

Off the Record

Centre for Buckinghamshire Studies Quarterly Review

Issue 40, June 2019

What's Inside?

- **Changing the way you order documents**
- **Events**
- **News from Local Studies**
- **A highlight from social media**
- **New Accessions to the Archive**
- **Deeds Revealed: News from the Hidden Bucks Project**
- **News from Conservation**
- **Volunteer Report: The Fremantle Family and the 1926 General Strike**
- **Milton Keynes in Fifty Records**
- **Using Deeds Part Two**
- **Volunteering at CBS**

News

Changing the way you order archive documents at CBS

From July 2 - 11 we are trialling a change in the way people order archive documents when they visit us in person. More details on Page 2.

Wills Collection Digitisation

Henry Germain from FamilySearch is making good progress with the photographing of the Wills collection. He has already completed images of the Marriage Licences. The Volunteer Room, where the digitisation is happening, remains inaccessible for the foreseeable future.



Vandalism

Between 13th and 15th of May, two acts of vandalism were made against the Centre for Buckinghamshire Studies, breaking the glass front door and attempting to break several windows. Fortunately, the intruders could get no further than the lobby and nothing was taken.

She Got The Vote

Our project to commemorate the centenary of female suffrage has come to an end. She Got The Vote researched the lives of some Bucks women who appeared on the 1918 Register of Electors. To see some of the stories uncovered by volunteers and staff visit the project blog here: <https://shegotthevote.wordpress.com/>

Vote Now! Milton Keynes in 50 Historic Records

Milton Keynes turned 50 in 2017; since then we have been putting together a blog charting key historic archives from the MK area. We are nearly at the end...and we want you to choose the last two documents featured. To see the short-list and to vote on your favourite head to the blog <https://mkin50records.wordpress.com>

Changing the Way you Order Documents

For at least the first two weeks of July (Tuesday 2 July to Thursday 11 July inclusive) the Centre for Buckinghamshire Studies will be trialling a new system for producing records from the strongrooms. The new system is intended to minimise customers' waiting time when they first arrive and allow us to cope better with demand throughout the day.

During the trial, you will need to:

- **Book a seat at least 24 hours in advance, via archives@buckscc.gov.uk or 01296 382587**
- **Give us the reference numbers of up to ten records you would like to see.**
- **Let us know your intended arrival time.**

Reference numbers are available from our catalogues online and in the searchroom. Please ask staff or contact us as above if you would like help identifying references.

You can order more items in emergency production slots at 10:30am, 1:00pm and 3:00pm (Tuesday to Thursday) and 10:30am and 2:00pm (Saturday). Up to four items can be requested per customer in each slot.

We will be seeking your opinions on how the new system works so please give us your feedback. Forms will be available in the search room for you to complete.

Access to the collections in Local Studies remains unaffected. This includes local newspapers and parish registers on microfilm.

We may extend the trial to the rest of July if required. We will contact customers booked during this time if necessary.

Newsletter Mailing List

Off the Record is released quarterly. If you are reading this in paper format, but would like each new edition delivered to your inbox, email us at archives@buckscc.gov.uk, and we can add you to our newsletter mailing list.

Alternatively, If you would like to receive one year's worth of printed copies of 'Off the Record', please send four A4 stamped addressed envelopes or £2.50 to the Centre with your name and address (cheques made payable to Buckinghamshire County Council)

Events

Our Events

At the Centre for Buckinghamshire Studies, unless stated otherwise stated

Sat 14 September Heritage Open Day

9.30-3.30 FREE

At the Centre for Buckinghamshire Studies we will have a Family History Help Desk and access to family history websites; pop-up cafe and our Matters of Life and Death exhibition. In Aylesbury Market Square we will have a drop-in point for historical questions, activities and information about local and family history

Thu 26 September Talking Archives Workshop: Hands-on with Death

11.00-noon FREE

Get hands-on with a range of historic documents from our collection relating to death

Sat 16 November Buckinghamshire History Fair

9.30—3.30 FREE
Our annual bonanza of local history talks and exhibitions...keep your eyes on our social media to see who will be getting involved this year

Thu 31 November Talking Archives: Gruesome Murders

11.00-noon FREE

Judi McGinley and Paul Evans tell the stories of some of the county's more notorious deaths

Thu 28 November Talking Archives: Sir Thomas Francis Fremantle, a Life of Service to Buckinghamshire 1862-1956

11.00-noon FREE

Volunteer Ann Marshall reflects on the 3rd Lord Cottesloe's legacy, as told by the papers in the Fremantle Collection

Booking is essential for all Talking Archives events, via archives@buckscc.gov.uk

We will also be attending

Fri 21 June Quarrendon Great Get Together

12.00-15.00

Quarrendon Adult Learning Centre

We will have a stall with some local history gems

Thu 4 July Milton Keynes Central Library Lunchtime Talk: Hidden Bucks Project

13.15-13.45

CBS Archivist Martin Deacon will be giving a short talk about the Hidden Bucks Project.

