

Talbot history
is never ending.

June 2010

Vol. 21 No. 3

We'll keep
digging!

TALBOTANIA



*1st Bakery, Brick Lane, Dolston (sic.), Arthur &
Eliza Talbot. 1916.*

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TALBOT RESEARCH ORGANISATION

Affiliated to the Federation of Family History Societies.

<http://www.TalbotRO.co.uk>



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Editorial



This is the last Talbotania that Mike & I will produce, so we make no apology for 'blowing our own trumpets' and for taking a nostalgic look back at what we have achieved over the last 35 years.

For us it has been a very enjoyable hobby which has allowed us to visit places, meet people and experience events which we never would otherwise.

Over the years we have had several hundred members; some who joined just for a year and some who have been extremely loyal. Elsewhere in the journal you will find the longest continuous members listed, but there are many more who have supported us for a great number of years.

We like to think that we have been able to help in taking your ancestry back further, but there have been some failures. The most notable is probably our inability to find the elusive John Stuart Talbot, but maybe that is more to do with the many myths and legends that have grown up around him.

We know from your letters and E Mails how much you have enjoyed the journals and we take great pleasure in that. We still hope that perhaps in the future someone else will come forward and continue publication.

Over the years we feel that we have made many friends; some of whom we met either at Gatherings or here in Gosport and some who we only corresponded with.

There are also a great many people that we need to say a particular thank you to:-

- To all our regional representatives, and in particular to Daphne Morley who for many years collected the Australian subscriptions for us.
- To everyone who served on the T.I.G. committee and helped us to organise 4 memorable Gatherings.
- To John Talbot of Harpenden, Herts., who has been our webmaster since 1997, maintaining our website and bringing in new members.
- To anyone who has provided material for the journal over the years.
- To all those who in recent years have helped us to index the journals.
- Finally to you, our loyal members who have appreciated all our efforts over the years.

When I first met Mike, he had the following quotation in the front of his Talbot file. It is attributed to Don Antonio Sturmendi and I think it sums up what we are all trying to do:-

"When man becomes aware of his past, he acquires a sense of responsibility, he feels himself to be a link in an unbroken chain, which he is bound to preserve, to increase if he can and, ultimately, to transmit, with respect everything noble and worthy that he has received."

Mary.

LONGEST CONTINUOUS MEMBERS

George Talbot & Roy Talbot members since 1981
(Mike's uncle & cousin)

Daphne Morley our Australian Representative for many years – member since 1981

Colin Bagnall, John Dallison & Christine Sancton from Canada – all members since 1982

DID YOU KNOW?

That Richard Talbot is a member of a vocal performing group 'Three2U' Their first release was a Christmas CD "Three Kings".

In November 2009 they released "Deep Peace".

Check out their website:-

<http://www.richardtalbotproductions.com>

DESCENDANTS OF JAMES TALBOT

of Wolverley, Worcestershire.

EDITOR

I was halfway through producing this journal when a long standing member, Colin Bagnall, rang to say that he had only just read that we were ceasing to publish Talbotania. He was very disappointed because finally with the help of a professional researcher, he had got his tree back to the end of the 16th century at Wolverley, Worcestershire and he was looking forward to seeing it in print. I very rashly said I would fit it in to this last journal!

The tree, when it arrived, was almost 4 feet long and contained 10 generations. Under each name there was a varying amount of information. There was no way we could reduce it down for the journal and still be able to read the information.

So what I have decided to do is to draw out the tree again with limited information. Even this will extend to several pages. I will then type out the information just for Colin's direct line. If any reader is interested in any of the other lines, then I suggest they contact Colin for the information.

Colin Bagnall, 40, Cliff End, Purley, Surrey. CR2 1BN
Or Glablan@aol.com

* * * * *

(1) JAMES TALBOT

died abt 1591

Burial June 25th, 1591

Wolverley, Worcs.

Occupation:-

Tailor 1561, 1562, 1565, 1568, 1589

(2) WILLIAM TALBOT

Born abt 1565

Baptism November 25th, 1565

Donington, Shropshire

Died after 1618

Occupation: -

Tailor 1591

(see below)

or (2) FRANCIS TALBOT

Buried November 22nd, 1630

Kinver, Staffs.

Occupation:-

Yeoman 1591

Will - Administration granted

April 7th, 1631 (Litchfield)

(3) WILLIAM TALBOT or
Born about 1603
Baptism November 13th, 1603
Wolverley, Worcs.

(3) WILLIAM TALBOT
Born about 1602
Baptism June 27th, 1602
Wolverley, Worcs.

(4) SAMUEL TALBOT
Born about 1629
Baptism January 18th, 1628/29
Wolverley, Worcs.
Buried April 11th, 1681
Wolverley, Worcs.

(5) JAMES TALBOT
Baptism March 19th, 1653/54
Wolverley, Worcs.
Buried August 26th, 1728
Wolverley, Worcs.

(6) WILLIAM TALBOT
Baptism April 6th, 1695
Wolverley, Worcs.
Buried March 9th, 1780
Wolverley, Worcs.

(7) THOMAS TALBOT
Baptism December 2nd, 1723
Wolverley, Worcs.
Buried January 2nd, 1780
Kinver, Staffs.
Occupation:-
Slitter of iron 1751

(8) THOMAS TALBOT
Baptism November 29th, 1760
Kinver, Staffs
Occupation:-
Slitter of iron 1781
Settlement examination June 1st, 1784 at Kinver.
Removal order May 16th, 1791 from Kinver to Wolverley.

(9) JAMES TALBOT
Baptism June 26th, 1803
Lydney, Gloucs.

Front cover

The picture on the front cover was sent by John Keefe of Australia.
The children in front of the shop are the children of John's grandparents
Arthur & Eliza Talbot.
They are Bessie b. 1908, Cissie b. 1905, Jessie (John's mother) b. 1914 &
Henry Edward known as Ted b. 1902..

Died May 24th, 1860

Occer Hill, Staffs.

Occupation:-

Clerk in Iron Works 1851; agent 1854; Manager at Iron Works 1860

1841 Census, Golds Green, West Bromwich, Staffs.

1851 Census, Dudley Street, Wednesbury, Staffs.

(10) MARY ANN TALBOT

Born in West Bromwich, Staffs.

Baptism March 8th, 1835

Tipton, Staffs.

Married DAVID BAGNALL April 17th, 1854, Wednesbury, Staffs.

1841 Census, Golds Green, West Bromwich Staffs,

1851 Census, Dudley St., Wednesbury, Staffs.

1891 Census Grocers Shop, 65, Lower Dudley Street, Wednesbury, Staffs.,

1901 Census, 67, Leabrook Road, Wednesbury, Staffs.

She was Colin's great grandmother.

Colin also sent a copy of the Quarter Session Records for Worcestershire for the year 1607.

It is too long to reproduce in full but the gist is as follows:-

His Majesty's Justices of the Peace in the County of Worcestershire heard of the misdemeanours & misbehaviour of William Talbote of Wolverley. The said William Talbotte is a common drunkard and hath been sundry times presented so to be by the church wardens of the parish of Wolverley.

He is a common Barritor (sic) and a disturber of his Majesties peace, a night walker a brawler and hath afterwards put his Majesties subjects in fear and peril of their lives especially in the time of his drunkenness,

TALBOT is accused of:-

1) Quarrelling with alehouse keeper Hughe Perrie (a very quiet man) – and throwing him behind the fire where the stockings on his legs burnt and he himself was in great danger of spoiling.

2) On another occasion when a stranger was staying in the ale house, Talbot went to the stranger's room with a pot of ale in one hand and a candle in the other, and offered him 'a carowse'. The stranger refused, so Talbotte thrust the candle into the bed straw which burnt putting the stranger and the alehouse in great danger.

- 3) He persistently sits in ale houses drinking until he is exceedingly drunk and then has to be evicted by force.
- 4) After being evicted, or sometimes leaving of his own accord, he returns home to find his wife, their children and his wife's mother in bed. He threatens his wife either with a sword or a dagger and also his mother in law, putting them in continual fear of their lives.
- 5) He was put in the stocks by the constable and his neighbours, after being released he broke the stocks into pieces and threatened his neighbours with the pieces.
- 6) He has attacked William Hill, John Toye, John Holborowgh and Edward Aphugh – the latter so grievously that he subsequently died.
- 7) He also attacked his brother Ffrauncis Talbote, cruelly hurting and wounding him with many grievous wounds in diverse parts of his body so that he despaired of his life.

William Talbott was then arrested and the case was to be heard before some of his Majesties Justices of this County.
The outcome of the case is not recorded.

