Yarpole Living History Newsletter November 2018

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Next edition.



We remembered them.

We remembered them.

We remembered them.

Images of how the Parish remembered the Armistice which marked the end of World War 1.



Report from the Annual General Meeting

The AGM of Yarpole Living History Group was held on Thursday October 18th in the Parish Hall. The meeting was short and dealt with the usual AGM matters such as the Treasurer's report which, as we have come to expect with Audrey Bott in control, was short, to the point, entirely satisfactory and showed that there is a balance of over £1100. This remains after paying for the excellent restoration of the Graveyard gateway and provision and fixing of the Memorial Plaque. Our Hon. Secretary, Nancy Morgan, gave a brief report on the year's meetings and was followed by your Chairman who rambled on also about the year's meetings after which the meeting progressed to, what I suspect, most of those attending had come to hear.

This was an illustrated talk about Mortimer's Cross Battlefield Project very ably given by Patricia Pothecary from Kingsland who is the Secretary of the project. The excellent projection equipment in the Parish Hall was put to good use which enhanced the talk greatly. Apparently, there is little physical evidence of what was a major battle involving at least 8000 men but, it is hoped that with modern methods of investigation more will found. Interestingly it appears that the battleground area, perhaps understandably, has never been ploughed. Community support is encouraged and if anyone wishes to join the supporters list and receive project updates contact Patricia on 01568 708597 or email <u>patricia@pothecary.net</u> To volunteer for aspects of the investigation, register with the project director Gary Ball <u>MX1461cbap@gmail.com</u> Further information and updates on http://mx1461.blogspot.co.uk/

Next year's programme is not yet finalised but there are several potential speakers to be approached and field trips to be arranged. The November meeting will not take place because it coincides with the Centenary Armistice commemoration. This event is being ably organised by member Ron Shaw and his wife Rita. Please give them the support and help they deserve. The next meeting of the Living History Group will be on Thursday December 13th.

The other big event in the Parish has been the community purchase of The Bell Inn. It is reputed that this hostelry has been part of the village scene for 600 years. I suggest that this is a good time to delve into the history of the inn, which will be a suitable and appropriate project for the L H Group. So, perhaps any members who would like to be involved could let me know. Any other ideas for projects will be most welcome.

Finally, please remember that subscriptions of £7.50 are now due and are payable to our treasurer Audrey Bott

Norman Taylor. Chairperson Yarpole Living History Group.

Editor's Note

Welcome to the November 2018 edition of the Living History Newsletter. In this edition we mark the fiftieth anniversary of the closure of the Cockgate School. We are, therefore, fortunate to be able to publish the reminiscences of Pam Edwards of Eye who was a pupil at the School during the 1940s. Through Pam's eyes we are provided with an insight into the School at the height of World War 2. Complementing Pam's article is one written by Rhianon Turrell. Based on archival research and originally published in December 2004 it provides further insights into life at the School.

Also to be found in this edition, is an article written by Ian Mortimer and first published in June 2005. This article, like Rhianon's, is drawn from the articles of the Living History Group. This article has as its subject Sir Richard Croft and the Battle of Mortimer's Cross. I have included it in this edition as a follow up to the recent presentation on the battle sponsored by the Living History Group. I hope you find it interesting.

Brian Mitchell

Call for Articles

The next edition of the Living History Newsletter will be published in March 2019. The deadline for the receipt of articles is the 17 February 2019. They should be submitted as a Word document attached to an email addressed to <u>seiftonbatch@gmail.com</u>. Your article should be written using Time Roman 12 and be double spaced. Articles can be on a topic of your choosing and we welcome any and all contributions.

We also welcome any pictures that you consider record an aspect of life in the parish of Yarpole. These should be submitted in the JPEG format.

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Subscriptions

Subscriptions for 2018/2019 are now due. They can be paid to Audrey Bott at Horizons, Green Lane, Yarpole, (01568780489). Cheques should be made payable to Living History. The subscription is \pounds 7.50 and covers all members of a family.

