

HITCHAM, BUCKS NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS

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Search term : "Hitcham" Region : "South-East England"

Hitcham always has been a quiet place. In the 70 years covered by this newspaper survey there were only 40 mentions of Hitcham, Bucks.

The following are presented in broadly chronological order.

The Inclosure Acts led to common land being incorporated into large estates...

"Notice is hereby given, that the commissioners named and appointed in and by an act, passed in this present session of Parliament, intituled "An act for providing and inclosing the open and common fields, common meadows, common pastures, commonable lands, and waste grounds, within the parish and manor of Hitcham in the county of Buckingham", do intend to hold their first meeting for executing the powers and authorities vested in them, by the said act, at the house of Mr John Marsh, called the Orkney Arms inn, at Maidenhead bridge, in the said county of Bucks, on Thursday 16th of April next, at ten o'clock in the forenoon; when all persons claiming any estate, common rights or other property whatsoever, in and upon the said open and common fields, common meadows, common pastures, commonable lands, and waste grounds, may by themselves or their agents lay their respective claims in writing before the said commission. Dated the 31st day of March 1778. By order of the commissioners, James Payn, clerk."

Reading Mercury 6th April 1778

"Notice is hereby given , That the Commissioners named and appointed in and by an Act, passed in the last session of Parliament, intituled "An act for providing and inclosing the open and common fields, common meadows, common pastures, commonable lands, and waste grounds, within the parish and manor of Hitcham in the county of Buckingham", do intend to hold their second meeting for executing the powers and authorities vested in them, by the said act, at the house of Mr John Marsh, called the Orkney Arms inn, at Maidenhead bridge, in the said county of Bucks, on Thursday the 10th day of September, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, and for preventing all unnecessary delays in the said intended Division and Inclosure it is by the said act enacted. That all Persons claiming any Estate, Common Rights and other property whatsoever in

and upon the said Open and Common Fields, common meadows, common pastures, commonable lands, and waste grounds, shall and they are hereby required by themselves or their agents to lay their respective claims in writing before the said Commissioners at such second meeting and that no claim whatsoever shall be received by the said Commissioners which shall not be delivered to them in writing at such second meeting; all persons therefore claiming any Right or Interest in or upon the said lands or grounds by the said act intended to be divided and inclosed are hereby required to lay their respective claims in writing before the said Commissioners at such second meeting after which no such claims will be received by the Commissioners . And notice is hereby further given That copies of all such claims as were delivered to the said Commissioners at their first meeting are lodged at the Orkney-arms Inn aforesaid for the perusal and inspection of all persons interested in the said Division and Inclosure where copies of all claims delivered at such second meeting will be left according to the directions of the said Act. By order of the Commissioners .James Payn, clerk."

Oxford Journal 23rd August 1778

Robert Friend was Lord of the Manor of Hitcham. On his death his successor sold the manor to Lord Grenville...

"Last Week, died at Newbury, aged forty, Robert Friend, Esq; of Hitcham-House, in Buckinghamshire; a Gentleman who will be long regretted by those who had an Opportunity of knowing the singular Elegance of his Mind, and the Cordiality of his Affections."

Oxford Journal 29th January 1780

"BUCKS. To be LETT, The MANOR and MANOR HOUSE of HITCHAM with coach-houses, stabling, and all other suitable offices for a large family. The house is completely and handsomely furnished; with it will be lett about 60 acres of grass land surrounding the house, and lately enclosed within a park fence, and a considerable addition of land enclosed within the same fence may be had in two years time if desired by the tenant. The whole premises are just put into thorough repair. A considerable quantity of excellent old Wine mow in the cellars, some good old Hay, and other articles with which a tenant might wish to be accommodated , may be had on a fair valuation --- For further particulars , enquire at the house, or of Thomas Walker, Esq; at Woodstock Oxon. Hitcham is situated about two miles from Maidenhead, six from Windsor, and between 24 and 25 from London."

