

Modified Register for Rev. Thomas HANCORNE

First Generation

1. **Rev. Thomas HANCORNE** was born in 1642. He died in Feb 1730/1731 in , Nash, Glamorgan, Wales and was buried on 28 Feb 1730/1731 in Parish Church, Monknash, Glamorgan, Wales.

Thomas married **Cecilia ???**. Cecilia was born in 1653. She died on 5 Aug 1727 in , Nash, Glamorgan, Wales and was buried on 15 Sep 1727 in Parish Church, Monknash, Glamorgan, Wales.

They had the following children:

- 2 M i. **Rev. Thomas HANCORNE** was born on 14 Jan 1674 in , St Donat's, Glamorgan, Wales and was christened on 22 Jan 1674 in Parish Church, St Donat's, Glamorgan, Wales.
Thomas married **Mary BURE** on 18 Mar 1710 in Parish Church, Rowner, Hampshire, England.

- + 3 M ii. **Edward HANCORNE I, of Pitt, Penrice** was christened on 30 Sep 1676 and died on 17 Mar 1741.

- + 4 F iii. **Elizabeth HANCORNE** was born on 10 Dec 1678 and died in 1714.

- + 5 F iv. **Diana HANCORNE** was christened on 14 Dec 1681.

- 6 F v. **Joanna HANCORNE** was born on 8 Jan 1684/1685 in St Donat's, Glamorgan, Wales and was christened on 17 Jan 1684/1685 in Parish Church, St Donat's, Glamorgan, Wales.
Joanna married **David RICHARD** in Nov 1725 in Parish Church, St Donat's, Glamorgan, Wales.

- + 7 M vi. **Rev. Richard HANCORNE** was born on 24 Dec 1686 and died on 14 Jan 1732.

Second Generation

3. **Edward HANCORNE I, of Pitt, Penrice** (Thomas) was christened on 30 Sep 1676 in St. Donat's, Glamorgan, Wales. He died on 17 Mar 1741 in , Penrice, Glamorgan, Wales and was buried on 19 Mar 1741 in Parish Church, Penrice, Glamorgan, Wales.

Edward married **Elizabeth THOMAS OR MANSEL**, daughter of Thomas MANSEL and Elizabeth THOMAS, on 29 May 1707 in Parish Church, Margam, Glamorgan, Wales. Elizabeth was born about 1685. She died on 6 Jun 1742 in , Penrice, Glamorgan, Wales and was buried in Jun 1742 in Parish Church, Penrice, Glamorgan, Wales.

They had the following children:

- 8 F i. **Elizabeth HANCORNE** was christened on 3 Mar 1709 in Parish Church, Penrice, Glamorgan, Wales.

- 9 F ii. **Cicil HANCORNE** was born in 1712 in , Penrice, Glamorgan, Wales.

- 10 M iii. **Thomas HANCORNE** was born in 1714 in , Penrice, Glamorgan, Wales. He died on 29 May 1762 in , Penrice, Glamorgan, Wales and was buried on 30 May 1762 in Parish Church, Penrice, Glamorgan, Wales.
Thomas married **Frances PHILIPPS**, daughter of John PHILIPPS, on 29 Dec 1739. Frances was born in , of Tenby, Pembrokeshire, Wales. She died after 1775.

- 11 M iv. **Edward HANCORNE II, of Berry Hall, Llanddewi** was born in 1717 in ,

Penrice, Glamorgan, Wales. He died on 12 May 1792 in Berry Hall, Llanddewi, Glamorgan, Wales and was buried on 15 May 1792 in Parish Church, Penrice, Glamorgan, Wales.

Edward married **Jane GROVE**. Jane was born about 1730. She died in Oct 1793 and was buried on 29 Oct 1793 in St Mary's Church, Swansea, Glamorgan, Wales.

- 12 M v. **Samuel HANCORNE** was born in 1719 in , Penrice, Glamorgan, Wales. He died on 12 Aug 1795 in Llanellen, Llanrhidian, Glamorgan, Wales and was buried on 17 Aug 1795 in Parish Church, Penrice, Glamorgan, Wales.
Samuel married **Mary BEVAN**, daughter of Rowland BEVAN and Catherine ???, on 30 Oct 1744 in Parish Church, Oxwich, Glamorgan, Wales. Mary was born in 1719. She died on 11 Nov 1797 in Llanellen, Llanrhidian, Glamorgan, Wales and was buried on 16 Nov 1797 in The Parish Church, Penrice, Glamorgan, England.
- 13 M vi. **Christopher HANCORNE** was born estimated 1721.
- 14 M vii. **Phillip HANCORNE** was christened on 15 Nov 1727 in Parish Church, Penrice, Glamorgan, Wales. He died in Nov 1727 in , Penrice, Glamorgan, Wales and was buried on 26 Nov 1727 in Parish Church, Penrice, Glamorgan, Wales.
- 15 M viii. **Phillip HANCORNE** was christened on 13 Mar 1728 in Parish Church, Penrice, Glamorgan, Wales.
- 16 M ix. **Robert HANCORNE** was born in 1731 in , Penrice, Glamorgan, Wales. He died in 1731 in , Penrice, Glamorgan, Wales.
4. **Elizabeth HANCORNE** (Thomas) was born on 10 Dec 1678 in , St Donat's, Glamorgan, Wales and was christened on 20 Dec 1678 in Parish Church, St Donat's, Glamorgan, Wales. She died in 1714.

Elizabeth married **Richard VOSS of Boverton or Merthyr Dyfan** on 5 May 1713 in the Parish Church, St Donat's, Glamorgan, Wales. Richard was born in , of Boverton, Glamorgan, Wales. He died in 1741.

They had the following children:

- 17 F i. **Elizabeth VOSS** was born on 16 Apr 1714 in Boverton, Llantwit Major, Glamorgan, Wales and was christened on 18 Apr 1714 in Parish Church, St Donat's, Glamorgan, Wales. She died after 1728.
5. **Diana HANCORNE** (Thomas) was christened on 14 Dec 1681 in St. Donat's, Glamorgan, Wales.

Diana married **Richard FORREST of Aberthaw** on 25 May 1703 in Parish Church, Minehead, Somerset, England.

They had the following children:

- 18 F i. **Elizabeth FORREST**.
Elizabeth married **Mr Glascott CRADOCK** on 19 Feb 1734 in St John's Church, Cardiff, Glamorgan, Wales.
- 19 F ii. **Jane FORREST "of London, widow"**.
Jane married **Mr WITHERS of Cwrt yr Elerch (Swan Court)**. Mr WITHERS of Cwrt yr Elerch (Swan Court) was buried on 4 Jan 1767 in the Parish Church, Michaelstone-le-Pit, Glamorgan, Wales.
- 20 F iii. **Sarah FORREST**.
- 21 F iv. **Hannah FORREST** died in 1810.
- 22 F v. **Mary FORREST** was christened on 18 Dec 1712 in Minehead, Somerset, England. She died in Sep 1788 in Fontygary, Penmark, Glamorgan, Wales and was buried on 26 Sep 1788 in Parish Church, Penmark, Glamorgan, Wales.

Mary married **Robert JONES II, of Fonmon** in 1732. Robert was born in 1706. He died on 8 Jun 1742 in Fonmon Castle, Penmark Parish, Glamorgan, Wales and was buried on 10 Jun 1742 in Parish Church, Penmark, Glamorgan, Wales.

23 F vi. **Cecelia FORREST** was buried on 27 Oct 1797 in Parish Church, Penmark, Glamorgan, Wales.

Cecelia married **Christopher DEAKE of Fonmon, joiner and shopkeeper**. Christopher was born in 1713. He died in Apr 1763 in Penmark, Glamorgan, Wales and was buried on 12 Apr 1763 in Penmark, Glamorgan, Wales.

7. **Rev. Richard HANCORNE** (Thomas) was born on 24 Dec 1686 in , St Donat's, Glamorgan, Wales and was christened on 11 Jan 1686/1687 in Parish Church, St Donat's, Glamorgan, Wales. He died on 14 Jan 1732 in , Llandow, Glamorgan, Wales and was buried on 15 Jan 1732 in Parish Church, Llandow, Glamorgan, Wales.

Rev. married **Jane POWELL**, daughter of Thomas POWELL and Elizabeth BASSETT. Jane was born on 1 Apr 1699 in , Llandow, Glamorgan, Wales and was christened on 6 Apr 1699 in Parish Church, Llandow, Glamorgan, Wales. She died on 13 Jan 1795 in , Cowbridge, Glamorgan, Wales and was buried on 17 Jan 1795 in Parish Church, Llandow, Glamorgan, Wales.

They had the following children:

24 M i. **Richard HANCORNE** was born in Cowbridge and was christened on 8 Feb 1715 in Parish Church, Llandow, Glamorgan. He died in , of Bristol, Gloucester, England.

25 M ii. **Thomas HANCORNE** was born on 22 Mar 1718 in Parish Church, Llandow, Glamorgan, Wales and was christened on 4 Jul 1718 in Parish Church, Llandow, Glamorgan, Wales. He died in Jul 1718 in , Llandow, Glamorgan, Wales and was buried on 4 Jul 1718 in Parish Church, Llandow, Glamorgan, Wales.

26 M iii. **Thomas HANCORNE** was born after 1718. was buried on 5 Feb 1727 in the Parish Church, Llandow, Glamorgan, Wales.

27 F iv. **Martha HANCORNE** was born on 19 Aug 1719 in , Llandow, Glamorgan, Wales and was christened on 16 Sep 1719 in Parish Church, Llandow, Glamorgan, Wales. She died in Jan 1719 and was buried on 8 Jan 1719/1720 in Parish Church, Llandow, Glamorgan, Wales.