Audrey Bott

E-copy

If you would like to receive an e-copy of the newsletter please contact me by email – seiftonbatch@gmail.com. The copy will be emailed to you and come in the form of a pdf attachment. This can, if desired, be forwarded to friends and family who want to receive an e-copy of the newsletter.

Cockgate School – a former pupil remembers her time at the school in the 1940s.



July 2018 marked the 50th anniversary of the closure of Cockgate School which was constructed at a cost of £1,000 in 1851. To mark this anniversary this edition of the Living History Newsletter reproduces the reminiscences of Pam Edwards (nee Bennett) of Eye who was a pupil at the School during the 1940s. Pam, who remembers her time at Cockgate with affection, went on to study at Leominster Grammar School before qualifying as a teacher at Kidderminster Teacher Training College.

Pam describes a school which was different to those currently serving pupils drawn from the Parish of Yarpole. Further insight into the nature of education in Yarpole, both before and after the construction of the Cockgate School is given in the article which follows her reminiscences. This was written by Rhianon Turrell, past chair of the Living History Group, and published in the Living History Newsletter in December 2004. Titled 'The School at Cock Gate', it is based on extracts from the Minute Book of the managers of the Yarpole, Croft and Lucton County Council School. The latter record, which Mrs Turrell records as having been made by Mr G. W. Thomas, who was Chairman of the Managers at the time of closure, makes fascinating reading. It shows that, not surprisingly, the School at Cockgate was not the first to provide education for pupils drawn from the Parish of Yarpole. Prior to the building of Cockgate School in 1851 education took place within private homes. An extant record of the early 18th century recorded that a widow was receiving payment to educate two to six poor children in her home. It also shows that in the early twentieth century Schools adopted methods of classroom management which have long since been banished from contemporary classrooms.

The Reminisces of Pam Bennett

The following is based on the reminiscences of Pam. Only minor changes have been made as and where necessary to clarify an aspect of Pam's record of her experiences as a pupil at Cockgate School.

The School was built on Croft Estate land to provide lessons for children of workers and tenants living there. The main driveway to Croft was at Lucton nearer to Mortimer's Cross than Yarpole.

When Pam attended the school in the 1940's facilities were very primitive. There was no mains water. When needed, water was drawn from a pump in an open shed in front of the main building. This shed was good for sheltering in on rainy play times. The pump had to be thawed on frosty mornings. During the years Pam attended the School there was no electricity, and if necessary oil lamps were used for lighting. Electricity only arrived at the School in the early 1950s and Pam's home in Bircher in 1956.

Heating at the School was provided by a large iron stove in each classroom. Each was protected by a guard and burnt coke and anthracite. When needed the stoves were stoked several times a day. It was the responsibility of the male pupils to bring the fuel up from where it was stored in a cellar, referred to as 'The Dungeon'. Girls were excused this task. One task the stoves were put to was to defrost the small bottles of milk with which school children were, at that time, provided. On cold days these could often be found lined up around the stoves so that they could be unfrozen before being drunk by the pupils.

Pupils were not provided with school dinners and had to bring their own food. Neither was there transport provided to take pupils to and from Cockgate School. Pupils walked to and from the School many having to walk considerable distances. In the 1940s traffic was light and did not pose the same threat to safety. Pam lived in Bircher and at 5 years of age remembers her daily journey to Cockgate as a long one, comparing Plainsbrook Bank to Mount Everest. Attendance was often sporadic as pupils were often needed to help on farms during Spring and Autumn. Pupils often had to prioritise apple, hop, and potato picking over attendance at school. On some occasions pupils failed to attend as they needed look after younger brothers and sisters so that their mother was able to go to work.

One form of transport Pam does remember is that which brought soldiers of the American Pioneer Corps to this part of England. She remembers convoys of American soldiers travelling past the school in 1944. Thousands of US Army personnel were camped in the Parkland at Berrington Hall where they prepared for the D Day landings. Pam recollects the ethnic diversity of the American troops. She had not previously seen a black American. She does remember the Pioneer Corp building road and ground works. For this purpose they used sand and gravel from the quarries at Amstrey. A particular memory is of standing with her fellow pupils on the railings that enclosed the playground to wave at the American troops. In return they were often rewarded with chocolate and chewing gum.