See MKCL website for more information

Sat 27 July Buckinghamshire Family History Society Open Day

10.00-16.00

The Grange School, Aylesbury

We will have our stand at this event, come and have a chat

Sun 28 July Buckinghamshire Day Celebrations

Judges Lodgings, Aylesbury
We will be presenting an exhibition of original archive documents: Treasures of Buckinghamshire—Not to be missed!

Thu 29 August Bucks County Show

8.00-18.00

Come and find us in the County Council Tent

Sat 21 September Heritage Open Day: Milton Keynes Central Library

14.00-14.45

Join CBS Archivist Katherine Gwyn, for forty-five minutes of exploring the techniques and skills needed to start and grow your family tree. Suitable for novice and experienced genealogists.

Sat 5 October BAS Local History Network Conference

9.30-16.30

The Oculus, Aylesbury

We will be bringing a small display based around the theme of the Conference: Housing, see the Bucks Archaeological Society's website for more details

Thu 10 October Milton Keynes Central Library Lunchtime Talk: House History

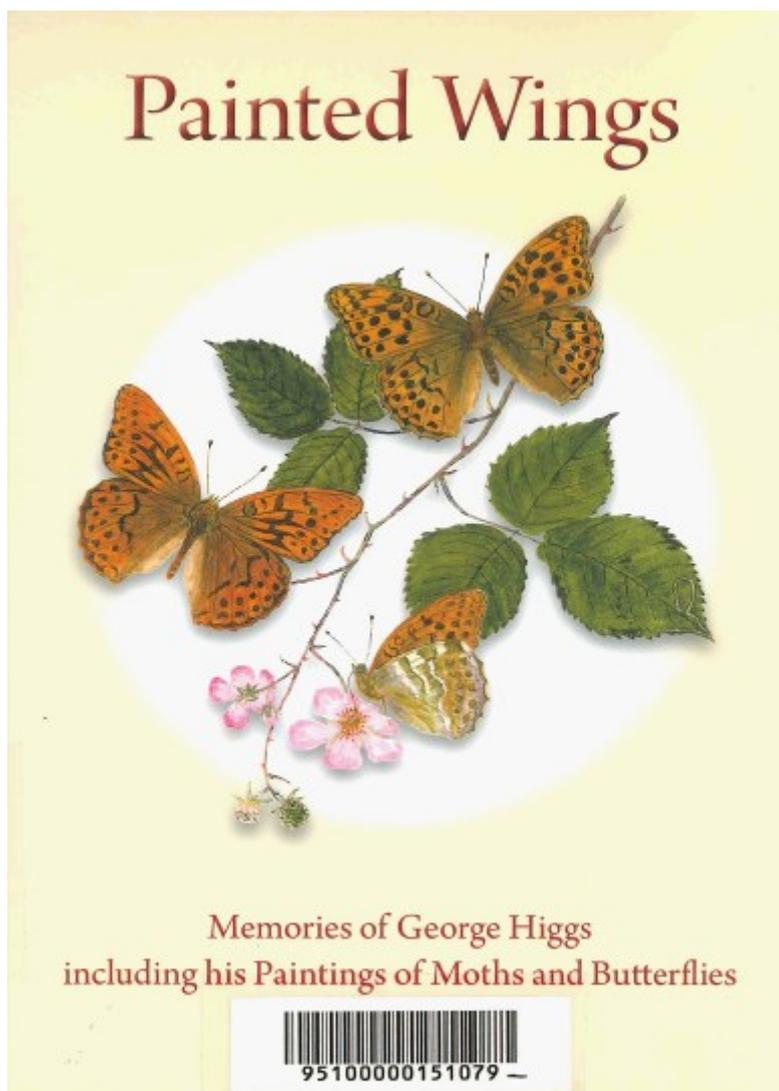
13.15-13.45

CBS Archivist Chris Low will be giving a short talk on House History, see MKCL website for more details



