

*Surrey Archaeological Collections*, **86**, 53–72, 1997

**Thomas Coram:  
his brief period as a gunpowder producer**

K R FAIRCLOUGH

### **Introduction to the Transcript**

The pocketbook of Thomas Coram formerly belonged to the London Foundling Hospital but has now been deposited with the London Metropolitan Archives (formerly Greater London Record Office) under reference A/FH/A1/7/1.

In the following transcript of the accounts, receipts have been listed separately, whereas in the original receipts follow expenditure at the end of each month.

Original spellings are retained, abbreviations are extended except for units of money and weight and the abbreviation qt = quantity. Line breaks in the original are disregarded.

Sums of money, which in the text entries, as distinct from the tabulated sums, of the original are in the form of numbers and dashes, are here standardised in the form £0 0s 0d.

Weights are in cwt, qtr, lb, where 281bs (pounds) = 1qtr (quarter), 4 qtrs = 1cwt (hundredweight), 20 cwt = 1 ton/tonne.

Doubtful readings are indicated by [?] after the word; words which have not been deciphered by [. . .]; supplied corrections or explanations are given in square brackets or if necessary in footnotes.

**London Metropolitan Archives A/FH/A1/7/1: The Pocket Book of Captain Coram**

An Exact account when each Lady of Charity signed their Declaration also when the Lords and Gentlemen Signed their Declarations vizt

**1728/29**

March

9 Dutches of Somerset at Petworth

**1729**

April

22 Dutches of Bolton

25 Dutches Doweger of Bolton

December

22 Dutches of Richmond

**1729/30**

January

6 Dutches of Manchester

7 Dutches of Bedford

**1730**

April

6 Lady Onslow

14 Lady Baroness Doweger Torrington

do. Lady Byran

21 Countis of Huntingdon

24 Dutches Leeds

25 Countis of Winchelsy & Notingham

27 Countis of Litchfield

**[1730 continued]**

May

- 19 Countis of Burlington
- do. Countis of Cardigan
- 26 Lady Hertford alias Percy

**1733**

July

- 5 Lady Countis of Harold

**1734**

April

- 13 The Duke of Richmond
- 16 [name entered and crossed out, indecipherable]
- 25 Duke of Montagu

May

- 1 Dr Mead
- 10 Dr Hulst
- 14 Anthony Allen Master in Chancery
- do. Henry Allen
- 16 Bar[onet] Atkins
- do. Mr Travers a Merchant
- 19 Walter Baines
- 28 Dr Bamber

June

- 11 Mr Chiselden a Surgion
- 13 Dr Coatsworth

**[1734 continued]**

## November

- 6 Earl of Albermarl
- do Countis of Albermarl
- 8 Duke of Manchester
- 9 Duke of Kent
- 11 Lord Hunsdon
- do. Peter Wentworth

## December

- 7 Lord Viscount Torrington
- 20 Lady Trevor

**1735**

## January

- 21 Lady Doweger King Baronis of Ockham

## March

- 3 Duke of Bedford
- 15 Mr Rand apothecary in the Haymarket near Pickudilia [Piccadilly]
- 21 Capt Mabbit Little ormond street Honble Horace Townshend Little ormond street
- 22 [blank] Bevan Drugist Lombard Street
- Thos Pearse Esq of the Navy
- [blank] Underhill Esq
- John Walton Powdermaker

## April

- 16 Lord Craven
- 26 Lord Abergavenny

## May

- 7 Duke & Dutches of Portland and the Earl of Oxford
- 19 The Honble Charles Leigh Esq

[EXPENSES]	£	s	d
<b>January</b>			
1	paid Mr Coffen 5 guineas for his 6th payment waterage to boat and back	5	5 - 9
2	paid Sir William Ogburn for 10 foot of timber paid for carrying it to Standgate paid for waterage back to the Old Swan paid for oils and colours		7 6 1 - 3 2 10
3	paid Mr Ransome for a mainmast and spars waterage to the boat and back		13 - 6
4	waterage to the boat and back paid Mr Whitson for small knees for the boat paid for carrying them and me up		9 5 6 1 -
6	waterage to the boat and back		6
7	waterage to the boat and back		6
8	paid Mrs Houghton for 7 kees [knees] for the boat paid Mr Bishop for 11 knees to a waterman for carrying them up		7 6 - 1 3
9	for waterage to Standgate and back		6