It was, however, not just Americans who made an impact on pupils at the School. She also remembers German and Italian prisoners of war who found themselves in an alien part of Europe as a result of the vagaries of war. Remains of the huts in which they were housed are still in existence. The Second World War also resulted in an increase in the numbers attending Cockgate School. This was a consequence of the arrival of evacuees from Birmingham and Liverpool. Another occurrence, which was a feature of the war years, was an absence of male teachers. They had all gone to war!

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Pupils attending the School in the 1940s not only studied without the benefit of electricity. Toilet facilities were, as was normal for the time, what some would consider primitive. Toilets were located in brick-built sheds with wooden seats above soil pits, which needed to be dug out at periodic intervals. In 1950 it was recommended that these be replaced by chemical Elsan toilets. According to Pam school records show that those responsible were slow to make improvements to the school. In 1947 this included the installation of wash hand basins and coat hooks. However, in 1952 Pam remembers that pupils were still required to use buckets as toilets. Unfortunately, there seems, at this time, to have been nowhere to empty them. Progress was made in 1953 with the improvements to the toilets and the introduction of electric lights.

Teachers who Pam remembers are Mrs Stallard who was head teacher during Pam's time at the school. Miss Tomlins was responsible for the infants, and Mrs Campion who returned to the school after nursing in Hastings during World War 2. Whilst away Mrs Campion had married a soldier called Fred who unfortunately became a Japanese prisoner of war. There was also Miss Lloyd a trainee teacher from Wales.

Pam provides a fascinating account of her time at Cockgate School, which she says was first proposed for closure in 1953. When she was a pupil at the school the leaving age was 14. However, not all pupils remained at the school until they were 14. Some took and passed a scholarship exam at 11 years of age. If successful they went, as did Pam, to Leominster Grammar School. Scholarships to Lucton School were also available for 6 boys from the Parish. The opening of a new school at Wigmore meant that all pupils at the Cockgate could study at a secondary school at 11years of age.

The building that housed Cockgate School still exists as does the School Master's House. Hopefully Pam's recollections of her time at the school, when read alongside Rhianon Turrell's article provide an insight into an institution that played a major part in the education of pupils drawn from the Parish of Yarpole. It is also worth noting that while it is no longer used as a school Cockgate School remains a living part of our community, and the money raised from its sale funds the Yarpole Educational Fund.

Pam Edwards October 2018

Do you have a story to tell?

History is not just about dates, Kings and Queens, the lives of the rich and famous, wars and the opening and closing of buildings. It is importantly also concerned with the life experiences of ordinary people. If you would like to see your account of an aspect of your life within the Parish of Yarpole let me know and I will help you realise this aspiration.

Brian Mitchell. seiftonbatch@gmail.com

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From the Archive

The following article is taken from the Living History archives and was originally published in December 2004. Written by Rhianon Turrell it draws on extracts from the Minute Book of the managers of the Yarpole, Croft and Lucton County Council School to provide insights into the Cockgate School.

The School at Cock Gate:

Extracts from the Minute Book of the Managers of the Yarpole, Croft and Lucton County Council School.

According to a note in the front of the minute book, signed G.W. Thomas:

"The school was built in 1851 at a cost of $\pm 1,200$ by the <u>Rev. W.J. Kevill-Davies</u> of Croft Castle on part of the Croft Castle park. It was a Church of England school until1920, when the County Council took it over as a council school, until its closure in 1968. The school house was built in 1873 on land given by the Rev. Kevill-Davies, but paid for by public subscription. The school was built to house 110 pupils and this figure was probably reached during the early part of this (20th.) century. It served the parishes of Yarpole, Croft and Lucton."

Mr. Thomas was Chairman of the Managers at the time of the closure of the school and wrote a fascinating summary of the school on the last pages of the minute book. The following are extracts from this account.

"The school was ... governed by the Rector of Croft with Yarpole and the churchwardens. Previous to the erection of this school, classes for teaching were held at various houses in the parish by persons appointed by the Church Vestry.

