



*Extracts from the Chapter minutes from 1701 onwards*  
Mark Brandon - [markandsuebrandon@outlook.com](mailto:markandsuebrandon@outlook.com)

Whilst working in the Archives I have had the luck to sit next to June, a very bright lady doing research into Medieval leases. So there we are, my working on the 1850s and she working on Latin documents 600 years earlier and we find we are coming across very similar leases. For example it is minuted in February 1857 that *application was also made for a Grant in Reversion for two Lives in the Copyhold Messuage at Lockerley*. I could not understand why the lawyers were using such archaic language until June pointed out that they were probably referring to a Medieval lease translated from Latin and saw no reason to update the language!

Incidentally, I have mentioned before the various spellings of Leadenhall. In April 1857 Queen Victoria sent a letter to the Chapter authorising Samuel Waldegrave, the Canon Treasurer, to occupy *Ledynhull*. I am not sure why the Queen has to be involved but it may be due to the transfer of power away from individuals to the Church Commissioners. Leadenhall was always an anomaly as Elias of Derham had bequeathed his canonry to the Bishop where all the other canonries came under the Dean.

It is at this period that local Boards of Health are set up to install sewers etc. They have the power to levy charges to cover the work involved. The Dean and Chapter bitterly resent their intrusion into the Close and a three-page legal case is sent to the Board detailing seven points why they should be exempt. At the same time, they receive a petition from the vicar of Sutton Benger requesting not to have to pay a charge of £20 per annum to the Chapter. He too sets out his case:

He pays a rent of £200 a year

His Tithes come to £300 a year

His Glebe is only ten acres

He pays £70 for rates and outgoings

So his living is reduced to £200 a year.

Out of this he pays for the local school and Parish Clubs (such as Clothing)

He has spent £4,000 of his own money on the church, parsonage and school

As you might guess, both requests were turned down!!!!!!

Now although the Chapter proceedings can appear quite mercenary there is the occasional burst of altruism, although I expect they nicely got out of the upkeep of this old building:

*Letter of August 18<sup>th</sup> 1852*

*My dear Mr Dean*

*At a meeting of the Training School Committee last week, I was desired to communicate to the Dean and Chapter that the committee had unanimously agreed to a vote of thanks to them and the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for their magnificent gift of the reversion of the fee of the King's House and Sub-Chantry. Will you be so kind as to make this communication to the Chapter at their next quarterly meeting.*

*I remain dear Mr Dean*

*Yours very faithfully*

*W.H.Hamilton.*

This may be just coincidence but the Dean was Henry Parr Hamilton and one of the Canons was Walter Kerr Hamilton!

As you all know this is the anniversary of the **Suffragette** movement but less is known about the **Suffragists** who campaigned in a more peaceful way. In 1866 a group of women organised a 1500 signature petition and took it to Henry Fawcett and John Stuart Mill. In 1897 17 Women's Suffrage Societies combined under the leadership of Millicent Fawcett, wife of Salisbury's son, the Blind Postmaster whose statue stands in the Market Square and whose plaque is on the south wall of the Nave.

Born in Salisbury in 1833 and despite being blinded in a shooting accident in 1857 he became Professor of Political Economy at Cambridge and was a great supporter of Charles Darwin. he was Liberal MP for Brighton and later Hackney and became Postmaster General under Gladstone. He introduced life insurance, the telegram and postal order as well as licence changes to permit pay-phones and trunk lines. He died in 1884.

His wife, Dame Millicent Garrett Fawcett GBE (1847 - 1929) was sister to Elizabeth Garrett Anderson and a leading Suffragist. She was a Governor of Bedford College and co-founded Newnham College, Cambridge. She became president of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies and lead the government commission into the Boer concentration camps. Her plaque in Westminster Abbey states that she won *citizenship for women*. Unfortunately, we do not have a memorial to her but Parliament now does (see right) and as guides we of course can mention her achievements.

