



As you may know Russ Davies in the States is the Bampton on-line Registrar who helps us with genealogy enquiries and more.

He has sent us a few snippets from old newspapers which make amusing reading of times gone by in Bampton .....see especially Sept 1783!

*Earliest News Reports of Bampton:*

October 1753

Last Saturday was committed to Taunton Bridewell, one John Hoyle, a Blacksmith, for the wilful murder of John Thorn, Publican of Bampton in Devonshire. The murder was committed in the Landlord's own house last Thursday night, by Hoyle's cruelly beating him with a hedge-stake, after which he made off; but last Saturday he was apprehended near Taunton, and committed as above.

May 1774

Bankrupt: Henry Stephens of Bampton in Devonshire, Apothecary. To appear May 19, 20 and June 18, at the London Inn in Exeter.

October 1775

Died: At his seat near Bampton, Devon, Robert Lucas Esq.; who for upwards of forty years had acted in the commission of the peace for Devon and Somerset.

September 1783

Friday last was executed at Heavitree, near Exeter, Elizabeth Rumbelow for sheep-stealing. Elizabeth Rumbelow, aged 63, was born and always resided at Bampton, where her very ancient mother now lives in the poor-house. Her usual business was spinning; but, unsatisfied with the gains of honest industry, she began to pilfer, and for one of her many thefts was publicly whipped at Bampton. Elizabeth her daughter, aged 21, lived with her; and about Easter last Elizabeth Rowland, also aged 21, came to lodge with them. Rowland had served an apprenticeship to a butcher, and being expert in the business, these women commenced sheep-stealing. The neighbouring farmers often missed sheep, and from the old woman's character suspected her to be the thief. They agreed to search her house, and there they found a quantity of mutton. They then took the family before a Justice, where they confessed having stolen seven sheep from various persons. The old woman and Rowland used to steal the sheep and lead them home, while the daughter was left at home to let them know when they might flip in unperceived. Rowlands acted as Butcher. The fat was melted for sale, the wool was carded and spun, the meat salted, the entrails buried, and the skin burnt. Rowland and the mother were convicted of stealing a sheep of Thomas Oxenham's. The daughter was acquitted. There were six other indictments against them for sheep-stealing, on which they were not tried. The old woman being an old offender, and having educated her daughter in the same iniquitous trade, was ordered for execution, but Rowland was reprieved.

October 1784

A few days since died at Bampton, the Rev. Mr. Wood, in the advanced age of 88 years, and one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the county of Devon.

July 1790

Wednesday the 14<sup>th</sup> instant was married at Bampton, Devon, Mr. Samuel Gundry, junior, merchant of Bridport, to Miss Bowden, second daughter of Richard Bowden Esq.

February 1791

Bankrupt: John Gould of Bampton, Devonshire, shopkeeper.

July 1792

Last week the daughter of Mr. Gardener, publican of Bampton, Devon, being thrown off her horse, and her foot entangled in the stirrup; her brains were dashed out, and one thigh broke: she expired in the greatest agonies.

October 1798

At the general quarter-sessions for this county, held at Taunton, Richard Norris, of Bampton, maltster, was found guilty of an assault, with intent to commit a rape on Mrs. Eliz. Taylor. After an excellent speech from the Chairman on the heinousness of the crime, he passed the judgement of the Court, that he should be confined in a solitary cell at Ivelchester for one month, with strict injunction to the jailer not to suffer any person to have intercourse with him.

(Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette Oct 18, 1798).

October 1800

The Rev. Henry Davis, of Bampton, to the valuable living of Allcannings, near Devizes.

July 1801

Prisoner in the Sherrif's Ward, in St. Thomas the Apostle, in the County of Devon: Ann Fisher, late of Bampton, in the County of Devon, Victualler.

June 1802

To be sold, for the Residue of a Term of 90 years, determinable on the death of one healthy life, all that Messuage or Tenement, now called or known by the name of LITTLE RILL, (formerly part of the Barton of

Rill), situate and lying in the Parish of Bampton; comprising a convenient dwelling-house, and all necessary outhouses for a farm; three acres of bearing orchards, and between 60 and 70 acres of good arable meadow, pasture, and woodland. Also, for the remainder of a like term, determinable on the deaths of two young and healthy persons, an Overland called RILL HILLS in Bampton aforesaid; consisting of thirty two acres, or thereabouts, of arable meadow and pasture land. These premises lie convenient either for Tiverton, Dulverton, or Wiveliscombe markets, and are now occupied by Mr. John Hill, as the tenant thereof. For which purpose a survey will be held at the White Horse Inn, in Bampton aforesaid, on Wednesday the twenty third of this instant June, by three o'clock in the afternoon. For a view, apply to Mr. Baker, Land-Surveyor of Bampton, or to the tenant in possession; and for further particulars to James Pearse and Son, Attorneys, South Molton.

October 1803

Bankrupt: Robert Leigh of Bampton, Devon, cooper.

November 1803

This day (November 2<sup>nd</sup>.) his Lordship instituted the Rev. Bartholomew Davey, M.A., Domestic Chaplain to the Right Hon. Earl Rosslyn, and Vicar of Bampton, to the Rectory of Calverleigh, in Devon, void by the death of the Rev. John Tooker, on the presentation of Mrs. Honour Davey, widow.

June 1804

Married: At St. George's, Queen Square, Mr. William Tucker of East Street, Red Lion Square, to Miss Yeandall of Bampton, Devon.

December 1810

Married: Rev. Barth. Davy, of Bampton, to Jane, second daughter of John Govett, Esq., Mayor of Tiverton.

November 1813

Died: On Tuesday night at Bampton, Devon, aged 96, Mrs. Badcock, mother of Messrs. Badcock, bankers of Taunton.

December 1817

Married: At Bampton, by the Rev. B. Davey, Mr. John Catford to Miss Martha Periam, both of that place.