For instance, <u>John Browne</u> (Gent) by indenture dated 16th March 1714 charged certain fields with the payment of 40/- annually towards the establishing of an English School for the benefit and education of poor children in the parish.

George Lloyd (Gent) by indenture dated 17th December 1724 charged certain lands in the parish with an annual payment of 20/- for the same purpose. A widow named <u>Ann Berry</u> received this money at one time for annually educating at her house two to six poor children.

There are various school masters mentioned in the Church Registers but not the actual houses where they carried on their work. In 1837 there was a school on the plans for the parish by the National Society"

The writer then records that the log books have been deposited at the education office in Hereford and that children were often away from school helping with the harvest, fern cutting and gathering, and other seasonal work "which accounts for the large number of illiterates."

He then recounts his own memories of the school between 1910 and 1920:

"The headmaster in 1910 was <u>M.J. Lancaster</u>. (Jackie Lancaster out of hearing) He was a short dapper sort of chap, intellectual, and on the whole a very able master. I am afraid that the material on the whole was a bit thick headed at that time and one of his favourite sayings was "You are enough to worry the Saints out of their graves." He was very active in the village life, promoted a very active Rifle Club, which had a practice range in the Quarry on Bircher Common, and was also a very able amateur Photographer. He left the school early in 1914, being asked to resign over partaking in strike action!!! He lived in the School house and had one son - (Edwin).

The man who followed Lancaster was called <u>Saltmarsh</u> and was an entirely different man altogether. He came I believe from the Midlands, and was no doubt an urban product; unused to country life and ways. Whereas Lancaster ruled with the stick (cane), Saltmarsh introduced the pen method. The penalty for talking was 500 lines "I must not talk". I think he found the material a bit beyond his redemption and gave up after about 12 months.



The Senior Class of 1910-12 with Mr Lancaster, the Headmaster.



The Infant Class of 1910-12 with their Teacher, Miss Franks.

Saltmarsh was followed by <u>**R.W.Evans**</u> a Welshman (from Wales) and a different man entirely. Evans was out and out a very good schoolmaster, who combined discipline with encouragement for effort. He was a sportsman being very keen on football etc. and this I think gave him the edge over the two preceding masters. He took a very active interest in the village, Church, etc. and was successful in promoting the social life of the parish i.e. Concerts, Dances etc. He joined the army during the 1914-1918 war and served overseas. He returned to the school after demobilisation.

His wife <u>Mrs. Evans</u> also taught at the school and, during Mr. Evans' absence, carried on as Head Teacher. Mr. Evans finished his duties Christmas 1919.

<u>Miss Franks</u> the Infants teacher was at the school when the writer commenced and was there for a number of years afterwards. She combined the duties of Infants teacher with that of Church organist for quite a time and used to have weekly Choir practice at the school after lessons had finished. There were about 12-14 or more boys in the Church Choir during the writer's time.

The Rector, in this case, the <u>Rev. T. Ward</u>, paid periodic visits to the school, and was responsible for any corporal punishment necessary during the absence of the Headmaster on active service. (This might include if the crime was severe enough six of the best on the 'latter end' while lying full length across the desk.) I don't know whether this treatment was a good deterrent or not, but it certainly reminded the recipient that these things were not just done, (sic) and it certainly educated one in the art of endurance of pain!

The Roll of the school was 110-120, the children coming from Lucton, Croft and Yarpole parishes. All walked to school, despite the weather, the farthest being The Lodge Farm, Bircher Common, The Go(r)bett, Bircher and Lucton. Snow was not considered a hazard, and even in the deepest snow a fair number would be there. In contrast to the present day those who took their midday meal with them had to eat this out of school. Two stoves supplied the heating during winter time. There were times when the thermometer fell below freezing inside and we were allowed 5 mins. 'play' outside to warm us up.