EDITOR: - I have tried to précis the account and put it into readable English, whilst at the same time retaining some of the 17th century language and spelling.

The trees and the above information were researched by Dr Stephen W. Taylor BA, PhD, FSG, a member of AGRA.
The copyright is retained by Dr Hill and Colin Bagnall.
None of this material should be reproduced without prior permission.

DID YOU KNOW?

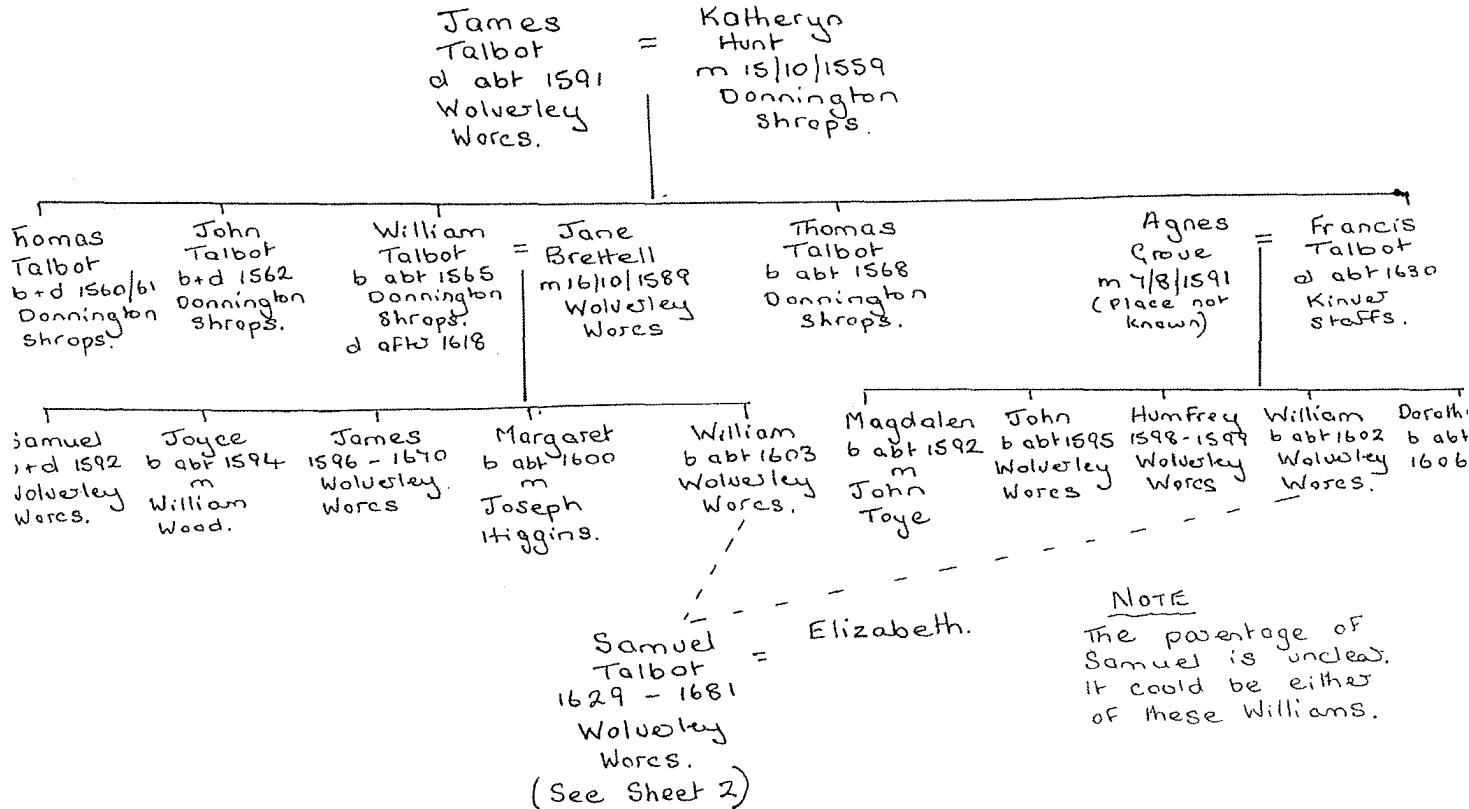
That when the American Assistant Secretary of State, Mr Talbot, visited India he was met by demonstrators waving banners outside the American Embassy in New Delhi.
The banners read "*Yankee Talbot Go Home. Kashmir not for sale.*"

DID YOU KNOW?

That Stone Castle in Kent was sold earlier this year for £760,000.

Our thanks to Richard Talbot, our Canadian representative for these Did You Knows.

THE DESCENDANTS OF JAMES TALBOT.



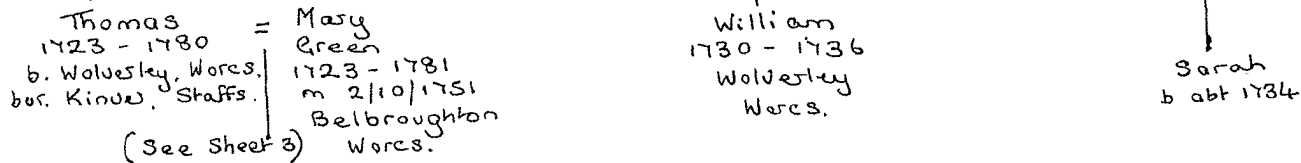
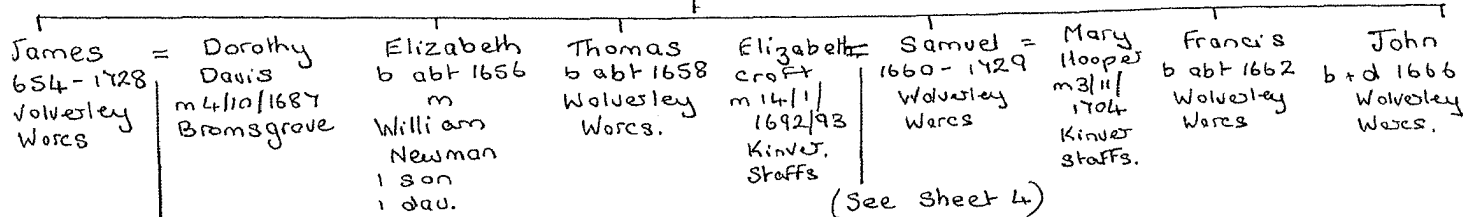
THE DESCENDANTS OF JAMES TALBOT. SHEET 2.

72

Samuel
 Talbot
 1629 - 1681
 Wolverley
 Wores

=

Elizabeth.



THE DESCENDANTS OF JAMES TALBOT

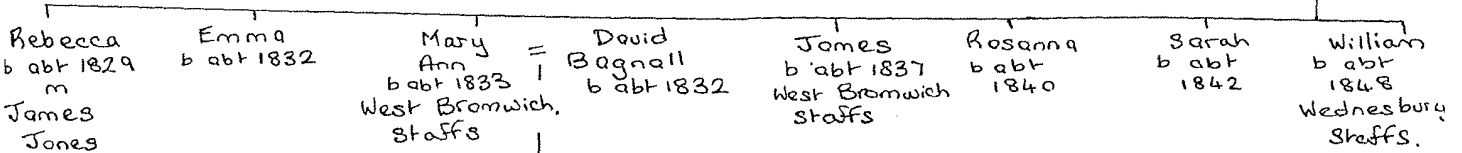
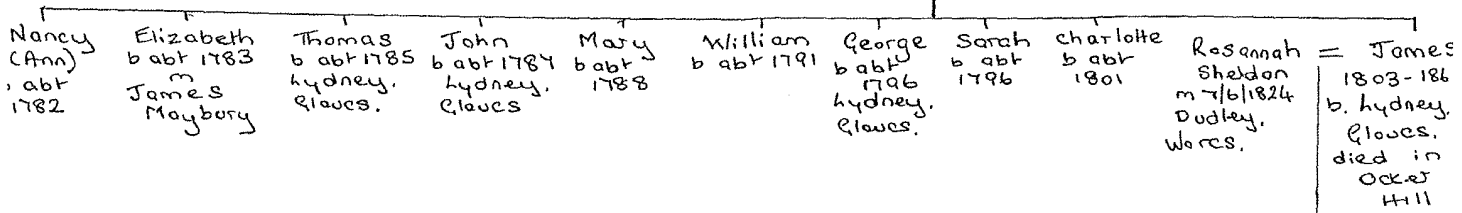
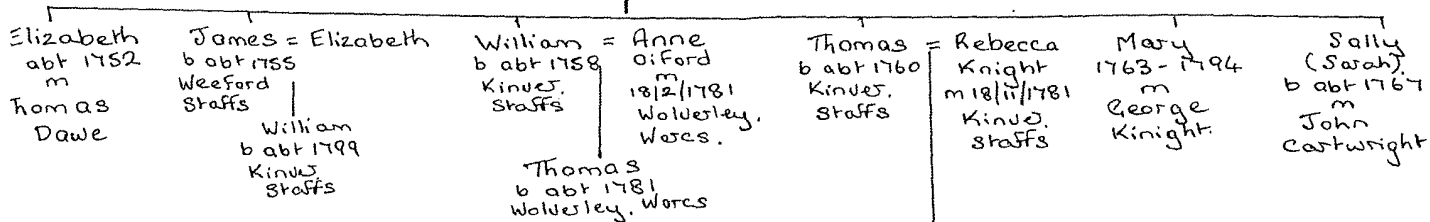
SHEET 3.