Reading Mercury 29th May 1780

In the following it should be noted that Lord Inchiquin was married to the Countess of Orkney who owned both Cliveden and Taplow Court...

"Whereas on Wednesday Night last the 16th of April, some evil-disposed Person or Persons did pull down and burn Two New Gates, and about eight Poles of Railing on Hitcham Common, near Cliffden, in the County of Bucks, and did also pull down about 15 Poles more of Railing, which were left on the Spot, the Property of the Earl of Inchiquin.

The Common has been lately inclosed by Act of Parliament, which makes the above Offence Felony , -- Whoever will give Information of the Offender or Offenders, so that he or they may be convicted thereof, shall receive a Reward of TEN GUINEAS, by applying to Mr Payn, of Maidenhead; or to Mr John Soper, the Steward, at Taplow-Court. The like Reward will be given to any Person (if more than one) concerned in the above Offence, on Conviction of his Accomplice or Accomplices, and such Person making Information thereof will not be prosecuted."

Oxford Journal 18th April 1782

Note : Ten guineas can be estimated to be the equivalent of £3,000 today

It appears that the new Rector of Hitcham, Thomas Pulton, chose not to live at the parsonage but rather to let it out for the income...

"To be LETT, and immediate possession - HITCHAM PARSONAGE Genteelly furnished; together with gardens , an orchard, and 18 acres of rich meadow. The premises are situate on a remarkably dry healthy spot., the summit of the country, commanding many pleasing objects in the surrounding vicinity, a social neighbourhood, near Taplow, one mile and a half from Maidenhead, six from Windsor, and 25 from London - Further particulars may be known by applying to Mr. Kimberley, auctioneer, Windsor."

Reading Mercury 13th June 1785

"To be LETT and entered upon immediately, About One Hundred and Seventy Acres of WOODLAND AND UNDERWOOD in the parishes of Burnham and Hitcham in the county of Bucks., between Maidenhead and Beaconsfield. For particulars apply to Mr Payn, at Maidenhead."

Reading Mercury 2nd April 1787

"PARSONAGE. To be LETT, neatly Furnished, a Genteel RESIDENCE, with every accommodation, stable, coach-house, and other requisite

buildings; together with garden, orchard and about 18 acres of Meadow in a ring fence; the situation beautiful, on the much-admired summit of the country near Taplow, in the county of Bucks, in the circle of respectability --- May be viewed by tickets only, and further information had by applying to Mr Kimberley, Windsor, or at his apartments No 37 Old-Bond-street, London

NB Several capital Houses to Lett upon a large scale with any quantity of Land; and elegant Cottages, Furnished and Unfurnished."

Reading Mercury 1st April 1799

A similar advertisement for letting the Hitcham Parsonage appears again in Reading Mercury 16th March 1801.

The new Lord of the Manor of Hitcham, Lord Grenville, had established himself at Dropmore, so the old manor house (Hitcham House) had by now been turned into a school...

"LONDON Yesterday morning about nine o'clock, his Majesty left Kew for Windsor . Her Majesty and the Princesses attended by Ladies Cumberland and Balkley followed from the Queen's House at half past twelve.

The King in the course of his ride on Tuesday last visited Hitcham House and having with great condescension noticed several of the young Gentlemen educated there , his Majesty honoured their tutor Dr Gretten with a particular enquiry respecting the studies of his pupils, with which his Majesty was graciously pleased to express his approbation."

London Chronicle 8th December 1800

The following, in the same journal, does not refer to Hitcham but is nonetheless interesting as it presages the use of inoculation described later in Hitcham in 1815. In 1796, just four years earlier than this Gibraltar article, Dr Edward Jenner had successfully inoculated a healthy 8 year old boy against smallpox by exposing him to cowpox, the first modern recorded inoculation. Gibraltar was at this time populated almost entirely by the British Army. The fact that the British Army was being sent all over the world in fact seems to have contributed to the discovery of acquired immunity.

