

Pampisford



Church and Hall



Compiled by O.C. Mayo

PART III



"a pretty village among fine trees. Church bowered in Chestnuts with a charming porch hewn from oaks rosted in Medieval England... The porch shelters a simple Norman doorway with a curious arched tympanum.... St John the Baptist, carved by modern hands appears with Christ as a finial for the old domed cover of the Norman font." FROM A. MEE'S 'CAMBRIDGESHIRE'



Pausisford Church

PAMPISFORD CHURCH

The earliest suggestion of a church existing in Pampisford comes from the Domesday survey of 1086. Apart from the principle owners of land in the Parish, the Countess Judith (Widow of Waltheof and niece of William the Conqueror) held land in Pampisford and under her $\frac{1}{2}$ a virgate or $\frac{1}{2}$ a yardland was held by a parish priest. (This would be approximately 25 acres). This particular holding suggests that the parish had a resident priest at least, although that in itself does not prove that a church building existed.

There may have been a Saxon church on the site, but, architecturally the earliest date evidenced can be seen in the remarkable tympanum over the South door, the North wall of the nave and the Font which are all Norman in origin, the Nave is mid-12th century.

During the early English period of the 13th century an arcade was cut through the original North wall of the Nave allowing a North Aisle to be added. The four bays of the arcade are supported by alternating circular and octagonal piers with unmoulded pointed arches and low elementary capitals. The Chancel was probably rebuilt about this time although during the perpendicular period when the rood screen was also incorporated.

In the early 14th century the West Tower was added crowned by a small spire, the Tower Arch is of the same period (i.e. decorated). A small chapel dedicated to St. Mary existed in the church - perhaps on the site now occupied by the Vestry - where two members of the Cloville family were buried in the mid 15th Century. A Porch originally of brick, was added to the church circa 1527. The exterior of the church is built of field stones, flint and pebble rubble, with dressings of ashlar. The church wall, recently restored, is of the same and contains oddments of roman brick.

During the 16th and 17th centuries the church was often in need of repair. Matters may have improved somewhat during the 18th century but during the 19th century two separate and extensive restorations took place. In 1850 under P.C. Hardwick the Nave was re-roofed and tiled. Much of the old stonework was renewed and a new South Porch erected.

In the 1890s a further major restoration was initiated under the direction of Sir Arthur Blomfield. It was then that the Vestry was added on the foundations of an old decayed Chapel. The Chancel was refurbished and re-roofed. Much of the detail that is seen in the church today is of this Victorian era. The marble mosaic on the church floor, the sanctuary panelling, the stained glass, the thickly foliated capitals, the wooden porch, all are Victorian restorations carried out without regard to the expense incurred.

In the 1970s a tremendous effort was made by local people to restore the peal of bells in the Church Tower. The task was formidable for such a small community to undertake, but by 1978 the new peal of six bells was installed.

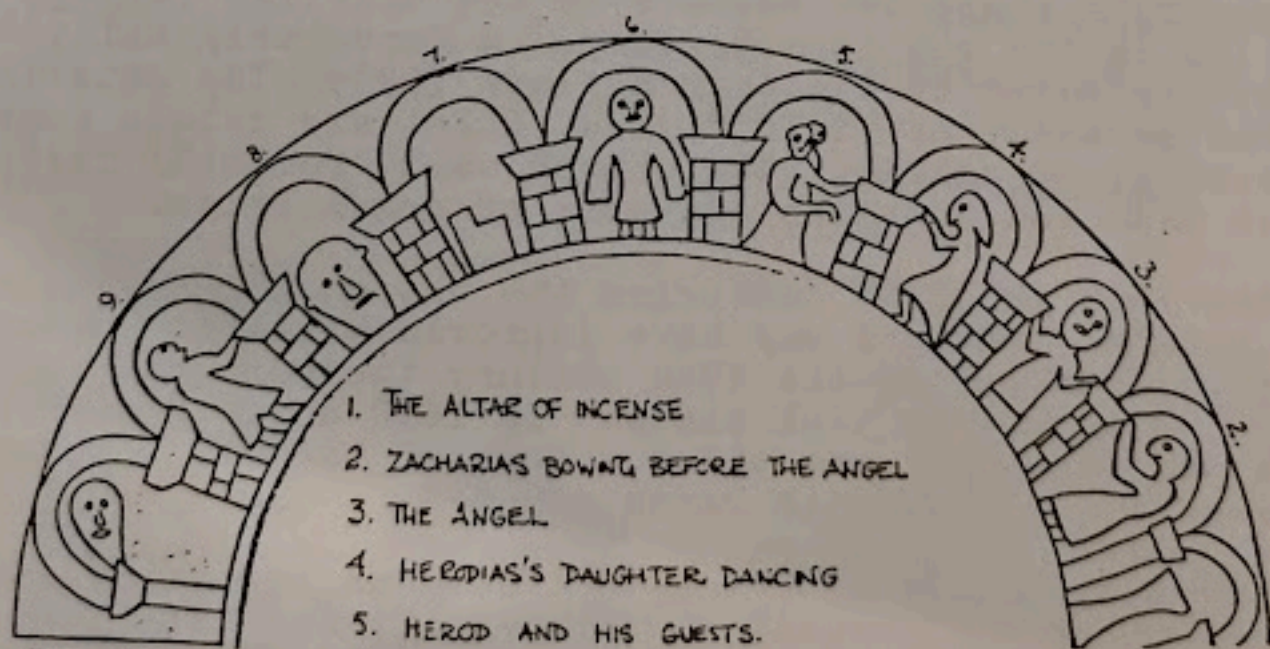
DEDICATION

Pampisford Church is traditionally dedicated to St. John the Baptist although several sources give the dedication to St. Peter and St. Paul. For example the Will of Henry Cloville (dated 1453) Lord of Pampisford's principle Manor leaves his body to be buried in the Church of St. Peter and St. Paul of Pampesworth. The Saints Day of St. John is June 24th and of St. Peter and St. Paul June 29th, only five days apart and this may have given rise to some confusion in earlier times.

Pampisford, along with other parishes, has it's own Feast Day and traditionally the date is the first Monday in July, (exceptions are made when this falls on a July 1st). Interestingly the time of the Feast Day falls close to the old date once set aside as St. John's Day which use to be celebrated on July 6th. This factor along with the depictions on the ancient tympanum lend strong support to St. John the Baptist being the church's Saint designate.

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TYPANUM FIGURES - SOUTH PORCH OF PAMPISFORD CHURCH



1. THE ALTAR OF INCENSE
2. ZACHARIAS BOWING BEFORE THE ANGEL
3. THE ANGEL
4. HERODIAS'S DAUGHTER DANCING
5. HEROD AND HIS GUESTS.
6. ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
7. THE HEADSMAN'S BLOCK
8. THE SEVERED HEAD
9. SINGLE FIGURE IN THE ACT OF CARRYING
10. HEAD BENT SIDEWAYS BUT IN THE ACT OF RISING - SHOWING THE RESSURECTION.

THE BENIFICE

The financial upkeep of the Church and its Clergy was supported by tythes usually one tenth of a year's labour or produce. This was paid to the parish priest or the holder of the Rectory. In Pampisford shortly after the Conquest, 2 parts of the tythes raised went towards supporting St. Giles Church in Cambridge. St. Giles was built by Picot in gratitude to God after his Wife Hugolina recovered from a desperate illness. Later the Pampisford tythes were transferred to Barnwell Abbey.

The benefice of the church in Pampisford was a Rectory which was endowed with 32 acres in 1279. In 1377 the benefice was appropriated to Blackborough Priory, a Benedictine Nunnery in Norfolk, after which time a Vicarate was ordained. The Nuns of the Priory paid the Vicar 40 shillings per year, 2gr of wheat and 4gr of barley and as late as 1707 the same payments were being made to the Vicar who also received some of the smaller tythes.

In 1535 the Rectory was valued at £11. 5s. 0d by the Priory at Blackborough which shortly afterwards came under dissolution when Henry VIII seized monastic wealth. In 1553 the Crown sold the Rectory to Thomas Wren and Edward Slegge. After this time various owners took over the wealth of the Rectory including the Wood family and the Tyrrel family who held it until 1767.

The living for the Vicar however remained small and only those with private means could afford to stay. By 1615 a small glebe of approximately 9 acres had been attached to the living. The Vicarage House (now Fiddlers Folly) was very small and dilapidated and few incumbents lived in the parish. Money payments made to the Vicar in 1639 were 2s. 6d from the dovecot (this probably stood in the field next to the church now used as a recreation ground), 10s.0d from Pampisford Mill and further payments for cows.

John Mortlock the Cambridge Banker bought the Rectory during the latter half of the 18th Century, as the impropiator (i.e. lay-owner) of the Rectory lands at the time of inclosure, he was awarded 111 acres for the rectorial glebe lands and 235½ acres for the great tythes. The Vicar was allotted 37 acres for tythes and corn rent due from Mr. Mortlock along with 10 acres of glebe land making 47 acres in all. (This acreage was sold in 1973).

The Rectory lands, later known as Rectory Farm, were sold by the Mortlock family before 1892 when H.J.W. Asplen became the new owner. The Mortlock's however retained the advowson until 1902 when it passed to J.J. Emerson.

PAMPISFORD CHURCH GUILD AND CHARITY

In a certificate relating to Pampisford which was returned to Chancery in the year 1389, "The Guild of the Assumption" is referred to. The certificate then reveals further details of the purposes of the Pampisford Guild.

Pampesworth Guild 1389

The guild of the Assumption was lately commenced, some people gave a bushel of barley, others half a bushel to be put out to increase for the use and repair of the church in the said town which is in poor condition & partly decayed & that of necessity the roof must be shortly renewed & this cannot be done without the aid of the Guild. They pray that their purposes may not be disturbed - The Guild is wouter 20s.

The Guild still existed in 1517 when Thomas Garway left 20 shillings to the Guild, then entitled "The Guild of St. Peter and St. Paul Pampisford". Small sums and pieces of land continued to be donated during the first half of the 16th Century. Under Henry VIII reformation took place which was to affect monastic wealth and authority. In the wake of these reforms, institutions like the Guilds suffered. A further effect of the breaking of monastic authority was the complete disappearance of poor-relief previously afforded by the Monasteries. Great misery and suffering followed which gave rise to local notaries leaving bequests for the relief of the Parish poor.

In 1554 among numerous requests arising in the Will John Huntingdon, the following appears:-

I give to the poore of the towne of Pampesworth VI s & VIII d.