Our ref: PR 66/1/5 Death is the theme of several of our events this autumn

News from Local Studies



We have recently purchased a book published in 2017 entitled "*Painted Wings: memories of George Higgs including his paintings of Moths and Butterflies*". This was fitting as Mr Higgs (1922-2012), a local naturalist specialising in Lepidoptera, was born in Loughton and spent his life in the Loughton/Willen area. Between 1968 and 2011 he collected 1889 specimens of moths and butterflies solely from the parish of Willen. This unique collection from a single parish now resides in the Buckinghamshire County Museum's Natural History collections: <https://www.buckscountymuseum.org/museum/about-the-museum/collections/natural-history/>

A memorial by his wife Frances, her book contains tributes to his life, followed by his beautifully delicate and detailed watercolours of moths and butterflies, often on their favoured flora.

It can be found in our Local Studies Library at reference L060.38:59 [Willen : Natural History].

A highlight from social media

Elections to the European Union were held in May. We took the opportunity to reflect on political campaigns of the past, and showed off this photograph from our collections on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram.

It depicts a campaign wagon, in Langley Marsh, promoting candidate Charles Cripps, for the 1908 General Election.



Find us on

Twitter/Instagram/Facebook: **@cenbucksstudies**

New Accessions

In May we received a collection of records which had been held by solicitors Francis and How of Amersham that had been retrieved when that office was closed. The firm had acted as clerks to the Amersham magistrates, and the deposit included some registers for Amersham Petty Sessions, 1903-1942 (AR 42/2019). These fill the gaps in our sequence of Petty Sessions registers, meaning we now hold a complete run from 1903 to 1974.

As usual, there were records from several parish churches: Registers of marriages, 1912-1991, and burials, 1813-1992, with other records including marriage licences, 1760-1916, settlement certificates, 1719, 1747, and an apprenticeship indenture, 1737, were received from Newton Blossomville (AR



AR 21/2019: Just some of the documents from the Liberty family

33/2019); Bletchley parish church deposited a collection of records from the seventeenth to twentieth centuries, including settlement certificates, removal orders and apprenticeship indentures (AR 26/2019); there were service registers, 1987-1997, and terriers and inventories, 1983-1999, from Holy Trinity in Hazlemere (AR 31/2019); from Lathbury parish church there was a collection including receipts and payments, 1960-2015, plans of church restoration, 1866-1878, and reconstructions of wall paintings in the church (AR 48/2019).

With the assistance of the Buckinghamshire Family History Society the Centre received a collection of account books from the Harris family of Great Horwood. These included accounts and rentals for their personal business, mixed with parish accounts. The family held offices including churchwarden, overseer of the poor and parish constables in the eighteenth and nineteenth century, the accounts of which they kept in their own account books rather than separate ones. These volumes were then taken to America when a member of the family emigrated, but have now been returned and will help to fill gaps in the sequence of Great Horwood parish records which are already held here (AR 44/2019).

There were items from other denominations, including a set of preaching plans and directories for Aylesbury Methodist circuit, 1944-1946, 1954-1974, with a bound volume of the Wesleyan Methodist magazine, 1909-1911 (AR 54/2019). The Registrars passed over a register of marriages for the Church of the Holy Family based at RAF Halton, although this only contained one entry in 2012 (AR 28/2019).

New Accessions continued March to May 2019

Coleshill Parish Council deposited some additional minute books, 2000-2013, with village newsletters, 2015-2019, and a programme for the village show in 2004 (AR 27/2019). Lathbury Parish Meeting deposited their second minute book, 1924-1988 (AR 49/2019), unfortunately the first volume is not held.

As usual there were many collections of records relating to property. There were five large tin trunks filled with the deeds of the Liberty family, relating to their property in Aylesbury, Chesham, Chartridge, The Lee, Great Missenden and elsewhere, from the seventeenth to the 20th centuries (AR 21/2019). There was a large and interesting collection of papers of the interrelated families of Courage, Last, Murray, Nash and Sturges of Stony Stratford, Stewkley and elsewhere. This included diaries and commonplace books, and many photographs, some miniatures and silhouettes, with correspondence and items relating to service in the WRENS (AR 22/2019).

Sands School deposited Log Books from the First School, 1903-1996, admission registers, 1903-1947, a punishment book, 1908-1973, and minutes of the Parent Teacher Association, 1949-1976. There were also log books, 1980-1998, and an admission register, 1967-1995, from Green Street County Primary (AR 25/2019, please note that some of these items are closed due to Data Protection).

