

Doynton Local History Group
Booklet Number 4 , in two parts

Compiled by : Richard Kent, November 1991

Earlier Publications: A5 Series Doynton and its....

1. Post Office Out of Print
2. Sinners
3. Saints

Future Publications: 5. Work
6. Play plus Sources and Index

A4 Series

Families and Farms

DOYNTON

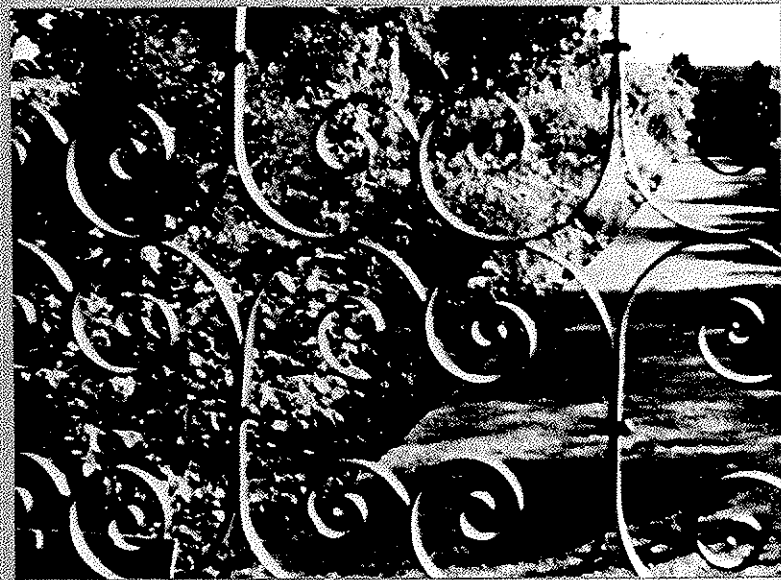
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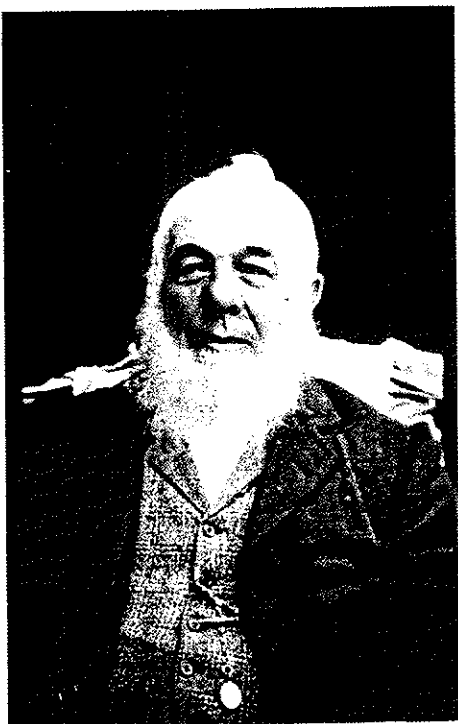
PEOPLE

IN- BETWEEN

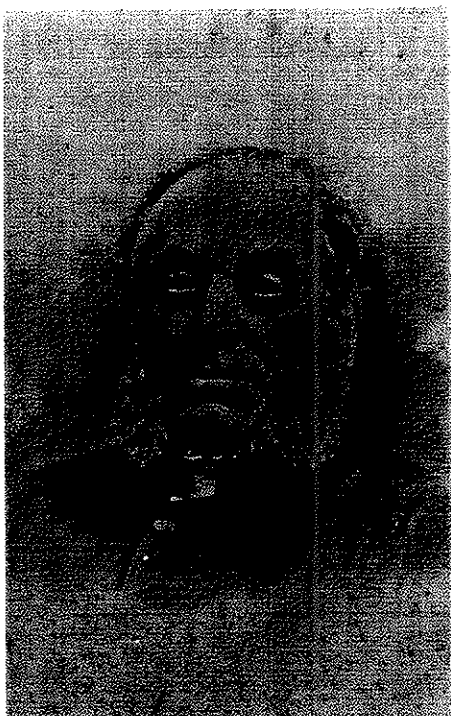
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A. G. How, Rector 1872-85, see p. 60.
Photo. courtesy Vera Amos.



A copy of the photo. in the vestry framed in the same style as the pre-1893 photo. of the chancel arch. Thought to be R. L. Crowley - Bovey, Rector 1891-99.

Previous page, top.

'Rescue' measurements at Cross Cottage, May 25, 1985. Dumper truck in the background between the camera and the road at the Cross. Top right corner is 20th. cent. path and boundary wall. Left: middleground is Gordon Copping excavating coal shute to the cellar running under the grass into Crossways. A letter d/d July 30, 1853 stated that Mr. Clutterbuck, Rector, had applied for the Parish School Room (formerly the Chapel) and had expressed a wish to purchase the whole property. The foundation of that Old Chapel runs alongside the surveyor's pole (marked in ft.).

Previous page, bottom.

The Old Rectory walled garden in 1965; looking through the iron-work gate and along the central path with herbaceous borders on both sides.

Photo. p. 63 of Doynton Church Choir c. 1926. Left to right:-

Back row : Percy Perryman, William Jones, Gus Holloway, Cyril Lear, Arthur Jones, Ted Holloway, Edgar Bence, Glyn Jones, Reginald Lear.

Middle row : Ronald Bliss, Arthur Jenkins.

Front row : J. Bence, K. Jones, W. Anstey, Henry Webb, The Rev. C. F. Goddard, R. Hendy, Thomas Fuge.



A 14th. century reeve

As the reeve was the intermediary between the lord and his serfs or tenants so was the church reeve or churchwarden the buffer between the spiritual director of the parish and his flock. With the advance of the Elizabethan period the medieval court leets lost their power. Much of the decision and judgement, that they had made formerly, passed into the hands of the justices of the peace and much of the administration into the hands of the churchwardens, who gradually found themselves coping with matters both spiritual and temporal.

At the major period of their administration they were responsible for the church fabric, for the maintenance of glebe & parsonage, for most charities, for roads and bridges, for vermin and for paupers and vagabonds. At best, they may have been able to do no more than sign their names, but they had to keep accounts to cover the expenditure over at least a 12 month period, balance those accounts and have them approved by the village Vestry Meeting. In reality this paper-work often became a task for the village schoolmaster, for which he might receive 1/- or, later even, 2/6. This was in return, not for burning the midnight oil, but for labouring over tiny scribbles upon scraps of parchment or paper rejects by the light of a guttering candle.

Even in the late 20th. century housemasters in boarding schools try to limit the issue of pocket money to fixed times. But necessity and special pleading often means that an undeniable request comes just as a chemical experiment is liable to explode. Money passes and is forgotten. Or perhaps a scribble is made on the back of a cricket score or of an envelope - a fair copy is made of the first and the second is posted in the letter-box. This happens often enough that by the end of the week there is a sense of loss. Such schoolmasters have fellow feeling for the churchwardens of the past who, in their work clothes, were approached by the representative of a family being forcibly moved from Exeter to Tetbury, by requests for remuneration for catching 24 sparrows, 2 adders and one fox, for the expenses in delivering bells or briefs, for attending Visitations, for the cost of lime to whitewash the church or for stone to fill a hole in the causeway.

The job of churchwarden carried with it a fair deal of hassle and trouble and also the danger of losing money. Even with the best kept records there was the likelihood of having money tied up for long periods. It is not surprising that being a warden was not undertaken from a sense of duty but from a rota of duty.

Appendix 3 gives the names of all churchwardens that could be extracted from Registers, Bishops' Transcripts, Terriers or PCC minutes. Sometimes the records show that he is serving the office for a particular holding in the village. Sometimes his holding can be deduced from the 23 sets of deeds that have been examined so far. If there is doubt then that doubt is indicated. A blank still leaves the hope that further research may allow it to be filled in. It is regrettable that the returns of the Bishops' Transcripts in the 18th. century were so lacking in detail during the long years when the cure was served by curates.

It is clear, very quickly, that the rota was not based upon an individual or on a family but on a land holding; the tenant might change but the holding maintained its position on the rota - if we consider the year 1756, when Robert Palmer was churchwarden for John Davis' Estate, we find that the Church Rate Book has him paying for the late Widow Taylor's. The reality was that John Davis, living in Bristol, was the eldest son of the late Widow Ann Taylor alias Davis and that Robert Palmer was the husband of her granddaughter living in the village. This same Robert Palmer, 12 years later, was churchwarden for Mr. Richard Davis' Estate and he had been the husband of the Ann Taylor alias Davis already mentioned. Robert Palmer died in 1777 and his son Thomas lived and worked as a Surgeon-Apothecary in Keynsham until his death in 1793. The property had been bought by William Nichols and from 1793-5 he was churchwarden for 'his own property'. The same property is being referred to in all these different guises.

The rota was not so rigid that the cycle could not be varied: illness, widowhood, youthful inheritance, or a change of rector could affect the sequence. But, in general, if a property had time out, then it made up for it by remaining on duty for more than one year, i. e. Francis Evans, 1758-60, for Doynton House. He had married the granddaughter of the last George Weare to be resident in Doynton. The newly-married couple moved into the Weare family property in 1756. We know that the previous generation of Weares had been resident in Cirencester and that during this time Doynton House had been in the hands of tenants: Giles Browning was paying the correct rateable value in 1753-54 and we know that his father had married and moved into the village at the same time that the Widow Weare, in 1686, moved with her only son George, still in small clothes, back to her family home in Cirencester. Giles Browning, the father, had been churchwarden for an unspecified property in 1697. The

period that follows this is one that lacks many entries on the churchwarden list.