A variety of games were played during play hours. They varied according to season. Football was usually played in Croft Park as was also Rounders, (a game which the Yankees pinched and called it baseball.) Fox and Hounds was a popular game during the meal brake (sic) 12-1.30 and this entailed one boy (the fox) going off some five minutes or so before the rest of the boys (hounds) and usually taking a course through the Park via the Fish Pools and Bircher Common, (at that time completely covered in Gorse and Bracken), then making his way back to the school, by various routes, to arrive back sometimes just before 1.30 without being caught by the Hounds! The hunt was usually complete with Huntsmen, (who carried a horn of sorts), Whipper-in, Leading Hounds, Tellers? etc. and certain rules were observed. (The fox was hunted by sound or sight, and if 'scent' was lost, the fox, if he was a safe distance away, would give indication of his direction by a loud 'Hallo') Everybody usually arrived back at school bespattered with mud, (like all good huntsmen); a great game. Another communal game which was played in the school playground at all times was called 'Last in the Den Tincker?' It was a version of the game 'Sheep, sheep come home' but was slightly rougher. Games such as Marbles, Conkers, Hoops (boys), Hopscotch, Skipping (girls), as well as Tops were played in their season.

<u>Trees</u> A very large spreading Oak grew on the roadside opposite the school. This was called 'The Gospel Oak' and was reputed to have been associated with John Wesley's revival, he having preached at this tree. It was a very fine specimen of a pollar(d)ed Oak, and was hundreds (of) years old. It was unfortunately blown down about 1965. This tree had the honour of being marked on the Ordinance (sic) Survey maps and there is no doubt that this tree was there at least a hundred years before the school was built. Since these notes a replacement tree (oak) was planted in the 1970s near to the old tree's position. See P.C. minutes."

There this fascinating account ends. Many of the events mentioned are backed up by the Minutes Book's evidence, especially the teachers' strike.

Compiled by Rhianon Turrell.

<u>1921 - The first managers of the newly constituted</u> <u>Yarpole, Croft and Lucton County Council school.</u>

Mrs. Kevill-Davies The Highwood and Croft Castle M.C.Connelly The Knoll, Bircher (Estate Agent) Charles Clee, Court House, Bircher (Farmer) Rev. E.W.Easton Vicar, Lucton Vicarage <u>Chairman</u> Rev. T.W. Ward Rector Croft Rectory George Webb Home Farm Croft (Farmer)

Later managers between 1921 and 1968

Mr. W.J.Brookes, Brook House, Bircher (Farmer) Rev. H.L.Ingham Vicar of Lucton Chairman Rev.E.Charles Vicar of Lucton Geo. Humphries Vicarage Farm (Farmer) Rev.G.B. Redman Vicar of Yarpole Sir James Croft Croft Castle Rev. Whitehead Vicar Yarpole Chas. Phillips Upper House, Yarpole (Farmer) W.J. Rees New House Farm, Lucton (Farmer) M.W. Richards, Yew Tree Farm, Bircher Common (Farmer) Rev. Sherlock Vicar, Yarpole Chairman G.W. Thomas Upper House, Yarpole (Farmer) W. Pritchard Home Farm, Croft (Farmer) H.R.Connop Pound House, Yarpole (Farmer) E. Watkins James Close, Yarpole (Engineer) W.Barker, Highwood farm, Bircher Common (Farmer) Miss G. Dunne, The Knoll, Bircher R.Amos Sunny Bank, Yarpole (Farmer) T.Godding Manor House, Yarpole (Baker) ?Banker R. Worthing Orleton County Council Rep.

Parish History:

Sir Richard Croft and the Battle of Mortimer's Cross (1461)

Not many of us will have stopped and read the inscription on the pedestal by the old Monument Inn at Kingsland, which was erected in 1799, and 'marks' the southern limit of the battlefield. Another 'marker' is Blue Mantle Cottage at the junction of Hereford Lane (the old Roman road) and the A4110 - "Blue Mantle" was the name of Edward's herald who was treacherously killed.

The Lancastrian army, under the command of Jasper Tudor, Earl of Pembroke, and the Earl of Wiltshire, included Irish, French and Breton mercenaries as well as Welsh troops; whereas the Yorkist army, under Edward Mortimer, was composed mainly of Marchmen, such as Herbert, Devereux, Lingen, Vaughan and Richard Croft who was not only Lord of the Manor of Croft

This pedeltal is erected to perpetuate the Memory of an obstinate, bloody, and decifive battle fought near this Spot in the civil Wars between the ambitious Houfes of York and Lancaster, on the 2nd Day of February 1464 between the Forces of Edward Mortimer; Earl of March, (afterwards Edward the Fourth) on the Side of York and those of Henry the Sixth, on the Side of Lancaster.