28 F v. **Martha HANCORNE** was born on 17 Nov 1720 in , Llandow, Glamorgan, Wales and was christened on 14 Dec 1720 in Parish Church, Llandow, Glamorgan, Wales. She died in Feb 1765 in Cowbridge and was buried on 17 Feb 1765 in Parish Church, Llandow, Glamorgan, Wales.
Martha married **William ROSSER of Llanblethian** on 26 Aug 1740 in Parish Church, St Hilary, Glamorgan, Wales.

29 F vi. **Cecil HANCORNE** was born in 1721. She died in 1817 in Cowbridge. Cecil married **John THOMAS** on 9 Dec 1759 in Parish Church, Llanblethian, Glamorgan, Wales.

30 F vii. **Jane HANCORNE** was born on 11 Dec 1722 in , Llandow, Glamorgan, Wales and was christened on 11 Dec 1722 in Parish Church, Llandow, Glamorgan, Wales. She died in Mar 1745 in , Cowbridge, Glamorgan, Wales and was buried on 30 Mar 1745 in Parish Church, Llandow, Glamorgan, Wales.

31 M viii. **Edward HANCORNE** was born on 14 Oct 1725 in Parish Church, Sully, Glamorgan, Wales. He died in Oct 1725 in , Sully, Glamorgan, Wales and was buried on 23 Oct 1725 in Parish Church, Sully, Glamorgan, Wales.

Pitt and the Pendulum

The parish registers of St Magdalene's Church, Monkash, record a number of ceremonies performed by Rev. Thomas Hancorne, Jnr., who instituted a memorial to his father of the same name, late Rector of St Donat's, whose 1731 will had requested that he be buried alongside his wife Cecilia near the communion table of said church. Though this will, written in 1728, does not mention the solicitous eldest son, who later carried on the ministry in Hampshire, it provided a useful pedigree of the immediate descendants of the Rector, as set out in Glamorgan FHS Journal No. 52, pp 40-43 - Dec 1998 with an amended Chart in Journal No 53, p 30 - Mar 1999.

Ten years later, in 1741, the death occurred of the Rector's second son, Edward Hancorne of Pitt, Penrice, whose descendants continued the Hancorne name in Glamorgan up to the early 1900s, not so those of the Rector's youngest son, Richard, who died as Rector of Llandow in 1732, and whose descendants were all through female lines. Though my previous article, mentioned above, explores a number of the unusual sources used in constructing the wider pedigree of the descendants of the Rector of St Donat's, I could never have envisaged the wealth of information I would glean as a result of one simple visit to the church in the Vale of Glamorgan, where no trace now remains to show that Rev. Thomas Hancorne, onetime Rector, ever ministered there at all.

It pays to advertise, for as a result of a visit I made to St Donat's Church on 27 June 2000 I received a letter from a fellow pilgrim who was researching the history of Llanblethian, and mentioned a reference to Vine Cottage in that parish, said to be home of Capt. Hancorn father-in-law of Rev. Robert Phelps of Penllyn. He was known to have married a Maria Louise Hancorn at Llandough-juxta-Cowbridge in 1811, and the death in Montivideo of their son Thomas Hancorn Phelps, (b Penllyn 03 Nov 1823), was reported in the Cambrian newspaper of 17 Apr 1846. The captain was easily identified as Christopher Hancorne, whose father Samuel had followed his father Edward Hancorne of Pitt, as agent to the Mansels of Margam.¹

The significance was not so much that the reference effectively confirmed Christopher's natural daughter, Mary (b Swansea 1790) as wife of Rev. Robt.

¹ Elizabeth Thomas, *de facto* wife of Thomas Mansel of Penrice Castle (d 1704), had remembered her Hancorne grandchildren in her will, [written in Feb 1714/5, and proved in 1720], for the couple's daughter Elizabeth had married Edward Hancorne at Margam in 1707, whereupon they settled at Pitt, a substantial dwelling near the castle of Penrice. When Elizabeth's brother, Thomas, succeeded to the Margam Estate, Edward Hancorne's eldest son Thomas, became tenant of Penrice Castle.

Phelps of Penllyn, where previously the marriage had been unplaced, nor that Llanblethian was a location new to this branch of the family, but that the source, identified as the **WAH Fisher notebooks**² was a completely new one. Moreover these manuscripts have proved invaluable in connecting pedigrees of numerous Hancorne blood descendants in the Vale of Glamorgan, that otherwise might have remained unconnected, or in doubt, not least of all the Jones Family of Fonmon Castle in Penmark Parish.

Beyond the reference to Vine Cottage and the Phelps family, above, which occurs in Vol. 36 p16 of the WAH Fisher notebooks, an extensive pedigree of the Hancornes is set out in Vol. 26 pp64-65 noting a further family connection with the parish of Llanblethian in that William Rosser of that parish had married Martha Hancorn of Llandow at St Hilary on 26 Aug 1740. We know this to be the case from more traditional sources, but the remarkable revelation was that:-

“Wm Thos. in the Diary Feb 1765 records the death of W. R.’s wife of premature labour - twins. He was had before Mr Bruce on suspicion of hastening her death by violence. W.T. speaks of her as being d. or g.d. of Rev. Thos H. Rector of St Donats, decd, + 1st cousin of Madam Jones of Fonmon. Rosser was keeper of the Pridewell at Cowbridge. Probably (says D.J.) she was the eldest dau of the rector of Sully, as above)”

At this stage, I had no idea who W(m) T(homas) was with his diary entry from Feb 1765, nor the “D.J.” who had rightly assumed that Rosser’s wife was daughter of the Rector of Sully, none other than Richard Hancorne, youngest child of Rev. Thos. of St Donat’s, and previously described as Rector of Llandow. Indeed from the wording of the entry I concluded wrongly that William Thomas had been had up on the charge.

The historian Fisher, who died in 1957, had used as one of his principal sources, the **David Jones of Wallington Collection**³, who in turn had used the **Diary of William Thomas of Michaelston-super-Ely, 1762-1795**⁴, as one of his primary sources. These have in turn proved to be highly-significant sources, astoundingly enlightening in terms of the detail they provided.

Quoting from David Jones a reference to the will dated 08 Apr 1731, proved in 1733, of a Thos. Hancorne of “LLangadock, Gower”, Fisher concludes:-

² Fisher, W.A.H. (of St Athan, d 1957), Unpublished, Cardiff Central Library, 2.1340 Nos 1-50, 46 Vols., Index = MS 4.1221 (14/14)

³ David Jones of Wallington, David Jones of Wallington Collection, Cardiff Central Library, MS. 4.877. Some Manuscripts at National Library of Wales.

⁴ Ed. R.T.W. Denning, South Wales Record Society, 1995, Cardiff Central Library, L:942.986 THO, ISBN: 09 525961 05

“He must have been, says D.J., ancestor of Capt. Hancorne, father of Mrs Phelps of Llanblethian who was of Gower by birth. Cap. Hancorne lived once at Llanblethian.”

Although it was clear now that the D.J. of the reference was David Jones of Wallington, and that Captain Christopher's baptism was indeed recorded at Oxwich in 1760, it became obvious now that a critical approach to sources would be called for. I was already aware from separate research of the 1733 will of Thomas Hancorne at Llangadog, which is a parish in Carmarthenshire near Llandovery rather than on the Gower, and the family remains unplaced unless we take it that D.J. did not mean the term ancestor to be interpreted as direct ancestor, which other research has shown he was not. Albeit that the Captain may or may not have lived at Llanblethian for a time and I was satisfied that he was the father-in-law of Rev. Phelps⁵, his burial is recorded in the registers of Newcastle parish Church, where his brother Rev. Thomas had been Vicar up to his death in 1838. It was clear that a re-examination of sources was called for.⁶ Indeed, cross-referencing the registers of Newcastle parish with the published Monumental Inscriptions revealed that my failure to gain access to the vestry of Newcastle Parish Church at the time of my visit on date? had denied me all knowledge of a plaque there in memory to the vicar and his second wife, Mary Wellford née Grove, perhaps a relative of his uncle's widow Jane, who was buried at Swansea in 1793.

Recourse was had to the Diary of William Thomas, which revealed that:-

16 Feb 1765 Was buried in Cowbridge, two months before her time with her two children, being twins, in her womb, and she was delivered by a Surgeon, of about 45 years of age, a first cousin of Madam Jones of Fonmon, for she was either daughter or grand daughter of the late Revd. Mr Thomas Hancorne, Rector of St Donats, deceased. She was wife to William Rosser, late of Burthin, Shopkeeper... now Keeper of Cowbridge's House of Correction, She Dy'd from his abusing her as the report goes, and he was before Mr Bruce, A Justice of the Peace, in her case, but was cleared by the Surgeons etc

We can of course be surer of contemporary sources, revealing that it was Rosser, not Thomas who was accused of the abuse, but it appears the burial may have been at Llandow. He was evidentially, from his diary, well enough acquainted with the

⁵on account of there being no other Hancorne candidate who bore the title “Capt.”

⁶ This had proved very profitable elsewhere: on cross-referencing the parish registers of Llanddewi Parish in the Gower, with the Bishops Transcripts, it confirmed that **Jane Grove** was the mother Edward Hancorne's children, he being the son of Edward Hancorne of Pitt referred to in the previous article, and a brother of Samuel, the father of Rev. Thomas of Newcastle, and of Capt. Christopher.

Jones family at Fonmon to be sure of the Hancorne connection in the case of Mary Jones, wife of Robert Jones II of Fonmon, whose family Thomas often mentions. One such relation is George Withers of Cwrt yr Elerch or Swan Court, a farm now called Cwrt yr Ala in the parish of Michaelstone-le-Pit.

04 Jan 1767 Was buried in Michaelstone le Pit Mr George Withers of Swan's Court in do., of 80 years of age or more, of a sudden death, but this year or more in a Lingring Consumption, but kept on his feet and looked over the woods of Esqr. Jones, whose mother's sister was his wife.