		£	s	d
[January]				
10	At the proof at Greenwich, 176 barrels whereof 159 passed and 17 crossed paid for waterage down and up 3s paid the labourers, coopers, foreman, filler and marker, in the whole 11 s paid at the treat at Greenwich and after came up at the Kings Head 13s 6d	1	7	6
11	paid a shoemaker for sewing leather over the iron across the cart waterage to Standgate and back gave the sawyers to drink			6 8 3
13	spent waiting for Mr Norman Mr Norman gave me an order to receive 50 baggs saltpetre, per the ship Sarum for Chilworth			6
14	waterage to Standgate paid Mr Godfrey Dean on account of freight waterage to the Graineries and back for the 50 baggs saltpetre, per the Princes of Wales sent by Dean to Faversham	20	-	- 1 3
15	paid Mrs Lights for 2 large curryd hides and a part of another hide for covering the cart paid Mr Miles the smith his bill for the iron worke of the cart	4	14	4 -
16	waterage to the Graineries and to Greenwich to get the 176 barrels powder laid downe for the prooffe Spe nt at Greenwich on that occasion paid Mrs Crowley for an anchor for the boat			1 9 3 - 15 6

		£	s	d
[January]				
17	paid Mr Dean for the barrell of double strong powder sold to Whites friend Mr Westby in November last spent with Mr Grueber at a coffee house paid at the East India House for clearing 100 baggs of saltpetre, by the Princes of Wales paid one of the clerks for getting the necessary dispatch waterage to Standgate and back	5	10	-
		47	12	-
			1	-
			1	-
18	At the proof at Greenwich, 269 barrels whereof 229 passed and 40 crossed spent at the coffee house in the morn 1s 2d for drink for the labourers breakfast is gave to the foreman 1s gave to the layer downe is gave to the marker 1 s gave to the cooper 1 s for the labourers 5s to the barges crew 2s 6d spent at the Kings Head on the officers £1 2s 6d	1	16	2
20	paid Mrs Crowley for nails for the boat waterage and expences to the boat		2	4
				10
21	paid Mr Gadsbee the wheelwright for the new cart and the extra work and the rooffe etc over and above the guinea paid him at first on the 22 October paid for some small things as candles whilst the men worked at nights on the rooffe and for expences in drink to the whelers men and smiths men whilst the cart was making	7	4	-
			13	1.½

		£	s	d
[January]				
[21]	paid for fetching the cart to take some petre barrels at East Smithfield and carrying it to Queenhith for wharfage and cranage and helping take off the wheels and loading the cart into the barge spent on the bargemen		4	
			1	6
				3
22	waterage and expences at the boat[?]		1	5
23	paid Mrs Crowley for nails by Andrews for the boat paid for candles woork by them waterage to the boat and back		2	7
			1	-
				6
24	paid Mr Robert Norman vizt £47 17s 5d which remained due for 119 baggs petre received £169 19s 2d, it being Mr Pearses note of hand £50 due for Mr Normans tally			
		267	16	7
	spent with Mr Ingham the lawyer Mr Gruebers landlord paid for a book for Mr Pearse the list of the parliament men			6
			1	-
25	paid Mr Tibbald for a spar for a topmast for the boat waterage and expences to the boat		2	-
				9
28	paid for 31b of candles for the boat waterage to the boat		1	9
				6
29	gave the men a pot of beer waterage over to the boat and back to the Old Swan			3
				5

		£	s	d
[January]				
31	paid Mr Gallops meal barge men for their Christmas box		2	6
	paid at the Crowne in the Pallace Yard Westminster with Mr Grueber and some clerks of the Ordnance for dinner		18	6
	waterage to Standgate and back to the Old Swan			6
	lent Mr Grueber 2 half guineas at the Crown Tavern, done in Palace Yard, Westminster	1	1	-
February				
1	sent 60 guineas to Mr Dabner at Chilworth, per Pearse William waterage to the boat and expences	63	-	-
			1	-
3	waterage to the boat and back			9
4	paid John Race a shipwright for 29 dayes work for himself and 5 dayes for his brother and 3 dayes for a joyner at 3s per day each for their work on the boat and is 6d he paid for a knee for the boat, all which comes to		5	12 6
5	paid Mr Robert Norman £100 and took up Mr Pearses note of hand promising to pay the sum to Mr Norman or bearer dated 22 January last	100	-	-
	paid Mr Ingham for $\frac{1}{2}$ a years rent due at Christmas from Mr Grueber at Faversham	52	-	-
6	spent with Mr Grueber at Mitchels coffee [house] waterage to the boat and back			6 6