This was just a small part of the benefaction on which the Huntingdon Charity of Sawston is based. Payment of benefit to the poor in Sawston appears not to have been made since 1786, however.

In 1835 the Charity Commissioners complained about the state of the accounts which according to them, had been kept "in a very slovenly manner".

Later in the 18th Century money from the Charity was used in repair of the Church especially during a period of restoration in the 1850s, and for repair of the North Arcade in 1889.

1854	<p>When the Board consider the extent and variety of the works above enumerated they will not be surprised at the cost of them as detailed below</p> <p>The actual expense already incurred is } £1565</p> <p>The Architect's Commission — 78</p> <p>His travelling expenses — 6</p> <p>Sundries ————— 51</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>£1700.-</u></p>			
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After inclosure in 1801 the Charity owned 20½ acres plus 3 Cottages by 1837 and 6 Cottages in 1864. Six were still owned in 1905. Two of the Cottages were divided into 7 dwellings which were occupied rent-free by the aged poor.

During the economic distresses of the early 1800s the Charity was £68 in debt, nevertheless payment had to be found for the Church which was in need of major repairs. Later in the 1820s only £9 per year was available for poor relief, payment on coal also fell and ceased altogether from 1832 to 1835. Poor relief generally broke down during the 1830s when a Union of Villages in the South Cambridgeshire was formed into the "Linton Union" which according to Travis Teversham provided another doleful and melancholy record of poor law administration. Teversham, writing in the 1940s, went on to say that "to this day few words ring more ominously in the ears of the aged poor of our rural population than - 'The Union' -".



In Pampisford property, later known as the 'Church and Poor Estate' was given to the Parish by an unknown donor at some time prior to 1604. The income from the Estate was to be used for Church repair with any surplus going to poor relief. John Jeffrie of Sawston who died in 1624 added to the poor-relief of Pampisford when he left:-

one coombe of barley sweet & good to be distributed to the poor of Pampisford

This payment was eventually lost or lapsed by 1835 although it was paid in 1786 and 1816.

In 1648 a document stated that the Charity Property consisted of:-

Church & Poor Charity Property 1648

- I. A cottage divided into 4 dwellings
- II. A cottage divided into 3 dwellings
- inhabited (rent free) by the aged poor - together with the adjoining lands known as 'Brooms & Revels'
- III. 21 acres of land more or less

The earliest reference to Trustees of the Charity arises in 1677 when there were 11 Trustees including Henry Beeton.

During the early 1830s Pampisford Charity Trustees were:

Henry Adeane esq.	Squire of Babraham
W. Parker & Hamond esq.	Squire of Pampisford
Thomas Montlock	Local landowner
Rev. Charles Mules	Vicar
Charles Mantindale	Paper Manufacturer
Peter Nash	of handship Farm
Jonas Webb	Sheepbreeder Babraham
William Sundry	Brewer of Pampisford
John Robinett	Farmer
John Whetton	Farmer
Thomas Bradford	Farmer

By 1905 a scheme was drawn up dividing the Charity income in two, one half being devoted to church maintenance and the other half for relief of the poor in Pampisford.

Since 1905 various plots of land have been sold by the Charity and in 1916 three of the Charities Cottages were burnt down. In 1959 the three remaining Cottages which were used as Alms Houses, on Town Lane were sold. By that time the Charity held 15 acres some of which was used as allotments. The annual income of the Charity since 1905 has generally been small but with the sale of land on Brewery Road in 1979 the income improved considerably. Land from the Charity is now leased to the Parish Council for the use and development of a recreation ground for the Parish. Allotments are also rented out to individuals. The major tenant of Charity land is Rectory Farm who farm the remaining acres.

The Charity offer help to the elderly and disabled of Pampisford by the purchase of bus passes which allow cheaper travel. The traditional coal and fuel gift to the needy is replaced by a money gift paid each Christmas time to Widows and Pensioners. Individual cases of need or any distress are also fully considered by the Trustees.

At the present time (1984) the Trustees are investigating ways in which a new scheme for Charity expenditure might be devised to suit Parish needs in the 1980s.

The present Trustees are:

Church Nominees

Mr. I. Mead
Mrs. M. Molton
Mr. T. Nixon

Parish Nominees

Mr. R. Luscombe
Mrs. O. Mayo
Mr. J. Stott

Reverend C.E. Hunt Honorary
Mr. G. Peel Secretary

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1794. Tho. Cutley R. Mash Tho. Gillbrook John Seabrook John Weston k + of Edw. Minott
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1790 April y^e 6th p^d the widow Mallan for her Husbands
 taking care of the Church clock from Easter 1789
 to Easter 1790 ————— 00:16:00

May the 20th p^d m^r Nash a bill for giving for the
 poor widows ————— 03:12:00

June y^e 26th p^d the Churchwardens bill ————— 02:08:05

8^{ber} y^e 13th p^d the freefarm rent ————— 00:03:08

9^{ber} y^e 13 for a stamp for a receipt for Church rent ————— 2

17th 30 p^d m^r Hammonds Quitrent ————— 00:03:08

26th 1st allow'd m^r Simperingham a Thatchers bill 01:17:00

1791 Jan: y^e 1st p^d m^r Will Brookes bill for
 giving for the poor widows ————— 03:15:00

May y^e 12th p^d the Churchwardens bill ————— 17:19:02

p^d the Clark for taking care of the Church clock
 from Easter 1790 to Easter 1791 ————— 00:16:00

p^d Wm Tiseman for Hedging about y^e Springs ————— 00:02:00

8^{ber} 12 p^d the Kings freefarm rent ————— 00:03:08

9^{ber} y^e 3 p^d the Overseers bill for turffe for the
 poor widows ————— 03:15:00

9^{ber} 24th p^d m^r Hammonds Quitrent ————— 00:03:08

1792 April y^e 13th p^d y^e Carpenter & Black Smiths bills — 00:15:06

p^d p^rovise for taking care of the Church clock from
 Easter 1791 to Easter 1792 ————— 00:16:00

14 p^d the Churchwardens bill as will appear in 07:08:02 1/2

EXTRACTS FROM PAMPISFORD'S CHARITY ACCOUNTS IN THE 18th CENTURY

8^{ber} y^e 19th p^d the freefarm rent ————— 00:03:08

13 for a stamp for m^r Simperingham's Receipt ————— 00:00:02

26th y^e 17th p^d the Thatcher for mending the Town house — 04:00

for straw used at it ————— 00:02:06

1793 Feb: y^e 23 p^d m^r Hammonds Quitrent ————— 00:03:08

Feb: y^e 23 p^d a Brick Layers bill ————— 00:15:02

93:06:03

Extracts from Pampisford Church Charity Accounts

- 1798 Paid for repair of Town House anno 1798
Town Barn
Town Gate
- 1798 Mary Tiggens - for a winder she had paid
for in Town House 1s. 0d
- 1816 Coat for Osborne 9s. 6d
- 1817 Waistcoat & leather breeches for Osborne 13s. 0d
- 30 bushels of Coal for Widdows £1. 17s. 6d
- 1819 Teacher - sent to the National Institution
to instruct the poor children of this parish
including coach hire up & down her time
being 2 weeks 4H. 11. 0d
- Paid John Whetton - for boarding and
lodging the teacher £2. 01. 0d
- 1821 Mr Kefford, Rowlinson, Addams & Hammond
having large families & their wives again
confined 6d each 2s. 0d
- Ratten - an honest old man in part
loss of a forged note 10s. 0d
- 1822 Pearson - for thatching Tiggens
Town House 13s. 6d
- 1824 £10 paid to Thomas Montlock as a voluntary
contribution towards the expense of erecting
a vestry room adjoining the church
- 1838 Lease granted of Charities to Rev. Edmund
Montlock at 50s per acre for 21 years
- 1839 Thos. Montlock paid £1. 0. 0 for sheeting
nights he also leased a large amount of
land from the charity
- 1840 Pond filled in in Skippage's garden
Tulness free loan arranged by Thomas
Montlock for repair of the church
for: new pulpit, reading desk, clerk's
seat, to the Queen's College part,
new glazing for the windows &
altering the gallery.
- 1850 Church Restoration
- 1864 New Vane for Church Tower £10. 0. 0
- 1870 John Handen appointed to carry out
design of a vestry
A. O. F. C. Shute appointed seat
collector for the charity
- 1880s Donations to: coal club, village
library & school
- 1882 Clay pit cleared, ditches deepened
- 1926 Lamp & supports for Church Gate:
£20. 0. 0

Painsforth 1553

This is a trewe & pfect Inuention Indented made
& taken the vth day of August anno R.R.E. vi
Sexto by us Richard Wylke, clerk, Henry
Goodenyeke, John Huddleston & Thoms.

Rudston Esqyres, Commissions amongst others
assigned for the Survege & view of all maner
of goodes, plate, Jewells, bells & Ornaments
as yet he remayninge forthcomynge & belong-
inge to ye pothe churche there as here -
after followeth:

PLATE. ffynst ij Chalyses with their patents
of silver, thone poz xij oz di thother poz
vij oz.

ORNAM^{TS}. Itm. one Cope of Craymson velvet/
one Vestment of Craymson velvet with ye Albe/
one Vestement of dunne velvet with ye Albe/
one Vestment of dunne damask with ye Albe/
one of other blew brydges sattyn / one other
of blacke worsted / & one whight Vestment
for Lent with their Albes / one olde Vestment,
one cope of Redde brydges sattyn / one Cope
of blew sylk / one old cope of Sylk ij
Corporas, one of theim of purple damask/
one Simplesse, v Rochetts ij Alt clothes /

iiij Towells, one Cloth of blew brydgs Sattyn to
hang before ye Alter, one pager of Senses of
Copp & gyfte / one crossecloth of blew Sylke/
one pyx cloth of Sylke

BEHNS. Itm in ye steeple there ij bells,
one sanctus bell.

ALL WHICH PCELLS above written he dd
 & comytted by us the saide commissiours
 unto ye salve keepinge of John Symonds,
 John Turnor, John Clerke & Rodger
 Cockeswytte pishours theme to be at all tymes
 forthcoming to be answered. Except & resued
 one of the saide Chalycz poz xiii oz di, one
 cope of Redde brydges Sattyn / one other cope
 of blew Sylke / with all thine saide table
 clothes, Towells, supplesse & Rochetts deligned to
 John Manley & John Stabworth Churchwardens
 there / for thorie mayntennce of dyuynne
 seryce in ye said churche. Signed:
 Henry Goderyk. Rich Wyllks. Thomas Rudston
 John Huddylston. Thomas bowles, p. me John
 Craft curat, p. me John turnor.