"GIBRALTAR Nov 5th The fever has now gone completely through the town, there not being one single house whose inhabitants have escaped the contagion; and the deaths in fever have now decreased in consequence to about four or five daily. At the South part of the Rock it still continues to rage amongst the troops and it is the general opinion of

the Faculty that the disease will not be extirpated till every person has been attacked with it.

It is now clearly ascertained to be the malignant pestilential fever, such as has prevailed in the West Indies since 1793; and it is a remarkable fact that the only persons who escaped the contagion are such as have had that fever in the West Indies or the fever at Philadelphia or Malaga.

It does not appear that any infection has occurred of any person here having received the infection a second time. More than one third of the inhabitants have been carried off by it and all newly arrived people are infallibly attacked with it and it generally proves fatal to them."

London Chronicle 8th December 1800

The following article describes a sermon by a preacher who had a living in Somerset but seems to have lived mostly in Dorney. This was by no means uncommon and is a scandal exposed in the Black Book described later in 1831.

"This Day is Published, price One Shilling. A SERMON against DISHONESTY preached at Hitcham and Dorney, Bucks., September the 7th 1800

By the Rev GEORGE BUXTON

Rector of Holford, Somersetshire and Vicar of Dorney, Bucks

"Let him that stole steal no more" Ephes. iv 28

Reading : printed and sold by Smart and Cowslede; sold also by Mr Blakeney, Windsor; Mr Fuller, Newbury; and all other booksellers."

Reading Mercury 29th December 1800

This article does not involve Hitcham at all but makes an amusing Christmas story.

"On Thursday night, as the Manchester Mail Coach was passing Morley-lane near Trafford, on its road to Chester, the coachman by a sudden jerk of the coach was thrown from the box into a ditch, and severely bruised; the guard, seeing the accident, immediately attempted to get over the top of the coach to the box, to stop the horses, but in this effort he was also thrown down, and being much hurt was unable to overtake the coach or alarm the passengers. In this state (strange to say) the horses brought the coach and mail safe to the Post-office door in Chester, where they stopped as usual. On opening the coach door the passengers were unable to give any account of the coachman or guard, never having missed them! - The distance these faithful animals took the coach, without a driver, is about four miles ; and they turned one of the most dangerous corners in Chester."

Reading Mercury 29th December 1800

This newspaper contained lists of game-duty licences. They were used for tax purposes and give an indication of the local gentry.

"GAME-DUTY LICENCES

Licences issued to those not acting as game-keepers

William Bayley, East Burnham
Ridley Colburn, Hitcham
William Francis, Taplow
Pascoe Grenfell, Taplow
Charles Pascoe Grenfell, Taplow
Lord Viscount Hawarden, Taplow
The Hon George Irby, East Burnham
William Piercy, East Burnham
James Prior, Taplow
Joseph Sampson, Taplow
John Statham, Taplow
William Thurlow, Burnham

Licences issued to those acting as game-keepers and not being assessed as servants to any person (being employed by the manor).

Thomas Burnham, Hitcham Manor, appt by Rt Hon Lord Grenville
Joseph Sampson, Cliffden Manor, appt by Rt Hon the Countess of Orkney"

Northampton Mercury 22nd Sept 1810

Strangely there are no lists of gamekeepers again until 1831. See below.

These two obituaries refer to another vicar who seems to have managed two widely separated parishes. This is the rector who chose to let out the parsonage rather than live there.

"In his 74th year, at Windsor, the Rev Thomas Pulton MA Rector of Hitcham Buckinghamshire and Vicar of Chattisham Suffolk."

Oxford Univ & City Herald December 1810

"Lately died, aged 74, the Rev T Pelson (sic) MA, many years Rector of Hitcham Bucks and Vicar of Chattisham Suffolk; the latter is in the gift of Eton College."

Stamford Mercury 7th December 1810

Lord Grenville's friends had been over-doing the shooting...