	£	s	d
7		1	-
		2	-
			6
8		9	
			9
10			6
12			6
13			
	2	12	6
15		7	1
		5	-
	5	17	-
18			
	60	-	-
	78	12	-
	46	15	-
	50	-	-

		£	s	d
[February]				
[18]	paid David Harry man for lighterage from Midsummer to Michaelmas last	8	16	-
	ditto paid him his lighterage from Michaelmas last to Christmas			6
19	paid Mt Vanderlint for a stock of 3 inch wainscot boards delivered the 30th past for the boat	2	13	6
	paid Mr Theobald for ½ a hundred deal planks etc for Chilworth	5	13	10
	waterage and expences to the boat and back since the 12th instant		2	3
20	paid Mr Barnwell for making the boats masts speots poles etc		9	6
21	paid for 2 wooden shovels, a poile, a skut, a boale, a mop, a broom, a hand shovel for the boat		7	-
	spent at Lambeth in settling our account with the boat builder for the boat		2	6
	gave for a drink for launching the boat, ½ a guinea		10	6
22	for waterage and expences in sending away 50 baggs of saltpetre for Chilworth			9
	paid Mrs Neal at Standgate for lodging the carpenter and joyner whilst building the house and deck on the boat including a shilling paid at first		8	-
24	paid Francis Roach for a small bitt of oake and sawing it		2	-
	paid Robert Peters for 13¼ days worke on the boat at Standgate	1	19	6

		£	s	d
[February]				
25	paid James Hatch the smith at Standgate including what I had lent him on account before this day	4	16	6
	This night brought the boat through bridge			
	paid Mr Coffen on account for the boat expences and waterage these 2 days	3	-	-
			3	6
26				
27	waterage these 2 days		1	-
28	to several men for filling water into the boat and throwing it out 5s, and for strong beer for them is when the boat was on the block at Sparrows Quay [?]		6	-
March				
1	paid James Browne for a pair of 15 foot for oars for the boat	4	6	
	waterage and expences this day and yesterday	2	6	
3	paid William Race his wages for 28 days work on the boat	4	4	-
	paid Mr Bradford for 3 wainscot boards for the boat		5	-
	paid the proof foreman by Mr Gruebers order	1	1	-
	paid the magazeen labourers bill for repairable powder and empty barrels etc		18	6

		£	s	d
March				
4	paid a waterman at the Shiphad & Dog for 1 days work at 2 tides		3	-
	paid Mr Austin a Joyner for 3½ days work		12	3
	received at the Grainery 66 baggs petre			
	spent at the Graineries		1	6
	waterage up and down twice		1	-
4th	At night went at 11 aclock from Iron Gate in the powder boat for Guildford			
5	paid for 2 horses from Petersham to Hamton Towne		4	6
	spent at Sheen on the boatmen etc		2	-
	gave a boatman that came up with us a long way, a shilling		1	-
	paid for 3 horses from Sheen to the mouth of Guildford River		6	6
	paid for 5 quarts of ale at the Lord Portmore's baylefs house going up the river		1	3
	spent that night at a house where we sat by the fire until day light		3	6
6	paid for 4 lbs of shiver rope at Oaking [Woking]		2	-
	gave the millers man for stopping the mills to raise the water			6
	spent at Weston Green		1	-
7	treated the men with a legg of mutton bread beer etc for dinner		5	8
	paid Henry Newberry for a piece of plank to mend the rudder		1	-
8	spent at dinner in the town		1	6
	spent in the evening with the mayor and others		1	-