If we accept the limitations of the surviving records, we find that there would seem to have been six periods of variable terms in office :-

Period 1, 1498-1576.

When Arthur Player broke up the medieval manor of the Tracies and split them into two parts, there were a total of 17 copyholdings, 1 leasehold and, at least, 2 properties that had been sold as freehold (fee simple). This total of 20 medieval holdings would imply a perfect rota of 2 churchwardens returning to their duty every 10 years. The few figures that we have for the duty cycle produce the average figure of 9 years. This would have included the leasehold tenant of 178 acres, the copyhold tenants of as little as 12 acres and at least two specialists with 2 acres or less each.

Period 2, 1602-1642.

The Atwood holding, the tucking mill at Brook House, Doynton House, Vine Cottage, Nichols Farm, Sowd Farm and Starling Villa have added themselves to the two earlier freehold holdings of the grist mill and Rosevale, to use the modern names. Much amalgamation of farms smaller than 20 acres has taken place. The larger farms, including the glebe, have begun to be affected by enclosure as the result of private agreements not by parliamentary acts.

For the churchwardens the task now seems to return quicker - with 8 or maybe 9 entries the cycle is 5.75 or 7.32 years.

Period 3, 1677-1767.

A period of farming prosperity and solid safe investment in the land. The Langton family still holds, in 3 large farms, half of the former manorial holding ; the other half, owned by the late Abell

Kitchen, had been sold and regrouped for fresh incoming families.

No one wants to have the duty for any longer period than is necessary. Despite a few speedy returns to the rota, the average, based on seventeen identifiable entries, is 8.5 years before a return to duty.

Period 4, 1768-1780.

A period of continuing amalgamation during the approach to the wars with France. Here 10 identifiable entries show a cycle of 10.8 years.

Period 5, 1797-1936.

Here there is a new attitude. A few prosperous farmers or gentrified, retired townsmen take over the duty for longer periods at a time : William Gunning 1797-1801, Joseph West 1797-1802, James Nichols 1803-07 Thomas Downs 1834-42, the Reverend Charles Raikes Davy 1859-85, George Alvis 1882-1902, George William Bishop 1905-36 . The further forward we go in time, the longer a few holders of office continue with the job.

Period 6, 1966-present time.

The period of service is becoming shorter again. Here, for the first time, the Vestry meeting elects both wardens, for the first time lady churchwardens are both elected and confirmed in office.

It should be noted that Doynton had shattered the peace of mind of local historians in the late 19th. century, when they discovered that the village had put forward the names of Sarah Snailham in 1758 and Hannah Butler in 1772 as churchwardens. In each case they were rejected by the Archdeacon on his Visitation, but their task was undertaken by a substitute male. One wonders, however, if the ladies had to assume the financial burden. They had been widows for 25 and 9 years respectively and there must

have been local pressure for them to take the turn on the rota that belonged to their holdings.

If Doynton seemed to be exacting in its demands on these two ladies, it was equally so upon the nonconformists in the village. In 1677 the 2 wardens were John Grandford, shoemaker and Roger Packer, who farmed from the Cross House. Both of them were open Quakers; John was presented for non-attendance at Easter Communion in 1682 and the administrators and assessors of his estate included Quaker family names, Roger was the father of Susanna Packer mentioned on page 16. It may be relevant that 1677 was a year during the interregnum between two strong but low church ractors: Robert Wilkes died that same year and he had worked well before with the Quaker who had been appointed 'Register' and it was a year later that Joseph Jackson was inducted.

The earliest entries for the Vestry Meetings are written in the end papers of the account book that makes up the late 18th. century Church Book :-

Page 85, opposite.

Top Left. Mary Perry, Churchwarden 1986-89. She and her husband, Victor, spent their holidays from veterinary practice in Staple Hill caravanning in the north of Scotland. Here she relaxes near Gairloch with Honey, Brandy and the Burmese, Bimbo (in harness).

Photo. courtesy Victor Perry.

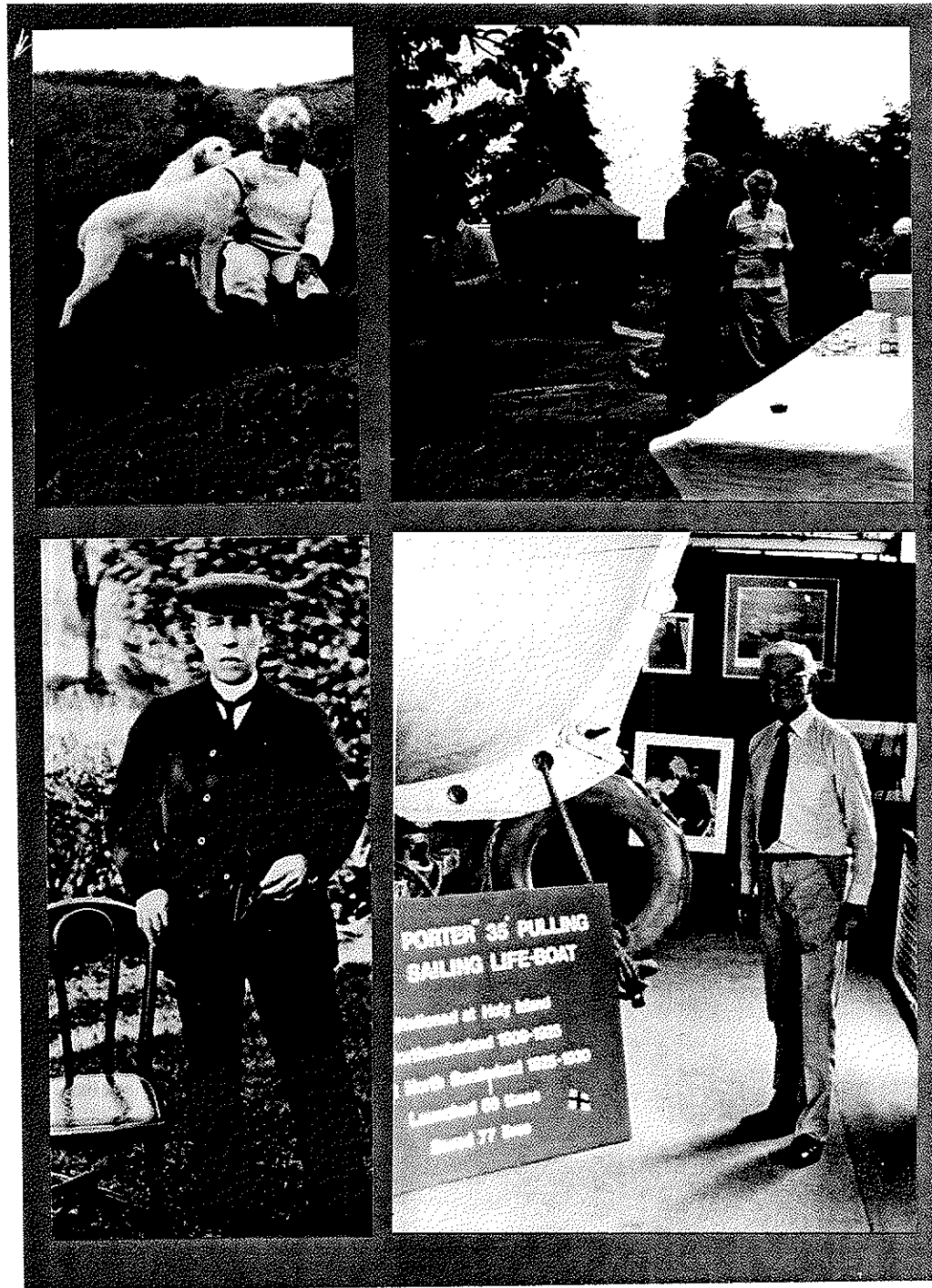
Top Right. Ralph Midwinter, Churchwarden 1979-88, and Treasurer for many years, university lecturer in epidemiology. He and his wife, Audrey, 'Mrs. M.', consultant obstetrician and gynaecologist, do not follow current dietic wisdom - they always provide ice-cream at the garden parties. Here, in 1990, at Rectory Farm, from a central position, Ralph discusses the shortage of ice-cream cones with Richard Kent on the right, whilst the left Peter Rubery glories in having bought his cone betimes.

