

The Broughton Society
The Barn House,
Broughton, Stockbridge,
Hampshire. SO20 8AA

01794-301401

BrC 1393

October 17th 2002

Dear Mr. Petty,

I think you might like to have the enclosed as part of your family history.

I was a local G.P. and had an interest in local history, tape recording conversations with interesting villagers, which included your parents.

I am sorry I have been so long completing the transcription but there were to have been three tapes. When I asked to go up to make the third, Dorothy said I was to come up but there was nothing to show me. I went up and she told me in distress, that a relation had removed what they wanted to show me. In fact the third tape would have been quite miserable, unlike the first two.

This transcription is a collation of the two tapes and my notes taken while recording.

I found them a delightful couple, very helpful and entertaining. I quickly became quite a fan and am sorry I wasn't able to see all their archive. From my notes and the tapes I have listed what I could of their treasures.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Robert Parr.

[Born ?] Yes, I was born [1911] in the one of the two cottages called Cricket View cottages, not at the old Church Farm or up here; I don't know if anyone of my father's age were born there. The family came from Wellow, Dumbledown Farm actually, in 1867 to Church Farm; it was called Broughton Farm then. The farm was owned by Baring of Norman Court.

It was my father who provided the wagons you mention for the Church outings in the parish magazines; I remember him saying so, Sunday school outings. He lent all his carts when King Edward VII visited Tidworth to open something. Took all the children, the village up to Tidworth to see him. Outing lasted all day. I don't know what year that was.

I suppose we went to Cricket View when we got out of Church Farm, Broughton Farm I should say, when they started building this house [New Church farm].

My grandfather was married when he came to Broughton Farm in 1867, from Wellow, and my father farmed with his father there. My father was 75 when he died in 1944. Grandfather died in 1909, he came to live here [New Church Farm] on the Thursday and died on the Saturday. He hadn't made a will, intestate, but probate was in 1910. My father married about that time and some of my aunts came over to live at Cricket View; they weren't married in those days.

This Church Farm was built in 1908 - 09; in 1907, took about a year. Gunstones built it for my grandfather; it was a London architect. His brother, George Thomas Petty was a stockbroker in London and I suppose he had enough money to help things, he came in. Edwin Gunstone's grandfather built it; I suppose Edwin's father was one of the builders. There is a photograph of Christopher Robinson in his donkey cart which was taken up here. I remember the photograph well enough, it was in the corner here, being built up; made of concrete. I don't know why they chose this site, there were no trees, bushes or anything here; no houses. He had the Cricket Field, he gave them that. He had the whole lot round here. There is a field between us and the Cricket Field but they wanted that too, but we said it is too close. We let them use the field for a car park, if they ask first. But they didn't last time. They may ask Mr. Dent, he has his sheep in there, he rents the keep, they are his sheep, they look contented enough, well I hope he is happy with them there. He rents it, so much a sheep.

Upshall married a Petty, he lived at the Dowse Cottage, he was the school master. An Upshall lives at Sarisbury Green, she was one of the daughters and lived at the Dowse Cottage; long before Miss Mitchell's time. George Butler was brought up with George's mother; he was brought up here by Mrs. Bailey. George Butler's sister's son was brought up with George. Mrs. Bailey had Bert Bevis's house when she died in 1953.

I took over the farm when my father died in 1944. No, Mrs Love built her house, Three Sevens but it wasn't on Church Farm land, she bought it from Butcher Leigh, I think, a chap called Lisa Leigh, Derek and Geoff Leigh's father. The Loves lived here [as lodgers] while the house was built, they stayed here. They sold their house, The Rookery and had to get out and they stayed here. They did quite a lot of the work themselves. In the 1920s I think. Quite a lot of people stayed here - Mr. and Mrs. Aitken while their house was readied, Storm Jameson was called Clarke; Captain Fernandez.