The Buckinghamshire Military Museum Trust deposited a note book compiled by Major Elliott Viney (1st Bucks Battalion), compiled while he was a Prisoner of War, giving the history of the Battalion from 1938 to 1939, with some other notes. There was also a roll book of sections of A Company, 1st Bucks Battalion, in 1938, compiled by Captain James Ritchie, who was later killed in action in May 1940 (AR 23/2019).



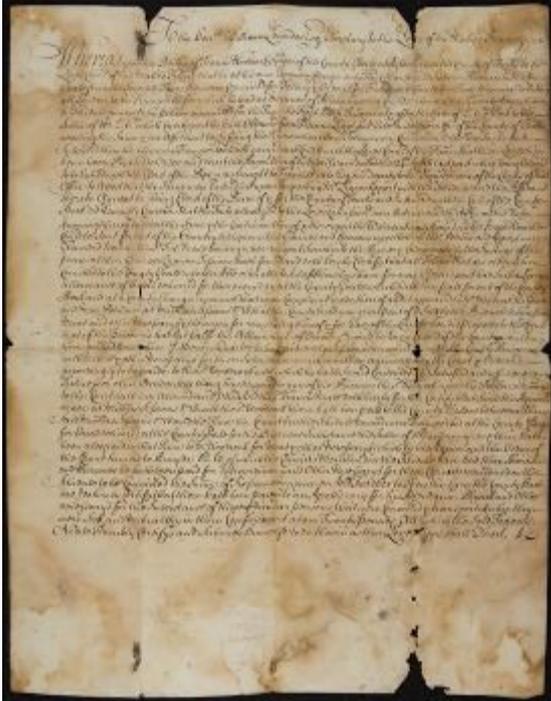
AR 46/2019, from pamphlet of photographs of the Chalfont Colony for people with Epilepsy, 1920s

Other items included a booklet of photographs of the Chalfont Colony for Epileptics in the 1920s, showing buildings and residents (AR 46/2019). There was a copy of a map by John Stoke, 1774 (AR 20/2019), a large map by John Andrews, 1774 (AR 52/2019), both of which showed sections of Bucks with some portions of other counties. There were also seven plans of alterations to Railway Cottages in Wolverton, 20th century, including details of the drainage (AR 55/2019).

Hidden Buckinghamshire Project: Deeds Revealed!

Project Archivist Martin Deacon tells us a little about one of the documents he has found over the past few weeks.

The Hidden Buckinghamshire Project began in April 2018 and will run for two years. The aim is to catalogue over 11,000 items collected by Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society (BAS). Many of



these items are deeds to property, but not all. Before the prison buildings on Berton Road were erected in the 1840s Aylesbury Gaol lay in a complex of buildings behind County Hall. The gaol buildings are long gone but County Hall remains, looking out on the Market Square, the gaol buildings probably extended about as far back as today's Waterside Theatre.

In the 18th century the gaol was run by a gaol keeper hired by the Commission of the Peace and about 1720 this was a man named Francis Woodcock. The keeper seems to have been somewhat dishonest himself as reported by William Lowndes, Secretary to the Treasury in London [Our ref: D-BAS/30/76]. Lowndes was a Buckinghamshire man, himself, hailing from Winslow, where he built his residence, Winslow Hall between 1700 and 1704.

Our ref: D-BAS/30/76, report by Lowndes on Gaoler Francis Woodcock, 1720

In his report Lowndes tell us that Woodcock had petitioned for the sum of £101.2.6 - a large sum in those days approximating to tens of thousands today. Woodcock claims that he had maintained sixteen prisoners in the gaol at his own expense. Lowndes asked a man named Francis Neale to examine the account and, on investigation he "did Humbly Conceive that the facts alledged to the Lords Commissioners were Untrue and that it was his duty knowing thereof to detect the same & the Contrivers thereof" and the warrant for payment by the commissioners to Woodcock was stayed until proper vouchers could be sent for.

A diligent search was undertaken into the receipts and orders made by the justices of the peace at Quarter Sessions and it was found that all felons committed to the gaol, whether able or unable to subsist themselves had "for many years past" had such a large allowance of bread (which had been paid by county stock) that it had been sold by the prisoners to buy "meat and other necessarys" so that at Michaelmas sessions 1718 Woodcock had proposed that if the prisoners had half the allowance of bread and if the county gave him an allowance of £7.10.0 every quarter he would provide the prisoners with meat and other necessities, which was agreed by the court.

