

## Membership report

Membership of the Society grew rapidly in the first few months to well over 60 people; at the end of our first year we now have 74 members. As expected they come in the main from Deddington, Hempton, Clifton and the Barfords, but a few come from Banbury and Bodicote for our meetings.

Members have been unfailingly supportive, enthusiastic and appreciative, helping on occasions with chairs in a crowded hall, pouring the coffee and always with interesting questions for our varied speakers.

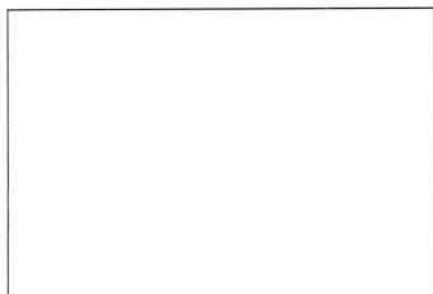
It was wonderful to see so many enjoying the 'grand finale' at Rousham; we hope to see you all again during our second year and look forward to your ideas for yet more stimulating historical evenings.

Sue Shattock—*Treasurer*

## Deddington History OnLine

The History Society and the editorial group of Deddington OnLine, the community web site, are working together to make historical material about the parish available on the web site. Some information is already there and over the next few months the history pages will be restructured and fleshed out. If you have any ideas about what information, be it text, data or images, we should put onto the history pages, please contact any member of the History Society committee.

If you have a computer and a connection to the Internet you can view the web site at <http://www.deddington.org.uk>. Alternatively, there is a computer in Deddington Library that holds a complete copy of the Deddington OnLine web site.



## DEDDINGTON PAPER-MILL

### Frances Wakeman

Deddington village, north of Oxford is situated near the River Swere, a tributary of the River Cherwell. At one time there were three mills in Deddington, but only one of them was a paper mill. Bobenhill mill was leased to Nicholas Trippet in 1583. He built a new corn mill in the mid-sixteenth century, known as King Mill or Old Mill. In 1660 Christopher Doyley of Adderbury asked leave of John Cartwright to convert Old Mill into a paper mill, but presumably it was not until 1684 when Michael Hutton of Hampton Gay made a similar proposal that the conversion began<sup>1</sup>. There is no information available about the size of the mill or its production. However Michael Hutton died in 1716 and an inventory of his goods and chattels was made by his executors. The total of his goods came to £103. 5s, 3d. of which £29. 2s. 4d. was the value of paper, rags and other materials. His will mentions his five children, Michael, John, Thomas, Jane and Anne, for whom his goods and chattels were to be used for their livelihood, education and maintenance<sup>2</sup>.

Papermaking at the mill was possibly continued by the Hutton family as in 1742 Thomas Hutton is recorded as taking an apprentice, Thomas Jomson<sup>3</sup>. By 1767 the papermaker was John Emberlin who insured his stock and drying house<sup>4</sup>. He is recorded as taking an apprentice Nathaniel Turner in 1768<sup>5</sup>. John Emberlin continued in business for several years and died at the age of 73<sup>6</sup>. His will dated 1 May, 1798 was proved on 23 March, 1799. Apart from bequests to his daughter and the children of his late son, Edwin he left the Messuage and Tenement of the mill to his son, John Emberlin<sup>7</sup>. John Emberlin II was recorded at the mill in the *London Gazette* of 6 May 1815 and he was granted the Excise Licence No. 257 in October 1816. The Emberlin family continued at the mill for many years. The Excise Number 257 was granted to Maria Emberlin on 31 August 1819, to William Emberlin on 28 November 1832, and again on 20 July, 1835 and to John Emberlin 27 October, 1837. The latter, born 1814, may have been a son of John Emberlin II, who died in 1836.

By 1833 Mrs. Emberlin was in financial difficulties and the mill's equipment was put up for sale as bankrupt stock<sup>8</sup>. However the Emberlin family continue to be recorded in the directories as follows:

1844 John Emberlin

1846 Sophia Emberlin

1847 Mrs. Sophia Emberlin

1854 Mrs. Elizabeth Emberlin.

According to the 1861 Census Joseph Hobday was the paper manufacturer at this mill employing two men and three women, but in 1870 the mill was reconverted to a corn mill and Christ Church bought the site in 1907. According to Mr. R. V. Clarke some of the cottages survive and some papermaking equipment is preserved.

### CENSUS

1841 John Emberlin Paper manufacturer

Henry Malins (17)  
Papermaking Apprentice

John Malins PaperMaker

My thanks are due to David Vaisey and Michael Twyman (formerly and presently of the Bodleian Library) for the use of their notes.

<sup>1</sup> Northants R O: C (A) 4610. xx 2V. 8790 and C (A) 5990, 5996 for leases to Hutton in 1685 and 1707.

<sup>2</sup> Oxfordshire R O: Oxford Wills Deddington 133/5/12.

<sup>3</sup> 'Shorter' A. G. B. 50/80 (1742).

<sup>4</sup> S. F. I. P. 249283.

<sup>5</sup> A. B. P. R. O. I. R. I. 57/48.

<sup>6</sup> Deddington Parish Registers.

<sup>7</sup> Oxfordshire R O: Oxford Wills Series I, vol 27, 1797-1804.

<sup>8</sup> Christ Church archives Ms Estates. 70. f190 and *Oxford Journal* 31 January 1835.

*We are grateful to Frances Wakeman for allowing us to use her on-going research.*