		£	s	d
[March]				
10	waterage and expences going to the Lord Portmores and back		1	-
11	waterage to the Board of Ordnance and back			9
12	paid Mr Atwood the brazier for brass	19	11	6
13	paid for searching for the Acts of Parliament relating to Guildford River		3	6
	paid for Mr Norman and took up Mr Pearses promisory note of the 4th instant for	200	-	-
	paid Mr Gruebers bill of John Picton for grocery		13	10
	Endorsed a promisory note of Thomas Pearse esquire of this days date, to Mr Norman or order at 2 months and received the money thereon to pay the ordnance 1/3 part of Mr Gruebers debt of £1868 3s 9 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> d due to His Majesty			
15	paid into Mr Shorts hand a Bank note for payment of 1/3 part of £1868 3s 9 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> d due from Mr Grueber to the King	622	15	-
17	gave poor[?] man for looking after my horse whilst in town		1	-
18	Spent in my journey from London to Guildford by the way of Weybridge etc		3	6
	paid the Mayor of Guildford for the hyer of his horse		12	-
19	paid for 2 horses for Mr Dabner and myself to Waybridge and to the Lord Portmoors and back to Guildford spent in the said journey		4	-
			2	4

		£	s	d
[March]				
20	paid Mr Terry a smith at Guildford for shiver irons etc	10	-	
	paid Mr Ford for 4 gallons smaIJ beet			10
	paid for making and fixing 5 shiver poles	2	6	
	expended with the mayor and aldermen	2	-	
21	paid for 6%lbs cheese at 3%d [per Ib] lsI I Vz d and for 2 loaves of bread 1s 2d	3	1.½	
	paid Mr Ford at the alebouse on Guildford wharf for Andrews board whilst the boat stayed there	7	6	
	paid Mrs Hyde for my lodging & diet etc for the 2 times I was at Guildford	1	1	-
	paid Mr Russels the millers man			6
22	paid Mr Burchet the miller at Oaking for raising the water	3	-	
	paid the Lord Portmore boylif Mr Hammerton for the first trip up and downe, for 6½, tons of river dues at 8s 4d per load	1	10	4
	spent then at Hammerton's house			6
	paid for a man to help down the river	4	6	
	paid for a horse down Guildford river	5	-	
	paid for one nights keep for the horse			8
	paid for waterage to the Old Swan from the boat at Queenhith			3
24	paid 10hn Gillet for his first voyage being a long stay at Guildford	2	5	6
	paid William Norman for himself and servant	2	-	-
	spent with Mr Grueber at the Kings Head			5
	lent Mr Grueber a guinea to defray his expence in this voyage	1	1	-
	Executed writings at Mr Penny relating to Mrs Angelica Montgomery [?]			
	gave Andrews a shilling to buy bread to take up in the boat with him	1	-	

		£	s	d
[March]				
25	expences in a journey to Weybridge and from thence to Guildford		2	4
26	expended at Guildford		1	9
27	spent at loading the boat			6
	paid for a loaf of bread and some cheese etc for Andrews to have in the boat		1	9
	paid for ½ an anchor of small bar for tilt: use of the boat spent at night at the tavern		2	-
28	paid William Newberry the wharfinger at Guildford for wharfage of 150 barrels powder and Riverage	1	8	-
	gave Mrs Hydes maid	1	-	-
	spent from Guildford to London			9
29	paid Mr Coffen his note 20 guineas	21	-	-
	spent at Mitchels with Mr Grueber			6
30	spent at Greenwich		1	-
	spent at the coffee house Mr Webb and others			7

		£	s	d
April				
1	paid a messenger to the Grainery			6
	weighed 100 baggs saltpetre vizt			
		cwt	qr	lb
	50 for Feversham qt: nen	61	2	19
	50 for Chilworth qt: nett	63	2	4
		125	0	24
	paid the East India porters bill for several times past	4	15	8
	gave the porters to drink		2	-
2	sent to Me Dabner	80	-	-
	sent to Mrs Hyde	20	-	-
	paid to the East India Company for saltpetre	468	3	3
5	waterage etc to Greenwich and back		1	4
6	paid young Templeman for his helping the boat through bridge to Greenwich		1	1
7	spent going to Guildford			9
	spent at Guildford			6
9	paid for keeping my horse at Guildford		4	10
	for my own diet and expences there		7	6
	spent at Weybridge		2	9
	expences home and for 2 Ferrys and one gate			8