PAMPISFORD CHURCH - INVENTORY TAKEN IN 1553 DURING THE
 REIGN OF EDWARD VII

Various other sources afford scraps of information about the Church's possessions. In 1527 an image of Our Lady existed in the Church and later in 1552 when the Protestant sympathizer the Duke of Northumberland ruled England, the Church plate consisted of a Chalice with silver patens (shallow dishes used in the Eucharist). These were confiscated under Northumberland's regime. The Parish Registers begin in 1565 and these are virtually complete.*

A cup dated 1569 was owned by the Church and was still on the possession of the Church in the 1960s.

In 1638 when Archbishop Wren visited the area he instructed the Churchwardens to buy a new bible but by 1665 the Church desparately needed new books including the latest translation of the bible and a new prayer book. This was during a long period of neglect in the Church. ** Perhaps because of the poor state of the Church at this time, a Parishioner named Henry Beeton left two works (one by Erasmus the other by Jewel) to the Church in 1695.

* Copies made recently by T.P.R. Layng, of the old registers, are kept in the Church.

** See also Pamphlet on the 17th Century.

TYPES OF WORSHIP

Only one non-conformist was recorded in the Parish during the 16th Century, namely a yeoman farmer Robert Turtleby. His family had been associated with the Parish since the 15th Century and from 1518-39 a Robert Turtleby was the Vicar of Pampisford Church. In 1523 the Turtleby's farmed the Rectory but by 1582 Robert Turtleby, had left the Parish. He was a suspected member of the "Familie of Love" a religious sect founded in Holland and popular in England during the reign of Elizabeth I. In 1580 however, a proclamation was issued against members of the sect who were imprisoned and whose books and writings were burnt. The movement was not eradicated however, as it later became amalgamated with the Puritans and their religious cause. In Pampisford Puritan sympathies were in evidence in the 17th Century as witnessed by Archbishop Wren's visitation. *

Not until the end of the 18th Century however, were any further dissenters recorded. By then 2 houses in Pampisford were licensed for non-conformist worship and though no meeting house was available in 1807 Calvinist dissenters began to increase. Neighbouring parishes had built Chapels for non-conformist worship and some parishioners from Pampisford attended there. No Anglican Minister was resident in Pampisford in 1825 and only one service a week was being held. Later, Ministers of the Church blamed that kind of neglect as being responsible for the increase in non-conformists. In 1833 a building was registered for non-conformist worship which reached it's peak in the early 1870's. Even so the number of these worshippers remained low at about 20 or 30 and by the end of the Century only 3 households were recorded as non-conformist.

The Victorian age saw a revival in the Anglican Church and from 1846 when the Reverend John Haviland became Vicar of Pampisford a new Vicarage was built, the church was extensively restored and baptisms (sometimes of whole families), increased. Several energetic and lively Vicars injected new life into the Church during the latter part of the 19th Century and further evidence of zealous baptising appears in the register. Despite this the Reverend Stephen Prior complained about small attendances in Pampisford during his incumbency, nevertheless the general pattern of support for the church remained strong.

* See pamphlet on the 17th Century

List of Pampisford's Incumbents

- 1294-98 Robert de Ludham ACCOMPANIED EDWARD 1ST
REPRESENTATIVE TO ROME
- 1309 Richard de Gosefeld
- 1335 John Godred
- 1337 (Richard?) de Thorpe
- 1357-77 Hugo de Burse CHURCH NOW FULLY APPROPRIATED
TO THE PRIORY AT BLACKBOROUGH
WHO WERE TO APPOINT VICARS UNTIL
THE DISSOLUTION OF THE PRIORY IN
1536
- 1338 Rolf de Pampesworth
- 1402-03 William Street
- 1471-72 { Thomas Witham
Robert Tuttleby
- 1500 Henry Soome
- 1518-39 Robert Tuttleby ALSO FARMED THE RECTORY &
A NON-CONFORMIST FAMILY
- 1539 David Monerby
- 1550 Antony Topham
- 1560 Robert Baker ALSO HELD THE VICARAGE AT
SAWSTON WHERE HE LIVED
BUT DID NOT PREACH
ALSO HELD SAWSTON BUT WAS
FORCED TO RESIGN HIS 2ND BENEFICE
- 1571 Antony Fletcher
- 1581 Michael Cuddde MASTER OF LINTON SCHOOL
- 1586 (-----?) Johnson
- 1589 William Wade ALSO VICAR OF ST. ANDREWS
- 1593 William Wade of Pampesford
- 1594 Henry Bowman
- 1605-06 John Chapman 1605 VICAR ADMONISHED FOR NOT
WEARING A SURPICE OR USING A
CROSS
- 1614 William Watts
- 1614 Edward Towthby
- 1615-26 John Driver
- 1638-44 Michael Selby SIGNS OF PURITAN SYMPATHIES
IN THE CHURCH

1647-59 William Johnson
 1663 Nathaniel Wakefield
 1666 Jeremy Collier
 1669 William Curtis
 1671-72 Theophilus Tapper
 1680 Samuel Leache
 1684-87 Thomas Bowtell
 1689 Richard Payne
 1689-90 Penegine Coney
 1690-91 John Whitaker
 1694 William Hutton
 1697 John Bantow
 1706 John Fuller
 1715 (.....?) Willys
 1718 Matthew Mapletoft
 1737 Edward Pearson
 1744-45 Edmund Mapletoft
 1772 Edmund Mapletoft
 1775 Job Wallace Mapletoft
 1776 Job Maple Mapletoft
 1782 Philip Douglass
 1784 Thomas Johnson
 1787 John Haslop
 1788 Thomas Cartley
 1806 Charles Mules
 1845 (Richard?) Edward Kennick
 1845 John Naviland
 1863 Thomas Field
 1869 William J. Fosling
 1872 John T. Lockwood

OCCUPIED THE OLD VICARAGE HOUSE

GENERALLY COLLEGE FELLOWS
 WHO USED THE LIVING AS A
 STEPPING STONE INTO THE
 CHURCH BEFORE MOVING ON
 TO A RICHER BENEFICE

MISSIONARY FOR THE S.P.G.
SPENT 4 YEARS IN NEW YORK

LIVED IN BARTLOW
COMMUNION ONLY HELD 3 TIMES
DURING 1728

MATTHEW'S BROTHER, RESIGNED
AFTER 1 MONTH
SON OF ABOVE

SEQUESTERATOR OF PAMPISFORD &
 VICAR OF SANSTON
 1807 NO SERVICES HELD IN PAMP.
 1836 VICAR LIVED IN DEVON
 A CURATE SERVED PAMPISFORD

1851 CONGREGATION: MORN. 54
 VICARAGE BUILT AFT. 97
 CHURCH RESTORED

LIVENY ENERGETIC VICAR

INITIATED ADULT EVENING CLASSES

1847	Stephen J. Prior	ZEALOUS BAPTISM. GAVE UP WEEKLY COMMUNION DUE TO SMALL ATTENDANCE DISAPPROVED OF EVENING CLASSES
1883	Augustus H. Dell Dutton	
1886	Archibald E. Clark - Kennedy	
1890	Theodore Calliphonas	RESTORED THE CHURCH & IN- STALLED THE ORGAN AT HIS OWN EXPENSE.
1891	Charles H. Brocklebank	
1898	Ellenton G. Alderson	
1911	Armar de Candole	
1916	Edward Miller	PLAN TO IMPROVE & RESTORE THE VICARAGE
1917	Robert Barber	
1919	Horace Mc C - Eynes Price	BISHOP
1922	Arthur C. Woodhouse	
1928	Kenneth Knight - Hallows	
1931	Francis O. Proctor	
1932	A. W. Smyth	
1935	Austin Lee	POPULAR & CONTRAVERSIAL FIGURE. RESIGNED AFTER NOT BEING PAID FOR HOUSING REFUGEES
1937	Fredrick A. Tolson	
1940	A. O. Puchaud	PAMPISFORD HELD IN PLURALITY WITH BARHAM IN 1947
1948	S. J. Berry	
1951	A. E. R. Knopp	
1960	F. R. Downey	
1963	G. E. P. Cox	
1967	R. A. Spalding	MEDICAL DOCTOR AND SOUTH AFRICAN MISSIONARY
1980	J. E. Hunt	

The small income & large vicarage made it difficult for incumbents without private means to remain at Pampisford for long. Between 1911 & 1967 there were 14 vicars because of this

EARLY DESCRIPTIONS OF PAMPISFORD CHURCH

† William Cole the antiquary carried out a number of Parochial investigations during the 18th Century. On the 28th August 1742 he visited Pampisford and compiled the following commentary on the Church.

" This is a very neat pile of building of stone, clunch etc; with a tower at the W. end on which is a small spire covered with lead. Nave & chancel tiled, N aisle leaded. The altar is walled in & has 3 steps up to it. In the S. wall within the rails is a hole for holy water, arched over with stone and opposite to it in the N. wall is another niche* for an image, & in the E. wall is a stone* projecting for an image. The chancel is divided from the nave by a painted screen & against the N. pillar by the chancel arch stands the present pulpit & desk of an old painted wainscote*, and behind these are a pair of stone stairs in a pillar which leads up to a hole which looks into the body of the church, so I take to be the old pulpit. Over the screen of the nave is painted in frames, the Creed*, the Lord's Prayer* and 10 Commandments*. The N. aisle is divided from the nave by 3 very large stone pillars, on the first of which is a projecting stone for an image, & under the arch against the last, stands an old clumsy stone font, with a camed wooden cover to it on top of which are the images of St. John the Baptist baptising Our Saviour. By the first S. window is a projecting stone* for an image. In the first window of the N. aisle in the highest division are the arms of Clowell, & under them in the 6 small top compartments over the 3 large divisions of the window, were 6 female Saints* painted in glass, 3 of which are demolished the rest

† See also 'People'

one intine. Under the first who holds a pair of
 pence in her hand is written AGATHA* Signifying
 by this instrument the manner of her martyrdom.
 Under the 2nd, which is broken MARGARETA* Under
 the 3rd ANNA. Under the 4th, who has a book in
 one hand & a cross in the other, & is crowned
 ETHELDRED,* Foundress & first abbess of Ely. The
 5th both name & figure are broken & gone. Under
 the 6th is this ELIZABETH*. The south porch is
 of brick* & more modern but the door into the
 church is very ancient as appears by its' gothic
 workmanship. On the right as you come into the
 church is a hole & a stone hollow* for the Holy
 water. There are 4 bells in the steeple and a
 handsome striking clock for the parish, the dial
 plate of which is on the side of it and on it;
 ECCE HORA VENIT 1741. At the W. end of the
 tower on the outside and towards the bottom
 are 2 large crosses in black flint and over the
 E. end of the chancel is still standing an
 ancient cross flint.