The Esq Jones in question is Robert Jones III, who was patron of the Church at Michaelstone-le-Pit and who installed therefore his distant cousin Rev. Thomas Hancorne (later of Newcastle) as Rector of that Parish⁷. In that same parish, the same Rev. Thomas Hancorne had married Jane Coghlan, the niece of Robert Jones III as alluded to on the memorial tablets to the Hancornes at Penrice⁸, and a cousin therefore of both the man she was marrying and of George Withers above.

The connection with George Withers is quite simple, as referred to above in so much as the will of Robert Jones II describes his wife Mary as the 5th daughter of Richard Forrest of Aberthaw, whose marriage in Minehead, Somerset in 1703 is recorded by Rev. Thomas Hancorne of St Donat's in the registers of that parish with his own daughter Diana. It is Diana's daughter Jane, mentioned in the will of the Rector of St Donat's, who appears in the will of Mary Jones as her widowed sister Jane Withers in London, and is therefore the widow of George. Her sister Mary, as wife of Robert Jones II of Fonmon, became mother of Robert Jones III of Fonmon, whose sister Catharine had married John Coghlan, to become parents of Jane, first wife of Rev. Thomas Hancorne of Michaelstone-le-Pit and later of Newcastle.

The connection with Minehead is not as strange either as it might first appear, given the coastal location of Penmark parish, and the condition of road communications which meant that commerce with Bristol etc was easier than with Cardiff at this time, and quite prevalent. Vol. 16 p 30 of Fisher ascribes a baptismal date of 18 Dec 1712, for Mary Jones née Forrest presumably at Minehead, that of a Richard Forrest possibly a brother, "in Mine.... ye 7 of Feb 1723." Though the baptismal date of Jane Forrest wife of Geo. Withers is not presently known, that of a Cecilia Forrest is recorded on 09 Nov 1710, whom Fisher in his pedigree on page 64 of Vol. 26 describes as Celia, wife of Christopher Deake, buried at Penmark on 12 Apr 1763. This is confirmed in the Diary of William Thomas who says:-

⁷ Orrin, Geoffrey R., *Mediaeval Churches of the Vale of Glamorgan*, Reynoldston 1987 ISBN: 0 905928 806, Treorchy Central Library

⁸ These are recorded in WAH Fisher Vol. 26, p 75, and cross-referenced to the pedigree on p64.

12 Apr 1763 Was buried in Penmark Christopher Deak of Fonmon, Joiner, and a Shopkeeper, being brother in law to Mrs Jones of Fonmon (who had brought he and wife to keep there a shop). A very drunken sort of man, about 50 years of age. They buried him pompous, and kept him unburied from the 9th instant for that day he dyed to the 12th.

William Thomas records that:-

02 Mar 1776 Married lately in England the Revd Mr Deak of St Athan, to a fortune

Fisher, for his part, goes on to conclude that Christopher Deake's son, John would have been the same man, and would have been 15 years of age at the time of his death. He observes that he was:-

presented to the rectory of St Athan's [...] by R[obert] J[ones] in 1775. [and that] on the day of his induction to St A[than's] (04 May 1775) he was also inducted into the living of St Bride's, Mon on the presentation of Thos. Matthews Esq. of Llandaff.

There is another possible connection with the Joneses of Fonmon here, as Diana, daughter of Robert Jones II by Mary Forrest had married this Thomas Matthews, though Clarke's *Limbus Patrum* says there was no issue. Diana was therefore Rev. John Deake's maternal aunt. His successor, according to Fisher was:-

Henry John R. Casberd (a cousin) who was instituted on the death of John Deake 15 Feb 1830. The Rev. J[ohn] D[eake] is buried in the chancel of St A[than's] church where is a mural mont. to his memory, as also to children of himself and Mary his wife. He is stated in the inscrip. to have been "rector of this psh for 54 years" and to have died 13 Aug 1829 aet 81. Wife's death not given.

Whatever his source for the above (prob. D.J. of Wallington) Fisher qualifies the idea of "cousin" above with the remark:-

a cousin of the Joneses but unless there was a Forest descent not a cousin of Deake

We know in fact that the will of Mary Jones, mentions "Maria Charlotte, the eldest daughter of my dear son, Robert Jones", the third of that name at Fonmon, by his second wife Joanna Lloyd. This daughter was to marry John Thomas Casberd D.C.L., the Vicar of Penmark. She was therefore the mother of Henry John R, Casberd who succeeded Deake at St. Athan. The connection between Deake and Casberd is therefore both Jones AND Forrest, and quoting Deak(e) births and burials from the Parish of Penmark, Fisher goes on to observe that:-

Mrs Jones of Fonmon was the dau. of Richard Forrest who lived at Aberthaw. He is described as such in the will of his s. in law Robert Jones 1732 but the ped[igree] (Clarke) styles him "of Minehead". He could not have been a person of any standing.

Fisher records elsewhere that Robert Jones' mother was opposed to the marriage of son, with Mary Forrest on the ground that she was not good enough; and we have seen that Richard Forrest was both of Aberthaw in Penmark Parish and Minehead, and that Robert Jones' will, though written in 1732, with codicil in 1740, was not probated until 1742⁹.

The will of his widow, Mary Jones¹⁰, then living at Fontygary goes on to strengthen the Forrest connection, since she goes on to mention her sisters Jane Withers of London, Widow, and Hannah Forrest, a spinster of Penmark whose own will was probated in 1810¹¹. Her daughter, Diana, wife of Thomas Matthews of Llandaff, is also mentioned. Fisher extracts details from this will in Vol. 42 p 138, and cross references it to Vol. 26 p63, where he mentions that John Wesley had visited her when she was dying, for they were stalwarts of the Methodist cause.

A further Forrest connection exists in the form of a marriage licence, dated 16 Feb 1733 to the marriage of Elizabeth Forest, spinster of Penmarc, and a Cradock Glascott whose name appears in the copious Fonmon Muniments. The marriage was celebrated at St John's Cardiff on 19 Feb 1734. This must be the same Elizabeth mentioned in the will of Rev. Thomas Hancorne of St. Donat's in 1731, whose wife Cecilia would be the namesake and great-grandmother of Cecilia Deake, widow of Rev. John, who was buried at Penmark in 1797. A further namesake would links us back to Llanblethian in the form of the license, dated 26 Nov 1759, for the marriage of Cecil Hancorne, spinster of that parish, with John Thomas, whom Clarke and Fisher describe as attorney of Cowbridge. This marriage was celebrated at Llanblethian on 09 Dec 1759.

Said Cecil Thomas (who, with her husband, may be buried at Llangan), was none other than the sister of Martha Rosser, whose tragic death in 1765, William Thomas had commented on in his diary. His only other comment on the Hancornes, with whom, as a family, he seemed little acquainted, is a brief mention of the death of their mother Jane at Cowbridge, as follows:-

29 Jan 1795 [...] - In these Days Dy'd at Cowbridge, Mrs Hancorn, of 96 years of age.

⁹ Will of Robert Jones, Esq Penmarc (made at Fonmon 1732), National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth, **LL174/157**.

¹⁰ Will of Mary Jones, wid, FFontygari, National Library of Wales, **LL1788/85**

¹¹ Will of Hannah Forrest, spinster, Penmarc, National Library of Wales **LL1810/96**

The Diary of William Thomas does not record the burial of Cecilia Deake, as it ends in 1795, and she died in 1797. David Jones of Wallington, whose manuscripts are divided between Cardiff and Aberystwyth, was writing in the 1800s, and remains a source I have not studied at first hand. His 20th Century counterpart in WAH Fisher of St Athan, who died in 1957, drew on both sources and added his own comments to extend the picture.

An interesting account is given in Fisher of Frances or Fanny Rosser of Llysworney, who had been adopted by Rev. John Carne of Ewenny and Nash, She being his housekeeper and the youngest child of William and Martha Rosser. The Carnes were connected with Nash an extraparochial manor, associated with the Stradlings. Fanny Rosser, who was buried at Llysworney on 23 Oct 1833, aged 72, had wished to be buried with her beloved adoptive father. William Thomas in his diary on 12 Jun 1763 records the marriage of Rev. Carne with his cousin at St Fagans, as follows:-

12 Jun 1763. Married in St. Faggans the Revd. Mr Carne of Little Nash to Miss Elinor Carn. With her Aunt in St Faggans Castle. Ringing of Bells for several days following, being the Neighbours gave money to ring them.

On 21 Feb 1791, Thomas also records Elinor's burial in Bath, aged about 55 "where she had lately gone for health".

Whether Fanny Rosser's wish to be buried with Rev. John Carne (d 1798) was granted or not, Fisher records that her grave was once a most impressive one, which for some reason was later excavated, and it was quite a stir when the body of a one-armed man, not in a coffin was found buried on top of her coffin.

The connection with Nash, may also prove to be important since Geoffrey Orrin, in his work previously cited, hints at a family connection with Nash for Cecilia, wife of Rev. Thomas Hancorne of St Donat's. Whatever the nature of this connection, it is certain that the pilgrimage I made to St Donat's that day would be a fruitful one, for in unearthing the wonderful source that constitute the notebooks of WAH Fisher, was to be found, as well as the Hancorne pedigree he constructs, details from an earlier time taken from the burial inscription at Monknash, alas now all but illegible. These show that Cecilia died on 05 Aug 1727, aged 74. Research has shown that the fortunes of her descendants have fluctuated pendulum-like across time from her Hancorne descendants of her son Edward of Pitt, to the Forrest descendants of her daughter Diana, and elsewhere. What is certain is that without the industrious recordings of William Thomas, and his successors David Jones and WAH Fisher, the quest to record other descendants of Hancorne blood would have been largely impossible. I am indebted to Mr Jeff Alden and Mr Bob Sanders for their generous guidance. The quest to seek out Cecilia's own roots and family connections, will continue.

RICHARD
HANCORNE

m.