73

Thomas Talbot
1723 - 1780

=

Mary Green
1723 - 1781



Colin's great grandparents.

THE DESCENDANTS OF JAMES TALBOT

SHEET 4.

74

Samuel
Talbot
1660 - 1729

= Elizabeth
Croft

William
1694 - 1762
Wolverley
Wares.

= Mary
Jones
m 12/12/1721
Wolverley,
Wares

Samuel
1730 - 1783
Wolverley
Wares.

= Hannah
Green
m 3/6/1761
Wolverley,
Wares

Mary
b abt 1762
Wolverley,
Wares.

William
1763 - 1818
Wolverley
Wares.
m
Sarah.

Elizabeth
b abt 1764
Wolverley
Wares.
m
William
Hancocks

Samuel
1765 - 1826
Wolverley,
Wares.

Hannah
b abt 1767
Wolverley,
Wares.
m
Benson
Waldron

Thomas
1768 - 1817
Wolverley,
Wares.

Sarah
b abt
1770

John
b + d
1772

A HISTORY OF TRO & TALBOTANIA

The Talbot Research Organisation was born late one Saturday night in the mid to late 1960's, when Mike, feeling very down after being spurned by a girl he was fond of, resolved to devote his energies to family history. He already had some background knowledge of the subject because his grandfather and later his father had corresponded with American Talbots since the 1920's.

His early researches consisted not only of visiting local Record Offices but of writing to incumbents of parishes asking them to look at the records for him. At that time a lot of Parish Records had still not been deposited in Record Offices and a typical response would be:-

"Sarum St Thomas 1700 -1800

1727 Jane Talbut buried, November 19th

1753 Anne, wife of Zachariah Talbut buried, November 29th

1794 Francis, son of James & Mary Talbot baptised August 27th, born August 15th.

The time taken for this was 3 hours at 8/- (40p) an hour, plus a searcher's fee at St Thomas's Church of 10/- (50p) making a total of 34/- (£1.70).

Mike also became a member of the Society of Genealogists and through them he was able to borrow booklets containing the copied registers of certain parishes. These were sent through the post and the borrowers were trusted to return them within a certain time frame. I wonder how many went missing?

In this way Mike was able to trace his own family in north Hampshire and other noted Talbot families nearby, particularly in Wiltshire, as well as the family of the Earls of Shrewsbury.

Immediate members of the family including uncles, aunts and cousins became members of TRO and at weekends and holidays they set out to visit places of interest such as St Mary Bourne, Hampshire, and Lacock and Salisbury, Wiltshire. Often these visits were undertaken by public transport although car owning members were pressed in to service to get to more inaccessible places.

By the time I met Mike in 1973 he was a very experienced researcher and he was able to help me to trace my own paternal line. My interest had been awakened initially by a display in the library of the village where I

was born in which my ancestors back to my great great grandfather featured. I must admit my research was simplified by an uncommon name, Hucknall, and the fact that my brother was able to spend his lunch hours in the Nottinghamshire Record Office. We quickly managed to trace back to a 10th great grandfather, born about 1638, and I was hooked!

Early in 1974 Mike & I attended the inaugural meeting of the South East Hampshire Genealogical Society (which later became the Hampshire Genealogical Society). Mike had been contacted because of his Society of Genealogists membership and agreed to support this new venture. As a result of our interests being published in their journal, we received several more enquiries about Talbot family history.

After our marriage in April 1974, Mike & I continued our research into the Talbot family spending a lot of time writing letters, particularly to America. We continued to borrow Parish Register booklets from the Society of Genealogists and we visited Record Offices whenever time permitted. With both of us working and a new home which needed a lot of attention, time was limited and it was to become even more limited in May 1975 when our son, John, was born.

However we pressed on, spending a great deal of time writing letters, which in those days was the only satisfactory means of communication. But sometimes it took long time to receive a reply particularly from abroad. At Christmas in particular we tried to catch up with everyone. However by the autumn of 1977 it was obvious that letter writing would not be possible this Christmas. Our second child was due in December 1977 and John was now a toddler! My hands would be too full to write letters! For some time we had toyed with the idea of putting TRO onto a more formal footing as until then we had borne all the costs ourselves. We were encouraged by various members of the Hampshire Genealogical Society including John Tyrell who had recently formed the Tyrell One Name Society.

So we tentatively produced our first journal and called it Talbotania. It was typed out in A4 format and then sent to Leicester where my brother duplicated it for us and posted it back. That first journal contained an article on the Talbot family of Eyam, Derbyshire who were wiped out by the plague and another article on the Talbot Hound. It was circulated to all the Copyright Receipt Libraries, some other libraries, our correspondents, members of Mike's family and Talbots picked at random from the telephone directory. We invited them all to become members of the Talbot Research Organisation for the princely sum of £1 per year.

The journals sent out to the Copyright Receipt Libraries and other libraries throughout the world resulted in us appearing in various lists which also helped us to acquire new members.

During 1978 we applied to become affiliated members of the newly formed Federation of Family History Societies. To achieve membership we had to undertake to record all the Talbot entries at Somerset House (as it was then) – which housed all the birth, marriage and death indexes. We also had to record Talbot entries in the British Telephone Directories. It was a task that we still haven't completed over 30 years later!

We also invited the then Earl of Shrewsbury to be our President, stressing that nothing would be required of him other than the use of his name on our letter heading. We were very flattered when he agreed. It was a role taken over by his son when he died.

We produced a second journal in early 1978, again sending it to Leicester to be duplicated. It was however not a very cost effective way of doing things, so when my mother decided to give up driving and gave some of the proceeds from the sale of her car to us, we were able to buy our own duplicator.

For the next 6 years we wrote most of the articles, typed them onto skins, duplicated, collated, stapled and prepared the resulting journals for posting. We couldn't include pictures unless we paid extra to have them photo-copied onto a sheet which was inserted into the journal.

By 1985 I had returned to work and time was once more in short supply. My Editorial for March 1985 recorded that *"we have taken the plunge and had the journal printeda printed journal will be less limiting on what we can include. For instance we hope to print photos, maps, old records etc. which we could not do when we were duplicating"*. The journal was (and still is) typed in A4 format and then reduced down.

Although we call it "printing" it is in fact photocopied. Once all the typing is complete and reduced down it is pasted onto A4 sheets. Nowadays we stick to 32 pages although in the beginning we sometimes had more. The A4 sheets are photocopied back to back and then need collating, folding and stapling. We started off using a commercial enterprise called 'Prontoprint' which was quite expensive and stretched our meagre resources at that time. However a chance conversation one day when I was collecting the journal led me to a local man who had just

retired from the Royal Navy and had set up a printing business in a shed in his back garden. It was called 'Sidney Press' after the road he lived in. For the next 18 or so years he produced the journal for us and we followed him from his shed to an industrial unit and finally to another shed in the garden of his retirement bungalow. The journal would be printed – often the same day as he received the master copy – but it came as a pile of A4 papers which had to be collated, folded and stapled.

It was an opportunity during their teenage years for John & Helen to earn some extra pocket money by collating it for us, but when they left home we had to do everything ourselves.

Eventually our man gave up the Sidney Press entirely in about 2006 and we were left to find someone else. We tried another photo-copying outfit in the town, and although he also collated it for us, the finished result was less than satisfactory and after 2 or 3 issues we were once again looking for someone else.

Our current printer was formerly an apprentice butcher working for Mike when we had our shop. His father set him up in the printing business and he produces all kinds of business cards, posters and fliers as well as an extremely useful booklet in which local tradesmen advertise and which is distributed monthly throughout the town. Not only is it considerably cheaper than our previous printers, but the journal comes already collated stapled and ready for posting.