The vicarage is now in the gift & possession
 of the Rev. Mr. Mapleroff of Bantow, who had
 it from the Tirrells by a marriage into that family."

* This has either disappeared or has been altered.

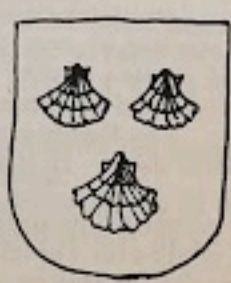


The following is an extract from another section of William Cole's writings, dated 1742; when much of his interest resided in the heraldry then existant in the Church.

On the south wall of the church within the rails, Over the Kellingworth monument, are these arms carved & masoned in Marble; Quarterly 1st Argent, 3 Ringsails, Sable for Kellingworth; 2nd Azure on a Chevron, Argent, 3 demi-lions rampant, Sable between 3 Trefoils, Gamine for Berryff. The 3rd as the 2nd, the 4th as the 1st. On one side of these over the Corinthian Pillar, are in a small shield the arms of Arlington, viz: Sable, 6 billets between a Bend engrailed Argent. Over the other pillar on the other side, was formerly another small shield, like the former, for his Lord wife; but this is broke down & lost. I forgot to add the Crest on the middle coat which is a Sea House naissant, Proper & the Motto under it viz: "Tetrah Solus Protector". Against the North Wall just at the foot of the steps is an exceeding ancient altar monument of stone covered with an old English Marble; which had formerly on the rims of it all round, Labels which are torn off & lost; there are large shields on the front & each end of it, but nothing on them now if ever there was anything. This is of very great Antiquity & might be designed for the founder of the Chancel, at the bottom of the steps lies a very old stone with nothing on it; but at the right hand of it next to the door lays one with Inlets for a small inscription & the figure of a Chalice, which are both torn away as to the brasses. At the head of this lies another stone of a smaller size, having exactly the same Inlets for Epitaph & Cup as the former. Who they were designed for determinably is impossible to say; but that they were for priests is certain from the Chalices & the Wafers on the stone, so most probable for some of the Vicars of the Church.

In the first south window of the Nave are shields for 4 Coats of Arms; but only 2 of them are to be made out, the other 2 being so much defaced: in the 1st are these, Gamine, on a Chief, Azure, 3 Lions rampant, Or. In the other one these, Party per pale,

Baron & Femme, 1st the former impaling, Argent, 2 Chevrons, Sable, each charged with 5 Nails, Or, for Clovell. Between this & the next window hangs an Achievement on the wall for the family of Parker who are Lords of the Manor viz Panty per Pale, Baron & Femme, Or, a Buck trippant, Gules in a Canton . . . a ship, of the 1st impaling the same. The crest is a Bucks Head. Motto "Ictus non Victus". In the highest division of the next window are the Clovell Arms again. Over the porch door on the outside and above a small niche for an image is a stone shield with 3 Escalop shells on it; & on each side of the entrance are 2 shields of brick of modernish make; on one of them is W.T. in Gothic capitals, on the other is panty per Fess, on the top part a Rose. The letters on the first, as I was informed by an ancient Inhabitant, are the initial ones of the name of Wm. Totillbye who was church warden when the Porch was repaired.



Clovell



Killingworth



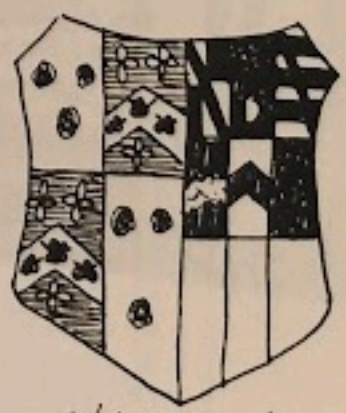
Cloville



Killingworth - Allington



Killingworth - Benuff



Killingworth - Cheyney

A later description, both of the church and churchyard was published in the *Gentlemen's Magazine* of 1815. This was written by the Reverend James Speare who was the Curate of Sawston at that time

Pampisford Church.

[1815, *Part I.*, pp. 227-230.]

Pampisford, in Domesday Pampesworde, now commonly called Pansay, is a small village in the Hundred of Chilford, and Deanery of Camps, and lies about eight miles nearly south of Cambridge, and nine north-east of Royston.

The Church of Pampisford,* dedicated to St. John the Baptist, consists of a nave, north aisle, chancel and south porch. The nave, chancel and porch are tiled; the aisle is leaded. At the west end of the nave is a square embattled tower (crowned with a small leaden spire and weathercock), in which are a clock and four bells thus inscribed:

"1. John Draper made me, 1617.

"2. S. Heleda.

"3. John Draper made me, 1615.

"4. *Ihs Nazareus Rex Jvdcorvm Fili Dei, Miserere mei.* Richard Robinson, Chvrchwarden, 1743."

The entrance to the church, through the porch, is by a Saxon doorway, within the arch of which is a row of small, rudely-executed figures in bas-relief. The nave is separated from the steeple by a Pointed arch, from the aisle by four low pointed arches upon three pillars, two of which are octangular, and the remaining one is round. At the west end is a gallery for singers. This part of the church is lighted on the south by four windows. The first window is divided into two lights by a mullion, part of which is broken off. The lower part of the next window is divided by two mullions, which branch off at the top into six divisions; in this window are some small remains of painted glass. The third window consists of two lights at the bottom and four at the top. The fourth window, which is above the one last-mentioned, is of later date. In the middle of the nave lies a large blue slab reaved of its brass. The pulpit and reading-desk are fixed in the north-east corner of the nave; the former is octangular and carved. At the south-east corner is an old pew, carved. The nave is separated from the chancel by a Pointed arch, at the top of which is a carved head; under the span of the arch, which is closed up, are fixed the Lord's Prayer, the Commandments, and the Belief; and under these is a neat wooden screen. You enter the chancel by two folding-doors, painted in imitation of mahogany.

The chancel is lighted on the south by two windows, each one divided into two lights by one mullion, which branches off at the top into ramifications. The east window is pointed, and consists of three lower and six upper lights.

Near the entrance from the nave is a blue slab robbed of its brasses.

Against the north wall is an altar-tomb, once ornamented with brass round the edge; on the south side of the tomb are three shields, but so completely bedaubed with that enemy of antiquaries—whitewash—as to be quite unintelligible. On this tomb stands a chest in which the registers have been kept. The ascent to the altar is by three steps; the rails are thus inscribed:

"Robt. Ballard, Chvrchwarden, 1686."

The table is plain oak, near it a blue slab—

"In memory of Ann Serocold, late of Littlebury, in the county of Essex, widow, who died January the 9th, Anno Domini 1766, ætat. 78."

In the north wall of the chancel is a round-headed recess, and in the south wall a trefoil-headed piscina. A pedestal in the east wall for an image. The chancel is open to the roof, which is at present in a state of melancholy neglect. The sparrows from an adjoining farm-yard have uninterrupted ingress and egress through the broken tiles. In the neighbouring, and in most churches, the chancel is kept in the neatest order, but here—I'll say no more.

Against the south wall and above the piscina is a marble monument with these arms: Ar. 3 cinquefoils, 2 and 1, pierced sa. Killingworth; quartering, ar. a chev. sa. between 3 trefoils of the last; and the following inscription, in capital letters, once gilt:

"Here lyeth the bodye of John Killingworth, esquier, whoe was twice married: his former wife was Beatrix, daughter of Robert Allington of Horscheath, by whome he had twoe sonnes and lower daughters; the latter was Elizabeth the daughter of William Cheyney esquire, by whome he had three sonnes and lower daughters. He died the 23 of Maye anno 1617, etatis suae 70."

Under a chest (in which the parish papers are kept), within the communion rails, is a blue slab reaved of the brass.

The aisle is lighted by one window, to the west, divided by two mullions, which branch off at the top into various ramifications; to the north by two windows, consisting of three lights at the bottom, and many compartments at the top formed by the ornamental part of the stone division. In both these windows are remnants of painted-glass. In the second window is a figure having a golden crown on his head, a crozier, or pastoral staff, in his left hand; in his right a book, and a scroll before him with this inscription:

"Etheldreda."

And in another part of the same window the figure of a lady with flowing hair and a mantle over her shoulders; her right hand is uplifted, her left is laid on her breast; at her feet a scroll bears this inscription:

"Agatha."

Against the west pillar is placed the font; the upper part is octangular, and lined with lead, the lower part is square. There is an antique cover: on the top are two figures, intended, I think, for John baptizing Jesus; both figures are decapitated, the handiwork, perhaps, of the Cambridge-shire Reformer, William Dowsing. In the middle of the aisle there is a slab inscribed, "W. P. Hammond." Against the wall are four hatchments:

1. Per pale, gu. and az. 3 demi lions passant gardant or, Hammond; on a coat of pretence, az. a buck trippant or, on a canton az. a ship or. (qu?) Parker. Crest, a wolf's head erased, quarterly or and az. Hammond.

2 and 3. The same arms as those in the coat of pretence.

4. The same, impaling the same.

There is a vault under the aisle belonging to the Hammond family. The aisle seems to have extended farther by an arch at the east end, which is now blocked up.

The improper rectory and advowson of the vicarage, which belonged formerly to the nuns of Blackeburgh—to whom it was appropriated in the year 1377—were, after the Reformation, successively in the families of Wood and Tyrrell, and are now the property of John Mortlock, Esq., of Cambridge. The parish has been enclosed pursuant to an Act of Parliament, passed in 1799, by which allotments of land were given in lieu of tithes.

Willys occurs vicar in 1715.