"MANOR OF HITCHAM. The GAME having of late been much disturbed and carried away by qualified Persons and others, qualified Gentlemen are requested not to sport over the above Manor; and all Persons not qualified, who may be found trespassing thereon, will be prosecuted without further Notice.

By Order of the Lord of the Manor and Landholders, (signed) Thomas Burnham (keeper)"

Windsor and Eton Express 12th September 1813

West Town Farm lies south of the A4 Bath Road between Lake End Road and Marsh Lane...

"Capital Freehold Farm between Windsor and Maidenhead.

Mr D Smith respectfully announces , that some time in August, will be SOLD by AUCTION. All that CAPITAL FREEHOLD ESTATE, known as WEST TOWN FARM, situated in the Parishes of Dorney, Burnham and Hitcham, comprising about 175 Acres of rich Old Inclosed and Open Field, Meadow and Arable Land, with good House, Yard-,and Buildings, and nmow in the Occupation of Mr. Joseph Trumper, under an Agreement to quit at Michaelmas next.

More descriptive Advertisements will shortly appear, and printed Particulars may then be had at the Neighbouring Inns; of Thomas Buckland Esq. Langley; and at the offices of Daniel Smith and Son , Surveyors, Windsor , and Alderman's Walk, Lonfon."

Windsor and Eton Express 3rd July 1814

"Sales by Auction CAPITAL FREEHOLD FARM between Windsor and Maidenhead With immediate possession To be sold by Auction bt Mr Daniel Smith At his Great Room in Alderman's Walk London on TUESDAY Sept 6th 1814 at Twelve o'Clock.

In lots:

All that valuavble FREEHOLD ESTATE well known as WEST TOWN FARM (now in the occupation of Mr Joseph Trumper under an agreement to quit at Michaelmas next); comprising nearly Two Hundred Acres of capital Meadow and Arable land in parts Ibl., timbered and completely encircling the Homestead which consists of a comfortable House with gardens , yards and the usual Farm Buildings. amply sufficient for the management of the estate most advantageously situated near the high Bath road in the parishes of Dorney, Burnham and Hitcham a rich and picturesque part of Buckinghamshire twenty-four miles from

London, surrounded by excellent roads a navigable river and the famous markets of Maidenhead, Windsor and Uxbridge.

The Homestead with about One hundred and twenty acres immediately around it will form One Lot, worthy and capable of much profitable Improvement.

The Estate may be viewed with the permission of the Tenant; and descriptive particulars had at the neighbouring Inns; of Thomas Buckland esq Langley; of Sir Samuel Whitcombe, Griffiths, and Phillpot, Gloucester; of Sir Samuel Whitcombe and King, Serjeants Inn Fleet-street; and of Daniel Smith and Son Surveyors, Windsor and Alderman's Walk adjoining New Bond -street, London at whose Offices Plans may be seen."

Windsor and Eton Express 28th August 1814

"Yesterday at one o'clock the remains of the much lamented Mrs Richard Walpole were removed from her house in Grafton-street, for interment in the vault with her late husband, at Hitcham, near Taplow, in Buckinghamshire. The procession closed with the carriages of Lady Hammet, Hon Mrs Walpole, Mr James Hammet, Hon Geo. Nevill, Mr Robert Walpole, Lord Huntingfield, Lord Walpole, Mr Thomas Walpole, Earl of Abergavenny &c. Her engaging manners and amiable disposition had endeared her to a numerous circle of friends, whose esteem and regard were amply testified by the anxious solicitude they expressed during her long protracted illness. She was the relict of the late Richd. Walpole Esq of Freethorpe in Norfolk and daughter of the late Sir B Hammet Member for Taunton."

Morning Post 29th March 1815

As observed earlier, vaccination had been invented and had by now become established practice, if you could afford it...