Deeds Revealed continued

Francis Neale certified that since the agreement £163 had been paid to the county bakers and £82.10.0 had been paid to Woodcock "of which the Convicts Mentioned in the Schedule have had there [sic] Shares and Moreover he hath been paid for Extraordinary and Other Necessarys for those Convicts mentioned in the Schedule to be Convicted the Summe of Six pounds & upwards". Neale also certified that there hath been paid "to an Apothecary for his Attendance Physick and Other nessarys for the Subsistance of those Particular persons that were Convicted & transported when they were Sick and Unhealthy in there Confinement above Twenty Pounds".

In other words, Woodcock was pulling a fast one. It is unclear whether Francis Ligo did not know of the arrangements, was careless in investigating the claim, or was, perhaps expecting a cut of Woodcock's bounty. Clearly Woodcock expected payment "on the nod", which he would have had if Lowndes had not interfered. Did he know Woodcock of old or was he merely being careful with Government money?

News from Conservation

In March this year the Centre took in five metal trunks full of the family papers of the Stewart-Liberty family. As well as being connected to the world-famous department store, Liberty of London, generations of the Liberty family have lived in Buckinghamshire.

We have a lot more work to do to uncover the contents of this collection. As soon as they arrived the trunks were handed over to our conservator, Sam Joiner, who picks up the story:



The collection had come into the office in tin trunks, but these are not ideal for long-term preservation of the documents. The papers were taken out of the trunks and placed temporarily in transfer boxes. We have a team of Art Society Heritage members, who have the correct skills required to treat the records. The team are mechanically cleaning each document or deed with a smoke sponge and a soft brush. They then remove the legal pink tape, as it is not colourfast and can bleed when wet or damp. The bundles are re-tied with unbleached cotton tying tape, and then put them into archive quality boxes. The volunteers complete tasks that our Conservator and conservation assistants do not have time to do. The work they do is invaluable and the collection is now accessible to our service users.

This collection has been given the accession number AR 21/2019.

Milton Keynes in 50 Records: #48 Sheets of contact prints of cycling event 'Race to the Point' in Milton Keynes, 1987

As I write this, in May 2019, the Point in Central Milton Keynes sits empty, waiting to be demolished. The distinctive red pyramid, or ziggurat, was opened to great fanfare in 1985. Situated close to the Shopping Centre, it was designed to be an entertainment hub for the new town and featured the UK's first multiplex cinema as well as places to eat.



Our ref: D-MKDC/4/23/24

The Point is relevant because it features heavily in document #48: a set of contact prints of cycling event 'Race to the Point', taken for Milton Keynes Development Corporation, dating to April 1987.

The details of historical sporting events are sometimes hard to pin down and 'Race to the Point' is no exception. Let's start with the things that we know about it.

The event started and finished outside of the Point on Sunday 26 April 1987. It was a one-hundred mile professional road race, featuring top British cyclists of the day including World

Champion Tony Doyle and Milk Race winner Joey McGloughlin. The majority of the route took place outside of Milton Keynes, on an eight-mile loop between North Buckinghamshire villages Wing, Stewkley and Cublington. The race was organised by former professional cyclist, Phil Corley, who owned bike shop Corley Cycles in Milton Keynes. He organised the event on behalf of the Point and the Milton Keynes Cycling Association. The race was won by an unknown: Russell Williams, who went on to have a successful professional career both on the road and velodrome.

Now, what don't we know? We would like to know why the event was started? Many of the photographs have the Point looming in the background, but was it purely seen by the Point as a promotional opportunity? From its inception the town of Milton Keynes was designed with cyclists in mind: by 1980 its network of shared use cycle and pedestrian paths, 'Redways' extended to twenty miles. Was there an appetite amongst its new residents to see professional cycle races? Finally, why does this event no longer happen, and was it a one-off?

Sources: Insider Magazine 9 April 1987 (Staff Magazine of MKDC); Catherine McIntyre, City Discovery Centre.

Using Deeds Part Two

Everyone loves a deed! Often made out of parchment, researchers wrestle with these documents physically and intellectually. Help is at hand—over the next few editions Collections Archivist Sally Mason will explain the origins and common types of deed. For this instalment Sally focuses on the early evolution of key types of deed.

