



A Salisbury-Cathedral-centric view of History.

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DID YOU KNOW?

Jonas Hanway (1712 - 1786), born in Portsmouth, was a junior partner of the Russia Company and brought back from Persia the prototype for the umbrella where of course it was used as a parasol. The first English umbrellas were sometimes known as a Hanway. Note the cartoon right - women had carried umbrellas since 1705.

In Lyndhurst churchyard lies the grave of Mrs Reginald Hargreaves, née Alice Liddell (1852 - 1934) the heroine of Lewis Carroll's books.

A draper from Basingstoke noticed that a shepherd customer had a smock that appeared to be waterproof. This property came accidentally from the lanolin in the wool. The draper used this idea to produce a lightweight waterproof garment which he called *gaberdine*, a fifteenth century word which he reused. The business expanded, first to Winchester and then to London. The draper's name was Thomas Burberry.



St Michael's Abbey, outside Farnborough is the last resting place of Napoleon III, nephew of Bonaparte, who had died in exile at Chiselhurst (almost as bad as St.Helena). He is buried alongside his wife Eugenie and son Leopold who died fighting with the British against the Zulus in 1879.

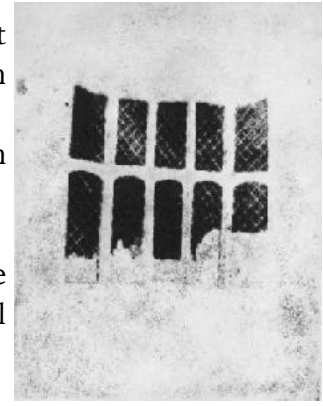


The first British man killed in an air accident was a certain Hon. Charles Stewart Rolls of car fame who crashed his Wright Flyer during a tournament at Bournemouth in 1910 (left, courtesy of Bournemouth Echo).

We have talked before of the Duke of Monmouth who was captured at Verwood whilst sleeping under an ash tree. Well, on his way there he had stopped at an inn at Woodyates where the tenant was one Robert Browning, ancestor of the poet. Daniel Defoe was also at the battle of Sedgemoor and whilst hiding in a churchyard during his escape saw a name on a gravestone that stuck in his memory - *Robinson Crusoe*. The real Crusoe was Alexander Selkirk who was found on Juan Fernandez island by Captain Woodes Rogers when his ships, the Duke and Duchess had sailed from Poole in 1708 and put in for shelter there. Woodes Rogers died at his home in Queen Square, Bristol which was the port where Defoe picked up the story.

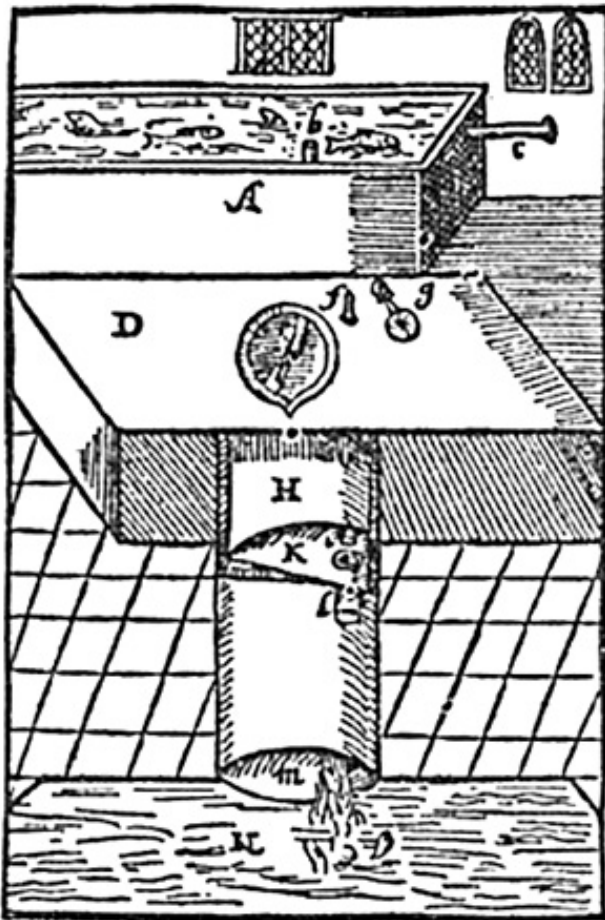
The window at Lacock Abbey was the subject of the world's oldest photograph (right), taken by William Fox Talbot in 1835*. The link with today is that the abbey cloisters were used in the filming of Harry Potter.