The other innovation or progress came in 2000 when we purchased a computer and were able to word process the journal. This gives a much more satisfactory finished product than typing – and mistakes are much easier to correct! I must confess though that as a confirmed technophobe, I have never mastered the skill of producing the entire journal on the computer by means of a desk top publishing programme. Photos and other material are still cut and pasted by hand and Mike's drawings are done onto my typed sheets.

One advantage of the computer was that articles that come in as E Mail attachments, from web sites or Family History notice boards can be included just as they are with no need for retyping.

The computer does enable me to produce printed address labels which saves a little time, but packing and addressing the journals still takes a whole evening particularly in February when subscription reminders are

the weekend. So we were in a relaxed mood as we negotiated (having avoided the inevitable Friday evening jams) the notorious Hockley traffic lights at Winchester and headed for the M4. Our euphoria quickly disappeared as we ran into an hour long traffic jam, but finally we crossed the Severn Bridge to Wales, and arrived at the hotel in Porthcawl as other committee members and some delegates were emerging from the dining room. We sat in the bar and had a drink and discussed any last minute problems that might arise, during which time the final members of the group arrived having been held up in the same motorway jam as us.

On Saturday morning we were up very early in order to get to Margam and put up displays in The Orangery before the delegates arrived. The weather had decided to be kind to us once again. It was a perfect spring day with plenty of sunshine, but not too hot. At about 9.30 am the first of the delegates began to arrive and we were busy greeting old friends, welcoming new ones and talking ten to the dozen.

After coffee, John Vivian Hughes was our first speaker. He gave us a very thorough and detailed account of the history of Margam and the Talbot's ownership of it. A buffet lunch in another part of The Orangery was a very leisurely affair, and afterwards there was time to chat, to view the displays, buy some souvenirs or stroll in the grounds.

The afternoon's talk was a very comprehensive account of the Quakers and their records and how to go about researching Quaker ancestors. It was given by John Talbot Perkins from County Durham who has spent a great deal of time researching his Quaker ancestors, though they are not to be found in his Talbot line.

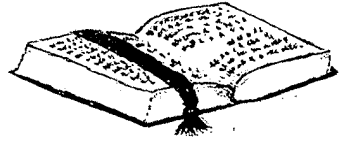
After tea and Welsh cakes, we adjourned to the hotel in Porthcawl for a rest, a browse round the shops or a stroll along the beach before changing for dinner.

A minibus collected us from the hotel and took us to the 'Abbots Kitchen', a small restaurant just outside Margam Park. It is run by Margam Abbey and all profits go to the Abbey. They had really done us proud; the table was beautifully set with menus designed specially for us; and the food was superb. We were the only party there, so we were able to chat in comfort, both during the meal when we were all seated at one long table, and afterwards when there was no rush to leave. Everyone agreed that it was a much more relaxed meal than we had previously had at Stockbridge or Stratford.

On Sunday morning, many of us again rose early and drove to Margam to attend the early morning Eucharist. I think we trebled the congregation that morning, but nevertheless we were made to feel very welcome.

We then drove the short distance round to The Orangery in order to welcome delegates to the Sunday session.

OBITUARY



Elaine Hill 1935 – 2010

As we were working on this journal, we heard the very sad news of the death on May 5th of Elaine Hill. Elaine was a great friend to the Organisation who traced her Talbot ancestry back to a branch at Harwell, Berks (but now in Oxfordshire).

We first met her 23 years ago in May 1987 when she generously offered the use of her home in Goring on Thames, Berkshire as the venue for the first ever Talbot Get –Together.

She continued to offer hospitality to the committee who organised the Talbot Gatherings and she acted as the Treasurer, collecting in the booking cheques and paying the many bills. She attended all the Gatherings, Walkabouts and Weekends and we thoroughly enjoyed her company.

Regretfully in the late 1990's her health began to decline, but she was always upbeat and forward looking. Although we haven't seen her much in the last 13 years, she wrote to us occasionally with snippets for the journal and family news. In 2006 she and her husband John celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary.

In what was to be her final letter to us at the end of March she said she had just spent a month in hospital with breathing difficulties which had not eased, but in spite of her own poor health she still remembered the grief of our daughter on losing her baby in 2008 and rejoiced at the safe arrival of her son last November.

On May 18th, together with Dennis & Dorothy Noble and Ruth & May Powell, Mike and I attended a celebration of her life at St Thomas's Church, Goring on Thames. Her children Matthew, Marcus and Joanna spoke eloquently of her love of the countryside, music and books as well as her devotion to her 3 grand-daughters and one grandson.

We will miss Elaine's chatty letters, but we are very grateful for all she did for the Organisation. We send our condolences to her husband John and to the rest of her family, including her sister Rita.

To quote from the service sheet, "*Her courage, sense of humour, uncomplaining smile, determination, spirit and amazing enthusiasm for life will be with us all for a long time*".

FOND MEMORIES OF EIGHTIES FUNNYMAN

Elaine's last letter to us enclosed the following cutting from the Henley Standard, January 22nd, 2010. It was reminiscences from Maggie Beedell of Henley, who formed the Cameo Dancers and appeared in shows all over the country. Recently she came across an old photograph of the troupe with Felix Bowness who died in September 2009,

"Maggie remembers Felix with affection from when the Cameo Dancers performed in his shows. She says he was a charming man and much-loved by the cast and audiences alike.

For many years Felix lived in Woodley in a house called The Struggle. He was best known for his role in Hi-de-Hi! the BBC comedy series that ran from 1980 – 1988.

Felix played the part of Fred Quilley, a suspended jockey who looked after the horses at the fictional Maplins Holiday Camp. He appeared in all 58 episodes.

What most people don't know is that Felix probably worked on more TV shows than anyone else, although not always on the screen. He was an in-demand warm-up man in the entertainment industry for more than 20 years.

Among the programmes for which he would prepare the audiences were 'The Morecombe and Wise Show', 'The Two Ronnies', 'This is Your Life' and 'Wogan'. Morecombe and Wise's producer said he was "the best in the business".

Felix appeared on screen in shows such as 'The Liver Birds', 'The goodies', 'Dad's Army', 'porridge', 'Are You Being Served?' and 'The Benny Hill Show'. In other words he was a very busy man.

I met Felix at a number of charity functions, to which he was always invited to attend dressed in his Hi-de-Hi outfit. Needless to say he performed this service willingly and with much humility.

Editor's note.

Felix Bowness had Talbot ancestry and his obituary appeared in the last Talbotania.

A HISTORY OF THE TALBOT INTERNATIONAL GATHERINGS.

In the early 1980's we were contacted by John Talbot of Hayes, Middx. who had just retired from the London Metropolitan Police force and was beginning to trace his family history. By co-incidence John descends from the Talbot family in Berkshire which Mike believes are also his ancestors, so we were able to take John back several generations at Harwell (which was formerly in Berkshire but is now in Oxfordshire).

John enthusiastically embraced his new hobby and spent a good deal of time at the Berkshire Record Office producing many lists and articles for Talbotania along the way. We also corresponded frequently and by 1986 had decided that we should meet 'somewhere in Berkshire'. This plan had to be shelved in 1986 because our son John was involved in a road accident – he was knocked off his bike and suffered a fractured skull and pelvis and a blood clot on the brain. So we spent much of August and September of that year in hospital with him.

When the idea of a meeting surfaced again early in 1987, another member, Elaine Hill, who also descended from the Harwell branch, offered her home at Goring on Thames, Berkshire as a meeting place. She also suggested that we invite any T.R.O. members who lived within travelling distance to attend as well. Finally on Sunday May 10th, 1987 Mike and I set off together with John, our son and Mike's father, also John. In all about 20 people turned up that day including the following who formed the first committee:-

Elaine Hill & her husband John.

Dennis & Dorothy Noble from Ampthill, Bedfordshire.

Eliana Sagasti from London

John & Jean Talbot from Hayes, Middlesex.

Elizabeth Walker and her aunt, Cecily Batten from Bedford.