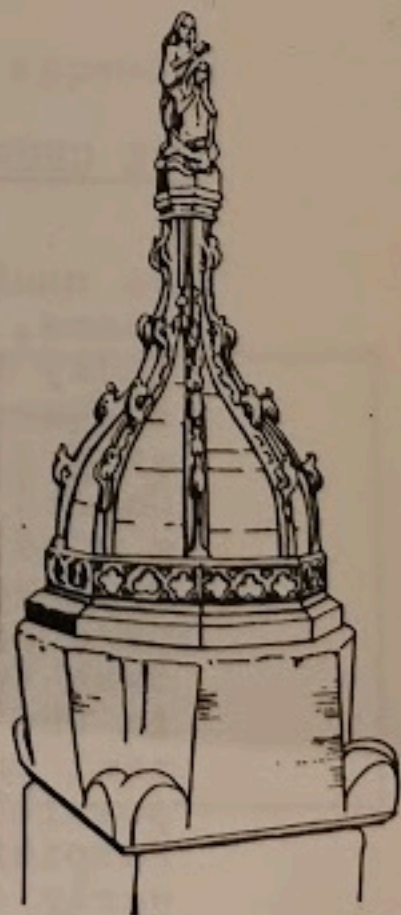
Edm. Mapletoft was vicar in July, 1730; how long before I cannot exactly say. Another Edm. Mapletoft was presented in Jan. 1744-5, but resigned the same month. I cannot give the names of the vicars previous or subsequent to those just mentioned, as I have not had an opportunity of examining the registers. The present vicar is the Rev. D. Mulis.

The Rev. F. Henson, M.A. and Fellow of Sidney College, is curate.

John Purchas is parish clerk.

By the returns made under the Act of Parliament for ascertaining the population of this kingdom in 1801, it appears that there were in Pampisford 35 inhabited houses, 46 families, 202 persons; in 1811, 49 inhabited houses, 49 families, 237 persons.

* Pampisford V., alias Pansworth, St. John Baptist, Pri. Blackborough in Norf. Propr. Mrs. Tyrrell. Clear yearly value, £19 4s. King's books, £8 yearly tenths 16s. among "livings discharged."—Ecton's "Thesaurus" and Bacon's "Liber Regis."



Churchyard.

South side, on an altar-tomb:

"Mrs. Frances Apthorp, junior, departed this life October the 26th, 1738, aged 29 years.—Mrs. Frances Apthorp, senior, October 9th, 1758—73."

Upright stones:

"Elizabeth, wife of William Scruby, March 30, 1799—26.

"John Tilbrook, November 4, 1777—62; Elizabeth, his wife, April 17, 1778—63; Charles Nunn, senior, June 5, 1732—56."

Altar-tomb, in capital letters:

"D^{ns}. Robertus Gells : T : Professor Socius olim Coll : Xti Cantab : et eccles^e Scæ Mariæ Aldermarii London per spati^{um} XXIII Annorum Rector integer obiit Martii xx anno Nri 1665 ætatis suæ 70 c^{ujus} reliquie sub hoc marmore servantur. Robertus Gellius. Elizabetha itidem uxor fida in hac parochia obiit xii Septembris 1668 c^{ujus} etiam reliquie sub hoc marmore servantur. Hoc obsequi posuit Elizabetha unica quam superstitem reliquerunt."

Upright stones:

"Ann Beeton, December 23, 1780—67; Benjamin Beeton, Feb. 21, 1803—87; William Haylock, Sept. 5, 1731—52."

Marble tomb against the south wall:

"Nearly beneath this tablet are deposited the remains of Richard Wallis Nash, who departed Aug. 25, 1805, aged 62 years.

"Also Martha Nash, daughter of the above, who departed July 19, 1790, aged 17 years."

Upright stones at the east end of the chancel:

"Mary Simperingham, Sept. 4, 1779—75; Steph. Simperingham, Sept. 8, 1778—65; Thos., son of Stephen & Mary Simperingham, Oct. 14, 1750—9; Mary, daughter of Stephen and Mary Simperingham, April 27, 1749, aged 4; John Barton, Jan. 6, 1777—22; Ellen, his wife, Feb. 21, 1777—27; John Barton, Dec. 7, 1798—33 years; Mary, his daughter, Feb. 4, 1799—18 months."

1815 A.D. RICHMONDIENSIS.

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THE CHURCHYARD AND MEMORIALS

So much of a village's history resides in it's churchyard * where, inevitably, it continues to be written and whereas, today we are used to seeing a churchyard with it's monuments and gravestones, centuries ago the only monument an ordinary person would expect, would be the mass held in Church upon their death. There would be no coffin only a winding sheet. Stone coffins had been used throughout medieval times only for the most notable and important personages. It wasn't until the 17th Century that coffins came to be more widely used. The presence of a coffin in the cramped space of local cottages could indeed prove a real problem which necessitated burial as quickly as possible after death. Many of the early monuments of Pampisford Church have disappeared and only exist in early descriptions of the Church.

* See also pamphlet on 'People'.

In the churchyard on the South side are 2 Altar Monuments: that towards the East is of free stone & plain with the following whimsical Inscription on a black Marble which covers it

" Dominus Robert Gell S. J. Professor, Socius olim Coll: Xti Cantab: et Eccles: Stae Mariae Aldermanii London per spatium XXIIII annorum. Rector integerrimus. In Hac Parochia obiit Martii xxv^o Anno Xti 1665 Aetatis suae 70. Cujus reliquiae sub hoc marmore servantur. In smaller characters between this & the following Epitaph is this Anagram: " Reventas Bellus (cui Anagrammum Quod de se ipse fecit) O Surgat Bellus. Elizabetha... Uxor fide in hac Parochia obiit XII^o Septembris 1688 cujus etiam reliquiae sub hoc marmore servantur. Hoc obsequii et amoris monumentum posuit Elizabetha filia unica quam tantum superstitem reliquerunt. On the South side of the tomb is this engraved
" JULY 1 R.G.E 1674 "

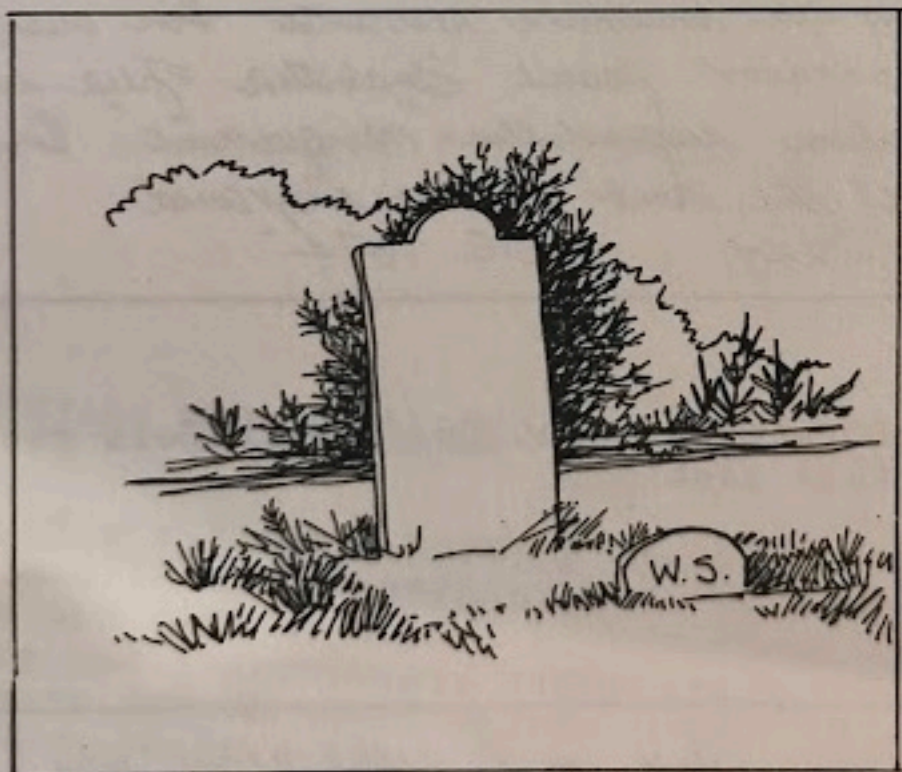
For further information about Dr. Robert Gell see appendix at the end of this section.

The other tomb which is a little above this is of extreme neat portland stone in panels & over it a very handsome black marble with this on it

" Here lyeth the body of Mrs Frances Apthorp Junior who departed this life Oct 26th 1738 Aged 29 years "

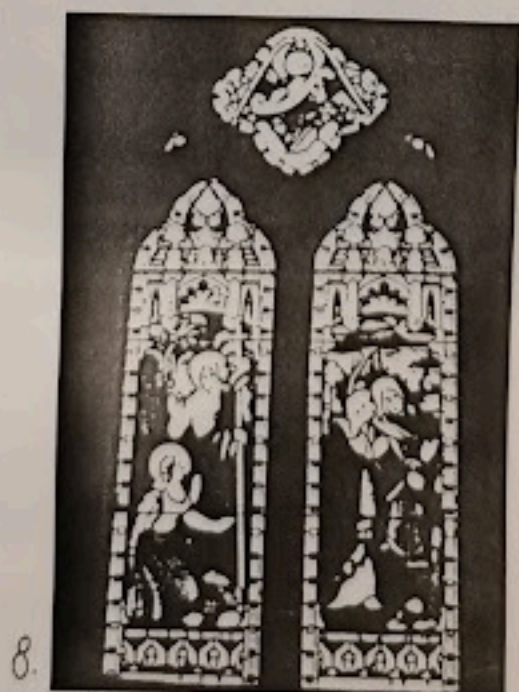
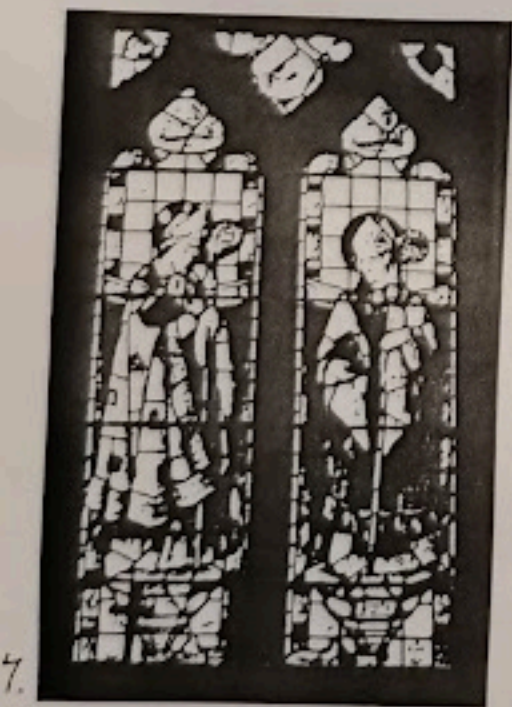
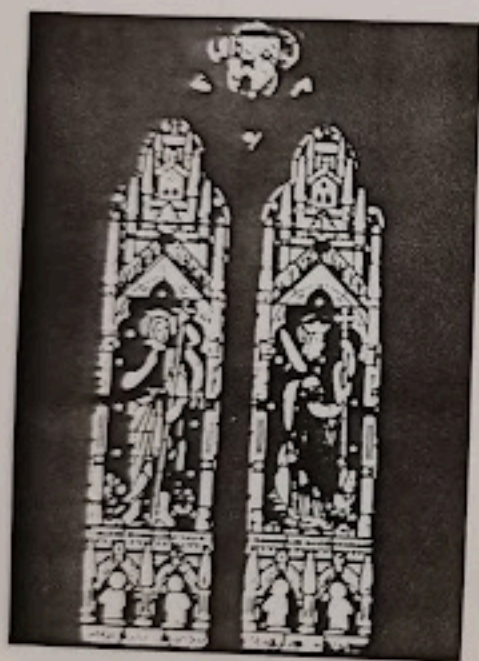
INSCRIPTION FROM A WHITE MARBLE MONUMENT WITHIN THE RAILS INSIDE PAMPISFORD CHURCH. THE INSCRIPTION WAS IN GOLD ON BLACK MARBLE & WHEN RECORDED BY WILLIAM CORE IN 1742 IT WAS ONLY JUST VISIBLE