JANE POWELL --- her brother

WILLIAM
POWELL

JOHN THOMAS, m.
attorney of Cambridge

CECIL HANCORNE

MARY THOMAS

m

EDWARD
POWELL, les
of Henslow
Memorial in
Margate ch

(Memorial to MARY POWELL
in Holy Cross church)

Mary & Edward memorial at
55 High St, Cambridge

(licensed for memorials then)

MARY POWELL'S FIRST COUSINS were:

- 1) Elizabeth BRADLEY of Cambridge
- 2) Fanny ROSSER, whose guardian - adoptive father
was Rev. John Carne of Nash
- 3) Captain CHRISTOPHER HANCORNE, who lived in Hantslettin

RICHARD HANCORNE'S sister was DIANA FORREST,

whose daughter MARY
married ROBERT JONES of Foulmon

EDWARD POWELL'S father, WILLIAM, had a sister MARTHA,
who married WILLIAM ROSSITER (? ROSSER), keeper
of the Cambridge House of Correction.

Subject: Re: Memorials at Cowbridge Church - Three Cocks

Date: Mon, 12 Feb 2001 01:36:40 -0000

From: "Ian Meredith" [REDACTED]

To: <eff.alden@talk21.com>

Cc:

-----=_NextPart_001_002C_01C09494.3F925840

Content-Type: text/plain;

charset="iso-8859-1"

Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

Jeff,

You have a remarkably GOOD sense of timing!!!

'T was I, no less who entered the details about Mary Powell's memorial = in the Visitor's Book at Holy Trinity, Cowbridge, and I'm KICKING myself = at not entering my address!!! Must go back, and put it in pen!!!

A week or two back I had had to go on business to St Athan's and took = the opportunity to call and look at a number of places of interesting = sites, inc. Fonmon, and the "Blue Anchor" pub at East Aberthaw, which = may have been kept by the parents of Mary Forrest, wife of Robert Jones = II, of Fonmon. Alas I did not have time to call at St Athan's church, = which where the incumbent for many years was another Forrest relative, = Rev. John Deake, but that's for the future. One the way back, I had = time, JUST, as the light faded to call in at Cowbridge Church, where I = spotted, to my complete amazement, the plaque dedicated to Mary Powell!! = I only had a few minutes and determined to go back, as the light was = fading...

In the meantime, your talk at the Glamorgan FHS meeting on 6th February = intervened, and my jaw dropped to see that it was you delivering the = speech, as I had wondered if you would be there as a spectator, as our = past correspondence had led you to join, and I thought you might attend. = It was fortunate that I should have been to Cowbridge only days before = your talk as I hadn't been there for YEARS previously, and was able to = relate to it that much better. Congratulations on a most enlightening, = and very much appreciated talk. I was on the point of writing to you, as = a result... hence my comments above, about your timing!!!

One of the houses you featured in your talk, was the Town House of the = Carne Family of Nash Manor, who played a part in the life of one branch = of our family, in fact, my cousin has been trying to link in Cecilia, = wife of Rev. Thomas Hancorne of St Donat's with this family. You will = remember that it was my seeking clues on this at St Dunwyd's Church, = that led you to first contact me!!! I am pleased to say that a = resultant, much boiled-down (and much more coherent!!) version of my = article is due to be published in the March 2001 edition of the Glam. = FHS Journal, which stems entirely from you leading me to the WAH Fisher = Journals which in turn led me to the Wm. Thomas' Diary. That had proven = the key element in linking the Hancorne and Fonmon families, through the = marriage of Mary Forrest and Robert Jones in 1732. Since the writing of = the article, and imminent publication, which I am powerless to amend, I = have incidentally learned that WAH Fisher's source for the date of the = wedding was D/D F F173. This proved to be a 'certificate' for the = marriage at a time no longer covered by the extant PRs, and it does not = feature in the BTs. It has been suggested that (if it had not appeared = in the original registers - which we will never know!!) it might be a = case of a pre Hardwicke's Marriage Act 'private marriage'...

Anyhow, to get to the point of the link with the Carnes of Nash, beyond = the attempt to tie in Cecilia Hancorne, you will know that Mary Powell, = whose memorial at Cowbridge prompted you to write to me, was the = daughter of John Thomas, attorney of Cowbridge, by Cecil Hancorne, the = daughter of Richard Hancorne and Jane Powell. You will probably also be = aware that Jane Powell's brother William was the father of Mary Powell's = husband, Edward Powell "the last of Llandow" as he is described on their = memorial at Llangan. The further interesting link here, since it =

features in my forthcoming article, is that Jane Powell's grandmother = was Prsicilla Jones of Fonmon, and her husband, Richard Hancorne, Rect. = of Llandow, was the brother of Diana Forrest, whose daughter Mary, had = married Robert Jones II of Fonmon. Both Richard and Diana are children = of Rev. Thomas of St Donat's as you are probaly aware. Forgive me if I'm = echoing what you know already, and you are probably aware that Cecil = Hancorne had a sister Martha who married William Rosser, keeper of the = House of Correction (now the Town Hall, I understood from your talk!!). = I further understood from your talk that you had not studied too deeply = the Diary of William Thomas, and whether you had or not you may already = have come across the death of Martha Rosser in 1765, alledgedly at the = hands of her abusive husband, though subsequently he was let off? As WTs = Diary only gives brief details, I do hope you may have come across this = case, which was tried by William Bruce, during the course of your = research, if so I would certainly appreciate further details. I AM = coming to the point now, which is that, on hearing of the death of her = mother, according to WAH Fisher (He probably got this from David Jones = of Wallingford), Fanny Rosser, the youngest child ran into the street = crying "Mammy's Dead", and she was subsequently adopted by Rev. John = Carne, Rect. of Llisworney, but related to those of Nash Manor. We = wonder therefor if this was just a case of charity on his part, or = whether it was evidence of a family connection of the Hancornes and the = Carnes of Nash, and you will recognise that Fanny Rosser is therefore a = first cousin of Mary Powell, whose memorial is at Holy Trinity Church in = your home town. I went back to Cowbridge, this past Friday, to see if = there were any further clues to be gained. It had been just too dark on = my previous visit to transcribe the memorial in full. Any further = information you can provide on Mary Powell, who I understand donated a = chalice to Llangan Church, would be most welcome. Also on Fanny Rosser, = who desired to be buried at Llysworney alongside her beloved Rev. Carne, = when she died in 1833. Apparently local gossip had it she was his = mistress. Would you know anything about that? And the tale, I understand = that apparently her grave was later excavated, and the body of a = one-armed man was found on top of her coffin. Can you elaborate, as I am = really confused by WAH Fisher, as to whether she was actually buried = with Rev. Carne or not, and there is certainly no memorial to her there = now, (said to have been most resplendent).

Here's one thing I REALLY would wonder if your team has an angle on... My source for the information about the Chalice is Geoffrey Orrin's = "Mediaeval Churches of the Vale of Glamorgan" and I further wanted to = get a closeup look at the memorial in Cowbridge Church of the Jenkins = family of Hensol, which have created quite a stir in our family research = into the Hancornes.

My own branch of the Hancorn (no 'e') family is in Herefordshire, one of = whose tombs bears a heraldically faulty emblem of the Three Cocks = emblazon on the Hensol memorial. I noted it is also on the memorials at = the church to those Cowbridge men who fell in the great wars.. What is = it's significance therefore, as I understand that it denotes a descent = from Einion Seis? The particular point of interest for the Hancorn(e) = family is that, although the emblem on the tomb of Richard and Martha = Hancorn at Whitney-on-Wye is 'faulty' (having two cocks above the = chevron, and one below!!) it appears to suggest a link with the = Gwernyfed family at Three Cocks in Glasbury or more specifically, = Aberllynfi, Breconshire, which is precisely where the father of Rev. = Thomas Hancorne of St Donat's lived (acc. Alumni Oxoniensis). Could this = be significant?, as I know the Awbreys married into this family, and = they too link in with Breconshire, and Llangadog, Carmarthen, which is = another place of Hancorne significance.

Well I daresay, you got more than you bargained for in writing to me = this evening, and I admit I did not intend to go into quite so much = detail, but I thought I would reciprocate in some small way, with a = little on Capt. Christopher Hancorne, whose apparent residence at Vine = Cottage, Llanrhidian is what originally prompted you to write to me.

By complete and SHEER coincidence, I have spent today, reconstructing = files and restoring data from old backups on my Amstrad PCW, to replace = corrupted data that hadn't been backup correctly to CD from my PC.. That = led me to copy across Hancorne data I had abstracted from the Cambrian = News, which however did not contain the entry you yourself recently sent = me, so thanks again. Whilst reformatting the document to account for the =

new layout, I scanned through the entries relating to Capt. Christopher = Hancorne, finding clues to when Capt Hancorne, might have been resident = at Vine Cottage. Whilst so doing, I got the kind of surprise that made = me even more determined to write to you in the morning, but you have = beaten me to it in writing to me tonight!!!

1804 25 Aug, C. Hancorne of the local Volunteers, moves to Kent. [T21 - = Uniformed Forces - Yeomanry]
1805 05 Jan, Christopher H. Vice to Mr John Voss, himself appointed = Capt. West Reg Glam. Volunteers [T21]
1820 03 Jan, Christopher H. Esq. Made Capt. Royal Glam. Militia [T21]
1830 02 Jan, Capt Hancorne Attempted burglary at his house in Nelson = Place, Swansea [Q12 - theft etc]
1834 30 Aug, C. Hancorne Esq. 15 Union Buildings, Swansea. Furniture, = effects for sale [R44]
1838 20 Jan, Christopher H. Esq., m. Ann Lewis, both of Swansea, at St = Mary's Church, Swansea
1842 29 Jan, Capt Christopher Death of bro. of late Vic. of Newcastle

Clearly, from the above, Capt Hancorne had moved to Swansea by 1830, and = was associated with West Glamorgan in 1805, so may have been in = Llanblethian in 1820, or between these dates.