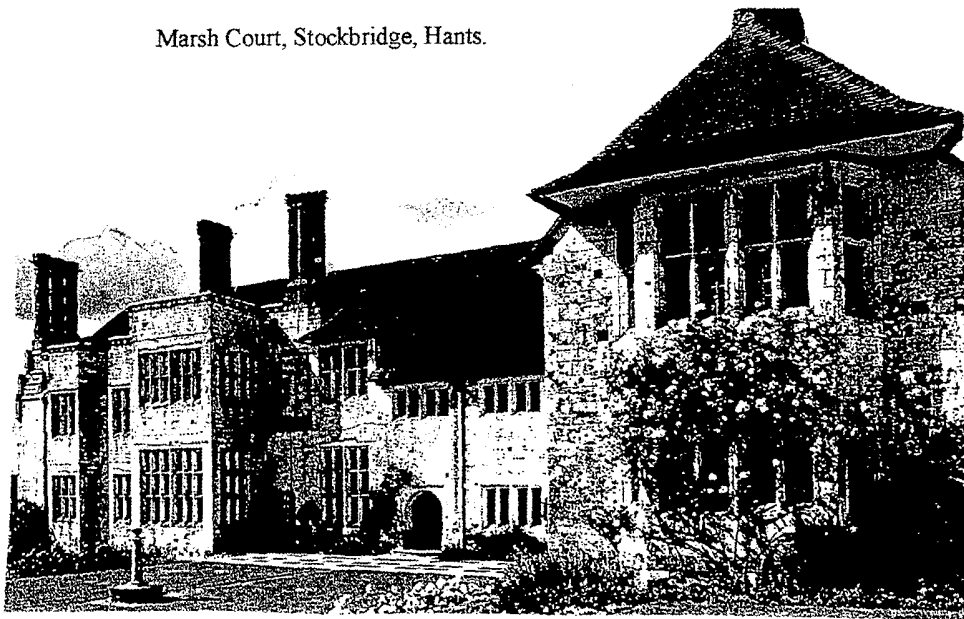
We all talked ten to the dozen, looked at various family trees (including John's which was well over 6 feet long!); and inspected photographs and documents and admired the 120 year old wedding dress which Elizabeth and Cecily had brought with them.

When it was time to leave, John of Hayes said, "Well I've thoroughly enjoyed today, but it wasn't long enough. We should do it again, but for longer next time".

And so the idea for a Talbot International Gathering was born.

Elaine Hill, as well as offering the use of her home for this first informal get together, was also instrumental in helping us to find a venue for our first Gathering. She had some friends who owned a boarding school called Marsh Court in Stockbridge, Hampshire and she offered to introduce us to them with a view to holding a Gathering there.

Marsh Court, Stockbridge, Hants.



Early in 1988 we met her in Stockbridge where we were introduced to her friends and given a tour of the school. Marsh Court was originally a stately home designed by Edwin Lutyens and built in 1902 of chalk and stone to a Tudor design. The garden was laid out by Gertrude Jekyll. We agreed that we would hire the Hall and some other ground floor rooms of the school. Initially we hoped to hold a Gathering during a school holiday later in 1988, but we underestimated how long such events take to plan, so eventually we settled for the late May Bank Holiday weekend in 1989. A steering committee was formed of the people mentioned above plus Maureen Harris who at that time lived in West Wellow on the Hampshire/Wiltshire border, Stuart Ransom from London and Mike and I. We met regularly at Elaine's house at regular intervals to organise the Gathering – particularly the speakers. We wanted a mixture of formal and

informal talks and approached various people who might talk to us. A charge would be made to cover the hire of the rooms; lunch, coffee and tea on both days and the Public Liability Insurance that we had to take out. Brochures were sent out to potential attendees detailing a variety of accommodation from 4 star hotels to bed and breakfast which they could book themselves and optional dinner was organised at a local restaurant for the Saturday evening.

We had special sweat shirts printed so that committee members would be instantly recognisable and various other memorabilia which could be purchased. Very early on it was decided to have a special cake which could be ceremonially cut at tea time. One of Mike's employees at that time had a husband who was a chef serving in the Royal Navy. He offered to make and ice the cake for us. In fact he made 2 fruit cakes from the same mixture, the second one to be eaten during a visit to the Royal Navy by Princess Margaret. Fruit cakes need to be made well in advance and left to mature and our cake matured on the ship while it sailed the Atlantic and visited America!

As there was a small chapel at Marsh Court, we thought it would be appropriate to begin the Gathering with a short service. I scanned Crockford's Clerical Directory for a clergyman called Talbot who might come and conduct the service for us. I eventually found the Reverend Jack Talbot of Christchurch, Dorset who agreed to take the service. Later we discovered that he was suffering from a terminal illness and our invitation provided the impetus he needed to fight the disease and carry on. Unfortunately though, he died not long after the Gathering.

We also decided to include the Ifley Carol in the service. This had been composed by Albert Edward Talbot, a blind organist in the village of Ifley in Oxfordshire. The words had surfaced after many years, but not the music until Elaine Hill and her daughter Joanna visited an old lady who sang the carol to them and Joanna was able to annotate the music.

So the stage was set for our 1st Talbot International Gathering. This is what I wrote about it afterwards:-

"Euphoric – that is the only word that accurately describes the feelings of Mike and I when we arrived home on Sunday May 28th, after the First Talbot International Gathering. In spite of our worries and concerns, over many months of planning, we had an extremely successful weekend, helped to a great extent by 4 factors:-

1) The enthusiasm and friendliness of the people who attended.

2) *The very hard work put in by the committee members and their families.*

3) *Marsh Court and its environs which proved to be a perfect venue.*

4) *The weather which couldn't have been kinder – unbroken sunshine all weekend.*

Mike and I arrived at Marsh Court at 8.0am on the Saturday together with other committee members. The next 1½ hours were very hectic, setting up displays, the book stall, the reception desk and organising the dining room. By 9.45am people were beginning to arrive. Our son John did sterling work at the top of the drive, welcoming people to the Gathering and directing them to the car park. Elaine, Elizabeth and I manned the reception desk, giving out name tags and programmes for the weekend. In the dining room, Maureen and Elaine's family were busy serving coffee. From there people drifted into the Hall to view the displays and peruse the book stall which was very ably manned by Dorothy Noble and our daughter Helen.

10.30am found us all in the chapel for the Service conducted by the Reverend Jack Talbot. His address (which I hope to include elsewhere in this journal) was very appropriate to our Gathering and must have involved him in a lot of preparation. We owe him a big vote of thanks, particularly as he has been very ill. It is also appropriate to thank Joanna Hill for her expert organ playing which also contributed to the occasion. After the service we returned to the Hall where I gave a short talk on the Talbot Research Organisation and how it came to be formed. Here the only problem of the weekend occurred. Standing on the raised platform at one end of the Hall, I could hear my voice reverberating around the high ceiling of the Hall, and afterwards people at the back complained that they couldn't hear very well.

After my talk there was some free time for talking and looking at the displays, followed by lunch and time to stroll in the beautiful gardens.

The afternoon commenced with a talk by Hugh Chetwynd Talbot. He talked a little about John Talbot, 1st Earl of Shrewsbury and of how much more he is admired in France than here in England. Hugh talked of his visit to Castillon where together with Mitterand's son, he opened the 'Avenue de John Talbot' – an event that didn't even merit a mention in the British media. Hugh then talked about the Shrewsbury succession case and said that the Earls of Shrewsbury were one of the few families in the English nobility who had not only had to prove THEIR right to the title, but had also to prove that no-one else had a prior claim. Hugh talked about the missing finger joint known as the Talbot finger and its occurrence in his family. Again we experienced a problem with the acoustics. Hugh had talked from the floor of the Hall, but the acoustics

magnificent wood panelled drawing room and the billiard table whose chalk base had been carved in situ.

Finally it was time to disperse; to say goodbye to new friends; to promise to write; to send material; to keep in touch. Mike and I have to say a very big thank you, not only to all the committee members:- Elaine Hill, Maureen Harris, Dorothy & Dennis Noble, Elizabeth Walker, Cecily Batten and Stuart Ransom; but also to their families who worked so hard to make it such a success. We were also asked will we organise another one. For Mike & I the answer is yes, probably in 2 years time, but unfortunately a new venue will have to be found as Marsh Court is being sold. However the final decision will have to rest with the committee and will probably be made at our next meeting in September."

In all about 70 people attended over the 2 days including 4 from Australia and 1 from Canada. I had quite a surreal experience as I stood up to welcome everyone on the first morning. Mike's father had died a couple of months earlier, but there he appeared to be, sitting in the audience in front of me! It transpired that it was in fact his first cousin, Harry Talbot from Sevenoaks, Kent who I had never met, but the family resemblance was remarkable!

No sooner was the first Gathering over than we began to plan the second. As Marsh Court was not available, we began to give some thought to a different part of the country. It was felt that although Marsh Court had been very successful and enjoyable; some people had spent much of their time in the kitchen washing up!