		£	s	d
[April]				
12	lent Mr Grueber a guinea	1	1	-
	spent at the Tower coffee house before they went down to the prooffe			9
	of 470 barrels made this day passed 252 barrels, crossed 218 barrels gave the labourers for breakfast		2	6
	paid Mr Storton his proof money for last year at Greenwich		5	6
	paid for treating the clerks at dinner		12	6
	gave by Mr Gruebers order a guinea to the labourers for their box due at Christmas last	1	1	-
	waterage and expences after came back		1	10
15	waterage and ex[ences to Westminster for a protection		2	9
16	waterage to Mr Fonvive			6
	spent on our boat men			7½
17	paid for 200 bags salt petre	750	-	-
	paid Mr Thobalds for deals sent to Chilworth	6	1	-
	paid Captain Pottenger for some plank used on the boat after the first payment	2	5	-
18	weighed 200 baggs saltpetre vizt			
		cwt	qr	lb
	100per Bridgwater for Chilworth qt: net	125	2	21
	100per Sarum for Faversham qt: net	126	0	17
		251	3	10

		£	s	d
[April]				
[18]	paid the East India porters for carrying out and shipping these 200 baggs	1	13	6
	also paid the East India porters for their carrying out and shipping 50 baggs for Faversham last week		12	6
	gave the porters to drink		2	6
	expended at weighing the 200 baggs		1	9
	paid for waterage		3	-
	paid John Gillet his disbursement on the boats second voyage which I examined and approved his account by me	1	11	2
	ditto for the 3rd voyage he made	1	2	11
	also paid John Gillet his wages for those 2 last voyages as appears by his receipt	2	1	-
	paid Thomas Gilbert the joyner now, and lent him at several times before for work he did on the powder boat at Lambeth and his going up the first trip with her to Guildford	5	8	-
19	waterage to Deptford and back and expences there		2	-
	paid the men of Deptford launch for bringing 200 empty barrels to Powells barge at Queenhith		2	6
	gave the magazeen labourers		1	6
21	paid Mr Browning and took up Mr Pearses note for that sume for Mr Gruebers debt	178	-	-
22	paid at the East India House for clearing 200 baggs salt petre it being 2 lots	124	1	-
	paid the clerke for dispatch as is customary 1 s per lot		2	-
	spent at the coffee house waiting			4
24	paid for carrying a letter and the boats protection to Greenwich			6

		£	s	d
[April]				
25	Andrews expended and paid on the 4th voyage of the boat, vizt to the horse man upward 12s to the unreasonable demand of Lord Portmore's steward 10s 6d to the mills in Guildford River 9s to a horse up and down Guildford River 4s 2noights hay for the horse 1s 6d to a man to help the boat down the river 4s to Andrews expences whilst on the voyage 2s 6d	2	3	-
26	paid for a pin of beer for the boat		1	3
29	paid John Innickers a boat man for a weeke and five dayes service gave a shilling to drink amongst them		16	6
			1	-
May				
1	spent with Mr Grueber and Mr Dean		1	-
3	expended in proving 218 barrels of crossed powder at Barking Creek vizt paid Mr Grueber for meat and wine he bought £1 5s 9d paid for 2 loaves bread and 1 lb butter 2s 1d gave Mr Azeers servant 1s spent at Blackwall 8½d to a coach from Ratclif 2s paid for a wherry for Andrews and his mate carried up to Barking Creek and back 2s for waterage afterwards in Andrews [ ... ?] house 3d	1	13	9½

		£	s	d
[May]				
9	paid Mr Ingham $\frac{1}{4}$ years rent for the powder mills Mr Grueber holds at Feversham, due at Lady Day last past in Feversham, exclusive of tile land tax	26	-	-
	paid Mr Grueber for so much by him paid for a protection for the powder boat		5	-
	spent at coffee house with Mr Grueber			6
10	paid Mr Allen at the office Ordnance $\frac{1}{2}$ a guinea on signing a contract		10	6
12	paid Thomas Seymour for 2 weeks and halfwork in the powderboats	2	2	6
13	spent at CJerkenwell coffee house in treating for a storehouse at Weybridge			6
15	paid Mr David Coombes in part for hair sive bottoms, 3 guineas	3	3	-
16	spent with Mr Grueber at the Pensilveany coffee house paid Mr Worgan for $\frac{1}{4}$ cwt of tallow bought for the use of the boat			6
			12	6
17	weighed at the Grainereys vizt 50 baggs of petre per Lethelier for Chilworth qt: net 58 cwt 1 qtr 24 lbs at 67s 6d per cwt also 32 baggs per Mountegu for Faversham qt: net 39 cwt 25 lbs at 67s per cwt also			