"Here lyeth the body of John Killingworth Esq. who twice married. His former wife Beatrix daughter of Robert Allington of Househeath by whom he has 2 sons & 4 daughters. The latter Elizabeth the daughter of William Cheyney Esq, by whom he had 3 sons & 4 daughters. He died the 23 of May 1617. Aetatis suae 70. A husband, father, friend, he was above all the exceptions Envy wout to take. He Justis did because he did it love And Goodness loved only for Goodnes sake. So dyed he, that the period drawing nigh of his life, he feared not to dye."



HEADSTONE AND FOOTSTONES

In Pampisford churchyard the older gravestones have headstones and footstones. All inscriptions on these gravestones were carved on the sides that face away from the body of the deceased. This can sometimes cause confusion about where the actual grave is located.



Several of the windows are by Kempe. At some time prior to 1815 the artist Kerrich made a drawing of the old stained glass of the north aisle and at that time Kerrich noted that part of the church's structure was ruinous.

10.



11.



Pampisford's church windows were originally of the perpendicular and decorated period, the present stone work and stained glass is mostly Victorian and few of the medieval features remain. The old coats-of-arms have disappeared and although some of the old saints, originally represented, remain they are set in different places and do not appear to correspond to the original designs. (The St. Etheldreda seems to be the one exception).

THE STAINED GLASS

1. The annunciation picturing the Angel Gabriel and the Virgin Mary - in memory of Cecilia de Anyers, first wife of James Binney.
2. St. Etheldreda - in memory of James Binney 1868-1935. Also depicts the Binney Coat of Arms.
3. St. Peter and St. Paul - in memory of William Parker-Hamond 1827-1884
4. St. John the Baptist and St. Margaret - in memory of William Parker-Hamond 1793-1873. Also depicts the Parker-Hamond coat of arms.
5. The East window depicting the crucifixion - (provided by the Rev. Brocklebank)
6. St. Cecilia and St. Agnes - in memory of M.L.Y. Bumpstead
7. St. Ambrose and St. Augustine
8. Christ and Mary Magdelene and Ruth and Naomi - in memory of Georgina (nee Tickell) died 1879
9. Angel - in memory of Frederick Prince who died in 1896 and his second wife Saraita who died 1895
10. Brythnoth and Aelflead in memory of Mr. Bernard Dixon (replaced a diamond-leaded window in 1982)
11. St. John the Baptist and St. Paul

THE STORY OF PAMPISFORD CHURCH BELLS

SOME RELEVANT DATES

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
12th. Century.	Pampisford Church Tower built. It is not known when the first bells were installed.
1553.	A contemporary record states:- "PAUNSFORTH.....in ye steeple there, iiii bells, one sanctus bell..." (Cambridgeshire Church Goods. ed. C.H.Evelyn-White.)
1615	There is a record of a bell cast by John Draper. (Church Bells of Cambridgeshire. Raven.)
28th. Aug. 1742.	Contemporary writer, Cole, states:- "There are 4 bells in the steeple and a handsome striking clock for the parish (the dial plate of which is on the side of it and on it "Ecce hora venit" (Behold the hour cometh) 1741.) We do not know what happened to the clock or to these former bells. Perhaps the metal was used to recast the later bells.
1743.	Tenor bell cast by Joseph Eayre of St. Neots. Inscribed: "IHS. NAZARENUS REX IUDEORUM FILI DEI MISERERE MET. RICHARD ROBINSON CHURCHWARDEN 1743" (Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews, Son of God, have mercy on me)
1841.	Treble and Second bell cast by Thomas Mears I of London.
1848.	Third bell cast by Charles and George Mears of London.
1871.	The present clock installed (Inscribed "ALFRED REED. CAMBRIDGE 1871") to strike on tenor bell.
1934:	Messrs John Taylor and Co. of Loughborough inspected bells and reported that the timber framework is unfit for ringing bells in full circle. At this time the bells were being chimed (i.e. swung through a small angle causing clapper to strike) by Mr. Sonny Wright who, previous to his retirement in 1974, had chimed the bells over a period of 50 years.
24th. April 1974	Messrs John Taylor again made a general inspection. It was noted that the three bells cast in the 1840's were not in good musical relationship with the tenor of 1743. Also the report states:- "we feel that if a ringing peal is to be installed in the tower a completely new set of ringing fittings and a new bellframe is essential".
27th. June 1975.	Independent inspection by Mr. B.D. Threlfall MA, C. Eng, MICE, FFB. of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers. His report confirmed that the bell fittings and timber framework, although safe for gentle chiming, were unfit for ringing in full circle. He also advised against a system of ropes attached directly to the clappers, which had been suggested.

- 1st. Sept. 1975. The Church Council decided to organise a rota for chiming the bells. This soon developed into the formation of the Pampisford Church Bell Ringers under the chairmanship of Mr. Michael Buck, with the ultimate hope of carrying out the full scheme of replacing the bellframe and ringing bells in full circle again.
- Nov. 1975 Fund raising commenced with a "Pile of Pennies in the Pubs".
- 18th. Dec. 1975. Auction in Village Hall raised £176.
- 27th. Jan. 1976. Deputation from the Church (The Vicar, Mr. A.R.G. Milner (architect), Mr. Harold Driver, Mr. Michael Buck.) visited Messrs. Taylor's Foundry at Loughborough. Following this visit and with the encouragement of a generous offer of assistance from Mr. Driver, an order was placed for a new metal bellframe to accommodate six bells.
- 23rd. April. 1976. Paté and Punch Evening, Huntingdon Farm, raised £45.
- 4th. June. 1976. Proceeds from Summer Fête. £87.
- 2nd. July. 1976. Dance and Barbecue at Deal Farm, Sawston, raised £110
- 11th. Aug. 1976. The Chancellor of the Diocese of Ely issued a Faculty granting permission:-
 "To dismantle the four bells in the tower and convey them to Messrs. John Taylor's Foundry at Loughborough for tuning and refitting;
 "To remove the existing wooden bell framework and in its place fit a metal framework with provision for six bells;
 "To obtain two suitable new or second-hand bells or alternatively to use the metal of the existing tenor bell to cast three smaller bells to complete a peal of six bells."
- 19th. Aug. 1976. Inspection by Mr. R.W.M. Clouston B.Sc. Eng., F.S.A. (Member Bells Sub-Committee of the Conservation Committee of the Council for Places of Worship) and report with special reference to the tone of the bells.
- 20-25th. Sept. 1976. Dismantling of the four bells and the bell framework by a team of Pampisford Ringers led by Mr. John Gipson, of Meldreth. The bells were lowered to the ground and brought out through the Church door and the heavy oak beams were cast out through the tower windows.
 A section of the good timber was presented to the Parish Council and made into a Jubilee Parish Seat by the Hemlock Workshop of Oakington who also constructed a vase stand for the Church. Mr. H. Ransley of Abington kindly made bowls and a variety of household fittings which were sold and raised £142 for the Bell Fund.

- 24th. Sept. 1976. The bells were transported in a farm trailer to Loughborough by Mr. Michael Buck accompanied by Miss J. Sanderson and Mr. R. Currell who subsequently reported on the alternative methods of converting the four bells into a ring of six.
- 16th. Oct. 1976. A "Log Chop" at Rectory Farm.
- 3rd. Dec. 1976. Official notification received from the Archdeacon that Pampisford would be given one of the redundant bells being removed from the disused Church of Papworth St. Agnes. This cracked bell was subsequently taken to Loughborough and the metal credited to our account.

Other fund-raising events during 1976 were:- Share in Church Christmas Bazaar \$66, Sale of Biers £31, Draw £79.

- 4th. Jan. 1977. First A.G.M. of Pampisford Bellringers. Bell Fund reached £1032.
- 18th. Jan. 1977. Barrow Bell Trust informed us of their grant of £600.
- 4th. Feb. 1977. Construction of floor to bellchamber in preparation for new bellframe.
- 19th. Feb. 1977. 2nd. Log Chop at Rectory Farm. Both Log Chops raised £45.
- 26th. Feb. 1977. Monthly waste-paper collection started. By the end of the year it had raised £148.
- 13th. April. 1977. Ely Diocesan Association of Church Bell Ringers informed us of their grant of £700.
- 22nd. April 1977. Paté and Punch Evening at Huntingdon Farm raised £97. (including Grand Draw)
- 14th. May 1977. Barn Dance at Deal Farm raised £54.
- 27th. Oct. 1977. Auction in Village Hall raised £259

Other fund-raising events during 1977 included:- Share in Church Christmas Bazaar £30, Money in model Bell in Church £37, Coffee Morning £22, Sale of Notelets £12, Produce Stall £43, Dee Minor Party £11. "The Chequers" £7-5½.

- 3rd.-6th. Jan. 1978. INSTALLATION OF NEW BELL-FRAME.
- 9th.-13th. Jan. 1978. INSTALLATION OF THE RE-CONDITIONED AND NEW BELLS.

Jan.-Feb. 1978. A team of volunteers then undertook the task of applying a final coat of paint to the bellframe and generally reconditioning the interior of the tower and overhauling the clock in preparation for the DEDICATION OF THE NEW PEAL BY THE BISHOP OF ELY ON FRIDAY FEBRUARY 24th. 1978.