Mary Arden's House, Stratford on Avon, 1991

Eventually we opted for an hotel package – The Charlecote Pheasant near Stratford on Avon in Warwickshire. They would provide a conference room and cater for all our meals including a dinner on the Saturday evening. The only proviso was that we would need to vacate the conference room early on Saturday afternoon so that they could prepare it for the dinner. We therefore decided that we would organise an optional coach tour on the Saturday afternoon to take in Stratford, Shakespeare's birthplace, Anne Hathaway's cottage, and Warwick & Kenilworth castles.

So the 2nd Talbot International gathering took place in May 1991. In terms of numbers attending it wasn't as successful as the first one. It was more expensive than Stockbridge and we were in the middle of a recession with a war being fought in the Gulf. Nevertheless those who attended seemed to enjoy it. My report in the journal read as follows:-

“Dawn on the morning of Saturday May 11th, 1991 found us pointing our car north out of Gosport en route for Stratford on Avon. Our drive north was uneventful and we arrived at the Charlecote Pheasant Hotel at about 9.0am.

The next hour was a flurry of activity putting up displays, arranging the bookstall, ensuring the slide projector worked and displaying the raffle prizes. Then people began to arrive, and we welcomed familiar faces and introduced ourselves to new ones. Some people had already met having spent Friday night in the hotel; other, like us, had driven to Stratford that morning.

During coffee I slipped over to reception to obtain the key to our room. It was a palatial family room containing a double and two single beds. Situated on the ground floor of an old house which formed part of the hotel complex, it had obviously been a kitchen at some time because the bread oven was still there.

After coffee I gave the first talk of the Gathering. Originally it was just going to be an introduction, but a couple of weeks before the Gathering our main speaker had pulled out in order to visit a sick brother in America, so I had to give a more comprehensive talk. Afterwards there was time to browse at the bookstall or to chat before lunch in the 'carvery'. The afternoon talk on the Talbots of Bashall was given by Dennis Noble. Dennis had come to the gathering on his own, leaving his wife, Dorothy in hospital!

After tea most people took the opportunity of a guided coach tour of the area. As well as visiting sites of Shakespearean interest in and around Stratford, such as his birthplace, Elizabeth Arden's House and Anne Hathaway's Cottage, we also visited Warwick & Kenilworth Castles.

We arrived back at the hotel in time to prepare for the evening's dinner dance. This was something which wasn't part of the original itinerary (at least not the dance part), but we were asked if we would join with some other groups. Although some delegates left after the meal was over because of the loud music, others stayed and enjoyed it. We stayed until 11.0 pm when tiredness overcame us.

Sunday morning we were up early to put the displays back up (we had taken them down for the dance.) I gave my second talk of the weekend and after coffee Carole Medlicott gave her talk on Talbot Village, Bournemouth followed by a slide tour of the village. We were so engrossed that some slides had to be left until after lunch.

Finally we all went outside for the obligatory photos. Then it was time to say our goodbyes and start our journey south.

Before concluding this brief account, I must say a very big thank you to the committee who helped to organise the Gathering:-

To Elaine Hill who was the treasurer and also allowed us to use her home for committee meetings.

To Dennis & Dorothy Noble who did all the liaison with the hotel.

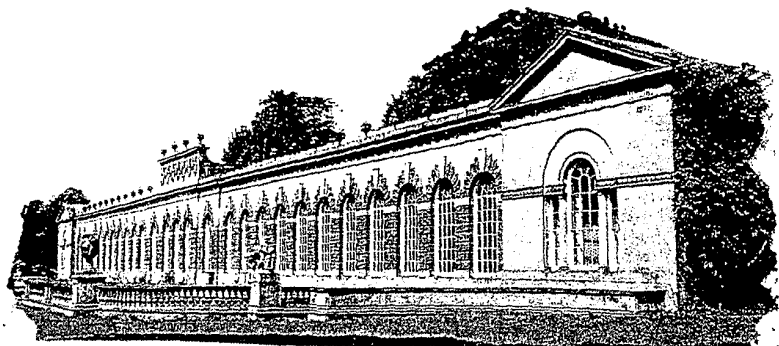
To Carole Medlicott, Ruth Powell, Maureen Harris, Stuart Ransom and John Talbot who all gave up time to attend committee meetings and ensured that everything ran smoothly.

Finally to Joy Curtis in Canada who posted all the American and Canadian Booking Forms for us.

This time we attracted delegates from America and Canada as well as Australia.

Towards the end of the weekend our thoughts turned to the next Gathering. Daphne Morley from Australia commented that whilst she probably wouldn't return to England in two years time she might in three. So we decided to aim for the third Gathering in 1994.

We tossed around ideas for the next venue and felt it should have a more definite Talbot connection, but that it should be a similar weekend to Marsh Court where we hired a venue but delegates made their own accommodation arrangements. For a while we toyed with two venues; Malahide Castle near Dublin and Margam Park near Port Talbot in South Wales. We eventually decided on the latter as we feared the cost of travelling to Ireland might put delegates off. Another plus was that one of our long term members, John Vivian Hughes of Port Talbot was an expert on the Talbots of Margam and we knew he would be one of our speakers.



The Orangery, Margam Park, Port Talbot,
West Glamorgan.

In terms of publicity beforehand, Margam was probably our most successful Gathering. We were listed in the Welsh Tourist Guide publications as the Talbots returning to Port Talbot and this was picked up by the 'Daily Mail' – a national newspaper. Mike was interviewed on BBC Radio 5 and we marvelled at our local postman who delivered letters simply addressed to Mike & Mary Talbot, Gosport or Talbot Butchers!

The Gathering was to be held the first weekend of May 1994 at The Orangery in Margam Park. The committee had booked itself into an hotel in Porthcawl and delegates were invited to join us there or make their own arrangements. The Saturday evening meal was to be held at 'The Abbot's Kitchen', Margam. This had originally been the Church Hall for Margam Abbey, but had been turned into a very successful and profitable restaurant, the proceeds from which supported the Abbey.

This time we had delegates from America, South Africa and Australia including 2 teenage sisters, Alison & Marilyn Talbot who had pestered their father to allow them to travel from Australia for the Gathering.

This is what I wrote afterwards:-

"The evening of April 29th, 1994 saw Mike and pointing the car westward and heading for South Wales and the third Talbot International Gathering. The previous week had been very hectic, ensuring that all the displays were mounted and ready to put up; that we had a sufficient supply of membership forms, back copies of Talbotania etc.; and last but not least that John & Helen were organised to look after themselves for

Our first speaker was Arthur Rees, the Vice Chairman of the Port Talbot Historical Society who gave us an illustrated talk on the history of Port Talbot and its evolution from a very small seaside resort to a major industrial centre.

After coffee our final speaker was Stuart Ransom who spoke not only of his own Talbot family of barge builders in London, but also about the kinds of records to be found in major London repositories.

After another excellent lunch, John Vivien Hughes led us on a tour of the Park and the Castle. We first visited Margam Abbey where we were able to see the beautiful vestments they possess and also to see the Talbot tombs. We then walked up to the Castle passing the remains of the Abbey Chapter House and the lake and ponds on the way. John explained how the Castle had been gutted by fire, but was now in the process of being restored. We saw the renovated entrance hall and the grand staircase and some smaller rooms which house exhibits.

After a brief respite to visit and spend money in the shop, we walked along the terrace in front of the Castle and back down the steps to the Orangery. Then it was time to say goodbye to everyone, before taking down the exhibits and packing them back into our cars.

For the committee it wasn't quite the end of the weekend because we all stayed an extra night in Porthcawl and so we were able to have dinner together on Sunday evening. Afterwards Mike, Elaine and I felt we had to walk off some of the enormous amounts of food we had consumed over the weekend. During our stroll we discussed possible future Gatherings, but any decisions will have to wait until the next Committee meeting in the autumn.

For Mike and I these Gatherings are a dream become reality, but none of it would be possible without the help, support and extremely hard work of the T.I.G. Committee. So our grateful thanks go to Elaine Hill, Dennis & Dorothy Noble, Ruth Powell, Carole Medlicott, Eliana Sagasti, and last but not least 'our man on the spot' Frank Talbot. Without them the Gathering would not have been possible.

