

“A DAINTRY ANNIVERSARY”

– An Extract from the Congleton Chronicle 19th March 1999.

It was a pleasure last week to receive a letter bearing the name of a distinguished local family of the past.

The name is Daintry, as in Daintry Hall, North Rode, and the letter was from Mr. Patrick ("Pat") Daintry, who lives in Solihull.

He is the son of Canadian-born Mr. George Percival Daintry, J.P., formerly of North Rode Manor, who, at the time of his death in 1939, was described by the "Chronicle" as being "looked upon as the genial squire of North Rode".

The North Rode estate has an interesting history, passing from the Veres, Earls of Oxford, to Sir Christopher Hatton, and from his representatives to the Crewes of Crewe, and sold by John L. Crewe around 1808 to Michael Daintry, son of the Rev. John Daintry, vicar of Leek.

On his death in 1811, it descended to John Smith Daintry, of Macclesfield, who was High Sheriff of Cheshire in 1825, and, on his death in 1838, to his son and heir, the Rev. John Daintry.

He was succeeded by his brother George Smith Daintry, whose son John was the father of the last squire, Mr. George Percival Daintry already referred to. He was very active in local public service, as a Congleton senior magistrate for 35 years, chairman of his parish council, which he represented on Macclesfield Rural Council, and chairman of Congleton Savings Bank.

In 1922, however, taxation had become such a burden that he sold the estate, but the name of his family is perpetuated, for during its time there, it had built both the church and the schools, as well as providing the stained glass in the east end Gawsorth Church.

On leaving the Manor House, the family moved to "Oaklands", Buxton Road, North Rode, but, following Mr. Daintry's death in 1936, his widow moved to "Westholm", in West Road, Congleton, so Mr. Patrick Daintry has many memories of the town, for he lived there with his mother until she moved to Macclesfield.

The purpose of Mr. Daintry's letter was to point out that, 10 years ago, we included in our "Glancing Back" column for 50 years ago the fact that it was his golden wedding anniversary.

They were married on 15th March, 1939, at All Saints' Parish Church, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, which was then the home of the bride, Miss Marie Scott.

The bridegroom's sister, Miss Elizabeth Daintry, was bridesmaid, and best man was his brother, Mr. Cecil O. Daintry.

The wedding was front page news in the "Chronicle", and a few months later, Patrick's brother, Lt.-Commander (later Commander) Michael Daintry, occupied the same spot with the news that he was on the aircraft carrier H.M.S. Courageous when it was torpedoed and sunk by a German sub-marine. He was among the survivors,

picked up by a merchant ship after being in the sea for some time, the good news being posted up in the front window of the "Chronicle" Office.

He had gone to Dartmouth Naval Training College on leaving school, and served in the Royal Navy until 1928, when he retired, but was put on the reserve list, so was called up for the Second World War.

As for brother Pat, he joined Dennis Pine, son of the late Dr. A. J. Pine, of Moody Hall, in starting a textile mill in Macclesfield in 1938. Eleven years later, he moved to London, but then took up a post; with the then Austin car company at Longbridge, remaining there until he retired. He is the last of his line, one might say, so far as the family name Daintry is concerned, for although he has grandchildren and great-grandchildren through his daughter, he has none through his two sons. He is the last survivor of his parents' family of five sons and two daughters, and although his father died at the comparatively early age of 64, longevity is not new in the family, for Patrick's mother was 97 when she died, one brother was 91, and another 82, despite suffering the privations of a Japanese prisoner of war camp.

When the North Rode schools which their forebears had built was closed as a result of the amalgamation of the rural schools, he and brother Michael, who was a stockbroker in London, decided to give them to the North Rode community for use as a village hall, and, of course, it was right and proper that it should be known thereafter as Daintry Hall.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Daintry on their diamond anniversary, and best wishes for more years together!.