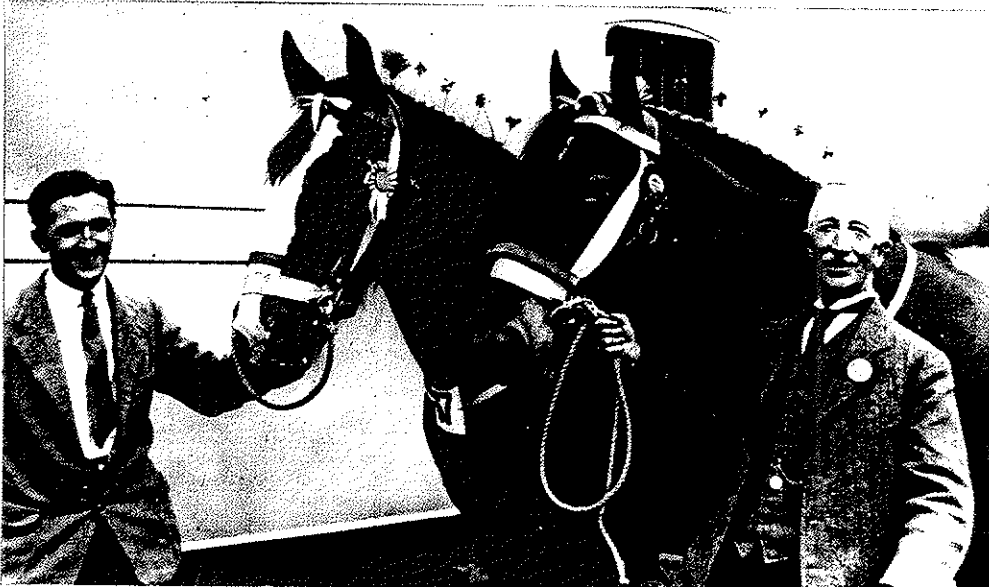
Photo. courtesy Dawn Hooper

Bottom left. Jesse Webb, Churchwarden 1904-6, mason and later builder and contractor; in the present time he would have been described as 'upwardly mobile'. He bought and rebuilt the Old Poor House and was in conflict with the Parish Council over the Village Pound.

Photo. courtesy the late Lawrence Fisher

Bottom right. Peter Sturdee, Churchwarden 1976-85. In the Navy as a career, he saw action during WW II on a surviving WW I monitor off the coast of Libya. He had the traditional RN ability to adapt skilfully and to finish neatly. In retirement he became SW organizer for the RNLI and later Honorary Curator of the RNLI museum in Bristol, where he is photographed in front of the 'Lizzy Porter'. *Photo. courtesy Daphne Sturdee.*





Easter Monday, April 19, 1756.

Robert Palmer was chosen church : warden by the Rector and served the office for John Davis' estate, William Nichols was chosen by the Parish and served the office for his own estate.

Signed Tho: Coker Rector
Tobias Fox
Wm. Davis
James Boswell
John Guning

This division into Rector's warden and People's or Parish Warden, hallowed in custom if not in law, continued in Doynton until 1966, when, with the arrival of a new rector, Victor Searle-Barnes, and the change of both churchwardens, the designation was dropped and the Vestry Meeting voted for both churchwardens. As late as 1936, when Mervyn Canby arrived in the parish, he had told the current Rector's Warden that he was happy for the the warden to continue for a year so as to give continuity, but that he would make a new choice after that.

Once the term as churchwarden was over the holder of that office became sidesman for the following year. This was true in periods 2, 3 and 4. There were

Page 86, opposite.

Top left. Elsie Clarke of Tracy Park, who, together with her husband, Charles, had given Doynton the Village Hall and Playing Field, is seen, leaving the church in 1969 with her son-in-law Christian Pitman, Churchwarden 1946-65, publisher. He had been i/c Doynton Home Guard in WW II.

Top right. Frank Ellis, Churchwarden 1959-65, farmer. He moved into Court Farm in 1939 and even as an incomer had a strong feel for the history of the village. He spoke of the 'roman road' to Reverence, of his conviction that a stream ran formerly beneath his front driveway. Here, in May 1964, he has been interrupted in trimming the Barley Mow.

Photo. courtesy Joan Cottrell.

Bottom. George Bishop, Churchwarden 1905-36, farmer. From just before WW I he lived in Greenway Farm, Wick, as the main Tracy Park tenant. His particular pride was the breeding of Shire Heavy Horses for use on the farm. With his eldest son, Jack, he celebrates here his winning entries in the Kingswood Horse Show.

Photo. courtesy Mary Cryer

never more than two sidesmen, who still had some rank in the village since they, together with the Rector or Curate and the churchwardens, were frequently signators to the yearly returns of the register to the Bishop. Nowadays, in period 6, the sidesmen are concerned with welcoming the congregation to the service, issuing the hymn books and counting the collection. Only one is normally on duty at a time, although up to twelve have been appointed at the annual Vestry.

In the early period the churchwardens were directly responsible for the poor of the parish. This was still true in 1774, when the normal Church Book contains the following items :-

<i>Glazing work at the Church and the Poor House</i>	<i>0-6-9</i>
<i>To a poor person with a pass</i>	<i>0-0-6</i>
<i>To a traveller in distress</i>	<i>0-0-6</i>

But these were the only entries in that year relating to the poor and it is certain that within ten years the wardens had the assistance of the Overseers of the Poor, for it was in 1785 that the earliest surviving Poor Book started.

From 1678 to 1720 Joseph Jackson made entries in the registers that often had a short expansion of the plain name. In that period of just over 40 years, from 515 Baptisms and Burials, he refers to :-

6 vagrants
6 'senex'
5 'senex' and pauper
1 girl pauper, whose child died at birth

This gives the impression that, until the end of the 18th. century, most people in Doynton may have lived with straightened finances but were not considered paupers. Perhaps the problem that the Elizabethan period had had with the wandering beggar had disappeared by the Restoration. Perhaps the charity

of Joseph Jackson and of the widow, Elizabeth Langton, (died 1702/3) restricted their use of the term 'pauper' or they gave a practical form of charity in work, so that only those who were aged or 'senex' were thought of as being paupers.

The above possibility is reinforced by an addition made to the burial entry of John Bryan in 1711. He was said to be 'of Church House'. This refers to the same building also known as the 'Poor House', but implies that the use of it then was similar to the use of the modern Parish Hall. There was an earlier reference in 1686 to the burial of Joan, wife of Nicholas Francombe of Church House. Both John and Joan were in their forties, still producing a family and came from freehold owning sections of the parish. They did not give the impression of being paupers.

The Church House in many villages was the setting for the 'Church Ales'. These festivities might be held up to four times a year. The churchwardens begged the ingredients to make the ale, sold the tickets on a fairly compulsory basis to raise money for church purposes, including charity. No accounts for this period in Doynton survive. The Church House would have had a full set of brewing equipment and would have provided a communal oven for the use of the poorer cottagers. Perhaps we should envisage the Church House/Poor House here, in the 17th. and 18th. centuries, as having a very small number of poor, who lived on the top floor. This top floor was reached by outside stone steps at each end of the building. The village pound lay against the south end and possibly the stocks to the north. It was likely that the ground floor was used for the village functions. This building became the Old Poor House in 1896, Jubilee Cottage in 1897 and is now called Tile Barn. But still, at the back of the building, projecting into Poor Close, there is a fine beehive oven.

Poor there certainly were by the time the Overseers of the Poor started their account book in

1785. Certainty is reinforced by a glance at the Parish Registers. Below is a comparison of the entries in the Burial Register for two successive periods of 10 years - a similar pattern exists in the baptismal entries :-

	Burials	Designated Paupers	%
1774-83 inclusive	81	0	0%
1784-93 inclusive	63	13	20%

Such a result may stem from the arrival of a new rector and from his attitude, different to that of the previous incumbent.

The Overseers accounts continue until 1832, that is only two years before the 1834 Poor Law Amendment Act, which set up the creation of Poor Law Unions: for Doynton this became the Chipping Sodbury Union. This union was not abolished until 1930 then continued under another name as a Public Assistance Institution and only finally ceasing to exist with the National Health Act of 1946. Even then, it was used as a nursing home until the mid 70's. Now called Ridgewood, it is taken over in part by the Social Services and in part by evening classes.

In 1785 the poor rate was 11 pence in the pound for the first half year, in the same period the Church Rate was 8d in the pound to cover the three years 1785-7 inclusive. This means that the village was paying 8 times as much to maintain the poor as to maintain the parish, the highways and the church. By the year of Waterloo the poor rate was 40d. and the church rate 5d., for the year. So the same proportion was maintained between the two rates.

Let us look at the details of the initial half year's entry in the Overseers' Book.