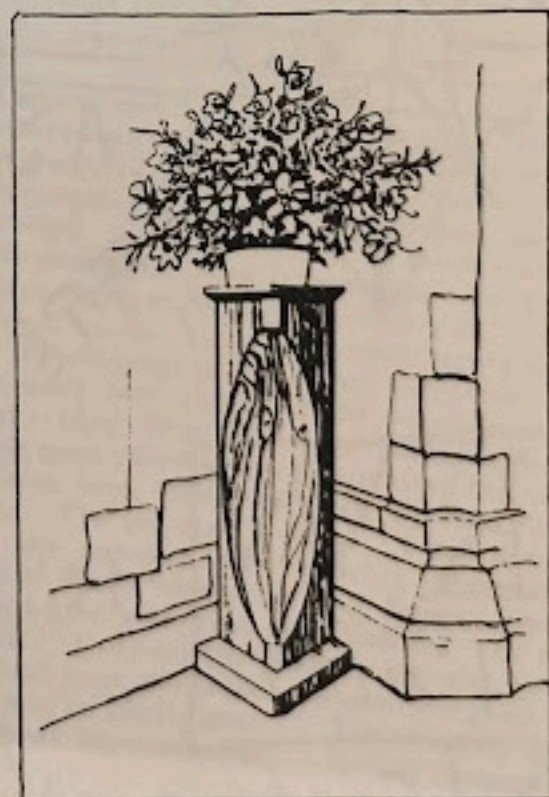
PAMPISFORD CHURCH BELLS

The major Victorian restorations of Pampisford church had not included a full restoration of the church tower and bells. It wasn't until the 1970's that this very major work was undertaken. The extracts from the Church Magazine in 1978(above) record the story and immense effort made by the people of the village to restore Pampisford's peal of bells.

This photograph shows Mr. R Tanner at work helping to remove the old bells and bell frame . The old wooden floor and frame were literally thrown out of the church tower windows. An expert from the neighbouring village of Thriplow brought along block and tackle to remove the bells. The chain that was used with the block and tackle however became so embedded into the stone work of the bell tower that it could not be removed and it remains there to this day. Among others who helped with this work were Mr. M. Buck, Mr. T. Lugsden, Mr. J. Stott and Mr. M. Tanner.



Once the old medieval oak was removed from the bell tower it was put to good use. Mr. Ransley of Abington, who has a great interest in wood carving made a number of articles, from egg-cups to fruit bowls out of the old wood. These were sold in order to raise money for the Bell Fund. The flower stand used for church flowers was made by Mr. Ransley out of the old wood. The village seat on Brewery Road is also of this ancient medieval oak. Pampisford has a thriving bell-ringing team today who are always happy to welcome new ringers on Thursday evenings. A bell fund still continues, supported by donations from weddings and visiting bell ringers. In the past the local bell-ringers were expected to maintain the bells and bell ropes by cropping and selling wood.



* A piece of land opposite the 19th century vicarage

was allotted to the bell-ringers for this purpose. In later years rents from this land helped support the bell-ringers funds. * (now the site of a modern bungalow)

HISTORIC GRAFFITI FROM THE CHURCH TOWER

King EDWARD VII
A E Leanter
DIED

MAY 6th 1910

CH 1845

1826

F. EPAGE

Jo F 1834

ALL

VERGER 1950

Jan 4th

H. A. MARTIN
L. SLATER
JUNE 1923
CAMBRIDGE

4 Boston
E. Hefford
L. [unclear]

KNOPP

George Carter

1890

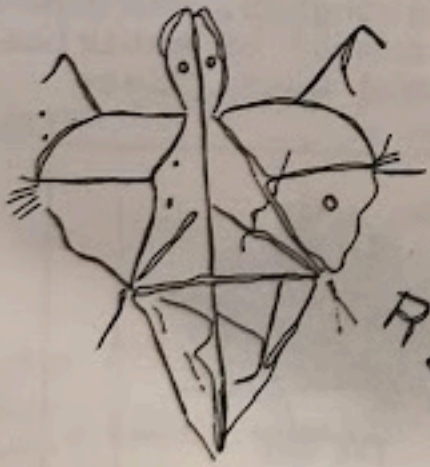
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We are beginning to see the result of our late successful bazaar which gave us nearly £100 to spend on our Church. The oak panelling in the Sanctuary has been raised behind the Altar and now forms a reredos showing the carved cross to advantage. A super Altar was made at the same time to take the brass cross and vases which we hope will in time be covered with work. The old hangings behind the open work of the panelling having faded, fresh has been inserted—blue and gold, and red tapestry. A beautiful strip of tapestry has also been hung behind the font showing both it and the handsome cover up well; and the chancel has been fresh carpeted. But most of all we welcome the restoration of a cross above the screen. As many will know, all the old chancel screens had a cross on them and figures of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. John in allusion to St. John xix. 26. In our church we can see the entrance to the stairs that led to the top of the screen and therefore we are glad to see the Cross restored to its original position; the shape and size was decided on, with the advice of one of the leading Church Architects of the day.

September 13th.—The usual School Treat was held in a well-wooded field belonging to Col. Hamond, where the children assembled at half past two. Of the amusements provided, the one that seemed to give the greatest pleasure both to boys and girls, was the "railway trapeze," of which the Vicar had put up three, and on which there were always some sliding down. They were made for the purpose by our organist, and answered capitally. There were races by classes, both plain, three-legged, and sack races, for toys and sweets, until all had received some prize either as winners or by way of consolation, and unlimited ginger beer was provided for all who were thirsty after their exertions. At five o'clock the whole fell in and marched singing to the Vicarage lawn, where the tea was ready laid out and to which ample justice was done. The tables were tastefully decked with flowers between the dishes of pastry, cakes, &c., and looked very pretty. After tea, at the suggestion of Mr. Baldey, three cheers were given for Mrs. Clark-Kennedy and the helpers, who had all worked hard to ensure a successful afternoon; then each scholar received a packet of sweets as they filed off homewards. The toys were the gift of Miss Hudson, and the milk for the tea given by Mr. Jonas. We were very fortunate in having a fine fund will be given next month. Eighty-five children received tickets for the treat, being all fairly regular attendants at Sunday School.

The Chancel of our Church has recently undergone complete restoration, being provided with a new oak roof, covered with tiles. The floor is paved with Mosaic, and the steps are Polyphant stone. Carved oak stalls and Reredos have been fixed, the Reredos being beautifully painted by Mr. Buckeridge, of Mortimer Street, London, W. The windows have been fitted with stained glass executed by Messrs. Shrigley & Hunt, of John O'Gaunt's Gate, Lancaster.

A Choir Vestry has also been added, the upper part fitted with a new organ and standing upon a pretty carved oak screen; a carved oak screen has also been fixed across the Tower Arch.

The work has been carried out by Mr. John Rickett, Builder, Great Abington, under the directions of Sir Arthur W. Blomfield, A.R.A., London.

The cost of the window of S. Cecilia and S. Agnes has been defrayed by Dr. Bumpsted of Trumpington. Mrs. Brocklebank is raising a subscription for the window of S. Augustine and S. Ambrose, the cost of which was incorrectly given in last month's magazine, as £70, it should have been £75.

Mr. Brocklebank has himself paid for everything else, the amount required being upwards of £2000.

The Altar frontals, kneeling mats, and carpets, which are now no longer needed here, have been given to a former Vicar, Mr. A. E. Clark-Kennedy for the use of his Church at Savernake, and have been gratefully acknowledged by him. 1897

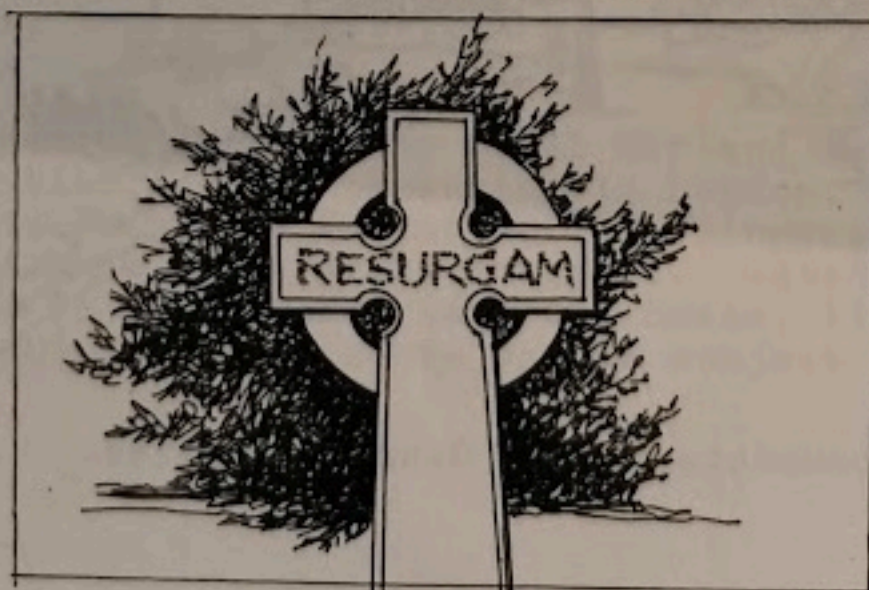
September 15th. Our Harvest Thanksgiving services were held this day; the church was full both morning and evening, and we are sure the congregation enjoyed the simple but hearty services. The church was, we think, more beautifully decorated than it ever has been before, the screen being especially beautiful with white maple leaves, scarlet Virginia creeper leaves and fruit. All the offerings of fruit, eggs, vegetables, flowers, &c., were sent afterwards to Addenbrooke's hospital: they filled six large hampers, and how much such offerings are appreciated the following show. The secretary writes: "I can assure you that the patients most heartily appreciate the gifts of fruit, vegetables and flowers, and your various gifts will prove most useful." The matron writes: "I cannot tell you how grateful we are to you and your parishioners for all the good things you have so kindly sent." The offertory was the largest we have ever had. It will interest some to compare the offertories at our harvest festival for the last few years, which were for the hospital except in 1885, which was for the organ. They are as follows: 1884, £2 15s. 9d.; 1886, £3 17s. 1d.; 1887, £3 18s. 8d.; 1888, £6 13s. 6d.; 1889, £9 15s. 1d.