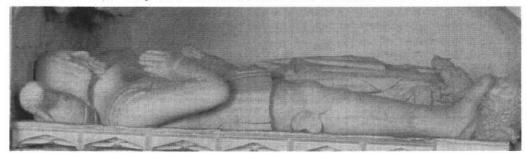
The King's Troops were commanded by Jafper Earl of Pembroke. Edward commanded his own in Person. and was victorious. The Slaughter was great on both Sides Four Thousand being left dead on the Field and many Welfh Perfons of the first diffunction were taken Prisoners among whom was Owen Tudor (Great-Grandfather to Henry the Eighth, and a Defcendent of the illustrious Cadwallader) who was afterwards beheaded at Hereford This was the decifive Battle which fixed Edward the Fourth on the Throne of England who was proclaimed King in London on the Fifth of March following.

(including Lucton) but also held the Lordship of Yarpole, and so would have been in command of men from across the whole of the Parish.

The battle was, to all accounts (two quoted overleaf), very bloody but decisive for "After this vengeance Edward marched to London and was crowned King as Edward IV".

Sir Richard Croft's loyalty to Edward Mortimer was duly rewarded after the accession of Edward to the throne in that he was appointed general receiver for the Earldom of March in the shires of Hereford and Salop, and in the lordship of Wigmore, Radnor and Melleneth, and 'parker' of Gatelegh. In 1487, he was made Knight Bannerett..

He died on the 29th July 1509 and his tomb is in St. Michael's Church at Croft Castle.



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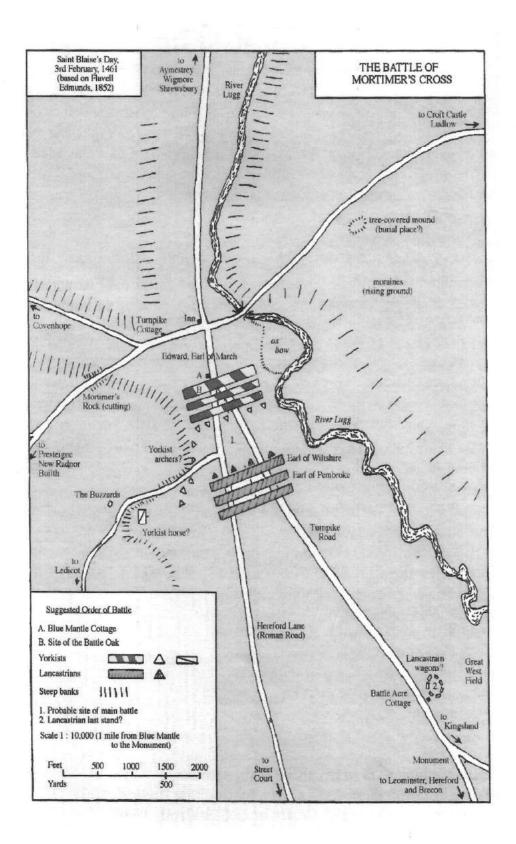
Two accounts which record the ferocity of the Battle.

(1) "Upon the Virge of this Shire betwixt Ludlow and little Hereford (sic), a great battail was fought by Jasper, Earl of Pembroke and James Butler, Earle of Ormond and Wiltshire against Edward, Earl of March. In which 3800 men were slaine. The two Earls fled and Owen Teuther taken and beheaded. This field was fought upon the daye of the Virgin Marie's Purification in Anno 1461. Wherein before the battel was strok, appeared visibly in the firmament three Sunnes which after a while joyned all together and became as before: for which cause (as some have thought) Edward afterwards gave the Sunne in his full brightenes for his badge and cognizance." (Extract from Map of Herefordshire performed by John Speede in 1610.)

