease and release dated 12th and 13th June 1749 between Walter Barrs of the one part and Edward Wortley esq. of Newbold Verdon, Joseph Cardale, clerk, rector, and Benjamin Thirlby, yeoman of the other part, the said James Montague by will, gave to the use of the poor of Newbold Verdon £100 and directed the same to be laid out in the purchase of lands, and that the said Edward Wortley and others had agreed with the said Walter Barrs for the purchase of the lands thereinafter mentioned at the price of £114, the parish advancing £14 to make up the purchase money, it is witnessed that the said Walter Barrs, in consideration of £100, the legacy aforesaid, paid to him by the said Edward Wortley, executor of the said James Montague, and the sum of £14 paid by the said Joseph Cardale and Benjamin Thirlby, being the public money of the said parish, granted and released to the said Edward Wortley and others and their heirs, all those nineteen lands or parcels of ground containing by estimation 2 acres 2 roods and 19 perches of arable land, lying in the fields of Newbold.

To be continued.....

A HISTORY OF NEWBOLD VERDON by Mary Fisher

Montague Charity cont'd.

1749 At the time of the Montague Charity the lay out of Newbold was different from the present time. Some of the land was enclosed but not all, farmers having strips in the town fields. The manor would be enclosed, also the glebe, and possibly other land. There was no road to Bagworth as it is today, and no Newbold Heath. The turnpike was not in being, and the road to Brascote started much nearer to the church. The fields bought by the trustees were called the Little Field; also a close in Newbold called the Bridge Close, reputed 3 acres; also nine lands containing by estimation 4 acres 0 roods 10 perches, lying in a field in Newbold called Whichlow Field; also eight lands or parcels of ground, containing by estimation 3A OR 2p lying in a field called Fortway field, also two parcels of meadow ground containing by estimation 1A IR 30p in Newbold, lying in a place called Hollinger Meadow, to hold the same the said Edward Wortley Montague and others, their heirs and assigns, in trust, to permit the churchwardens and overseers to receive the rents and profits thereof and apply the same to the use of the poor of Newbold, according to the directions of the will of the said James Montague.

Anaccount of the application to be yearly audited by the said Edward Wortley and his heirs, lords of the manor of Newbold, the said Joseph Cardale and his successors, rectors of Newbold and the churchwardens of Newbold and their successors on the Monday in Whitsun week.

To be continued..

Mill Lane July 77

A HISTORY OF NEWBOLD VERDON by Mary Fisher.

Mr. Thomas Pares & Mr. Joseph Bunney

Mr. Thomas Pares and Mr. Joseph Bunney purchased the Newbold Estates after the death of the last Wortley Montague. These two gentlemen set up what could be called the first bank in Leicester, circa 1763.

Mill Lane, Newbold Verdon was formerly known as Bunney's Lane, before a steam mill and dwelling house with bakehouse attached were built by Robert Freeman, the grandfather of the writer of these notes.

Upon Bunney's death, his half share descended to his son, Sir Edmund Cradock Hartopp, and John Pares' share to his son John. He left three sons and three daughters. Thomas and John became partners in the banking business and the other took holy orders.

At the time of the enclosures John Pares bought much land. He was Lord of the manors of Brascote, Cosby, Cotes Deville, Narborough, Newbold Verdon, Merry Lees, and Noseley. He owned property at Barlestone, Frisby, Knaptoft, Saddington and Woodhouse. His house in the Newarke known as the Newarke House was formerly occupied by Joseph Bunney.

When the church was rebuilt in 1899, Sir Charles Hartopp gave nearly 600 square yards of land for the necessary enlargement.

In more recent times, the estates have passed at different times into private ownerships.

So we have a wonderful record of the Newbold Manor from Norman times until the present day.

Names of Inhabitants. Aug 77

A HISTORY OF NEWBOLD VERDON, by Mary Fisher.
Names of Early Inhabitants of Newbold Verdun

Apart from the Rector and Churchwardens, and the Lord of the Manor, very few names have come down from the past. In Cromwell's time it was made obligatory on the Incumbent to keep a register of births, deaths and marriages solemnized by him. Later there are records of the names of voters at elections. There are records from 1719 to 1854. The earliest was given in detail in the parish magazines Nov. 1975 - April 1976. There are also records of the Alehouse keepers, Innkeepers and Victuallers, with their sponsors, but not of which Inn they kept. 1741. The next record of poll of which the writer has evidence, is 22 years later.
In 1719 there were twenty-two voters; 2 lived at Naneby, 1 at Rothley, 1 at Ragdale, 1 at Bruntingthorpe. In the 1741 list only 15 names but no names from Naneby are recorded. 2 from Brascote and 1 from Thringstone, otherwise from Newbold.

Adcock Richard	Saunderson Robert	Rector
Ball Nathaniel	Siddons Thomas	
Bradford John	Tomlinson William	
Crosier John	Wildman John	
Crosier Richard	Whitfield George	
Crosier William	Thirlby Benjamin	Brascote
Harris Thomas	Thirlby Thomas	Brascote
Hextall Edward		

Six names occur on both lists. These were mentioned in the earlier notes.
In 1741 Nathaniel Ball was the schoolmaster of Lord Crewe's school, standing where the War Memorial is today. He was probably an Innkeeper as well.
James Bradford was probably an Innkeeper.

Mr Wildman & Harris Lane.