Nov. 1785

Poor Rate of "Eleven pence" for the necessary relief of the poor of the Parish of Doynton, for the first 1/2 year yields :- £ - s - d
74 - 8 - 8

Regular Maintenance

Edward Jones 2 children, 7/12 @ 16/- the month	5 - 12 - 0
William Hale for one of Jones children, 7/12 @ 8/- the month	2 - 16 - 0
Ann Doling, 7/12 @ 8/- the month	2 - 16 - 0
Ann Batman, -ditto-	2 - 16 - 0
Martha Sumshon, -ditto-	2 - 16 - 0
Betty Bolwell, 4/12 @ 6/-, 3/12 @ 8/-	2 - 8 - 0
Mary Cornish child, 3/12 @ 6/-, 4/12 @ 8/-	2 - 10 - 0
Allie Bryan, 7/12 @ 6/-	2 - 2 - 0
Betty Bryk, 7/12 @ 6/-	2 - 2 - 0
The Widow Lewis, 7/12 @ 4/-	1 - 8 - 0
	27 - 6 - 0

Casualties in said 7/12

made up of	52 - 7 - 0
£1800 county rate, July 4	5 - 17 - 0
Sept. 24	5 - 17 - 0

Doctor's bill	1 - 5 - 0
Individual payments to Sarah Poulling, William Gay	4 - 9 - 0
Poynz Fox bread	8 - 0
<u>Clothes:</u> Pare of britches for Jones boy	3 - 0
2 shirts & waistcoat Jones boy	7 - 6
Ann Doling - a blanket sheet	8 - 6
Ann Batman - a rug	5 - 6
Martha Sumshon - a rug	5 - 6
Clothing for Mary Cornish child	5 - 0
Coat for Jones boy	7 - 0
Pare of shoes & mend Jones boy	4 - 10
Mending shoes for 2 of Jones children	2 - 0
Pare of shoes for Jones boy	2 - 6

Building Materials

Glaziers note	17 - 1
To a note for Tyle for the poor house	6 - 2 - 0
Haling 8 load of tyle @ 10/- a load	4 - 0 - 0
A cart load of paven	5 - 0
The carpenter's note	6 - 1 - 7
The mason's note	1 - 9 - 3
20 foot of freestone crase	5 - 10
The Tyler's note	6 - 8 - 7 1/2
14 hundred of Hart Laths	1 - 3 - 4
To fetching laths	4 - 0
4 thousand and half 4 nails	15 - 0
8 hundred of 8 nails	5 - 6
8 hundred of 6 nails	4 - 0
4 bushels and a peeke of Hare	3 - 2
The noote for lime	12 - 9 1/2
For haling lime	7 - 0

Sundries

Attending Justic meeting with William Gay	2 - 0
Sarah Pooling funeral expenses	1 - 1 - 0
Paid Robert Gunning Easter Monday	1 - 0 - 0
New Book	1 - 0
2 poor men with 2 passes	1 - 0
Drawing rate and entering account	2 - 6

Total receipts : With the book 12 - 5 - 11
Rate of 11 pence 74 - 8 - 8 1/2

Total disbursement 79 - 13 - 0

Balance due to parish £ 7 - 1 - 7 1/2

The 'regular maintenance' would seem to be an out-payment system, where the recipients had to find their own living at an average rate of 2/-(10p) per week. 2/- was then the daily rate for a labourer in Doynton. The latter was not living in luxury and the paupers were very much below the bread line. The Overseers of the Poor found themselves forced to meet any extra expenses, which, under the term 'casualties', ended up costing twice as much as the regular maintenance payments. The records show that clothing had to be an extra; the Jones family seemed to be particularly rough on them.

Under building materials the building is called the 'Poor House', but a year later the reference is to labour on the 'Church House' - it would seem to have been a period of transition in the name. The total rebuilding costs for the 200 year old house were nearly £30, just two years before the nave of the church was extended nine feet for a cost of £53.

Over the years the overseers also paid for funeral expenses - a guinea, for doctor's bills, for the house rent of a few paupers, for the midwife's services - 5/- per lying in, the constable's expenses in examining the weights and measures, for the bill at the 'Three Horseshoes' for liquor and eatables for the men who had care of '*Christopher Bolton is time of insanity. £1-9-8*'

The last reference can serve to remind us of the problems that a family, living around the poverty line, could meet over a period of 130 years. In 1784 two servants at Tracy Park, Christopher Boulton and Mary Snailum, were married, children followed at two yearly intervals until 1793, when they both appear in the overseers' records :-

Expenditure

1793	Re Chris. Boulton, 5 journeys to Bristol	10 - 0
	Dinner & liquor for men at Bristol	4 - 0
	House time for Mary Boulton (Birth of son, Christopher, April 28)	1 - 0
	Turnpike and standing the horse	5
	Dinner and liquor, George Amos & Aaron Francombe	3 - 0
	Ed. Davis what he expended re. Boulton's settlement	1 - 19 - 0

	Counsellor's opinion		1 - 1 - 0
	Paid Thos. Wigmore 5/- Joseph Wigmore 1/-		
	Aaron Francombe 4/- Jacob Battman 1/-		12 - 0
	Thos. Francombe 1/-		
	for their attendance on Christopher Bolton		
1793, Jne 23	Burial of Christopher Bolton, pauper		
1812, Mar 24	Mary Boulton, widow, dies intestate & is buried (her 4 d., Eliz. Amos granted admin. 'under £300')		
1812, Nov. 7	Christopher Boulton (the son) marries Eva Amos		
1813-1825	Six children born		
1834, May 29	At Gloucs, Summer Assizes, Chris. Bolton, aged 41, of Doynton is accused of having, on 28th. inst., feloniously stolen from a pit about 3 sacks of potatoes, value £1 - 7 - 0.		
	Description: Smallpox scars. Neither read nor write. Height 5'7". Lab.		
	Sentence : 3 cal. mths. First 4 days & last month in solitude.		
	Comment : behaviour - orderly.		
1836	The 2nd. daughter, Martha, marries George Snailum.		
1841	George and Martha Snailum live in the old thatched cottage at the bottom of Watery Lane, that belonged to Bury House. They had two children and one lodger, Eva Boulton, aged about 45.		
1892	The walls of the old thatched cottage give way, beams collapse, Martha Snailum, who has lived there for 57 years and been a widow for 44 years, has to move to one of the Brewery Cottages, let to her out of kindness for 1/- a week.		

By the period of the 1841 Census the population of Doynton had increased to 549, its highest point (see Appendix 4). But the Sodbury Poor Law Union had been created and a workhouse built at Yate. The building of the workhouse or 'The Spike' may explain why the 1841 census for Doynton has no one in the Poor House; of all the inhabitants of the village only 2 elderly widows are mentioned as being paupers. No accounts survive, but the 2 widows would seem to have retained their 'independence' in their home village. Both of them were living on part of the Gore-Langton estate, in the buildings once known as Saunder's Farm and now known as Turnbridge Cottage (see map p. 74). Elizabeth Thomas, spinster, aged 82, had that part of the main building nearest the road and lying diagonally to it. She also had a section of garden beneath the present Old School.

The other pauper was Mary Dixon, 51, née Moss. She married William Dixon in 1809 and, when widowed, made another attempt, this time to a man 20 years her senior. Once more a widow by 1841, she was living in

Turnbridge with the 3 unmarried sons by her first marriage and with the eldest son of that marriage living in another part of the former Saunder's Farm. She tenanted the garden area nearest to the road and it must mean that she and the 3 sons were living in just part of the present garage, recently rebuilt, that belongs to Turnbridge Cottage. She was still living in it for the next 20 years.

The last two paragraphs give the picture that we get from the 1841 census and the registers. If we move on to 1881, we find a Vestry Meeting where it was suggested that the outdoor paupers should be excused paying the poor rate. It seems strange that they should have taken so long to make such an obvious suggestion but we do have equally strange anomalies these days. To make sure that too many did not claim exemption from paying the poor rate the meeting named those who should have exemption. These names can be cross-referenced with the entries in the 1881 census.