* Joseph Nicéphore Niépce took a crude photo on a metal plate in 1826-7.



Wellow, near Bath, was the birth place of John Bull (1562 - 1628). He was organist at the Chapel Royal and the man who wrote the National Anthem (although I am sure some musicologists would dispute this).

One of Bath's sons was Sir John Harrington, who invented the flush WC in 1589 and had it installed in his house at Kelston. He wrote a book about it called *The Metamorphosis of Ajax*, a pun on *Jakes*, the slang word then for lavatory. He was the godson of Elizabeth I - I wonder if that is why it's sometimes called a *throne*?



A priuie in perfection

- A. the Cesterne.
- B. the little washer.
- C. the wast pipe.
- D. the seate boord.
- E. the pipe that comes from the Cesterne.
- F. the Screw.
- G. the Scallop shell to couer it when it is shut downe.
- H. the stoole pot.
- I. the stopple.
- K. the current.
- L. the sluice.

M.N. the vault into which it falles: alwayes remember that () at noone and at night, emptie it, and leaue it halfe a foote deepe in fayre water. And this being well done, and orderly kept, your worst priuie may be as sweet as your best chamber. But to conclude all this in a few wordes, it is but a standing close stoole easilie emptied.

And by the like reason (other formes and proportions obserued) all other places of your house may be kept sweet.

I am indebted to Christopher Winn's *I never knew that about England* (Ebury Press 2005).

PARISH THE THOUGHT - Wimborne

St Cuthburga's is not just a church but a *minster*. This word has changed its meaning over time but tends to be a large church of monastic origin: think Westminster, York and Southwell. They are usually run by a Dean and Chapter of Canons like Salisbury. St.Cuthburga was the sister of Ina the Saxon king of the West Saxons who founded a nunnery here in c705 where King Alfred's brother was buried. Her husband was King Alfrith of Northumbria. It was said that some 500 nuns were trained here. The building was destroyed by the Danes in 1013.



In 1043 Edward the Confessor set up a college of secular canons comprising a Dean, four prebends, four vicars, four deacons and five singers. One of the deans, Hugh Oldham (1499) became Bishop of Exeter and founded Manchester Grammar School and co-founded Corpus Christi, Oxford. In 1318 Edward II declared the Minster a *Royal Peculiar* exempting it from diocesan control (abolished in 1846). Westminster Abbey and St. George's Chapel are still RPs and are answerable to the King. In 1497 Lady

margaret Beaufort, Countess of Richmond and mother to Henry VII founded a small chapel in the Minster with a priest attached to it who was to *teach grammar to all comers*. Henry VIII stole much of the Minster's wealth.

In 1562 a grant from Elizabeth I the church was returned to Wimborne and vested in 12 governors who choose the Rector and administer various trusts. This was renewed by Charles I at a cost of £,1000, with the addition of an organist and singing men. The Civil War brought the usual problems but not much damage. When Charles I was beheaded his coat of arms was painted over but after the Restoration Charles II arms were quickly installed.