EXTRACTS FROM THE PARISH MAGAZINE 1887 - 1898

- 1887 "Church of England Working Men's Society" set up in Pampisford.
3 rustic seats provided for the churchyard.
Window provided by Co. Hamond installed in the Church.
New oak choir stalls designed and made by Mr. J. Rickett of Abington installed.
The beautiful work for the panel of the Altar which now completes the cover and frontal has been put in place. All is the work and gift of Miss Alice Mortlock.
- 1888 An outbreak of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria in the Village along with other illnesses closed the Sunday School on numerous occasions during the first 6 months of 1888.
Croquet and bowls on the Vicarage lawn for the "Girls Friendly Society". Matches arranged followed by tea and ginger beer.
Monthly subs for the Reading Room collected. Sunday School treat held at Gt. Abington Lodge.
Church choir surpliced for the first time.
Another Church window given by Col. Mrs and Miss Hamond in remembrance of W. Parker-Hamond III
Christmas tree and presents given by Col. and Mrs Hamond to all Pampisford children.
- 1889 Magic Lantern Show featuring 'Tale of a Tub and the 'The Donkey and the Mill'.
Draughts matches, cross country runs, football, cricket, and bagatelle etc. arranged for Villagers.
"At Home", held by the Clark-Kennedy's in the Vicarage grounds. Tea provided and an electrical curiosity for everyone's amusement. Coins placed in an electrified basin of water dares anyone to retrieve them, testing how strong a shock anyone can stand. Believing in safety in numbers 6 or 8 Villagers together try out the device.
A tableaux of Vivants and Waxworks is held in the (old) School room featuring "The little Match Girl" "Bluebeard's Chamber" "Sleeping Beauty" and "Babes in the Wood". The living waxworks performed by Mrs. Jarley include "Cinderella", "Mrs Winslow and her 6ft baby" and "Mary Queen of Scots".
- 1890 Rattee and Kett remove a pillar from the Church as part of the restoration. (The Vicar appointed after Mr. Clark-Kennedy made little contribution to the Parish Magazine).
- 1891 The Reverend Brocklebank appointed by Mr. Mortlock.
- 1892 Reverend Brocklebank complains about poor attendance at the Church. He threatens legal action over the wilful damage to the Church wall by the Village boys playing about near by. Further complaints about the number of coins in the offertory plate. He concludes that only half of the congregation are giving. Attendance at the Sunday School described as 'disgraceful'

- 1893 "Footlights" dramatic society comes to Pampisford
Further complaints about Church attendance.
Influenza epidemic. Mr. D. Pratt acts as Sexton
to the Church.
- 1894 New lamps installed in the Church. A Christmas tea
is provided for all Parishioners consisting of
bread, butter, jam and cakes. Dancing which began
at 8pm carried on vigorously for some time.
- 1895 Bishop of Ely takes Confirmation.
Choir trip to Crystal Palace.
Sunday School treat included tea and races for money
prizes. Mrs. Binney presented every child with a
bun and a bag of sweets before they left the hall.
Everyone reached home safely before the outbreak of
a heavy storm.
- 1896 Stone throwing in the Parish becoming a Public
nuisance.
Charity cottages to be thatched as soon as possible.
Seven acres surrendered to the Charity by Mr. Edwards.
- 1897 In celebration of Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee
year the Vicar is presenting each child with a
Jubilee Bible. These will be delayed for a week or
two as the demand has been so strong. Mrs. Brocklebank
presented each village child with a Jubilee Badge
and Flag. Widows and Widowers received a pound of
tea in a pretty canister.
The Vicar has no doubt that the best memorial anyone
could give to the Parish would be a recreation
ground where boys could play games. We wish one of
our landed proprietors would present the Parish
with one, it would be most acceptable and thankfully
received and cared for by the Parish Council.
- 1898 Reverend Brocklebank who had paid for the restoration
of the Church and provided a new Church organ - resigned.
He also left a bath chair for use by infirm Parishioners.

Mr. James Binney donated a piece of nearby land to
the Church for the extension of the Churchyard which also allowed
him to build a Vault dedicated to his family. A family pew
for the Binney's was installed inside the Church.



Extracts from the Church Warden's Accounts *

1845	Hundred coal & wood	1s .. 8d
	Washing the Surplice	2s .. 6d
	Bread & wine	5s .. 4d
	Matth. Wheston's bill for candles & oil	1s .. 6d
	Mr. Fenton's bill for mending the stove	17s .. 4d
	Mending church windows	1s .. 6d
1846	New broom	3d
	Winding up church clock for a year	20s .. 0d
Total costs throughout 1846 amounted to £19 .. 17s .. 5d		
1848	Paid Catley for 2 bell ropes	16s .. 0d
1849	2 yards of flannel	6d
	2 ropes for coffins	4s .. 0d
	Paid Mr Rowlinson (clerk) $\frac{1}{2}$ yr.	£2 .. 10s .. 0d
1865	Paid Daniel Prat (organist) 1 yr.	£2 .. 0s .. 0d
	Paid Ester Purkis cleaning church	£2 .. 12s .. 0d
1867	Paid A. Rowlinson for tuning organ	2s .. 6d
	Paid Alfred Rowlinson (sexton) for the quarter year.	£1 .. 0 .. 0



*Original documents in the County Archives.

APPENDIX

A suggested English translation of the Latin inscription from Dr. Gell's tomb is as follows:

"MASTER ROBERT GELL DD.

Sometime Fellow of Christs' College Cambridge and for the space of 24 years, the most upright Rector of St. Mary Aldermary London. He died in this Parish on 25th March in the year of Our Lord (Christ) 1665 and in the 70th year of his age. His remains lie beneath this stone.

ANAGRAM: ROBERTUS GELLIUS
of which (words) he himself made this anagram concerning himself.

Elizabeth his faithful wife dies in this Parish on 13th September 1668 whose remains are also laid beneath this stone

This momento (commemoration) of her duty and affection, their only daughter Elizabeth erected, whom they left so long to be their surviving testimony."

July 1st RGE 1674

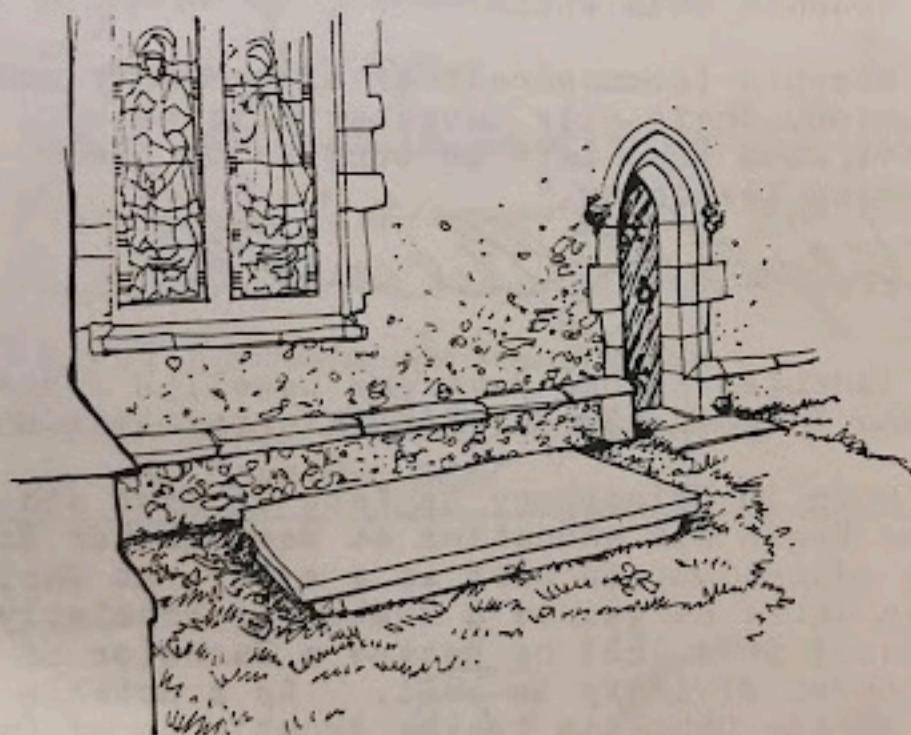
I am indebted to the Reverend Lewellyn Jones and the Reverend Barber for this translation

Robert Gell was born in Frindsbury in Kent in 1594 and as a King's Scholar he began his education at Westminster School. He continued his education, in part as a sizar, at Christs' College Cambridge where he gained a number of scholarly degrees. A Fellow of Christs' from 1623 he became a Bachelor of Divinity in 1628 and Doctor of Divinity in 1641. As a notable Scholar and Preacher he became Chaplain to the Archbishop of Caterbury and preached before many eminent people in Cambridge and London. In 1641 Charles I was amongst his congregation. His sermon "Noah's Flood Returning" of 1655 was preached before the Lord Mayor of London and among his other published words was "God's Government of the World by Angels" and "Gell's Remains". According to the "Dictionary of National Biography" Gell's literary works show wit, learning, critical power and a fund of allegorical illustrations.

Dr. Gell managed to survive the Civil War and in the year of Charles' execution, he was preaching in London. His congregation at this time included the Society of Astrologers; astrology was a subject in which he had a great interest. Coincidentally one of his neighbours in Pampisford, was John Swann, Vicar of Sawston and Whittlesford, who also wrote on the subject of astrology.

In 1644 Dr. Gell married Elizabeth Lawrence, a woman who owned property in Pampisford. By the time of Cromwell's Commonwealth, in 1652 he had taken over the lease at Queens College Farm. Before his death in 1665, Dr. Gell saw the restoration of the monarchy and had become the Rector of the London Parish of St. Mary Aldermanbury on Watling Street in the vicinity of St. Paul's Cathedral. He was probably a man of some means as evidenced by the fact that he left books and money to Christ's and Queen's Colleges as well as to the King's Scholars at Westminster. Dr. Gell's wife died three years after him in 1668, leaving a daughter Elizabeth* who eventually erected the altar tomb to her parents in Pampisford Churchyard.

It is open to speculation why such an eminent figure was buried in Pampisford Churchyard at that particular time. 1665 was of course the year of the Great Plague of London and no doubt Dr. Gell and his family found their country home in Pampisford particularly preferable to his London Parish during that period. The next year also saw the Great Fire of London and it is possible that his Parish Church did not survive the flames. These two events might have been a factor in why Dr. Gell came to rest in Pampisford Churchyard.



*After looking through the items researched for this pamphlet, it seems highly probable that the tomb illustrated here is the tomb of Robert and Elizabeth Gell. It lies on the south side of the Church just by the Chancel door. No part of any inscription remains to be seen today however.

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The solution to the Latin anagram that Robert Gell created out of his own name, remains a mystery as yet. The Reverend Llewelyn Jones at Ely suggests that the solution too is probably Latin rather than English. Has the Reader any ideas?.