

## **Society for the Preservation of Property 1783**

Although there is reference to an Oxford-based association for the prosecution of murderers, thieves and robbers in 1757 (Deddington agent Mr. Appletree), a Deddington-based Society for the Preservation of Property and Prosecution of Felons was formed in 1783 under the aegis of Samuel Churchill, treasurer, and his brother, John Churchill, in Woodstock.

**18 January 1783**

**Formation of Society for the Preservation of Property and Prosecution of Felons. Treasurer, Mr. Samuel Churchill, of Deddington. Subscriptions also taken by Mr. John Churchill, at Woodstock.**

*For the PRESERVATION of PROPERTY and PRO-  
SECUTION of FELONS.*

A SOCIETY is formed for raising a Fund to defray the Expences in detecting and profecuting, with the utmoft Rigour of the Law, all fuch who fhall be guilty of any felony againft the Perfon or Property of any Member of this Society.

And for the more effectual enforcing the Intent of this SubfcRIPTION, Rewards, which will hereafter be advertized, will be paid on Conviction of Offenders. Such Perfons who are defirous of entering into this Society, may become Members thereof by applying to Mr. Samuel Churchill, of Deddington, Treasurer.

SubfcRIPTIONS are alfo taken in by Mr. John Churchill, at Woodftock. Each SubfcRIBER is immediately to pay into the Hands of the Treafurer Five Shillings, for the general Purpofes of the SubfcRIPTION.

*Deddington, January 3, 1783.*

<https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/viewer/bl/0000073/17830118/006/0003>

**5 November 1791**

**Gelding belonging to Mr. John Hitchman lost or stolen out of Deddington Field. 5 guineas reward on conviction of offender. Apply to Mr. Samuel Churchill, Solicitor to the Association.**

DEDDINGTON ASSOCIATION

For PROSECUTION OF FELONS,

LOST out of Deddington Field, about the 14th or 15th of  
October, 1791, supposed to be Stolen,

A Dark-Grey GELDING of the Nag Kind,

the Property of Mr. JOHN HITCHMAN, of Deddington, riding four  
Years old, about fourteen Hands and an Half high, some White  
on the Face, and Saddle Marks on the Back, nicked Tail grown  
rather long, if not cut. Whoever will give Information of the  
Offender or Offenders, shall, on Conviction, receive a Reward  
of FIVE GUINEAS, by applying to Mr. Samuel Churchill,  
Solicitor to the said Association.

N.B. If Strayed all Expenses will be paid by the said  
John Hitchman.

<https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/viewer/bl/0000073/17911105/005/0002>