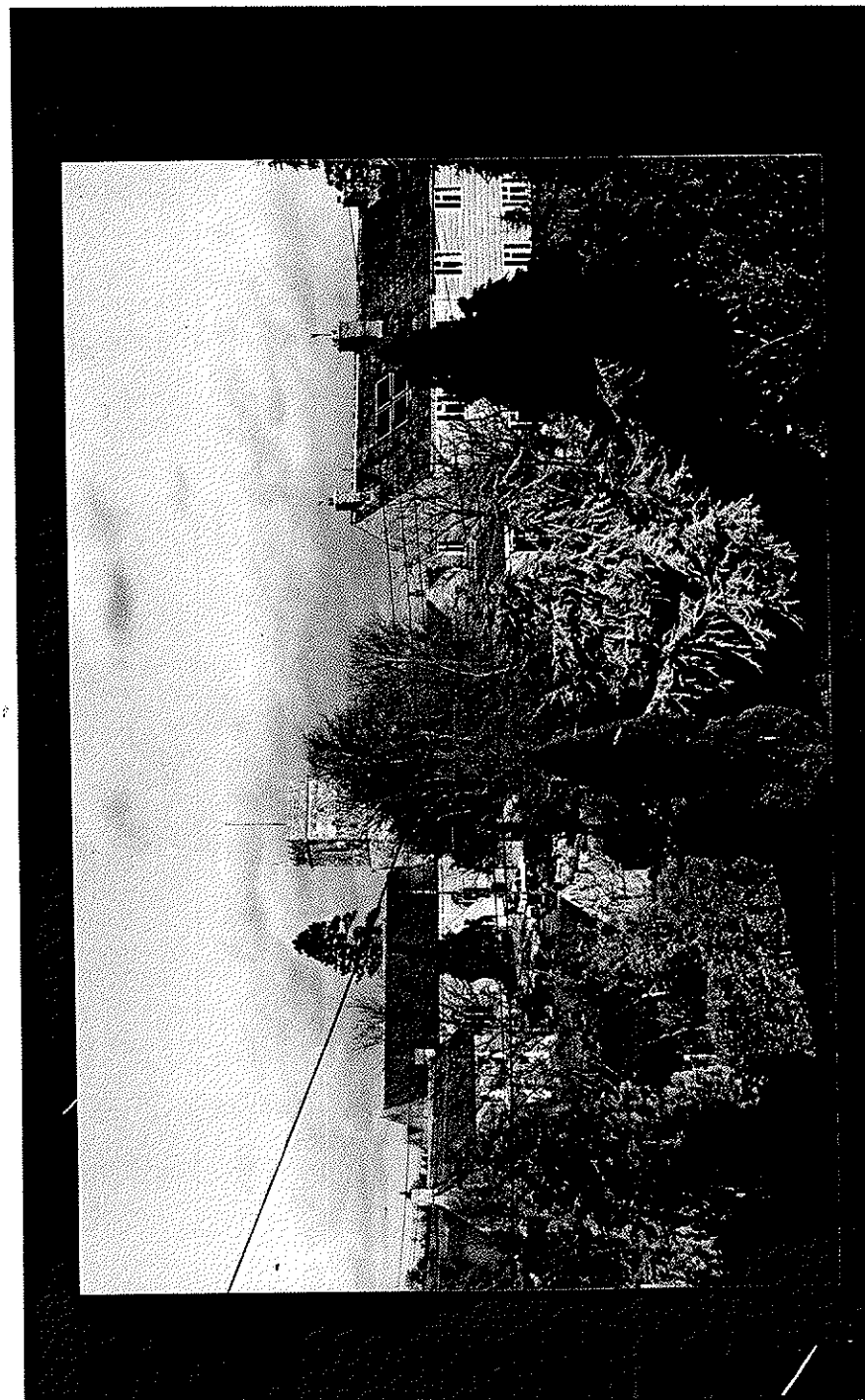
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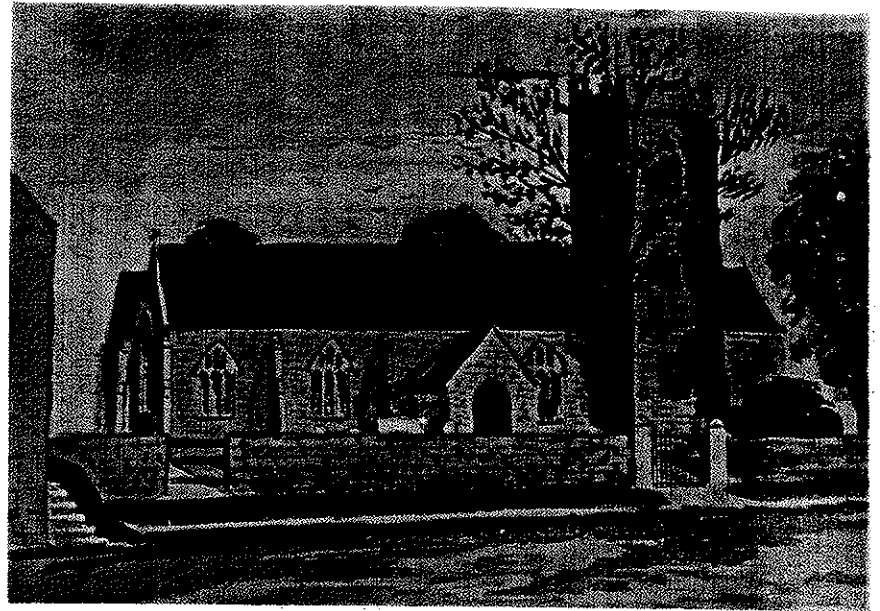
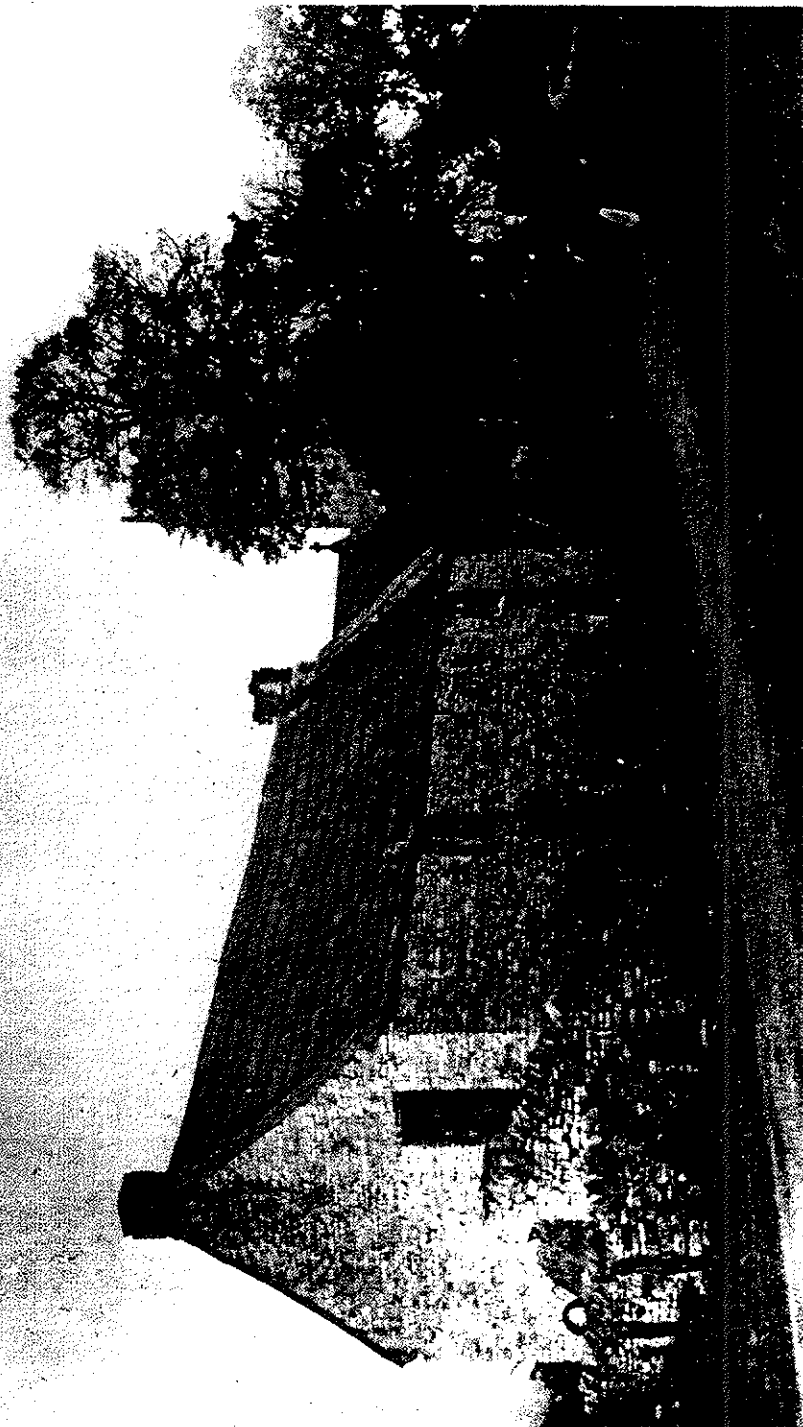
The T-junction at Church Site on Dec. 27, 1990, showed unseasonal beauty with a burst of sunshine falling on the conifers and beech hedging. To this side of the church is the Victorian facade of Tile Barn, formerly the Poor House. Closer to the camera is the small structure of the bus shelter. On the right are 9 & 10 Church Site, which were part of a group of prefabricated council houses (Airey type) put up in the post-war period to a Swedish design. No. 10, bought by its tenant, has new outer walls and windows and boasts the first solar panels in the village on its roof.

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The Old Poor House, previous to its rebuild in 1897. The front facade is in poor condition and the far end seems to have subsided. The main roof has already exchanged its Cotswold stone tiles for Double Romans. Stone tiles remained on the back wing until the 1970s. This photo shows the other outside staircase to the one in the sketch on the following page. The wall this side of the stairs contained the village pound, of which we can pick out the 2 vertical posts with the brackets to take the thrust-in rails to impound the strayed animals.

*Photo. courtesy the Gloucestershire County Archivist.
From the Blathwayt family deposit.*





A sketch of Holy Trinity, Doynton dated March 7, 1887. The artist may have been a Miss Buckley. It shows the stairs to E. of Old Poor House.



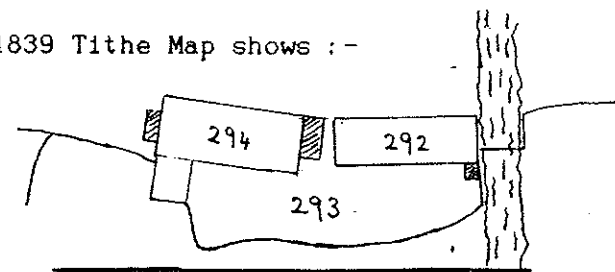
'Ridgewood', Station Road, Yate. The building is now used for the Social Services and for evening classes. The photo shows the gatehouse of the workhouse, which few paupers were ever able to leave; exercise, accommodation and work took place mainly on site. The camera is standing in front of the former Board Room of the Guardians of the Poor. On the far right of the gatehouse was the schoolroom for the children until they were apprenticed out by the Guardians.



Lucy Bateman	72	widow	White Bonnets
Hannah Fox	72	widow	High Street
Hannah Hancock	81	widow	Mill Lane
James Jones	50	married	Watery Lane
Henry Liles	82	single	High Street
Jacob Spencer	78	widower	High Street
Martha Snailum	66	widow	Watery Lane

The census returns made no mention that they were receiving poor relief and indeed, under the column headed 'occupation', sometimes made an entry as if they would still take on work, if they could get it. Living mainly alone, mostly of an advanced age, they all had members of their families in the village, who would have been able to keep an eye on them. If we now look at the same census covering the workhouse in Yate, we find, amidst the 100 inmates, six who were born in Doynton. They included one widower of 70, one old bachelor of 60 who had always lived with his widowed mother, one unmarried mother and 3 children. We cannot now know the background details but, as a group, they would have seemed less capable of sustaining an independent existence than those who remained in Doynton.