We have already discussed the marriage of his daughter Maria with Rev. = Robert G. Phelps of Penlline, which links to the following report in the = Cambrian of the death of their son in Motivideo, as below:-

1846 17 Apr T. Hancorn Phelps at Montivideo, son of Rev Robt Phelps, = Vicar of Penlline [C10 - Death Notice]

The striking thing is though, that Capt. Christopher appears below to be = instructing beneficiaries of the will of his cousin Mary Powell, whose = memorial at Cowbridge has now come to our notice. Had no idea who this = Mary Powell might be, until today. Certainly the date is correct. Do you = have details of said will of which the executors, and cousins, are also = mentioned on her plaque? They include two of the sons of her maternal = Aunt Martha Rosser, whose tragic death, as recounted by Wm Thomas was = the very means by which I was able to finally establish the Fonmon link, = which YOU led me to..

1838 08 Sep Christopher H. Instruct. to beneficiaries of will of Mary = Powell. [K70 - Legal Notices]

Incidentally, on the subject of the Fonmon link, you also mentioned in = your talk, the Town House of the Wyndhams of Dunraven. I note in this = respect the marriage of Charlotte Jones of Fonmon with Charles (Wyndham) = Edwin, from this family. Can you please however clear up whether THIS = Charlotte is the Lady Charlotte, Methodist benefactor of so many = churches in the Vale (given Charlotte's parental links with the Wesleys) = or whether the benefactress in fact was, as Geoffrey Orrin suggests, = Charles Edwin's first wife, daughter of the Duke of Hamilton. I've = probably got this all confused unless you know otherwise.

Forgive the rambling message, I had been meaning to set this out more = clearly in the morning, but have been spurred on to this heady = conclusion by your message to which this is a reply.

Thanks again for a wonderfully helpful speech. I'm sure you were = inundated with requests as a result, and so I hope the above is not too = unwelcome, as a response. I'd be dead chuffed if you can, sort any of it = out, in particular the Three Cocks enigma.

=20

Jenkins of Hensol Hancorn of Whitney

I don't think the Hancorn(e)s had any entitlement as, such to arms, but = see what you think. The link with Three Cocks, Aberllynfi, surely cannot = be insignificant. (We hope to prove that Samuel Hancorne of Aberllynfi = was related to the Hancorns of Whitney-on-Wye.)

Regards,

Subject: Cowbridge Miscellany
Date: Mon, 26 Feb 2001 18:54:42 -0000
From: "Ian Meredith" [REDACTED]
To: "Jeff Alden" <jeff.alden@talk21.com>
Cc:

Jeff,

Please receive this by way of acknowledgment of what you recently sent me in reply to my enquiry about Mary Powell. It was fortuitous indeed that you picked up on my entry in the Visitors' Book (again) for I had no idea of the oral tradition surrounding the family, nor that you would be able to link them with 55 High Street, had I had the courage to stand up and be counted during your recent talk. They did you a great injustice in listing you as "Jeff Allen" in the program, and I really should have come up to say hello again, at least, afterwards, but Gabalva's not the most accessible place for me with late night transport, and I bearily made it home.

I've been more fortunate of late with transport in and around the Vale, which has allowed me to go back to Holy Trinity Church, Cowbridge and copy down the memorial to Mary Powell, which I missed out on last time, and as I was leaving I spotted that to Elizabeth Bradley, whom you say was a first cousin of Mary Powell? I must try and track down which side of Mary Powell's family was the connection, as if it was on her mother's side, through her aunt Martha Rosser, then there would have been a Hancorne connection there too.

I marvelled at the eccentricity of Mary Powell's brother adopting a double ss, which was commented on by Rev. John Carne of Nash, who was of course the guardian and adoptive father of Mary's 1st cousin, Fanny Rosser, whose brothers are mentioned on Mary Powells memorial. The Rossers were of course connected with Llanblethian, which you are now researching, which regrettably I am still to visit, but I am very pleased you have identified a bungalow as the site of Capt Christopher Hancorne's old home, alas now gone. I think I was wrong to suggest in my previous message that he may have lived at Vine Cottage in the earliest part of the 19th Century, as his subsequent burial at Newcastle (Bridgend) in 1842 would suggest that he spent the latter part of his life there. Still haven't come up with anything more on Christopher's daughter Mary, and her husband Rev. Robert Phelps of Penlline, but I caught a brief glimpse of the church on the way to Llangan, and from there via Bridgend to Ewenny Priory, which is a cold forbidding place, pending renovation I understand, by CADW. Still, it was great to view the Carne memorials, but I missed out on seeing the de Londres ones, which are implicated in my Malefant line and connected with Kidwelly.

Back in Cowbridge, I was able to see 55 High Street, which you suggested, by tradition, was the site of the marriage of Edward Powell with Mary Thomas (above). I wonder if this can be trusted here as I know that a 'normal' license for their marriage does occur. The best view of the church, by the way is definitely, from the back of the Garden Centre!!! I note that the Catherine Barrett (d 1811, aged 37), whose memorial lies near the Jenkins Memorial must be the daughter of a different John Thomas of Cowbridge, unless I've got it very wrong.

I had tried to get to Hensol in case of further clues to the Three Cocks conundrum, but only made it as far as Pendoylan Church, which was locked!!! I know of the excellent Glamorgan Heraldry Series by Anthony Jones, as I have previously had contact with him. His first booklet helped me establish that the Bassetts of Beaupré were descended, through Bowen of Fishweir, and thence from Malenfaunt of Upton Castle, which is where the de Londres family of Ogmore come in!! Ironically, this is the same Beaupré mentioned on Mary Powell's memorial, which is where we came in, but I'd best stick to that, before I get TOO carried away!!!

I don't know if it will be of interest, but the Rosser connection, as mentioned on said memorial is as follows. I am hoping the Elizabeth Rosser baptised at Cowbridge, in 1755, may prove to be the one you referred to as Elizabeth Bradley, in your previous message:-

1. Martha Hancorne-1 was born on 17 Nov 1720 in , Llandow, Glamorgan, Wales and was christened on 14 Dec 1720 in Parish Church, Llandow, Glamorgan, Wales. She died² in Feb 1765 in Cowbridge and was buried on 17 Feb 1765 in Parish Church, Llandow, Glamorgan, Wales. Martha married (MRIN:599) William Rosser of Llanblethian- on 26 Aug 1740 in Parish Church, St Hilary, Glamorgan, Wales.

They had the following children:

- 2 M i. Henry Rosser of Mitcheldean- was christened on 4 Oct 1741 in the Parish Church, Llanblethian, Glamorgan, Wales.
- 3 M ii. William Rosser- was christened on 1 Mar 1744 in the Parish Church, Llanblethian, Glamorgan, Wales.
- 4 M iii. Thomas Rosser- was born in Feb 1746 in , Llandow, Glamorgan, Wales.
- 5 M iv. John Rosser- died in Apr 1755 and was buried on 2 Apr 1755 in Parish Church, Llandow, Glamorgan, Wales.
- 6 F v. Cicil Rosser- was christened on 19 Apr 1749 in the Parish Church, Llantwit Major, Glamorgan, Wales.
- 7 M vi. Richard Rosser of London- was christened on 25 May 1754 in the Parish Church, Cowbridge, Glamorgan, Wales. He died about Mar 1758 and was buried on 2 Mar 1758/1759 in Parish Church, Llandow, Glamorgan, Wales.
- 8 F vii. Elizabeth Rosser- was christened on 21 Sep 1755 in the Parish Church, Cowbridge, Glamorgan, Wales.
- 9 F viii. Mary Rosser- was christened on 5 Aug 1756 in the Parish Church, Cowbridge, Glamorgan, Wales.
- 10 F ix. Jane Rosser- was christened on 5 Jul 1757 in the Parish Church, Cowbridge, Glamorgan, Wales.
- 11 M x. John Rosser- was christened on 20 Mar 1760 in the Parish Church, Cowbridge, Glamorgan, Wales.

12 F xi. Martha Rosser- was christened on 10 Apr 1761 in the Parish Church, Cowbridge, Glamorgan, Wales.
13 F xii. Frances Rosser of LLYsworney- was christened on 10 Apr 1761 in the Parish Church, Cowbridge, Glamorgan, Wales. She died in Oct 1833 in LLYsworney, Glamorgan, Wales and was buried on 23 Oct 1833 in LLYsworney, Glamorgan, Wales.

Don't know yet, what became of these Rossers, apart from Fanny, the youngest, as I said, but will let you know, if it is of interest. Alas, I saw no Rosser memorial at Cowbridge on my return, but at least I have since be able to since write my details in the Visitors' Book in pen.

Don't know if I mentioned before the Rosser reference in the William Thomas Diary to the parents of the above children, as follows:-

2. Ed. R.T.W. Denning, Diary of William Thomas (of Michaelchurch-super-Ely) 1762-1795, South Wales Record Society, 1995, p 131, 16 Feb 1765, Cardiff Central Library, St David's Link, Cardiff, Glamorgan, L:942.986 THO, ISBN: 09 525961 05. "16 Feb 1765 Was buried in Cowbridge, two months before her time with her two children, being twins, in her womb, and she was delivered by a Surgeon, of about 45 years of age, a first cousen of Madam Jones of Fonmon, for she was either daughter or grand daughter of the late Revd. Mr Thomas Hancorne, Rector of St Donats, deceased. She was wife to William Rosser, late of Burthin, Shopkeeper... now Keeper of Cowbridge's House of Correction, She Dy'd from his abuseing her as the report goes, and he was before Mr Bruce, A Justice of the Peace, in her case, but was cleared by the Surgeons etc."

[The above is note 2. to the family printout above, note 1. being the same, but WAH Fisher's version of it]

I recently also returned to Llandow, to see the memorial to Martha's father, Rev. Richard Hancorne (d1732) and reconfirmed that his wife Jane Powell was the grand-daughter of Elizabeth Bassett of the same Beaupré line as above, hence perhaps the Rosser marriage at St Hilary (another place I aspire to visit), and next this memorial at Llandow is the one for Jane's grandfather (I previously thought father) Thomas Powell, who had married into the Carnes of Nash, so it all comes full circle!!