We enjoyed farming in this area, when we could do it, but now our legs are gone ! We had about a hundred acres round here. Grandfather farmed School Farm as well; he had some land down Rectory Lane, where Herbert Pragnell farmed. There were some

buildings down Rectory Lane but the big barn was on the right hand side up past Manor Farm. It's Manor Farm now, but that was School Land. Quite a big barn there, not in the middle of the field but nearer the hedge above Manor Farm. I remember going to School Farm in a pony and trap to feed the bullocks in the yard there. I didn't realise that that farm had gone, the barn and yards gone. (DP - Gone a long time now.) I could have gone down Dog Lane or round by The Drove, Yes School Lane now but The Drove then. Charlie Hunt, John Hunt's father had some land from Briscoe, took some land over; did he take school land over? He had The Buildings, Hunt had that didn't he.

Then Herbie Pragnell had School Land but he only had a few buildings this side of the stream in Rectory Lane, there are some still some there now. People got to School Land up past Manor Farm but you could get to it the other way, down Rectory lane. The road went to the Wareham's Cottage but I don't think it went on further. But you could walk it.

D.P. - I used to deliver bread for Mr. Pearce and I used to go over the little bridge on the bicycle with a basket on the front and then round to the other two cottages; they are one house now; [Waterside], they belonged to Broughton House. Where Wilmott and Dunham and then Piper lived. G.P.- Martin Dunham was a nice old chap; he used to come up and do our apple trees. He was the chauffeur as well; he was married with a daughter. It was still Dent in Broughton House then; Miss Dent, his daughter lived at The Cottage. There was another Miss Dent there, lived into her 80s, Mr. Dent's sister.

At Manor Farm it was Ray for quite a few years; Cannings before him. Hurford too, then there was a Waters, he was a great friend of my Grandfather's, on the Parish Council. He was the first I remember there. I don't know if Down Farm went with Manor farm, but could be. Hitchings was at Waterloo Farm, he was a great friend of George Butler; they were good drinkers, he left some money in his will for a party! There was another chap before Hitchings, I don't think he was married; I think he had two sisters with him in the house. Lock, that's right. After Hitchings left Jepson Turner took it.

My grandparents farmed right across to Emmott's Pond, right over the top there. [Mr. Ayles?] We knew Mrs. Ayles well, she was quite a friend of ours; it was him we bought this from - the land, something to do with this land, we have papers somewhere. Yes, he bought a lot of property; we never knew how he did it. She used to come up for tea with my parents and that. In some way he must have owned the land here, but how he came by it, I don't know. He sold the land for Lansley and Turner and Watts because we used to farm all along there. Nutley was part of this farm, it didn't exist until Ayles sold King the land. Broughton Farm was nearly 300 acres. To get at the land here, we crossed The Croft, through the big barn. There was quite a track across.

(D.P. You see the barn out here; you know where that came from? [Yes, we miss it!]) Grandfather moved the big barn up here, and a row of single storey sheds with slate roofs as well. They moved the whole structure; there was a horse in there and a carriage in there. The cow pen was built later.

They would cross the Pound to this road and either up to our land towards Emmotts Pond; or along the Salisbury Road, we called it the Romsey Road; our land ran along to the Kings now. We wouldn't go along to The Folly, not the Green Lane, we went straight up the hill to the rest of our farm; through Smiths Plantation. Our land was

Add to BIC 1393

G. W. Petty
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2 December 2002

Dr. R Parr
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Dear Dr. Parr,

I was very surprised and delighted to receive a draft copy of your transcription of George & Dorothy Petty's taped interview with you. It was very nostalgic reading through my parent's recollection of Broughton in times gone by. They had told me that they had very much enjoyed taking part in your interviews. Thanks to dedicated people like yourself, villages like Broughton are able to hand down some of the valuable history for the benefit of future generations.

Thank you very much, my Brother and I have added it to our family archive and shall treasure it very much.

Yours sincerely,



G. W. Petty