The 1839 Tithe Map shows :-



Page 98, opposite.

December 27, 1990. View, across the commemorative trees in front of the Village Hall, looking at Summers Close with its beech tree. Beyond, on the sky-line is Dyrham Wood. The middle-ground shows two old peoples' bungalows. On the right 2 Woolaway type council houses, empty for two years, despite the demand for such property, while the District Council hesitates over the plans for rebuilding or refurbishing the area & over how to obtain the finance for the work.

Parish Officers	293	Poor House Garden	10 perches
	294	The Poor House	6 perches
Glebe	292	Parish Pound	4 perches

This gives a total of 20 perches or 1/8 of an acre, which is reasonably close to the modern measurement of 0.117 of an acre.

The deeds for Tile Barn contain a conveyance of Oct. 24, 1845, in which :-

The Guardians of the Poor of Chipping Sodbury Union
Charles Adams Bush) *Churchwardens of Doynton*
Thomas Sparrow)
William Amos) *Overseers of the Poor, Doynton*
Edward Gale)

convey a messuage now occupied as several tenements with garden ground, approx. 8 perches, but formerly comprising 3 perches only, now in the possession of _____ Fry and others to Edward Gale for £93. The number of perches does not agree with the earlier figures, but the Parish Pound was considered to be separate and under the control of the Vestry. In 1881 this meeting resolved that, since the pound was dilapidated, they should ask Mrs. Amer to repair it. Her late husband, who died in 1871, had repaired it at his own expense. To judge by the pre-1897 photograph the pound, which lies on the left of the stairs, still remained dilapidated fifteen years later.

Before the Gale family sold the Old Poor House, it was being occupied in family units : top left-Anstee/ Orchard, lower left-Guy Spencer/Harold Broom, top right - _____ Ford, back-Andrew Rawlings. But the village memory goes back to its earlier use as a poor house, when the men lived on the top floor and the women and children were on the ground floor.

The inheritors of Edward Gale sold the building in July, 1896 to Jesse Webb of Doynton, mason, for £63. It was devised as 'that plot of land together with three cottages formerly one messuage occupied as several tenements formerly the Poor House of Doynton. There was no definition of the area.

The Parish Council of Doynton had been formed in 1894 and regarded itself as now being responsible for the Parish Pound. So, once more, in 1897, there was a proposal that the pound be put in order. Straight away they ran into conflict with Jesse Webb, who laid claim to it. The Parish Council employed Mr. Seymour-Williams to investigate the claim and the dispute lingered on in the Minute Book until Christmas 1904, when it was acknowledged that Jesse Webb had taken possession of the pound. There were numbers of the village still furious about the whole conflict some seventy years later.

It was on the rebuilding of the Old Poor House as bought by Jesse Webb, on which Alex. Amos (1876-1980) first worked, when out of his apprenticeship. One of the major tasks was to take out the whole roadside face of the building and to move it one yard further back without removing the roof - the former face was on the line of the low garden wall, which now fronts Tile Barn. The outside stairs at each end were taken away: an apple tree was planted in the garden, survived ninety years and was blown down in 1987. The alterations were carried out in 1897, the year of the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria, so the building was renamed 'Jubilee Cottage'. To celebrate the jubilee the village planted a commemorative tree in the triangular patch of grass in front of Jubilee Cottage but, despite protection by iron railings, it soon succumbed to the large number of milking herds that passed four times a day.

The Overseers of the Poor can only be distinguished from 1785, when the Poor Rate Book starts. The list shows no relationship to that of the churchwardens, despite both offices starting at Easter each year. There are names that appear on both lists, William and James Nichols, Joseph West. Certain of the overseers and certain of the churchwardens never held the other office, William Davis, Richard M. Russell. Once again Doynton was insistent on nominating women

as village officials ;in two successive years, 1806 and 1807,two widows were appointed and took office. The first was Mrs.West from the Mill ,followed next year by Mary Mannings of Rectory Farm.

By 1870,when the surviving Vestry minutes start under the chairmanship of Lewis B.Clutterbuck , the Overseers of the Poor were nominated as 'fit and proper persons to serve the office' on Lady Day, March 15,whilst a further Vestry on Easter Monday, April 18, was used to elect the churchwardens. The following six people were returned as Overseers - notes are added of their position in the village :-

Henry Shield	farmer, 81 acres	Toghill Hs.
Richard Highnam	farmer, 100 acres/2 men	Bowd
Frederick Dare	milller, 1 apprentice	Doynton Mill
George Fox	farmer, 30 acres	
Moses Alway	farmer, 307 acres/3m/2b.	Court Farm
William Amer	farmer, 160 acres/4m/3b,	Bury House

From the point of view of village society these are all solid citizens and worthy employers of labour, but not gentry. Nevertheless, these 6 citizens appointed a deputy overseer to do the work :-

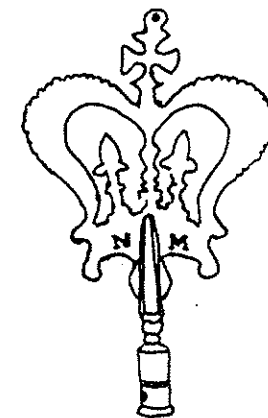
Gabriel Amos grocer and competitor to Job Lear He was to receive a salary of £10 p. a. It should be remembered that this heavily manned organisation was to deal with approx. 6 paupers in Doynton and another 6 in the workhouse in Yate. By 1891 Yate was using 7 officers to deal with 71 inmates. The organisation was becoming a bureaucratic nightmare.

Gabriel Amos left the village in 1874 and he was replaced by John Sparrow, whose salary was increased to £12 in 1877. John, too, left the village having spent 10 years as Assistant Overseer, as Waywarden and as Guardian of the Peace. He was replaced by John Sparrow, senior and then, in 1893, by William George Amos, carpenter and wheelwright, who was to take his nephew, Alexander Amos as apprentice. William George was to be the last named Assistant Overseer.

When we looked at the out-paupers of Doynton in 1881, we found that the majority, 6 out of 7, had an

average age of 75. However hard one had worked during life, old age , if reached, or, illness, if suffered, was a period to be feared. Hence the rise of the Friendly Societies.

This early form of mutual insurance not only covered funeral expenses but also gave family support during periods off work. This cover was for any incapacity, a broken leg for example, that was due to bad luck or occurred during work ; but a broken leg as a result of being drunk received no cover. Some societies used to have a share out of the unused money amongst the members each Christmas. Most groups had an annual procession through the village, led by the officials, each bearing his brass-headed staff of office. Such processions were still taking place here in the 1920s. The form of the brass heads was often based on the name of the public house in whose parlour the official meetings took place.



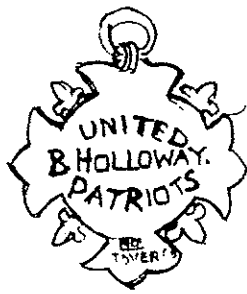
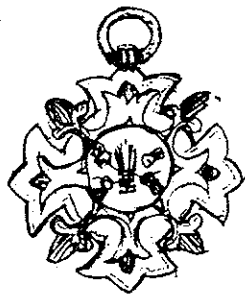
The brass plate from Rectory Farm and the brass staff head belonging to Nicholas Mannings.

In 1803 the government sat down to analyse a set of returns from every parish in the country. Here it is for Doynton, when the number of inhabitants was 303.

Expenses of maintaining & relieving the poor	in 1776	£70- 5- 7
	in 1786	84-12-10
	in 1803	130-13- 7½
Poor rate in the Pound		3- 6
Expenses all other purposes, church, highways etc.	1803	23- 1- 7
No. of persons relieved:	OUT 12	IN 0
No. of Friendly Societies in parish		1
No. of members of above society		30

The above return mentions no name of a Friendly Society but village memory produces two : The United Patriots and the Wiltshire Working Mens'. The first known agent of the United Patriots was Nicholas Manning for whom there survives a brass plate and a brass staff head in the form of a crown. There were 2 of this name : the first, a grazier, died in 1802 and by his will left much of his brewing equipment to his widow. All his land etc. he left to his greatgrandson of the same name, who lived at Old Rectory Farm. There is no Crown Inn recorded in Doynton, except as a spelling mistake for Cross Inn, but inhabitants of Doynton in the Edwardian period pointed to the Old Rectory Farm as a former beer house. Two later agents were :- Edmund Fox (1831-1908), a small farmer of 15 acres. In 1991 a medal was found in loose fill from Turnbridge Cottage, which was inscribed ;

Presented by the Directors of the United Patriots National Benefit Society of Great Britain, Chief Office No. 1, George St., Euston Rd., St. Pancras to - Edmund Fox, 1st. Div. No. 68 - As a token of respect for the interest taken by him in the prosperity of the society.



A sketch of the front and back of a 9ct. gold and enamel medallion presented to B. Holloway.