		£	s	d
[May]				
[17]	25 beggs per Bridgwater for Favershem qt: net 31 cwt 25 lbs at 80s cwt			
	spent weighing the petre			9
	gave the boys to drink			6
19	spent on a journey to Weybridge and Guildford and back to London		5	9
20	paid for removing the horse shoos			8
	paid a messenger Mrs Hyde sent to Weybridge on horseback with a letter to me which came by the [1] post and sent to her house and the messenger and horse was 4s 6d which I was obliged to pay		4	6
22	spent on Mr Grubers man Lefebure			3
23	accepted a note drawn by Mr Grueber dated 18th April payable to Mr Andrew Hill 3 months after date for	874	1	-

		£	s	d
[RECEIPTS]				
January				
9	received of Thomas Pearse esquire 2 guineas at night	2	2	-
14	received of Thomas Pearse a Bank note £50 ditto one of Caswell & Mount £50	100	-	-
24	received of Mr Norman for the dividend made at the powder office the 21st instant	269	10	-
30	received of Thomas Pearse esquire 60 guineas	63	-	-
February				
5	received of Mr Robert Norman £154 for the dividend made yesterday by the Company of Powder Makers	154	-	-
11	received of Thomas Pearse esquire 1 guinea in his office	1	1	-
15	received of Thomas Pearse esquire 20 guineas in his office as he was going in hast with Mr Nuboad(?) to the Adrniralty	21	-	-
18	received of Mr Robert Norman for one quarter paid of the dividend made this day at the Powder office	262	10	-

		£	s	d
March				
4	received of Thomas Pearse esquire 10 guineas	10	10	-
12	received of Thomas Pearse Esq by Mr Ensant 20 guineas	21	-	-
13	received of Mr Robert Norman	218	15	-
	received of Mr Robert Norman	622	15	-
24	received of Thomas Pearse esquire 4 guineas	4	4	-
	also 4s to make up Normans money		4	-
29	received of Thomas Pearse esquire 20 guineas to pay Mr Coffen	21	-	-
31	received of Thomas Pearse esquire	400	-	-
April				
2	received of Thomas Pearse esquire	170	-	-
12	received of Thomas Pearse esquire 3 guineas at night in his office	3	3	-
17	received of Thomas Pearse esquire 20 guineas per Mr Coon	21	-	-
	also received of Thomas Pearse a Bank note for	800	-	-
21	received of Thomas Pearse esquire	252	-	-

May		£	s	d
6	received of Thomas Pearse esquire per Mr Enstant	27	10	-
13	received of Thomas Pearse esquire 12 guineas	12	12	-
16	received of Thomas Pearse 5 guineas to pay Mr Enstant for so much borrowed of him a little before	5	5	-

**RESEARCH NOTES**

*Note:* The pagination of this copy does not correspond to that of the microfiche accompanying *Surrey Archaeological Collections*, **86** (1999). The corresponding microfiche pages, to which the index of the volume refers, and which are given in the list of contents below, are indicated in the right-hand margin with the prefix M.

The purpose of this file is to provide additional information about some of the persons and places mentioned in Coram's pocketbook. It is not exhaustive, merely a preliminary gathering of information of those names that were pursued. Some names in the pocketbook are not included, not because they cannot be identified, but because they were not pursued in the sources used for the purposes of this paper. A few of the items covered in this file do not appear in the pocketbook but provide extra information relevant to Coram and the matters dealt with in the paper. These entries are marked with an asterisk. The dates of entries in the pocketbook are given in *italic* at the beginning of each entry.