"On Friday, a meeting of the Friends of Vaccination, in the adjoining parts of Berks and Bucks was held at the Town-hall, Maidenhead. Mr Arthur Vansittart being called to the chair, Mr Weyland, of Hawthorn Hill, brought forward certain resolutions for establishing an Institution for the Towns of Maidenhead, Windsor and the surrounding Parishes, having, for its objects, to encourage the practice of Vaccination, and remove the existing prejudices against it, by enabling the Poor to be gratuitously inoculated, and by enlightening their minds with a knowledge of the numerous benefits of this discovery. On these resolutions Mr Weyland commented with much ability, and an interesting discussion took place, in which the Rev Mr Goddard of Hitcham, Dr Ferrers of Beaconsfield, Mr Hickman of Marlow, Mr Payn, Mr Goolden

and several other gentlemen took a part. The Resolutions were carried unanimously, which together with the announcement of a General meeting, will appear in our paper of the ensuing week."

Windsor and Eton Express 11th June 1815

An infrastructure scheme that never happened...

"The London Gazette of Sept 21st contains a Notice that application is intended to be made in the next session of parliament for leave to bring in a Bill to obtain an Act for making a Navigable Canal from Maidenhead Bridge to Hillingdon through Taplow, Hitcham, Burnham, Farnham Royal, Stoke Poges, Upton-cum-Chalvey, Langley Marish, Iver and Hillingdon"

Windsor and Eton Express 15th September 1816

Although tithes had more or less fallen out of use, the Rector being awarded land instead of his tithe income, the following advertisement suggests it was still a matter of concern. Copyhold was a form of tenure similar to a lease that could be inherited or sold, the freeholder being the Lord of the manor.

"FREEHOLD & COPYHOLD ESTATES at Taplow, Burnham and Hitcham in the county of Bucks presenting desirable objects for the investment of small Capitals.

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION by Mr ROLLS at the Bear Inn at Maidenhead On Tuesday 17th march inst at 11 o'clock at noon. In lots.

Sundry valuable freehold and copyhold estates situate at Taplow, Burnham and Hitcham in the county of Bucks, comprising

A close of rich arable land in the said parish of Taplow (part freehold and part copyhold) **free from Rectorial Tithes**; containing about 12 acres adjoining the Turnpike Road from London to Bath; late in the occupation of Mr Thomas Botham.

A Capital brick-built substantial freehold house with Coach-house, Stables and other Offices and Buildings, large productive garden, Pleasure Ground, and Premises pleasantly situate in the Village of burnham in the county of bucks in the occupation of William Roper Esq Also, a barn, stable and other farm buildings contiguous to the above and about 21 acres of rich freehold arable and meadow or pasture land **free from Rectorial Tithes** situate at Burnham aforesaid in the occupation of Mr Roper."

Windsor and Eton Express 1st March 1818

This seems to be West Town Farm on the market again...

"To be sold by Auction by Mr Daniel Smith at the MART opposite the Bank of England EARLY IN JULY NEXT. In lots. By order of the Executors and Legatees of Mr Edmund Mason, deceased.

A very desirable freehold landed property; comprising several valuable and compact Estates, situated in the Parishes of Burnham, Hitcham and Dorney, in the county of Bucks, with good Farm Houses , and all other necessary buildings; Three substantial Brick and Tiles COTTAGES and about 214 acres of Meadow, Arable and Pasture land (the greater part inclosed) chiefly in hand.

Also, a LEASEHOLD ESTATE (held of the Provost and Fellows of Eton College) consisting of a genteel and spacious DWELLING HOUSE with Garden, Coach-house, Stables, &c and 14 acres of Inclosed Meadow and Arable land together with the Reversionary Interest of 9 Acres of Meadow and Arable land in Cippenham Common Field.

Further particulars will shortly appear, and may be had in due time, of Daniel Smith and Son, Surveyors and Estate Agents, Windsor and Bishopsgate Church-yard, London"

Windsor and Eton Express 6th May 1821

The following notice of intention to swap Poor's land (of which the rector of Hitcham and Lord Grenville were joint trustees) with land owned by Lord Grenville and leased to Mr John Pocock was posted in four separate editions of the Windsor and Eton Express - 23rd February, 19th July, 26th July and 2nd August 1828.