The 2nd. later agent was B. Holloway to whom the society presented an elaborate medallion in 9ct. gold. He was unfortunate to have an accident with a horse and cart, which made it difficult for him to move around and the collection of the dues was taken over by his brother, Augustus.

Little is known of the 2nd. society, The Wiltshire Working Mens' Benefit. It had Fred. Perry as agent

The unexpected event was ever to be feared. The earliest example is written at the start of the Abson Register, CMB 1687-1754 - from internal evidence the year can be deduced :-

1696 'Memo. Upon Saturday the 14 of July was dround a man and a woman beatwixt Dinton and Weeke : near to boydburge'. No names are given and they may have been strangers or travellers. The area is likely to have been round Bury Ham with the River Boyd backing up behind Wick Rocks.

A similar, unexpected accident occurred 100 years later and was recorded by the coroner of the time :-

1796. Mar. 27 To taking an inquest at The Three Horseshoes at Doynton and view of the body of James Pegler, labourer, aged 36, found drowned in a ditch near Browning's Tynning in the parish of Doynton aforesaid at 2 o'clock of Thursday last. It appears he was subject to fits. Verdict: Accidental Death.

20 miles £1-15-0

Buried a day later as the son of James and Susanna. He had not been baptised in Doynton, Browning's Tynning now called Tobacco Lease, TN 98 & 99,

1796. Oct. 26 Parish of Doynton on the body of Mrs. Mary Butler aged 59 years found dead 14th. instant. Supposed to have died from taking a quantity of drops or poisonous ingredient. Verdict: Natural Death

20 miles £1-15-0

The unmarried daughter of William and Hannah at Bowd Farm, The title 'Mrs.' was an honorific representing the standing of the family. She had had 3 illegitimate children by Ben Bond,

1815. May 23 Wick/Abson Joseph Perry, farmer, 37 years. Going into his cornfield to frighten rooks from off the new sown barley and having a loaded pistol in his side pocket, buttside downwards. The pistol went off and discharged itself and the contents thereof passed up and penetrated the axilla, which caused his death in the space of four hours.

Verdict: Accidental Death

Born in Charlcombe 28.2.1779. Brother to George, carpenter, of Vine Cottage, Doynton and to other brothers farming near by in Wick and Abson.

1817. Mar. 31 Doynton. Sarah Bryan, widow, found dead in bed on the morning of yesterday without previous illness. Verdict: Visitation of God by a fit of apoplexy or some other sudden visitation of God and not by violence.

Aged 72.

Few coroners these days would venture to give a verdict of death by visitation of God ; it measured an acceptance of man's limitations of knowledge and a humility towards man's position in the universe.

Page 107, opposite. Top picture, left to right.

George Palmer. Churchwarden 1966-69 and treasurer for many years, deputy general manager of Friends Provident Life Office & Century Insurance. Generally found with a pipe in his hands, though not always alight.

Joan Cottrell. Churchwarden 1970-71, probation officer and JP, married to Fred Cottrell, retired Methodist District Chairman. She was part of the bridge between the two churches at the time of discussion on Anglo-Methodist Reunion.

Graham Jones. Churchwarden 1966-75 and 1989- , car body builder but he also kept the village transport running. An enthusiast for Esperanto, vintage cycling and the London-Brighton Old Crocks Race.

Bottom picture, left to right.

Samuel Horsley. Quantity surveyor, very useful to assess the cost of repairing the church roof. A walker and follower of beagles.

Patricia Rees. Midwife and District Nurse. A PCC member with 'bite'. When her involvement in the village allowed, she undertook medical missionary work in Sierra Leone and is one of the few in the village to have met the rising economic tide of Islam.

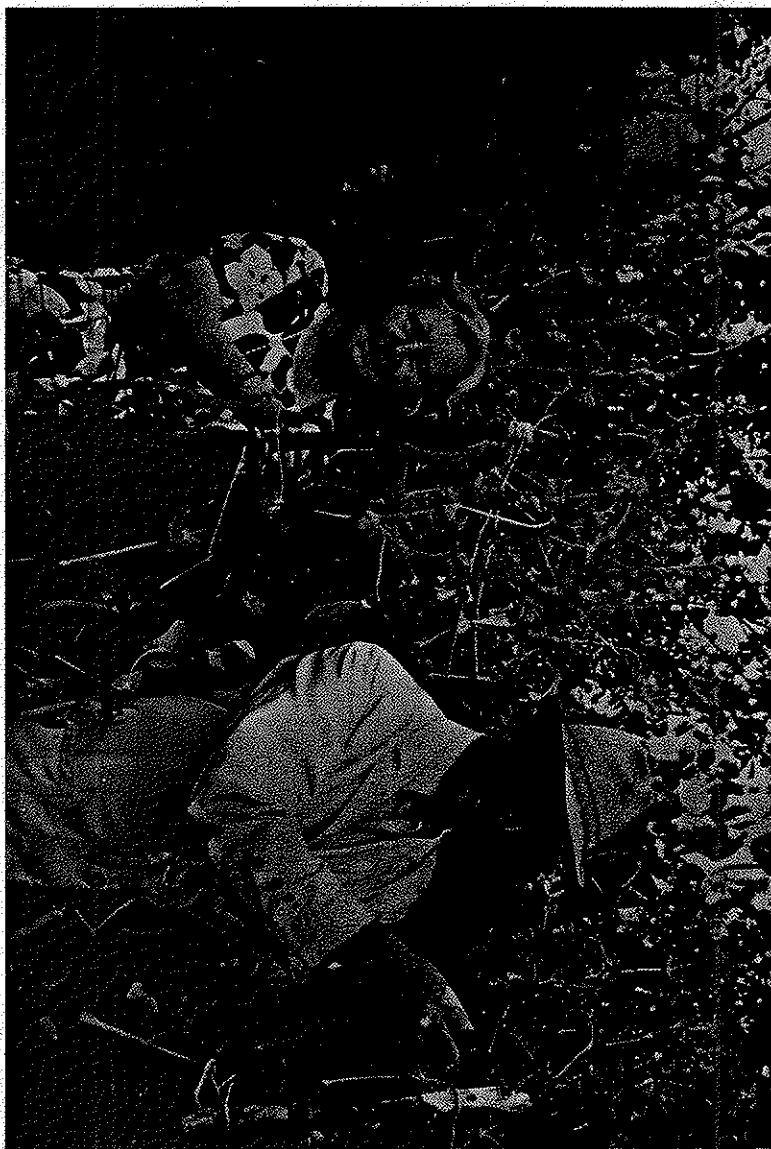
Elizabeth Copping, school teacher. Her field of activity has been with the children of the village through the Pathfinders and Explorers.

Phyllis and Gerald Dibbins. Churchwarden 1972-79, stock manager on farm Farming, three daughters and the parish were exhausting. They decided to retire by going to look after the Bishop of Bristol.



Both photos are of a PCC meeting on August 21, 1970. At that time all meetings were held in the Village Hall, where the spartan conditions at that time cut down the length of the meetings and the composite fee paid by the PCC helped the finances of the Village Hall. The meeting was chaired by the Rector, Victor Searle-Barnes, seated at the table. The two ashtrays were for the secretary, Richard Kent, who was behind the camera.





Nowdays the medical profession is not allowed to write a death certificate giving 'old Age' as a cause contributing to the death. But it would be hard not to consider that it played its part with our only two centenarians :-

Bur. 1754. Jan. 28 Margaret, wife of John Blanch, aged 101

There is no trace of her baptise or of his in Doynton, There was a family of that name in the village in the early 18th. century and another section of it in Pucklechurch. John, the husband, was buried in Doynton 2 years after his wife. He must have been considerably younger since the register makes no mention of his age. She spanned the period from Rembrandt to Chippendale.

Bur. 1980. Oct Alexander Wilcox Amos, aged 104.

Youngest son of William and Priscilla (nee Wilcox). Apprenticed as a carpenter to his eldest brother, William George. He was still working in his nineties and even managed to survive electrocuting himself by cutting a live cable with his saw, perhaps because, although working in the roof space, he was wearing gumboots at the time. Married in 1903 to Mabel Gertrude Percy and had 3 children, Dean, Arthur and Vera. Chairman of the Langton charity until he retired in 1973, aged 96. He was a keen follower of the Beaufort Hunt and the tea party to celebrate his 100th birthday was attended by the then Duke of Beaufort.

There were 2 others who reached their 100th. year :-

Bur. 1805 Tobias Fox of Rookery Farm

The last man to have 'yeoman' inscribed on his tombstone.

Bur. 1836 Betty West.

Widow of Philip. Their family worked Doynton Mill, 1753-1818.

Page 108, opposite.

Vera Mizen was for so many years the organizer of the Harvest Supper in Doynton, a task which is still in the hands of her family. Shrewd and knowledgeable in farming ways, she had been brought up to expect to have to cater for around 16 for lunch. She quietly contributed to charities from the sale of the produce of her garden. Here she and her husband are dealing with a fine row of main-crop peas.

Frederick Mizen, Churchwarden 1937-46 and also active on the parish and district councils and as snow warden. As a young man he had been keen on walking the basset hounds, which were used by the Wick and District Beagles from 1924-36.