You made me smile when you mentioned in your letter that you had ignored 'irrelevant' family connections in your research into the history of buildings, as I had always thought the converse, never seeing the relevance of people researching the history of the house one house as there was no "continuity". If I have learned anything from your talk and our recent corresepondence it is that there is, and that the two are mutually intertwined. I dearly wish I could have attended your classes at Cowbridge!!! I've never been a historian, and it shows...

Notwithstanding this, if there is any part of my research that may be of interest to you. I would be more than glad to share it with you, as you know.

I'll try and get one or two bits and pieces together in a letter, by and by. Apologies for the delay in replying. I assure you it couldn't be helped.

Ian.

Take three Tablets - Unusual Sources for Hancorne Research

[or "From Ba(r)d to Verse"]

Being laid up sick a while, the chance to pour over my family history files was proving a real tonic. Tablets of a different kind were drawing my attention in the form of memorial inscriptions to be found at Penrice and Llandow Churches relating to the Hancorne family of Glamorgan.

For such an unusual name, the family is remarkably unheard of in Glamorgan today, despite the position various members of this family held in public life in Glamorgan, and the blood ties they had with prominent county families - notably the Stradlinge and the Mansells.

- a) In memory of Edward Hancorne, of the Pitt, Armiger, who died March 17th, 1741, aged 68. Also Elizabeth [Mansel], his wife, who died June 06 1742, aged 52. Also Thomas Hancorne, son of the above Edward and Elizabeth, who died May 29th 1762, aged 47 years, and left three sons and two daughters. Also Edward Hancorne, son of the above Edward and Elizabeth, who died May 12, 1792.
- b) Sacred to the memory of Jane, wife of the Rev. T. Hancorne, Rector of Newcastle, Dep. Lien. & Justice of the Peace for the County of Glamorgan, who died 2nd July 1793, aged 53, daughter of John Coglen, Esq., of Portman Square London, & niece of Robert Jones Esq. of Fonmon Castle in this County. She was a most affectionate wife, mother, & a true christian. Also Augustus & Frederick their sons, of Jane, their daughter, all of whom died young. John, their son, Lieut. in the Royal Marines, who died in Chatham, the 22nd Sept., 1811 aged 19. Thomas, their son, Lieut. & Adjutant in .. European Regiment, who was killed in action ^{at} .. Holcar Army on the Simpura, 21 December 1817, aged 29, and was all that a parent could desire.
Has been omitted of 100 for
- c) In memory of Samuel Hancorne, Armiger, third son of Edward Hancorne, of Pitt, who died August 12, 1795, aged 76 years. Also Edward Hancorne, son of the above Samuel Hancorne, who died October 04 1795, aged 50 years. Richard Hancorne, son of the above Samuel died in the island of Bulama in Africa, July 12, 1792, Aged 38 years. Also Mary Hancorne, the wife of the above Samuel Hancorne, who departed this life the 11th day of November 1797 aged 78 years. In memory of Philip Hancorne, Esq., fifth son of the above Samuel and Mary, a Lieutenant in the Royal Navy & an Admiral in the Service of Portugal, who died the 17th August, 1804, at Lisbon, where he was interred, aged 47. Beneath this stone are the remains of Samuel Hancorne, Esq., late Collector of H.M. Customs of the Port of Swansea, in which office, after holding it with credit and respectability for 22 years, he died Feb, 2, 1810, aged 61.

The tablets outlined above recorded in J. D. Davies' *"History of West Gower"*, Pt IV (copy at Glam. Archives, Swansea), with some discrepancies, admirably set out the main line of the Penrice branch of the family, and page 201 of Geoffrey Orrin's *"Mediaeval Churches of the Vale of Glamorgan"* portrays the grave of Rev. Richard Hancorne, of Llandow. He married into the Powell family of that Parish whose pedigree is set out in *Glamorganshire Pedigrees from the MSS of Sir Isaac Heard, Knight* (ed. Sir Thomas Philipps, Bart) Worcester 1845 (W929.2 at Treorchy Library).

Rev. Richard (1787-1732) was the youngest brother of the first Edward Hancorne, here subject of the first stone tablet. Edward's fortune it was to marry at Margam in 1707, and again at Nicholaston in 1708, to Elizabeth Thomas, an illegitimate daughter of Thomas Mansell of Penrice Castle. [Compare *"Penrice Castle Farm" - Gower XXVII*, pp4-14, by Joanna Methuen-Cambell, and pp55-56 of *"The Maunsell (Mansel) Family"*, by Col. C.A. Maunsell]. This Thomas Mansell (d 1704) was a grandson of Phillip Mansell of Swansea, Deputy Steward of Gower, himself the fifth son of Sir Edward Mansell (1531-1585). These family associations were to stand Edward Hancorne in good stead. He acted as agent and solicitor to his "brother Mansell" at Margam, and the family figures in various of the *Penrice MSS*, at NLW Aberystwyth. Further information on this cadet Mansell branch can be found in *Family Tree Magazine*, July 1997, pp9-10)

Much of the information about this Glamorgan family was collated by a descendant, Gary Lyle, before his death at Richmond, Surrey in 1984, when his files, *D/D X635(1-23)*, were deposited at Glamorgan Archives, Cardiff. Mr Lyle cited Edward and Rev. Richard above as children of Rev. Thomas Hancorne of St Donat's and his wife Cecilia, to whom Geoffrey Orrin's book (p289) attributes Stradling kinship, though Lyle himself suggests she was daughter of Sir Timothy Tyrrel, governor of Cardiff Castle, by the daughter of Archbishop Ussher. Neither theory can presently be proven, but of more interest to us here is the 1731 will of Rev. Thomas Hancorne of St Donats which sets out the immediate pedigree of his descendants and hints at other family alliances. Rev. Thomas himself, in the Registers of St Donats, records the marriage of his daughter Diana to one Richard Forrest "in villa de Minehead". Reasonable case can be made for their daughter, Mary, being the same Mary Forrest of Minehead, Somerset, who married Robert Jones II, of Fonmon Castle and introduced the name Diana to this line, which Jones family is also represented on the second memorial Tablet at St Andrew's Church, Penrice. The *Dictionary of Welsh Biography*, p504, lists Robert not Richard as father of this Mary Forrest. It should be noted also, in passing, that the Rev. Thomas Hancorne of Newcastle, Bridgend, whose wife's descent from the Joneses of Fonmon is made explicit on the second tablet, was the third Thomas Hancorne of that ilk, being son of Samuel Hancorne (1719-1795), the second being eldest son of the first, who may have married at Rowner, Hampshire in 1710.

The third stone tablet refers to Samuel Hancorne (1719-1795) of Oxwich and LLanrhidian, son of Edward above by Elizabeth Mansell/Thomas. His prolific offspring, by Mary Bevan, as set out in part on the tablet, merits particular and quite separate mention. All are well documented, and many played a prominent public role in the Swansea area and further afield.

That wills and admons. should have played their part in clarifying the bloodline of this family is significant not least of all because it affords us the opportunity to mention here that references to wills are now actually beginning to appear on the latest editions of the IGI, as shown by the W in the column that normally shows C for christening or M for marriage. Notable by their presence on the Glamorgan fiches are references to the will of Elizabeth Thomas/Mansell above in 1742 and an Edward Hancorne of "of Barry" in 1788. These dates and locations baffled me, and even Mormons that I asked, until it became clear that the dates mentioned in fact represented the date the will was WRITTEN, and relate to the Wills Abstracting program as mentioned in *Glamorgan FHS Journal* of June 1997. Confusingly such dates as mentioned on the IGI are useless for the

purposes of using the more familiar probate indexes, but, on application, Salt Lake City will provide further details about any given IGI entry which will lead to the probate date by which the original will can be accessed!!

The Edward Hancorne, here styled "of Barry" against a date of 1788 soon emerged as Edward Hancorne of Berry, in the parish of Llanddewi, Gower, whose will proved in 1792 was indeed written in 1788, which date on the IGI also denotes other Hancorne names mentioned in the said will. Unfortunately, neither this will nor the tablets at Penrice actually name his wife, who by a process of elimination has emerged as Jane Hancorne, buried at St Mary's Church, Swansea on 29 Oct 1793.

Gary Lyle acknowledges this Edward Hancorne of Berry as father of his ancestor Robert Hancorne, whose 1754 baptism at Oxwich is erroneously stated in "First Months at Kittle Hill" (GOWER XXXIII). It appears that, on writing this article shortly before his death in 1984, Gary Lyle was unaware of the location of the Berry tenement in Llanddewi Parish on the Gower, whose church registers clearly define his ancestor Robert, baptised there in 1766, as brother of Mansel Hancorne, (1769-1809), Solicitor of Jamaica.

Such slight error, however, does not detract from the clear fondness felt by Mr Lyle for his Hancorne ancestry, as collated in the above article and indeed in his collection at Cardiff as a whole.

Subject of the above article is principally the discovery in a Swansea attic of a journal kept by Mr Lyle's gt/gt/grandfather, John Gth. Hancorne, (son of Robert above) between Feb 1840 and Dec 1846. This diary, which contained many biographical details about the family, became the subject of fervent study by a number of academics worldwide, on account of its faithful recording of climactic conditions on the Gower and in the Bristol Channel, across to Devon. Perhaps inevitably, this valuable document was to disappear again when it was lent out and never returned. The series of articles in Gower, of which the above is the first, set about it to partially reconstruct the original.