(2) "The great and decisive battle of Mortimer's Cross took place on Candlemas Day. In the early morning, Edward Mortimer posted his men with great care on what is now called the great west field. It was rather foggy and the hazy state of the atmosphere produced one of those curious illusions which are called "parhelia," that is the appearance of mock suns along with the real luminary. To the astonished eyes of Edward's army facing, as they were, South East, it appeared as though three suns were rising, which gradually grew into one. He was equal to the occasion, 'Yonder three suns' he said ' are the three Lancastrian leaders, the Earl of Pembroke, Sir Owen Tudor and the Earl of Ormond, whose glory shall this day centre upon me,' and in memory of this he took as his badge after the battle the sign of 'the sun in his strength.'

"The Lancastrians attacked in three bodies, the first headed by the Earl of Pembroke, son of Sir Owen Tudor, rushed in a headlong charge upon the right wing of the Yorkist army, scattering it, and pursued it for three miles in the direction of Shobdon. But Edward left that part of his force to shift for itself and moving forward, poured all the rest of his army upon the enemy. They met the Irish soldiers of the Earl of Ormond first, and these, half naked as they were, could not stand against the bills of the Herefordshire men, and fled in the utmost disorder. Next came the turn of Sir Owen Tudor and the Welsh and, with them, every Herefordshire man no doubt felt that he had plenty of accounts to settle for past forays, but though deserted by his son, Pembroke, who was in wild pursuit of one part of the Yorkist army, and left by the flying Irish, Sir Owen made a splendid fight and only, step by step, was driven back into Kingsland village. But there he met with a new enemy. Leominster was really a Yorkist town and, as soon as the Lancastrian garrison had left, the friends of Mortimer mustered, armed and sallied forth to help him. Thus, surrounded on every side, Sir Owen was compelled to yield himself a prisoner. It was now afternoon and the battle seemed over, when suddenly Pembroke returned from his wild pursuit to find, to his astonishment, his father a prisoner and the Lancastrians scattered. There still seemed a chance, however, for a brave man and, with infinite difficulty, he rallied the flying Welsh and Irish and made a last terrific assault upon the Yorkist line. The second battle was as fiercely contested as the first, but Mortimer and the Herefordshire men were too strong for their enemies and, when at last the sun set, the Lancastrian army had ceased to exist and over 4000 men were left dead or dying on the stricken field. Edward, the victor, pressed on with his prisoners to Hereford, and there next day, in revenge for the death of his father at the battle of Wakefield, had the aged Sir Owen Tudor beheaded. His head was put upon the steps of the market cross and a curious story is told how a certain madwoman in Hereford washed the face and combed the hair and lit, and left burning round it, more than a hundred candles".

The suggested Order of Battle (opposite) is taken from Ludford Bridge & Mortimer's Cross, (2001) by George Hodges, which gives a very comprehensive account of the Battle and is available through Leominster Library.



I wish to thank Mrs G. Hodges for granting copyright permission to reproduce this diagram from *Ludford Bridge and Mortimer's Cross* by the late G. Hodges. With acknowledgments to my three main sources;

- (1) Ludford Bridge and Mortimer's Cross, by Geoffrey Hodges, 2001;
- (2) The House of Croft of Croft Castle by O. G. S. Croft, 1949;
- (3) The website of the UK Battlefields Resource Centre.

Complied by Ian Mortimer (June 2005)

Next edition.

The next edition of the Living History Newsletter will be published in March 2019. It is intended that it will include articles on the following topics:

- 'Parish the Thought' A History of the Parish the Thought drama group.
- A biography of Chris, Yarpole's retiring sub-post master.
- 'Sign of the times' a visual display of signposts to be found in the Parish of Yarpole.
- How the Parish of Yarpole celebrated the 100th anniversary of the 1918 Armistice which marked the end of World War 1.
- An American in Yarpole.

The deadline for the receipt of articles is the 17 February 2019. They should be submitted as a Word document attached to an email addressed to <u>seiftonbatch@gmail.com</u>. Your article should be written using Time Roman 12 and be double spaced. Articles can be on a topic of your choosing and we welcome any and all contributions.