The development of the different forms of title deeds took time. The Norman monarchs at first used the **Writ**, a short document adapted from the Anglo-Saxon, giving a greeting, an order, followed by place and witnesses. This was replaced by the **Charter**, a longer document with a seal, the form used for grants of land and also agreements, such as Magna Carta (the Great Charter). In the thirteenth century this was replaced by **Letters Patent**, which had the great seal attached, and **Letters Close**, a smaller document usually used for specific orders.

Private deeds developed their own forms, partly due to the influence of lawyers who naturally like things to be ordered. It did take time, but by the end of the thirteenth century there were set forms, and once established these forms continue to be used for hundreds of years. This is why language and forms which originated at the time of the feudal system were still being used long after this system had ceased to have any relevance.

Gift or Feoffment

This is the most ancient form of private title deed. At first it is the 'livery of seisin' which transfers the land, the deed will be written in the past tense. As a deed became necessary there may be a record on the back that 'livery of seisin' had taken place. The deed will often have 'dedi' or 'dedi et concessi' (I give or I give and concede) and sometimes 'confirmavi' (confirm) if it is a confirmation of something which has already been done. The gift gives the name of the donor, however it must be noted that this is not a free gift there will be a payment of some kind. From the fifteenth century it includes boundaries of the land being granted. If it is a permanent grant there will be the words "in perpetuum".



Our ref: D/LE/2/5 Writ ordering assistance to be given to Alexander Hampten esquire as escheator of counties of Bedfordshire and Buckinghamshire, 1578

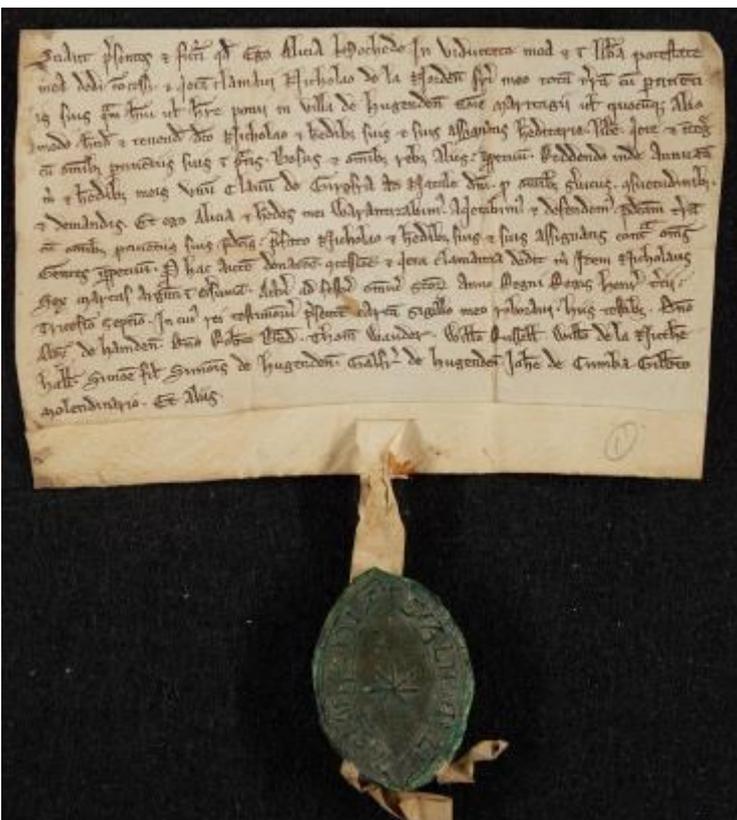
Quitclaim or Release

This is a renunciation of any interest or claim in a property, either currently or in the future. It is often used to ensure that the wife of a vendor cannot claim dower from land after his death. A married woman could not own property, everything passed to her husband when they married. However he was supposed to make proper provision for her support if she outlived him. By the thirteenth century she has right to a third of his property to provide her with dower. This right could not be barred unless she consented, so without a quitclaim she might be able to demand payment from the new owner of the land. In the same way the heir of the seller often joins in a quitclaim, to ensure he cannot try to reclaim the land after his father's death. It will usually include 'concede, release and quitclaim'

It should be noted that the right of dower persisted until the Married Women's Property Acts in 1870 and 1882, which allowed a woman to hold property herself. Until this date nineteenth century deeds usually have a declaration by a married woman, emphasising that she has been questioned away from her husband to ensure that she understands the deed and what it means and gives her free consent, so she cannot later try to claim payment in lieu of dower from the new owner.