An extensive pedigree of the Victorian and later Glamorgan Hancornes worldwide can be readily constructed by drawing on the Lyle collection in Cardiff as well as the Rev. John Collins Collection at UCW Swansea in conjunction with more obvious sources. It must be said, however, that the number of family representatives who bore the given names Edward, Robert and George in various branches, would have made this task well-nigh impossible were it not for copious published references to Hancorne family members in the public life of Swansea and the Gower. Such references were easily extracted from the pages of the *Cambrian Newspaper* as a result of an ongoing computerised indexing project based at the Central Library, in Swansea. This really is a major facility that should be checked out. Elsewhere, a surprise item found as document B766 in the "Welsh Collection" at Swansea Library was testimony to a lengthy chancery proceeding concluded in 1775, referred to by Lyle. The case was raised and resurrected several times between Frances, wid. of Thomas Hancorne, Surgeon of Carmarthen & Swansea, and relatives of her Uncle Rev. Thomas Phillips of Laugharne. By the conclusion of the suit a number of the parties had died, including Thomas Hancorne himself in 1762, and two of his sons. The identity and significant dates for him and his "three sons and two daughters", as mentioned on the first stone at Penrice, are revealed in this document, as too for the related Phillips family who descend from the Phillips Family of Picton, branches of whom descend from the Maliphants of Upton Castle near Cosheston, Pembrokeshire.

Last but not least of the sources employed for constructing the wider Hancorne pedigree are the volumes of the *Alumni Oxoniensis* held at Cardiff Central Library. These have proved the ONLY means of linking Rev. Thomas of St Donats as son of Samuel Hancorne of Aberllynfi, Breconshire, whose possible connection with the Hancorn (Sic) family of Whitney, Herefordshire, is mentioned in *Hereford FHS Journal* (Jan 1997). One remarkable link between these branches is the marriage in 1830 at Bishopston, Gower of Ann Griffith

Hancorne to Robert Pritchard of Norton Canon, Herefordshire. Whereas the bride was a sister of the Hancorne who wrote the vanished journal, her husband was once thought to be a descendant of the Hancornes of Norton Canon, whose bloodline at present can be linked with neither the Glamorgan nor the main Herefordshire branches of the family [See Hereford Family History Society Journal, Vol. VII, No. 2, Jul 1998]. Remarkably, whereas the Herefordshire Hancornes still flourish chiefly in that county and in Avon, the name of their more illustrious Hancorne (with an 'e') counterparts in Glamorgan has entirely disappeared from the UK, except for a topographical reference to Cwm Hancorne in the parish of St Donats. Emigration indeed was the fate of Robert Pritchard and Ann Griffith Hancorne of Norton Canon, who settled in Sparta, and London, Ontario, to which place other Hancornes had migrated. Among these were Thomas Ball and Emma Nicholls Hancorne, the ancestors of Oswald Dingwall, whose prolific correspondence with relatives back in Wales figure large in Gary Lyle's files

Today the Hancorne name can be found in numerous places in North America and Australasia, in which latter place the line of Gary Lyle is to be found. The origins of this unusual name are themselves obscure. Some have suggested links with the Spain of the Elizabethan era. Even a surprising Shakespearian dimension has been mooted. Hancorne families were contemporaries of the Bard's uncle Richard Shakespeare at Snitterfield, Warwickshire. William Shakespeare himself was recently implicated by the noted Welsh historian, John Davies, as possible author of the famous Gwernyfed Cipher at Old Gwernyfed in the parish of Aberllynfi, and it is known that Shakespeare was friendly with the Vaughans of nearby Glasbury. This family had links with Sir Robert Whitney of Whitney, whose wife's grandfather, Thomas Lucy of Charlecote was famously parodied by Shakespeare after he tried to prosecute the young Bard for poaching on his land!! It is thought possible that the Thomas Hancorne who was rewarded the Knapp tenement by Sir Robert Whitney at Whitney in 1616, may have come from Warwickshire upon the marriage of Sir Robert to Ann Lucy of Charlecote. Thereafter, it is argued that cadet branches of the Hancorne family settled in Aberllynfi, where the landowning families, notably the Williamsees of Gwernyfed, had links to the Mansels and Stradlings of Glamorgan. Thomas Wood, Lord of the Manor and a descendant of the Williamsees, privately printed the *Parish Registers of Glasbury (1660-1836)*, combined with Aberllynfi, for the Parish Register Society, in London in 1904. A copy exists at Brecon Library [942.965 PAR - Acc. No 138894], and mention must be made of the, as yet, unexplored "*HJT Wood Papers*" at the Society of Genealogists. There are however references elsewhere to the will in Llanegwad in 1596 of a Thomas Hancorne who mentions his son Morgan Hancorne, a name borne by a later Hancorne in MS527 of the *Cynghordy Collection*, dated 1709. This does not readily fit this former "Out-of-Warwickshire" argument however and even given that examples of Hancorne individuals are attested in such places, often as servants of some standing, a suggested family link with the Bard of Avon seems somewhat fanciful. Certainly not one of them is known to be mentioned in biographies about him, nor in either his prose or poetic works...!!

Rev Thomas Hancorne = Cecilia							
(1630-1730/1)		! d 1728					
! (of St Donats)							
! Thomas	! Edward	! Elizabeth	! Diana	! Joanne	! Richard		
b 1674	1676-1741	b 1678	b 1682	b 1684	1687-1732		
	= Elizabeth	(Voss)	(Forrest)	(Richard)	= Jane Powell	of LLandow.	
	! (Mansell)						
! (of Pitt, Penrice)							
! Eliz. Cicil	! Thomas	! Edward		! Samuel		! Others	
1709	1712	(1714-1762)		(1719-1795)			
	= Frances Philipps	= Jane (d 1793)		= Mary Bevan			
	Carmarthen/Swansea	! of Berry, LLanddewi		Oxwich/LLanrhidian			
! (of Pitt, Penrice)							
! George	! Jane	! Robert	! Elizabeth	! Mansel	! Edward	! Jane	! Elizabeth
b 1761+	b 1764	b 1766	b 1768	b 1769	b 1771	b 1774	b 1772
d 1809		d 1798	(died)	d 1809			
Swansea		Bishopston,		Kingston,			
		Gower		Jamaica			

Tuesday, 25 July 2000

Mr. A.J.L. Alden, 1 Mill Park, Cowbridge, South Glamorgan, CF7 7BG

Dear Mr Alden,

I am so glad you spotted my entry in the Visitor's Book at St Donat's Church.

Although I was aware of the Hancorne connection with Rev. Robert Phelps of Penllyne, I hadn't been able to find out much about them, and you have provided some valuable clues to me!!! I am therefore more than happy to help you in any way I can.

The marriage of Robert G. Phelps and Mary Louisa Hancorn (Sic) is to be found in the Parish Registers of LLandough-juxta-Cowbridge following a license dated, 21 Feb 1811. I had failed to discover any subsequent baptisms for their children in the registers of that Parish, and the only further reference I had was from the "Cambrian News" of 17 Apr 1846 to reporting that their child, Thomas Hancorn Phelps, had died in Montivideo!!! I therefore concluded that the family may have emigrated. I have been unable to discover anything about Rev. Phelps, himself, until your letter.

I have Mary Louisa Phelps listed in my database as the "natural" daughter of Capt. Christopher Hancorne (Sic), having been baptised in St Mary's Church, Swansea on 05 Oct 1790. There was however some doubt in my mind, as there is no mention of "Louise" in the baptismal entry, which does not mention the mother. I have her mother's name down as "unknown", but Capt. Hancorne did have a son, William C. Hancorne, baptised at Laleston on 27 Mar 1825, to a mother, Hannah Craddock, although this child had been born in Angel, Islington, if the census can be believed. I presently do not know if this Hannah Craddock can be identified with an Ann Lewis, whom Capt. Christopher Hancorne married at St Mary's Church, Swansea, on 16 Jan 1838, but this may be the same Ann whose death is registered in Islington Registration District in September 1875.

The notebooks of W.A.H. Fisher, you mention, are a new source to me, as is the address, and I am unclear, whether your first reference, [WAHF, Vol. 36, p15] refers to Capt. Hancorne or his daughter, "who had lived and died in Vine Cottage". Must be the daughter, and I feel it is likely, now, that I will find baptisms in LLanblethian Church for the Phelps children. The reference to Mrs Phelps having "died of liquor" in the street at Swansea, about 1850, is also new to me, but there is at least one other incident of a drunken Hancorne woman in the "Cambrian News"!!



As for Capt. Christopher Hancorne, he was buried in his native parish of Oxwich on 24 Jan 1842, but his death was registered in Bridgend in the March quarter of 1842, if that indicates a possible death at Vine Cottage, Llanblethian. His son, William C. Hancorne also had children whose births and deaths are registered at Bridgend, but I have failed to find any corresponding baptisms and burials for three girls called Elizabeth Hannah (2) and an Elizabeth Jane, between 1870 and 1873. Perhaps they will prove to be at Llanblethian? I did check Newcastle Parish Church, and surrounding parishes, as Capt. Christopher's brother had been Vicar there.

I intend following up on an article on this branch of the Hancorne family, which I had published in Glamorgan FHS Journal, #52, of Dec 1998, pp40-43. Unfortunately, the chart accompanying the article was misprinted, and had to be republished in the following edition. In short though, Capt. Christopher and his brother were members of a cadet branch of the Hancorne family of Penrice, being sons of Samuel Hancorne [1719-1795] of Oxwich and Llanrhidian, down the Gower. There are extensive memorials to this family at Penrice, where Samuel's eldest child, Edward, was baptised in 1745, but the remaining children, baptised at Oxwich between 1746 and 1761, included Lieut. Richard Hancorne, RN, and Admiral Phillip Hancorne, who was buried in Lisbon in 1804. Another brother, samuel, was customs officer for the Port of Swansea, the eldest brother, Edward, following his uncle, Thomas Hancorne of Penrice Castle, as a surgeon. Samuel, the father of these brothers was the son of Edward Hancorne of Pitt, Penrice, and grandson of Rev. Thomas Hancorne, Prebend. of Llandaf and Vicar of St. Donat's, hence my visit. Let me know if you want more details on this Hancorne family.