"Notice is hereby given, that application is intended to be made to the Lord Bishop of Lincoln for leave to exchange, under the authority of an Act of Parliament, made and passed in the first and second years of the reign of his present Majesty, intituled, "An Act to authorise the exchange of lands, tenements, or hereditaments, subject to trusts or charitable purposes, for other lands, tenements, or hereditaments" a piece of land containing five acres, exclusive of all roads passing in, through or over the same, situate and being at Hitcham Lower Common, in the parish of Hitcham, in the county of Bucks, now in the occupation of the Right Hon. William Wyndham Lord Grenville, which was allotted by the Commissioners appointed by or under the Act for dividing Hitcham Common, to the Lord of the manor of Hitcham and the Rector and Churchwardens of the parish of Hitcham, and their successors, for the use of the poor of the said parish, for and in lieu of all that piece of freehold land containing five acres, being part of a larger piece of land containing

about ten acres, situate in Hitcham Field, in the said parish of Hitcham, now in the occupation of Mr John Pocock."

The curate at Hitcham produces a book...

"This day is published, in 8vo.9s. boards, the 3d Edition, much enlarged of Love to God Considered, - I in its Component Dispositions as the Perfection of Christian Morals - II As a grand Source of heavenly Joy - III As an internal Proof of the Divine Origin of the Bible. Including Remarks ion the common Errors of Theological Controversy and its Tendency , when improperly conducted, to check the Operations of Christian Benevolence. By the Rev JAMES JOYCE AM Curate of Hitcham, near Maidenhead Printed for J Hatchard and Son 187, Piccaddilly."

St James Chronicle 15th March 1828

In 1831 John Wade published a lengthy book called originally 'The Black Book' and an enlarged edition of 1835 called the 'Extraordinary Black Book'. This railed against abuses by both the clergy and Eton College where clergy were taking multiple jobs and being registered as vicar in widely separate parishes. They were called 'Pluralists'. In particular Joseph Goodall (1760-1840) Rector of Hitcham, Rector of Ilsley and Provost of Eton was mentioned twice in the book. On 5th March 1831 the Oxford University and City Herald published a very lengthy review (too long to reproduce her) of the Black Book including mention of Dr Goodall. The review is on the face of it critical of this scurrilous work, but the phrasing suggests the review's author was quite sympathetic to the ideas expressed, and even as early as 1833 there were discussions on the need to reform the church as mentioned in a later article below. Soon afterwards in 1833 there was a clear proposal to equalise livings so that all vicars would have the same pay. This idea was rubbished in a long article (again too long to reproduce) in the Bekshire Chronicle of 2nd February 1833.

Dr Goodall Provost of Eton resigned as Rector of Hitcham in 1833 in the light of the Black Book revelations.

"The Rev Montagu Grover has been presented to the Vicarage of Hitcham near Taplow, vacant by the resignation of the Rev the Provost of Eton College; and the Rev Thomas Carter, Fellow of Eton College, has been presented to the Vicarage of Burnham, vacant by the Rev G Bethell

[formerly Rector of Eton] being presented to the Rectory of Worplesdon."

Windsor and Eton Express 26th January 1833

Gamekeeper lists were published in the 10th September 1831 edition of the Bucks Gazette and included :

Thomas Buckland appointed by John Popple Esq for Burnham

William Buckland appointed by The Rt Hon Viscount Lord Kirkwall for Huntercombe, Burnham, Taplow and Amerden

Daniel Harvey, appointed by The Rt Hon Lord Grenville for Hitcham

Lord Kirkwall was grand-son of the Countess of Orkney, chatelaine of Cliveden and Taplow Court.

However by 1833 Grenville had extended his manorial territory, because the Bucks Gazette of 7th September 1833 has :

David Harvey, appointed by the Rt Hon Lord Grenville for Hitcham, Allards, Huntercombe, East Burnham and Burnham.