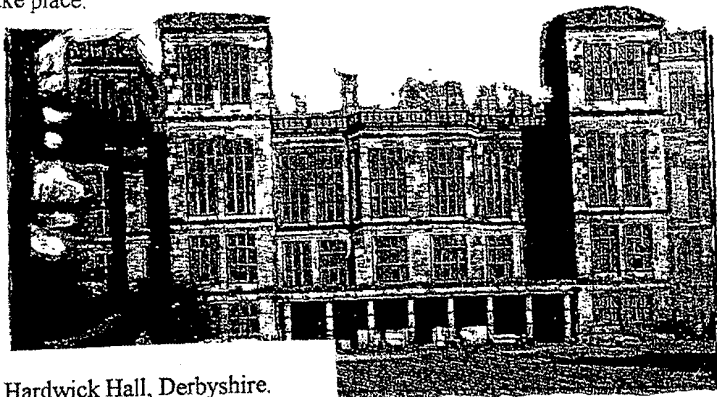
It was also a great pleasure to welcome members of the Glamorgan Family History Society who ran a book stall for the benefit of delegates during the weekend.

So our thoughts turned to Gathering number 4. As the first 3 had all been in the south, we felt that perhaps we should try for a venue in the Midlands to allow other members the chance to attend. We investigated several possible venues in an around Nottinghamshire, but they all proved to be rather expensive until Dennis & Dorothy Noble found an hotel called "The Shoulder of Mutton" at Hardstoft near Chesterfield in Derbyshire which was reasonably priced. Its other advantage was that it

was not far from Hardwick Hall, built by Bess Talbot which was celebrating its 400th anniversary in 1997.

From the notes I made at committee meetings, we decided that this would be a much more informal Gathering than the other three, with less formal speakers and more time for simply talking to other delegates. To this end we only booked the conference room for the Saturday and we only planned for one speaker, the curator of Hardwick Hall. As "The Shoulder of Mutton" was out in the country, we planned to have our customary Saturday evening dinner there and by request of a delegate, Frank Talbot gave an illustrated after diner talk on his trips to France to follow the Talbot connections there.

Sunday morning was free, allowing time to explore some of the delights that Derbyshire has to offer and we met again after lunch at Hardwick Hall for a guided tour. We were able to present a cheque, - the proceeds of our raffle - towards the cost of the renovations which were about to take place.



Hardwick Hall, Derbyshire.

DID YOU KNOW?

That when John Talbot was created 1st Earl of Shrewsbury in 1442, his second wife, Margaret Beauchamp felt that as she was the Countess of Shrewsbury it was HER eldest son who should inherit the title.

However, in accordance with the law of the land, the title went to his eldest son by his first wife, Maud Furnival.

My recollections were penned as follows:-

The evening of May 2nd, 1997 saw Mike and I driving north to the venue of the 4th Talbot International Gathering at Hardstoft near Chesterfield, Derbyshire. It was a very hot evening and because it was a Bank Holiday weekend the roads were busy. There were lots of things to discuss as we drove along; the landslide victory of the Labour party the previous evening in the General Election and how it would affect us in the future; last minute arrangements for the following day; and above all, anticipation of the forthcoming meeting with Mike's distant cousin Grant, whose ancestor had emigrated to America in 1854. This would be the first time the families had met in the intervening years.

In spite of the traffic, we had a good journey and arrived at "The Shoulder of Mutton" at about 8.0pm. We were told the other Talbots were in the restaurant having dinner, which gave us time to sort ourselves out and freshen up.

Finally the moment arrived when Mike and Grant met; a handshake quickly developed into a spontaneous hug, which brought a tear to the eye of Grant's wife Vivien and to mine. Their features were remarkably similar; - their build; their noses; their eyes and their bone structure - the Talbot genes are obviously very strong! For the next hour or so everyone talked ten to the dozen, but conscious of the early start required the next day, we were not late in bed.

Although Dennis & Dorothy Noble, Elaine Hill and Carole Medlicott had put up some displays the previous day, we were still busy on the Saturday morning finalising arrangements, finishing displays and arranging souvenir stalls and raffle prizes.

By 9.30am people were starting to arrive, to sign the visitor's book, collect their badges, to look at the displays and above all to talk. Mike and I were able to meet old friends who had attended previous Gatherings and to welcome new ones

After coffee and a welcome, we settled down to an illustrated talk by the Curator of Hardwick Hall. This was a foretaste of our visit the following day and gave us some things to look out for. We did not allow her to malign George Talbot, the unfortunate husband of Bess of Hardwick, too much.

The rest of the day was devoted simply to talking. People were able to discuss their family trees, their problems, their findings. John Talbot from Harpenden, Herts. brought his PC and we were able to look at our entry on the Internet.

Simon Talbot, a new member, discovered a whole new family and was able to meet his cousin, Dennis Noble. Hopefully everyone who attended gained something from the day, even if it was only advice on how to get started.

The souvenir stall did a roaring trade and the raffle raised £100 which was donated to Hardwick Hall for their restoration fund.

At tea time, Mike and I cut the 25th anniversary cake and pieces were distributed.

After clearing up, we dispersed for a rest or a walk before meeting again for dinner. After dinner Frank Talbot gave an illustrated talk on his travels in France and the Talbot connections there. He is very knowledgeable on the pre-Norman Conquest part of the family and I think we all have plans to visit France after his talk.

Sunday morning was free and we took Grant & Vivien to Chatsworth. Unfortunately we didn't have time to visit the house, but we spent an enjoyable hour in the gardens before lunching at a pub in Baslow. We then returned to Hardwick Hall for our afternoon visit. We were able to enjoy the wonderful tapestries much more as a result of the talk on Saturday, and the Talbot portraits in the Long Gallery, and to thoroughly appreciate this great Elizabethan house. For me the highlight of the visit (and here the teacher in me shows) was watching the twin daughters of a new member, Alison Newbould, of Sheffield, absolutely mesmerised by the Tudor music being played by a quartet in the Great Hall. Later they told me that they had just completed a topic on the Tudors at school and they both played instruments.

With the tour completed, it was time to say final goodbyes as we all dispersed our separate ways. Mike & I drove Vivien & Grant to the station at Derby where they headed for Stoke on Trent whilst we travelled east to spend the night with my mother in Nottingham. Another T.I.G. over, but a 5th one in 2000 to look forward to and plan.

We were already tentatively thinking of a 5th Gathering in the millennium year, 2000. For quite a while we had wanted to acknowledge the part John Talbot, 1st Earl of Shrewsbury had played in English history. We thought a plaque to his memory placed at Portchester Castle near our home in Hampshire would be appropriate particularly as he lived there whilst fulfilling his role as Governor of Portsmouth before sailing to France for the last time. Additionally Portsmouth and the surrounding area was going to be a prominent millennium city. It had won a large Lottery Grant and had many plans including a Millennium Tower.

We knew of a hall in Portchester which we could probably hire and someone advised us that dinners could be held aboard HMS Victory in Portsmouth Dockyard. It all seemed to be fitting together very neatly.

Then suddenly disaster struck! English Heritage who administer Portchester Castle flatly refused to allow us to place a plaque anywhere,

not even in the grounds; HMS Victory stopped doing dinners and the hall was found to be unsafe and had to be demolished! With some support we could probably have overcome all these difficulties, but the final nail in the coffin was a decline in Elaine Hill's health which meant that she was no longer able to offer her home as a meeting place for the committee. We were unable to find anywhere else suitable and convenient for everyone and without a committee to back us, Mike and I did not feel we could take on the task of organising another Gathering by ourselves. So very sadly the Talbot International Gatherings came to an end.

MEMORABLE MOMENTS

Running the Talbot Research Organisation has given Mike and I some great experiences. Here are 3 of the most memorable:-

1) Our first visit to Margam Park when John Vivian Hughes gave us a guided tour of the estate.

We had been instructed to introduce ourselves to the man at the gate of the car park. When I did so he said "Welcome home!" – even though we ourselves have no link to this particular branch. We were then allowed to drive straight up to the Castle itself.

2) Visiting Dr Talbot Hood at his home, a former rectory, in Cranwich, Norfolk. Admiral Lord Nelson was reputed to have spent a night in the house. We did too, but Mike found it very difficult to sleep because it was 'too dark and too quiet'!

3) Taking part in a 'Lauds for the Dead' service for Eleanor Butler nee Talbot in Norwich Cathedral. It was organised by the Richard III Society whose aim is to lessen the vilification of King Richard III which was perpetrated by William Shakespeare. Eleanor is important to the Society because she contracted a secret marriage with Richard's older brother King Edward IV. However Edward quickly tired of Eleanor and went on to marry Elizabeth Woodville and have children by her including the Princes in the Tower. But Edward's marriage to Eleanor was valid and the children of Elizabeth were therefore illegitimate.