Returning to your second reference from W.A.H. Fisher (Vol. 41, p117), Mrs Hancorne (Sic) did die, aged 96, at Cowbridge in 1795, being Jane, the sister of Edward Powell of Llandow, where her husband, Rev. Richard Hancorne, MA, (d 1732) had been Rector. There they were buried, and I can tell you there is a pedigree of the Powells of Llandow in the Heard's Glamorgan Pedigrees at Treorchy Library, which confirm that their daughter, Cecil, did marry John Thomas, attorney of Cowbridge. What I had been unaware of was that their daughter, Mary (d 1837, aged 74), had married Edward Powell, of Llandow!! There is a fine and demonstrable tradition of Hancorne cousins intermarrying. Rev. Richard Hancorne, above, was the youngest child of Rev. Thos. Hancorne (d 1731) of St Donat's, and his wife Cecilia (d 1727), who may be a Powell/Stradling/Tyrrell? His brother, Edward Hancorne of Pitt, married an illegitimate daughter of Thos. Mansell (d 1704) of Penrice. It doesn't help you much, but Llandow Church is the next parish on my agenda. Now I shall visit Llanblethian too - thanks to your kindness. *Jan.*

Monday, 14 August 2000

Mr. A.J.L. Alden, 1 Mill Park, Cowbridge, South Glamorgan, CF7 7BG

Dear Mr Alden,

Thank you for your recent letter and enclosure. My apologies for the slight delay in replying, I have had a very busy few days.

Before I go any further, this reply to your letter affords me the opportunity to draw your attention to an inaccuracy in my last, in which I wrongly stated that Capt. Christopher Hancorne, had been buried in his native Oxwich. I have to confess to an error in my database, I have now checked the reference, and find that the date was correct, but that burial occurred in Newcastle Church, Bridgend, where his brother Rev. Thomas, had recently (until his death in 1838) been minister. The residence given at the time of the burial was Newcastle, so, I'm afraid that that does not associate the connection with Llanblethian for you.

I realise that the article I recently sent you does not help you much in your quest to construct a picture of Llanblethian Parish, but I thank you nonetheless for your kind observations, and trust you will profit from joining Glamorgan FHS in their many indexes and ongoing projects as I have done.

In one such index, I have now found the baptism of Thomas Phelps, son of Rev. Robert G. Phelps and Capt. Hancorne's daughter, Mary. Thomas had been baptised at Penllyn(e) on 03 Nov 1823, his parents having been married at Llandough-juxta-Cowbridge, I now know, on 22 Feb 1811. I presume there may therefore be other children. Although Thomas was baptised as "Thomas" the entry in the Cambrian News which refers to his death in Montivideo, describes him as "Thomas Hancorn Phelps". Usually the Glamorgan Branch of the family retained the final "e".

Looking in Geoffrey Orrin's book "Mediaeval Churches of the Vale of Glamorgan", which I mentioned in my article, there is a section devoted to Llanblethian Church, which may assist you, if you can get a copy of it by interlibrary loan, but you may find it useful to contact Mr Orrin direct via Swansea University Library or at home. I believe he lives in Reynoldston, on the Gower. I noted from his book that Llanblethian was in fact the mother church for Cowbridge, and that Penllyn is in fact a chapelry for Llanfrynach parish.



I was able to check the register indexes for Llanblethian, as you did, and found no further references to the Hancornes or the Phelps. Thankyou for clarifying that it was Capt. Hancorne himself you have listed as living in Vine Cottage. I noticed that, as well as the indexes, there is also a survey done of the graveyard at Llanblethian, which is contained in a green ring-binder on the shelves to the left of where the indexes are kept, which contained a map of the parish and other details which may be of use to you. I have only just become aware of it. Furthermore, am I right in assuming that it was "Mr." (ie Rev.) Phelps who "died of liquor" ca 1850 in Swansea, or should that be "Mrs."? Found no burials for either in Swansea St Mary's.

Now to your fantastic copy of the letter from Edward Hancorne to his friend Roger Jones, attorney of Talgarth. I have so far failed to identify the source for the letter in an effort to date it, but have a reply pending from the National Library of Wales.

The document is clearly marked DTM Jones and 577 (circled) so I presume that may be the collection and the document number to which it relates. Presumably the DTM was a descendant of Roger Jones, who had deposited the attorney's papers, but I checked with Swansea archives to see if the item in question had come from the Margam and Penrice MSS in which Edward Hancorne features largely, as a land agent of the Mansels to which he was related, albeit through an illegitimate line. Subject to confirmation, this Edward was the son of the Rev. Thomas Hancorne I noted of St Donat's, who is buried at Monknash. Said Edward (1676-1741) had married Elizabeth Thomas/Mansel, the illegitimate daughter of Thomas Mansel (d 1704) of Penrice, and although Edward's BROTHERS Rev. Thomas of ^{Southampton} ~~Southampton~~, and Rev. Richard of Llandow followed their father into the ministry, I believe the reference to "clark" in the letter you have kindly sent me probably refers to the fact that Edward's son Samuel Hancorne, 1719-1795, succeeded his father as land agent to the Mansells, and that the term is used here strictly in the administrative sense, even if Samuel's son, Thomas Mansell Hancorne, did become the vicar of Newcastle Church, as I mention above, and was brother of the same Capt. Christopher Hancorne, your sources alleges to have lived in Vine Cottage, Llanblethian. I do acknowledge "clark" as a term referred to the above "Rev."s tho.

Sadly, there is no memorial to Capt. Christopher at Newcastle, though extensive ones, in the Vestry, to his brother Rev. Thomas M. Hancorne, and the Rev.'s second wife, Mary Wellford née Long, which I have just discovered.

My quest will continue to find out more on Rev. Phelps and any possible descendants, when I will let you know of any progress.

Thanks again for your kindness. Best Wishes. IMS.

J. Mansell

about office of his Brotherhood about Cambridge. Poor Mans Well was cut off suddenly & they say by the Doct:
W^{ch} I think of Hoale going very fast it is supposed the H^l Lord in the Sid^s. his Brother (the) not his prospect is
concerned in all the Dirt of the Country moved the Court ag^t G^offers but on showing Cause he was rebuked severely
by the Judges w^{ch} made but little Impression on his Front They say Dearcraft is to Leave us. I think he ought to go
as being Superior to any of his Fellows sh^d. he go there will be an Equality Nothing Fairer of but the Knave &
Honest here it w^d be more to their advantage to pray for good Weather for Harvest w^{ch} is very backward not a
grain cut in Glamorganshire yet not half the Hay w^{ch} is not at half a crop Our Friend M^r Stamply is now
selling his Estate as fast as he purchased it but at an advanced price a Land Jobber. if L^o Vernon dies who
is ill at the Hill View. G^offers will be sold up for Glamorganshire a rare enterprise he has covered they say
but most people laugh at his Ambition Such a Gentleman is to be called next Term to the Bar you see D^r Friend how
and what Changes happens in this Transitory life Adieu the Friends sound to Arrive.



Jan Meredith

Tuesday, 22 August 2000

Mr. A.J.L. Alden, 1 Mill Park, Cowbridge, South Glamorgan, CF7 7BG

Dear Jeff,

Thank you for your most recent letter, and in particular for the entry from the "Cambrian" referring to Thomas Hancorne, son of Rev. Thomas Hancorne of Newcastle.

I am sorry I cannot help you for the moment in locating Vine Cottage. There is, unfortunately, no mention of Vine Cottage on the map contained in the graveyard survey of Llanblethian, which I mentioned as being at Cardiff Archives. I cannot get there at the moment to do further research. As you are online, there is, apparently, an internet site dedicated to First Edition OS Maps at www.old-maps.co.uk, but unfortunately, that for Llanblethian and Cowbridge is not available!!

One bit of joy I can give you, and that again refers to the Hancornes, I'm afraid, is that I have been able to identify and date that letter you sent me from Edward Hancorne to his friend Roger Jones. It is item no 577 in the DTM Jones collection, and is described in the shedule as:-

[pre-1770, Aug. 5] From EDW[AR]D HANCORN. To ROGER JONES.

Recipient's hand is as steady as ever in his letter to Mr. Llewlelin; writer invites him to stay with him as long as he pleases.

P.S. Cowbridge sessions began on Tuesday; writer took a horse to Goytre; L[or]d C[heif] J[ustice] Williams is as jolly as ever; the wife of Tom W[illia]ms the undersheriff is with child; Jones of Fonmon was foreman of the g[ran]d jury; there was little business but no less that eleven council; Mr. Wilkins and writer smoked a pipe or two together every night; the young and gay frolicked at a ball in the Bear as recipient and writer were wont to do heretofore; the noble Pen[noyre] Watkins, Gab[ri]el Powell, young Wogan, Iltid Thomas, G. Jeffries, Sam[uel] Price, recipient's neighbour, and writer played at cards until near twelve at the Spread Eagle that night; young Mr. Curr is on the brink of matrimony with Miss Mathews of Landough; writer has taken his son as clerk; Ned Lewis in his old age may build a new grand house and take a wife; Harry Thomas of Neath is non est invent[us]; poor Mansel W[illia]ms was cut off suddenly; Wil[liam] Jenkins of Neath is supposed to have the k[ing]'s evil in the side; his brother Elias moved the court against G. Jeffries, but was rebuked smartly by the judge; if Bearcroft, who is superior to any of his fellows, leaves, nothing will be talked of but the races and horses; not half the poor hay crop is in, and not a grain cut in Glamorganshire; 'our' friend Mr. Humphreys is a land jobber; L[or]d Vernon is ill; Gryff[ith] Price is to set up for Glamorganshire, but most people laugh at his ambition; Jack Franklin is to be called to the bar.

Thanks again for your kindness.
Best Wishes. IMS.