Lease for lives or lease for years

These are identical in appearance. However a 'lease for years' will give a period after which the land reverts to the landlord, there is usually a rent payable each year. A 'lease for lives' is usually for three lives (eg father, son and grandson). It would be possible to add new tenants as the years passed, in this way the landlord retained the property, but the family had security of tenure. There would often be a nominal rent during the period of the lease, but a more substantial payment each time it was renewed.



These were the commonest forms of deeds until the sixteenth century. There could also be:

Surrender

The remainder of a lease is surrendered back to the landlord. **Assignment**

This was more usual from the sixteenth century, the remainder of the lease was given over to a third party, with the agreement of the owner.

Exchange and/or partition

This could be an agreement to exchange two similar pieces of land between two parties, equally it could be an agreement to divide a piece of land (for example if there were two daughters).

The Fremantle Family and the 1926 General Strike

Volunteer Ann Marshall has been listing the Fremantle papers, here she reflects on the light they shed on the General Strike

In 1926 the Trades Union Congress, in support of striking miners protesting against a demand by the colliery owners that they work longer hours on reduced wages, called out transport workers, those involved in heavy industries, those in the printing industry and gas and electricity workers. Was the Government prepared for this and how did the rest of the population respond?

The papers in the Fremantle collection (our ref: D-FR) provide some answers. Thomas Francis Fremantle, the third Lord Cottesloe, in his role as Lord Lieutenant of Buckinghamshire, was sent documents in 1925 by the Home Office, marked 'secret'. They give details of the contingency plans drawn-up by the Government. The documents describe how the country was to be divided into eleven districts each under a commissioner whose job it would be to liaise with officials in his district in order to keep the people in it fed, warm and able to go about their business. Volunteers were to be called for to accomplish this.

When the General Strike was called in May of 1926 two of Lord Cottesloe's children, Christopher and Margaret both at Oxford University, answered the call for volunteers. In the papers are a number of letters to their parents. Christopher was based at Hyde Park where a centre was set up to distribute food and drink to sites around the capital to feed volunteers who were driving buses, trams, trains and lorries. He describes the problems of loading vast numbers of sausage rolls, buns and getting them to the correct place, but he also relates rumours of a lorry pushed into a canal by strikers and of abuse suffered by many of the volunteer drivers. Margaret went to the Bethnal Green Settlement where tea was made available in the afternoons for the young women in the area who had either been laid off or were on short time because their factories could not get the necessary raw materials. As the General Strike was over in a week, Christopher and Margaret soon returned to university.

There is no information in the Fremantle collection to show how Buckinghamshire was affected by the Strike but there are other documents at CBS that throw light on this. The Bucks Herald covered the Strike in detail. Appeals came from the Government, which was asking for volunteers to maintain essential services during the strike, and it carried reports on the problems transport; the strike at Aylesbury printers Hazell, Watson and Viney; and farmers who brought milk into Buckingham to be taken to the Hyde Park distribution centre. They also covered the strike at the Wolverton railway works where police were positioned to protect the men who continued to work.



Photograph of Margaret Fremantle from the Fremantle papers D-FR

The Fremantle Family and the 1926 General Strike, continued...

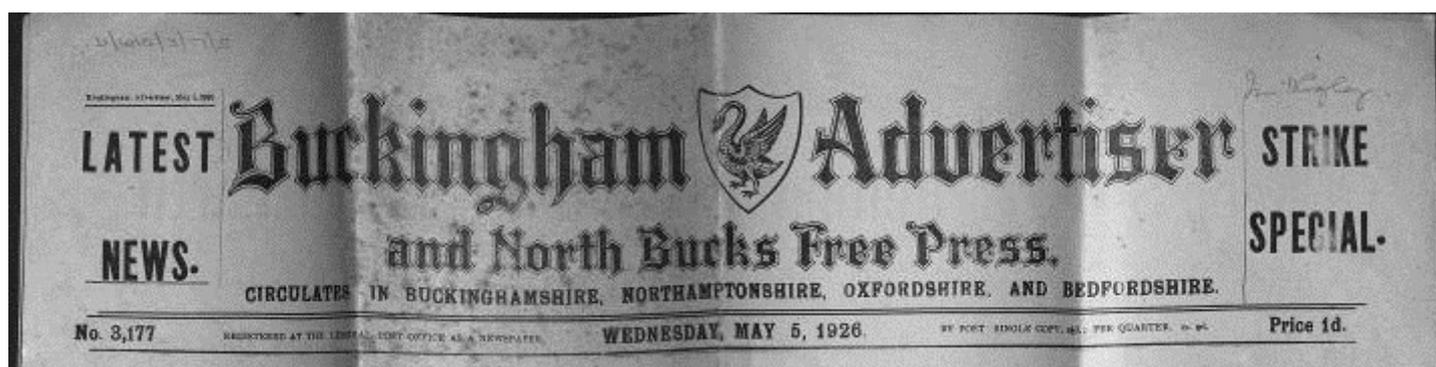
The editorials and letters in the paper indicate that many in Buckinghamshire had little sympathy with the strike, and were relieved when it was over within a week. It is also clear that the Government's emergency plan had worked in Buckinghamshire where there were no shortages and people were kept well informed.