When Richard, Duke of York, discovered this after Edward's death, he had no choice but to assume the throne as the next in line and to declare his nephews illegitimate under an act known as "Titulus Regis". There is absolutely no evidence that he murdered his nephews in the Tower.

WALKABOUTS & WEEKENDS

Walkabouts were a direct result of the Gatherings.

After John Bowness's talk to the 1st Gathering at Marsh Court, we organised a visit to Harwell, Oxfordshire in September 1989 when John & his actor brother Felix, took us on a guided tour of the village where they grew up.

In October 1990 we returned to Harwell again. This time John Talbot of Hayes had booked the Village Hall so that we could compare family trees, photos etc. We were also able to meet some of the Talbot families who still live in the Harwell area.

Following her talk at the 2nd Gathering, Carole Medicott led us on a walkabout of Talbot Village, Bournemouth in September 1991.

In September 1992 our visit was to Reading where we shown churches with Talbot associations and the site where William Fox Talbot worked on his Talbotype.

The destination in the autumn of 1993 was the village of Lacock in Wiltshire where we guided ourselves around this lovely National trust village and then visited the Abbey which was the home of the Talbots for several centuries.

In May 1995, a group of us spent the weekend at Symonds Yat in the Wye Valley in Hertfordshire where we enjoyed visiting sites of Talbot interest and spending time in each others company. After a relaxed and happy weekend everyone left on the Monday morning to journey to their homes except Mike & I who planned to stay on for another day. Unfortunately Doug Powell from Southampton was taken ill at the beginning of his journey home. He was taken to hospital in Ross on Wye where he died later the same evening. It was lucky that Mike & I had stayed on as we were able to provide some support for his wife May and daughter Ruth.

In September 1995 we planned a walkabout of Henley on Thames in Oxfordshire. We intended to picnic and then go on a river trip. This time the weather was not kind – it poured with rain and we were forced to picnic in our cars and forego the river trip. Instead we visited Fawley Court, a stately home designed by Sir Christopher wren. Today the house

is a museum of Polish history and we spent a fascinating afternoon out of the rain.

We tried again in September 1996 and this time the weather was kinder. We finally had our boat trip on the river – a very enjoyable afternoon.

In May 1998 we had another weekend away – this time in Shropshire where we stayed at “The Plume of Feathers” near Much Wenlock. On the Saturday we visited Albrighton and Longford before being given a guided tour of St Alkamunds Church, Whitchurch, - where John Talbot, 1st Earl of Shrewsbury is buried- by Joan Barton, a local historian.

The Sunday was spent in Shrewsbury itself – trying to solve the mystery of the “Shrewsbury Quest” in the morning and a leisurely visit to the town in the afternoon.

The final weekend in 1999 was in Norfolk where we attended the “Lauds for the Dead” service for Eleanor Butler nee Talbot in Norwich Cathedral.

The walkabouts and weekends ceased for the same reason as the Gatherings – with nowhere to meet, we could not organise them.

CORRESPONDENCE

Received after we announced we would stop publishing Talbotania.

From Anne Field, Kingham, Oxon.

Not really surprised that you are calling a halt to ‘Talbotania’ – such a lot of work and can see you cannot expect the next in line to follow.

All the best and thank you so much for your quarterly volumes.

Enjoy Retirement and good health

From John Dallison, Derby.

I am sorry that you have decided to end Talbotania. You helped many members over the years, and your archives will, I am sure, be of use to future researchers.

How times have changed over recent decades! I struggle to keep abreast of the internet and other technology.

From Don Talbot, Preston, Lancs.

I was sorry to read that you are winding down the publication of Talbotania, but I can understand why and your situation.

It has been a very interesting and entertaining magazine which will be missed by many people.

Please accept my very grateful thanks for all the good work in producing it so consistently over the years.

From John Talbot, Ashford, Kent.

It seems that our dog will no longer be able to include an important part of our incoming post in his morning bundle! Life will not be the same without Talbotania. You have done a fantastic job and service, for how many years? 20? More?

Your latest production – Volume 21 No 2 was a jack pot as far as my family is concerned. How else would I ever know that my great grandmother had to manage in her retirement with only a cook, four maids, a coachman and 2 nurses? I guess she would have had even more when her husband was alive. He was a full admiral at his end. Died 1876, buried at Down Ampney (which they had rented). He was a real sea dog, quite short but with a quarter deck voice and a parrot (according to my father, his grandson). There is also a memorial to his crew members in the graveyard in Hong Kong.

From Mary Franks, Kibworth Harcourt, Leics.

Sorry to hear that you are running down Talbotania. As I have been with you most of the way I shall miss the magazine and involvement in the society. Having said that I quite understand the reasons – none of us are getting any younger and what interested us greatly when we were young is superseded by other things like grandchildren and retirement activities.

Have enjoyed very much being part of our extended Talbot family, enhanced by all the effort that you have both put in for almost 40 years in keeping the T.R.O. an informative and interesting society to be part of – than you.

From James Talbert, Evansville, USA.

Thank you so much for publishing Talbotania for such a long time. Most certainly you are leaving an invaluable genealogical and historical legacy. It has been an honour and joy for me to have been associated with you and the journal. Good luck in all your endeavours in the future and enjoy those grandchildren.

From Richard Talbot, Unionville, Canada.

I was so sorry to hear that you will be winding down the magazine. It has been such a wonderful source for my, my late father's and now my son's research over the years and I will miss it sorely. If I remember correctly we first saw mention of the Talbot's of Stone Castle in Talbotania. Since then our own family research has expanded way beyond expectations.

It would be wonderful if someone could take over from you but in these days of Ancestry.com etc. I suspect everyone is focussed on-line and not in hard copy.

From Judith Stuble, Loxwood, West Sussex.

Thank you for the latest copy of Talbotania and I would just like to thank you both for all the hard work you must have given to this subject.

I can quite understand that there comes a point when you have to decide to call it a day and I guess now more and more people are getting computers, it has become easier to research. However, I am sure you have helped many, many Talbots to discover their roots!

A FINAL WORD

We would like to make it very clear that for the moment we are only ceasing to publish Talbotania.

John Talbot, our webmaster, will continue to keep the website running and he always forwards any queries on to us.

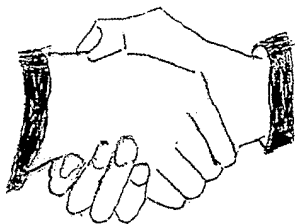
Although our eventual intention is to sort through the material we hold and deposit it somewhere, this will take us some considerable time!

So TRO will still operate in the foreseeable future; we will still answer any queries we receive and share any material we hold.

We can be contacted either at 142, Albemarle Avenue, Gosport, Hants. PO12 4HY or on mjh.talbot142@btinternet.com.

I think we said all our thank yous in the Editorial so all that remains is to wish you all Good Luck with your continuing research.

Talbot is a name you can be proud to include in your ancestry!



ANGLO-NORMAN TALBOTS 11th to 13th CENTURIES



This book written and researched by T.R.O. member Jean Bell is still available.

As is well known, there were two representatives of the Talbot family who held lands in England in 1086, the time of the Domesday Survey. What is often not appreciated is the fact that male descendants of the Richard Talbot who held Battlesden in Bedfordshire maintained an active presence in Normandy also until well into the 13th century. This booklet explains where their principal Norman lands were situated, and shows how documents are still being unearthed which reveal "new" (ie long forgotten) information to add to our existing knowledge of these people.

Available from Mike & Mary Talbot, 142, Albemarle Avenue, Gosport, Hants. PO12 4HY.

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From the LONDON GAZETTE, April 22.
Whitehall, April 19.

THE King has been pleased to grant to the
 Right Honourable John Chetwynd Talbot,
 Earl Talbot of Hensol, Viscount of Ingestrie, and
 Baron Talbot of Hensol, and his issue, his Royal
 licence and authority to assume the Surname of
 Chetwynd, in addition to that of Talbot, and also
 to bear the arms of Chetwynd, in compliance with
 a clause contained in a certain indenture of settle-
 ment, bearing date the second day of November
 1752; such arms being the first duly exemplified
 according to the law of arms, and recorded in the
 Herald's office; and also to order that his Majesty's
 concession and declaration be registered in his Col-
 lege of Arms.

Dublin Castle, April 17. His Majesty, by his
 Royal letters, having appointed the Right Hon.
 Randal William Earl of Antrim to be of his most
 Honourable Privy Council of this kingdom, his
 Lordship this day in council took the usual oaths,
 and his place at the Board accordingly.

War-Office, April 22, 1786.
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