Joseph Jackson's detailed entries in the registers help us once more. He labelled as 'senex' all over the biblical limit of 70 years. There were 11 of these. When they exceeded 90 years of age, he entered the number of years in the register :-

William Thomas 1586-1684 98 years
Again associated with the will, His grandfather of the same name, Shereman and Mylner, was also long-lived, 1508-1591.
Walter Tyler -1691 92 years
Tailor, He purchased freehold of Jone's Tenement or Crossways in 1657. One of the same name, living in the hamlet of Southwood, lived to 71.
Thomas Francomb -1709 91 years
Lived and farmed in the hamlet of Southwood/Tracy Park,

In his 40 years incumbency (1679-1720), Joseph and his curate buried 231 people in Doynton churchyard, many of whom were children - 79 or 34% had died in childhood. This compares with the figures for child deaths in an industrial town in 1840, calculated for 3 social classes (gentry, trade, labouring), which were 20%, 40% and 60% respectively.

In all periods, if the individual survived childhood, then he or she would have an enhanced expectation of mature survival. Here, in Doynton, making allowance for young wives who die in childbed, we are left with approx. 140 or 60%, who died in maturity. Of these, as already mentioned, eleven or approx. 5% of all those buried died after the age of 70. This compares well with the figures for the 20th. century, but we must beware ; the comparison of such figures is facile, professional expertise and more detail than we have for Doynton is needed to interpret the figures correctly.

It is surprising to find that, of the 140 deaths in maturity, only 28 left a probated will, 19 men and 9 women (8 widows and 1 spinster). We must remember that, of the women, only spinsters and widows were allowed to make a will.

The men, when they made their wills, seemed, at first reading, to be possessively preventing the remarriage of their widows. But, in general, these caveats were made calmly to prevent the money leaving the family. Should the widow remarry, any money inherited by her would become the possession of the next husband. Some clauses were inserted to ensure that, even if the widow did not remarry, she did not have absolute freedom to leave the late husband's money to relatives on her side of the family.

Robert Webb, fuller, in 1652, made his 'nowe wife', Maud, the tenant for life of 2 houses and land and stated that she should receive 'rest and residue'. The houses and land were for her widowhood and 'if she should marry or die then, within one week of such marriage or death, the unexpired leasehold term should be split amongst his 4 children.

At times the 2nd. marriage would seem to have been ill at ease ; Thomas Browne, clothier, in 1610, had left 'my nowe wife Johane - £70, 2 of my best kyne, the bed and implements about it on which she and I now lyeth excepting the bedstead, the worser of my other beds with a pair of blankets, a coverlet and a bolster. The use of such pewter and brass as is fit for her to use in reasonable sorte in her natural life. But if she make claim to any part of the inheritance except that certain part of the tenement wherein I now dwell, then all gifts shall be null and void'. Thomas then made his granddaughter the executrix of his will.

Sometimes it was the males, who formed the source of unease ; Henry Hillman owned and lived in Bury House and it is probable that his widowed sister, Sarah Adlam lived with him. She made her will in 1781 leaving 'my sister, Nancy Taylor, an annuity of £20, in no way subject to the control or debts of her husband - the annuity to commence with the death of my brother, Henry Hillman. He has given me 2 bonds of £500 and of £600, these are held by my cousin, Eliz. Now. She may hand these to my brother when he has made arrangements for my sister's annuity.'

The preoccupation with the care of the children could even start with those in the womb. John Bruton of Dyrham married into the Atwood family of Doynton. He left a will, probated in 1684, by which he left £30 a piece to his 4 children at the age of 21 or on marriage. The rest and residue was to go to 'that childe which my wife now goethe wth. all provided she be safely delivered.' we find that child baptised 4 days after the burial of the father.

In 1546, Richard Longford, the tenant of the main manor farm at Doynton, died leaving a young family. To his son, Thomas, he left 'my plough team of 8 oxen and the harness - my wife shall have the occupation of the same for her lyfe time. I wyll that Thomas Longford, my sonne, shall be send to the skole 2 yeres and then he shall be bound prentice to a merchant man and to deliver to his master or to my oversees for him every yere during the time of hys prentice shepe 20 shillings.'

John Ragles, shopkeeper, lent his authority to his second wife to balance the seeming rebellious element in his only daughter and heiress. He wrote, in 1707, 'My wife may dispose of anything she thinks fit and give to relatives. If my daughter be disobedient to her mother and not satisfied with what she can spare then she shall give her but one shilling.'

In contrast to the wills displaying care, concern, compassion, even indulgence, there are those that display spleen or grievance.

One of the sons of William and Margaret Atwood (brass in church) was Richard, who detailed the debts owed him, in 1567, by five different neighbours, varying from 20 pence to £3. The sixth entry listed in this manucupative will displayed more ire :- 'William Atwood, my brother, £10, and more if I had time to count hit but seinge I am sicke and not able to count hit I said he shall paye but fx if he will be freundlye to my wife.'

A widow, Alice Russell, in her will dated 1739, said depreciatingly that she was somewhat indisposed and then continued - 'Whereas, in 1721, I intrusted John

Tyler of Doynton, yeoman, to put out at interest for me £120 of my own proper money, this was lent to Edward Thomas of Dyrham and Hinton, gent., upon his bond dated April 21, 1721, but the bond made no mention that he was acting in trust and I being illiterate and not capable of reading it and not in the least suspecting that the said Tyler would have tricked and deceived me.' She entrusted her niece, Mary Fry, and her friend, Aaron Strange to recover the money and enjoy it.

There are no letters or diaries surviving from any period earlier than the late 19th. century. The wills often supply the only human touch that long lists of names would fail to provide. Some wills, principally of the 17th. & 18th. cent., have inventories either incorporated into the text or attached to the document. They give a valuation of all the goods and chattels of the deceased. Sometimes the valuation of similar items, in two different wills, can show a wide variation. The two values may represent 2 different qualities or, in farming stock and produce, the value may differ according to the period in the farming year.

Consider the following example : in 3 different wills probated in 1685 and 1686 a horse was valued, the first and last were assessed at £3-14-2 & £3-13-4 a difference of ten pence. So small a variation would seem to point to a reasonable valuation. The middle horse was valued at £1-12-0. At first sight, this would seem to have been a very bad horse, then one notices that low values, in the same inventory, are given to a flitch of bacon, to a sheep and to a rick of hay. The motive for this low valuation is lost, but the intention seemed constant.

In a period of history, when few farms or fields were known by any name other than that of the tenant, we can find references in the inventories that give clues to the village geography of the past.

In 1639/40 the clothier, who owned both the corn and fulling mill, has the last third of the inventory set in 'The house adjoining the Street', which was probably the first reference to Brook House. Similar

information comes from the will of Walter Packer, 1657 in which he itemises wood for fuel and rick stacks 'in the backside standing near a ground called Court Close.' A deed in another collection shows that he had bought his father's copyhold, in 1632, from Michael Meredith. The 2 items together point at Cross House when it was a farm and not a pub.

The Packer family had some members who were merchants in Bristol. As they built up more money, so those members who remained in Doynton were able to invest in more land and buildings. The son of Walter Packer, John, built Nichols Farm. The inventory of 1697 must apply to that building but it also makes a reference to 'In Baldins House'. Two William Baldens, father and son, had occupied Home Farm from 1606 to after 1655. This was the former elizabethan farmhouse tenanted by the Mylles family and lay opposite the newly built 'Nichol's' Farm; by 1697 Home Farm was probably in ruins. This would explain why John Packer only kept one half-headed bedstead there.

At other times it is the unusual item that attracts attention : 1623, Richard Langford leaves 39 shillings worth of pewter, but its weight is given too - 59 pounds. He leaves no money in the house. The value of his goods was £50-14-9, but he had borrowed over £72 and so left a deficit on his estate. That did not stop the Lord of the Manor, Michael Meridith, from claiming his heriot - value of the best beast. Another will and inventory for January 1686/7 lists the animals that were being overwintered in each field - the acreages given are for that period :-

<i>Island Mead</i>	4 bullocks	8 acres
<i>Packer's Style</i>	1 heifer, 2 bullocks,	
	4 yearling	20 acres
<i>Middle Piece</i>	4 cows, 1 heifer	7½ acres
<i>Berry Hedge</i>	6 oxen	6 acres
<i>Little Field</i>	4 oxen	3½ acres

further down the list £10 worth of hay was mentioned. A modern rule of thumb suggests overwintering 1 cow or 4 sheep on each acre .



Thought to be the earliest surviving photo of a Doynton choir . No certain identification, but there are features in common with those who appear in the photo below, where the choristers were identified.



Doynton Church Choir c.1902.

Photo courtesy Barbara Price

Back Row	Middle Row	Front Row
C. J. King, organist.	William Jones	Arthur Jones
Edward Amos, sexton.	Charles Percy	Bertrum Webb
Ted Holloway	Leonard Holloway	Harold Amos
George Jones	Charles Comery	Jack Godwin
Harry Bryant		George Croome
Harry Comery		Ruginald Alvie
Oliver Hinton		
Louis Jones		
William Robinson, Rector (1899-1908).		

Next Page.

In the stetson, Tony Hooper, Chairmen Doynton Parish Council 1963-86, talking to Albert Amos, Parish Clerk 1941-83. The garden party, July 7th., 1984, took place in a heatwave; they and the stallholders have all sought shelter under the trees - Bramley, William Bon Chrétien, Juglans Regia.