After Grenville's death his widow appointed the gamekeepers, This from the Bucks Gazette for 12th September 1835 :

John Cullum, appointed by the Rt Hon Lady Grenville for Hitcham, Burnham and East Burnham.

These are very brief summaries of lengthy articles on stag hunts in the area...

"The Royal Hunt, met at Salt-hill, where an un-named stag was released. It was noted that unlike other stags that preferred McAdam (ie roads) to fields, this one thankfully set off into a meadow. And so to Hay-mill, Dropmore, Hitcham-bottom where it was recaptured after one hour"

Windsor and Eton Express 9th November 1833

"The Queen's Buckhounds and 400 huntsmen assembled at Salt-hill where the stag 'Rory o'More' was released.at Two Mile Brook then to Burnham, Hitcham Church, Taplow Common, across the Thames to Cookham, Cliveden and captured at Bourne End after 2 hours."

Reading Mercury 9th November 1844

"The Royal Stag Hounds met at Winkfield wher the stag 'Highlander' was released. So to Holyport, Braywick, across the Gt Western railway, Cookham, across the Thames, Taplow Mill, Maidenhead Bridge where it

was taken. It was released again at Taplow Court, then to Hitcham, Two Mile Brook, Salt-hill and to Stoke Park. Total 2 and a half hours."

Berkshire Chronicle 14th March 1846

"The Queens Stag hounds met on Monday at Farnham Common, the deer being sent to Littleworth Common. The run ended at East Burnham. The huntsmen then left for Cliefden where they found the stag 'Spitfire' which was chased to Cookham and then left, it being now dark. On Friday the meet was at New Lodge, the doe (in this case) went to Boveney, Dorney Common, across the Gt Western railway to Britwell and Burnham where she was taken in an hour and a half."

Windsor and Eton Express 24th November 1849

There was a series of articles on Buckinghamshire churches. Note that this description mentions an inscription reading 'Dominationes' whereas a later illustration kept in the church has instead the inscription 'Principatus'...

"In Hitcham Church there are considerable remains of stained glass, chiefly in the windows of the Chancel, in each of which is the figure of an angel, standing on a wheel; the upper compartments of the east window of the chancel, which is large and elegant, are nearly entire; from the style of the windows, with which the glass appears to be co-eval, and the form of the letters in several inscriptions, ('Virtutes', 'Dominationes', in Lombardic capitals) it seems probable that it was executed about the middle of the fourteenth century."

Bucks Herald 16th May 1840

These ladies were probably collecting firewood from former common land, though it was summer, so maybe not. (One shilling then is equivalent to about £10 today)...

"BURNHAM At these petty sessions on Monday last Rose Neighbour and Mary Ann Saunders of the parish of Hitcham were taken before the Rev T Carter, and RR Clayton Esq charged by James Hawes with damaging trees the property of Lady Grenville. Damages were laid at 1 shilling and both the defendants had to pay 5 shillings and costs or in default were to be sent to Aylesbury gaol for one month."

Windsor and Eton Express 24th June 1848

"BURNHAM On Monday last at the petty sessions held here, before the Rev T Carter, the Hon G Ives Irby, RR Clayton, W Bird and -Saunders Esqs, James Beck and James Founds labourers of Hitcham were charged

with stealing turnips the property of Mr Richard Webster, farmer on the 4th inst. Founds was fined 1s and 12s 31/2d costs and Beck 1s with 14s 31/2d cost They were allowed 14 days to pay or be committed for one month each."

Windsor and Eton Express 24th November 1849

A fire at Cliveden ...

"Cliefden House - We learn that this mansion *was* insured in the Royal Exchange Office. Mr Barry the architect was at Cliefden on Wednesday, and from examination he ascertained that the late fire was caused by the ignition of a piece of timber built near a flue on the dining room floor . and must have been there for years previous to the fire as that part of the building has undergone no repair since the Duke of Sutherland purchased it."

Windsor and Eton Express 24th November 1849

END

Collated by Alan Woodley 18th October 2024