The problems at Hazell, Watson and Viney continued after the General Strike had been called off as the company refused to have the men back until they acknowledged that the strike had been illegal. This they did after a few weeks of discussion, the events being fully reported in the Bucks Herald.

In the court cases brought against those arrested for intimidation at Wolverton the magistrates took a fairly lenient line and although the defendants were found guilty they were let off with a small fine and a caution.

The miners, who stayed on strike longer than anyone else, had to accept the owners' conditions in September of 1926. The local papers had reports on their grievances and the hardships they suffered. The Fremantle papers provide first-hand accounts of the conditions the miners and their families suffered. In the summer vacation Margaret Fremantle was asked to help with a missionary group working in South Staffordshire, which was helping miners' wives and children by providing food and places to meet and socialise. Her letters home describe the poor state the miners lived in and she became sympathetic to their plight believing they were underpaid.

Other letters in the collection describe how church groups were raising money to help the wives and children of miners in the South Wales coalfields. Lady Cottesloe was in touch with such groups in the Rhondda Valley. She received letters from an ex- soldier, Sam Rees, who had convalesced at the Cottesloe House at Wistow during the First World War and was now a teacher in the Rhondda, and also from friends raising money to support miners' families in the area. The conditions were similar to those described by Margaret, the wives being particularly badly affected. School children received two meals a day paid for by the education authority and their fathers got a meal a day from strike funds but women do not seem to have been catered for.



Our ref :D/WIG/3/17/5

From these documents we can see that the Government was well prepared for an emergency such as a general strike, and that their plans worked, at least in Buckinghamshire. The newspapers indicate how people felt about the strike and their willingness to help to mitigate its affects. We do not know what the members of the Fremantle family thought of the strike or its ending but the letters they wrote and received during this time give a snap shot of what life was like for the striking miners and their families.

Letters in CBS relating to the General Strike:

D/FR/1961 /1 and **D/FR/D/281**: Letters from Margaret Fremantle to her mother and father from Cannock, Staffs; letters from Sam Rees, Miss Roberts and the Rev. R. Barker to Lady Cottesloe from S. Wales regarding the plight of Welsh miners; letters from Christopher Fremantle to his mother concerning the food distribution centre in Hyde Park.

D/FR/159/3/7/1-2; 159/3/8/1-4: Papers relating to the work of the Lord Lieutenant in preparing for any problems that might emerge in the event of a general strike.

Bucks Herald: May to September 1926; Special Strike Edition of The **Buckinghamshire Advertiser** and the **N. Bucks. Free Press**, May 5th. 1926

Volunteering at CBS

Volunteering is a great way to learn new skills, meet people and to make a difference in the community. The Centre for Buckinghamshire Studies is looking for volunteers to help with projects we are currently running, and would be glad to hear from you if you have a few hours spare each week.

Photograph digitisation and cataloguing

In the 1990s, the photographic collections of the County Museum and the Local Studies Library were digitised. The resultant 20,000 images are available on our website. Technological improvements, copyright issues and changes in the Council website since that time have left the collection in need of review. We are looking for people to help us as we create better quality images of the photographs, improve the descriptions of them and expand the selection of images available online.

If you'd like to work on either project, or others that we are running, give us a call on 01296 382587 or email archives@buckscc.gov.uk.

Centre for Buckinghamshire Studies
County Hall, Walton Street, Aylesbury, Bucks, HP20 1UU
Tel: 01296 382587 (Archives)
Email: archives@buckscc.gov.uk
Website <http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/archives>
Twitter: [@CenBucksStudies](https://twitter.com/CenBucksStudies)

© Copyright Centre for Buckinghamshire Studies 2019