The Minster was rather neglected during the 18th



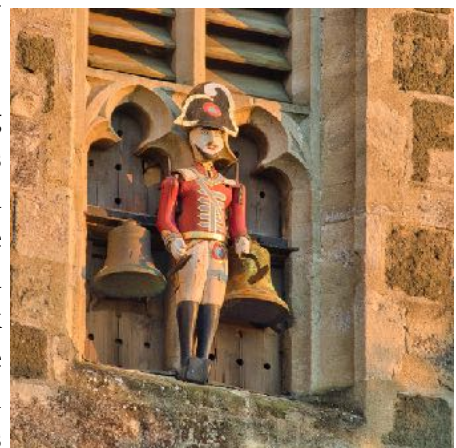
century but revived during the 19th century, including extensive restoration of the fabric.

There are some interesting tombs: a much mutilated figure of a 13th century Fitzpiers, lord of the manor of Hinton Martell (famous for being the home of Salisbury's Head Guide); Anthony Etricke (1703) who became offended by the people of Wimborne and had his coffin built into the wall (top right - with date altered); John Beaufort, Duke of Somerset (1444) and his wife Margaret Beauchamp (right); Gertrude Courtney, Marchioness of Exeter (1558); a brass demi-figure of King (Saint) Ethelred I (871), Sir Edmund Uvedale (1606) and Thomas Hanham (1650) whose descendants still live close by at Deans Court (right).



There is a crypt, Jacobean choir stalls that include a misericord carved with a Green Man, a sun-dial with three faces, a thirteenth century chest (see page 5) and at one time even a spire.

One 'jewel in the crown' is the beautifully preserved chain library (page 5) and the other is an astronomical clock (below left). The case is Elizabethan but the face much older, with the earth in the centre. It was probably installed in the 14th century. Here you can see the 'musical box' chime-barrel mechanism being removed from the belfry for renovation. This would have operated 16 hammers on 8 bells. There is also a Quarter Jack, installed in 1612, carved by a Blandford man for 10/- . It was originally a monk but changed to a grenadier (lower right) during the Napoleonic wars.



Dickens, seeing the names *Snodgrass* and *Wardell* in the Baptistry, used them in *Pickwick Papers*. So the Minster is well worth a visit and is decidedly one of my favourite parish churches.



TOMB TALK - Robert Hay

This wall plaque is in the south transept and over that of Lord Justice Hyde. The wording translates as: *Regard not this marble, O mortal, though splendid as gold; contemplate, rather, the ashes under your feet, there you will discover the remains of a cruel, and ten years lasting disease, which first attacked in this city, and finally destroyed, that most pious, innocent, and noble man, Robert, younger brother of James, Earl of Carlisle, descended from the illustrious family of Hayes in Scotland, and Lord of the bed-chamber to the very excellent King James 1st, enjoying favour, hateful to none, but pleasing to all; from thence he will rise again at the sound of trumpet.*

Go, peripatetic Philosopher, imitate the virtues of the de-ceased while it is in your power; you shortly will be returned to ashes.

Robert (1578 - 1636) was I believe Master of the King's Robes.



James Hay, 1st Earl of Carlisle and Master of the Wardrobe*, brother to the above (upper right, painted by an unknown artist, *courtesy of the National Portrait Gallery. In the public domain*), jointly with Henry Rich, Earl of Holland** (lower right painted by Van Dyck, *courtesy of the National Portrait Gallery. in the public domain*), negotiated the marriage of Prince Charles, son of James I. and afterwards Charles I. with Henrietta Maria, daughter of Henry IV, (justly surnamed the Great,) and sister to Louis XIII. King of France, 1624. Henrietta Maria was known in England (much to her chagrin) as Queen Mary, although, being Catholic, she was never crowned. The US state of Maryland is named after her.



* He died with no property to his name having spent £400,000 on a very jovial lifestyle.

** 'An extravagant, decorative, quarrelsome and highly successful courtier', he was executed by the Parliamentarians.

"Seeking is a necessary preliminary to finding, and one who cannot endure the hardship of inquiry cannot expect to harvest the fruit of knowledge." John of Salisbury, *Metalogicon* 1159.