A HISTORY OF NEWBOLD VERDON by Mary Fisher
The Earliest Poll. 1719 The names Humphrey Chapman and John Chapman occur among the list of names on the 1719 poll. Two brothers? or possibly father and son? From Leicestershire Parish Registers - Marriages we find Humphrey Chapman of Newbold - Katharine Fox, by licence March 25th 1685. Another name on the 1719 poll list is John Crosier. Later spellings of the name are Croshaw, Crowshaw, and later still Crosher. From the list of Alehouse Keepers & Innkeepers and Victuallers 1753 - Richard Croshaw stands surety of £10 for Jane Carter and John Bradford and also in 1754, 1755, 1756, 1757, 1758. In 1759 a change, Richard Crosier was surety for John Ball. In 1762 Jane Carter is described as Widow Carter. 1762 Richard Crosier was surety for Ann Fearn and along with John Harris was surety for Jane Carter. John Harris's name was on the 1719 poll list, Harris Lane is named after him, the lane which today goes by Mr. Harding's house. Note - not Harry's.
1763, 1764, 1765, 1766, 1767. In each of these years Richard Crosier was surety for Ann Fearn. In the 1775 poll list is named a George Crosier. From another source, George Crosier was the tenant of seven acres of land owned by a Miss Clark. From the same source in 1776 Mr. John Wildman owned among other lands, Crosher Brascote Closes, Green and Lanes, and Croshers Closes Heather. This latter information is taken from a Manuscript book once belonging to Mr. Thomas Hargrave.

1719 Electn

A HISTORY OF NEWBOLD VERDON by Mary Fisher.
More Information concerning the electors whose names are on the 1719 Poll. Returns.
The Newbold electors are in alphabetical order Adcock Thomas. The descendants of this family were known to the late Mrs. Eleanor Bell who visited them at Ashby-de-la-Zouch where they kept a post office. She told the writer of these notes that their land was at the Desford end of the village.
Atterton, Humphrey.
Dunkley, Abraham. - Churchwardens.
Earlier, 1630 - Robert Atterton was churchwarden. 1696. From the rent roll of Kirkby Mallory - Humphrey Atterton £2 The Gorse Hayes £3. The Gorsehayes later known as the Middletons is now in Newbold Parish, lying at the back of the houses in Desford Road, and bounded on the east by the Kirkby Road. It now belongs to Mrs. Wibberley.
1704. John Wightman, Rector of Desford, married Ann Atterton of Newbold. In the chancel of Desford Church the following Monumental Inscriptions "In the hopes of a joyful resurrection, here lieth interred the body of Ann Wightman, wife of John Wightman, rector of this church, who departed this life June 3rd 1734 in the 37th year of her age. Here also lieth the body of the Rev. John Wightman, rector of this church, who departed this life August 9th 1735 in the 66th year of his age. Humphrey Wightman his son Sept. 20th 1738, aged 34 years. T.W. died 1710 aged 8 days. J.W. died 1707. T.W. died 1706.
1713 A.W. nata born March 23rd
renata reborn baptised March 25th
denata died April 23rd.

1719 Election

A HISTORY OF NEWBOLD VERDON by Mary Fisher

Newbold Verdon, 1719. In 1719, there was an election, but, at that time, only property-holders had the right to vote. Lists of voters were recorded, and the earliest for Newbold is 1719.

The candidates were: Francis Mundy Esquire,
Lord Wm. Manners

Brascott,	Thurnby, Thomas	Newbold
	do. Richard	do.
Naneby,	Bradshaw, Michael	Rothley
	Frestall, Thomas	do.
Newbold Verdon,	Adcock, Thomas	
	Atterton, Humphrey	
	Brooks, John	
	Chapman, Humphrey	
	do. John	
	Checkley, Thomas	
	Crosier, John	
	Dunkley, Abraham	
	Harris, John	
	Henshaw, Nicholas (deficient)	
	Holmes, Thomas	
	Mounteney, John	
	Pegg, Henry	
	Sanderson, Robert	Ragdale
	Siddons, Thomas	
	Whitfield, Francis	
	Winterton, James	Brunting-thorpe

Remarks ; Note the spelling of Brascote.
Thurnby is a mis-pronunciation of Thirlby; 50 years later, approx. 1765, Benjamin Thirlby (Churchwarden) died aged 67.
The mother of Colin Cowdrey, the famous cricketer, was ? Thirlby, belonging to this family.

To be continued.

A HISTORY OF NEWBOLD VERDON by Mary Fisher. April 78

More about the public houses of Newbold 150-200 years ago.

		Sureties
1759	Jane Carter	Wm. Wood, Merrylees
	John Ball	Richard Crosier & George Hextall
	Richard Strickland	George Hextall
	Ann Fearn	John Allen, Barlestone
1760	Richard Strickland	
	John Ball	
	Ann Fearn	
1761	Widow Carter	
	Ann Fearn	
1762	Ann Fearn	Richard Crosier
	Jane Carter	Richard Crosier & John Harris
	Richard Strickland	John Gadsby, Peckleton
		Joseph Pougher, Earl Shilton
1763	Richard Strickland	John Biggs, Kirkby Mallory
	Joseph Moss	John Kinton, Ratby
	Ann Fearn	Richard Crosier, N.V.
1764	Joseph Moss	John Earl, Desford
	John Ball	John Carter, Barlestone
		Thomas Johnson, Ibstock
	Ann Fearn	Richard Crosier
	Richard Strickland	John Wigston, Stapleton
		John Gadsby, Peckleton
1765	John Ball	Wm. Thornelow, Cadeby
	Richard Strickland	Thomas Riley, Peckleton
		John Gadsby, Peckleton
	Joseph Moss	John Gadsby, Peckleton
	Ann Fearn	Richard Crosier, N.V.
1766	Ann Fearn	Richard Crosier
	Joseph Moss	Thomas Woolaton, Desford
1767	Joseph Moss	Thomas Woollerton, Desford
	Ann Fearn	Richard Crosier, N.V.

Continued on Page 6..