*Abbreviations*

LMA London Metropolitan Archives

SHC Surrey History Centre, Woking

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*B. NEBOT, painter of portrait of Coram (see Figure 1)	M83-M84
HENRY NEWBERRY, supplier of plank at Guildford	M84
WILLIAM NEWBERRY, wharfinger at Guildford	M84
MR ROBERT NORMAN, provider of financial assistance	M85-M86
SIR WILLIAM OGBORNE, supplier of timber for powder barge	M86
OLD SWAN STAIRS	M86-M87
MR THOMAS PEARSE, provider of financial assistance, and signatory of petition in favour of Foundling Hospital	M87-M88
MR JOHN PIGOUE, lent money to Grueber	M89
LORD PORTMORE, owner of half of the Wey Navigation	M89-M90
POWDER OFFICE	M90
POWELLS barge	M90
MR RUSEL, miller at Stoke Mills	M90-M91
SPARROWS QUAY(?)	M91
MR TERRY, a smith at Guildford	M92
MR TIBBALD, MR THEOBALD or MR THOBALDS, supplier of mast spar and deals	M92
[blank] UNDERHILL, esquire, signatory of petition in favour of Foundling Hospital	M92
JOHN WALTON, powdermaker, signatory of petition in favour of Foundling Hospital	M92

## **ANDREWS, bargeman on partners' gunpowder barge**

*23 January, 21 March, 24 March, 27 March, 25 April, 3 May*

Coram's handwriting is such that it is difficult to be certain whether he is spelling the name as Andrew or Andrews. Since there is a family of Wey bargemen called Andrews who lived in the parish of St Mary's, Guildford, this spelling has been adopted. However the available evidence does not allow of a precise identification of who the bargeman who worked with Coram was, except that he probably was a member of this family.

On 31 October 1704 the parish registers of St Mary's Guildford recorded the baptism, of John, the son of Charles Andrews bargeman and his wife Martha. Several more of their children were to be baptised, Daniel, Henry, Elizabeth, Edward, James (buried three days later), Ann and Martha.

Charles died in February 1735, no will has been found. His widow Martha died in 1744-45 (will below). There is a problem with the references to John Andrews for there were two people in Guildford of that name. John Andrews the son of Charles Andrews had been born in October 1704. On 15 January 1726 John Andrews and Anne Tisbury, both of St Mary's, Guildford, married at their parish church, and the baptism of John, the son of John Andrews recorded on 27 December 1727, may be their son. However on 16 November 1727 John Andrews of Guildford, bargeman, aged 24, obtained a licence to marry Jane Brookes of Guildford, widow, aged 40, at Stoke parish church. Jane was a member of another local family with interests in the Navigation (see below).

In 1730 a John Andrews of St Mary's, Guildford, mealman, is recorded as a marriage witness in the parish registers.

SHC, Transcripts of parish registers of Guildford St Mary; Transcripts of parish registers for Stoke next Guildford; A R Bax, *Allegations for marriage licences issued by Commissary Court of Surrey 1673-1770* (2 vols, Norwich, 1907), 30, 40

Will of Martha Andrews of St Mary's, widow made 14 April 1744, proved 31 May 1745.

To youngest daughters Martha Andrews and Elizabeth Dellewater, all my wearing apparell and all my linen and woollen to be equally divided; to daughter Martha my chest of drawers that

stands on a frame, and one 'Swing Glass and Table' rest of my goods, money and personal estate to my five children, John, Daniel, Edward, Martha and Elizabeth.

LMA, DW/PC/5/1745/1

In June 1758 a John Andrews the younger of Stoke, mealman, aged 30 obtained a licence to

marry Mary Caplen of Stoke, spinster

Bax, *Allegations for Marriage Licences issued by the Commissary Court of Surrey 1673-1770*, 1, 376-7

An advertisement in the *Sussex Weekly Advertiser* in December 1782 about the sale of Stoke Corn Mills noted that a Mrs Andrew was the tenant at will and that her family had occupied the mill for nearly 50 years

Science Museum Library, Simmons collection, Surrey watermills

### **MR BISHOP, sold ships knees to Coram**

*8 January*

The Bishop family were a family with long connections with the boatbuilding trade.

Several

appear in the records of the Society of Shipwrights.

In 1761 when the Trustees of the River Lee decided to obtain a boat for their own use,

it was built by Meridith Bishop, a Bermondsey shipwright.

PRO, RAIL 845/3, minutes 23 November 1761; C H Ridge, ed, *Records of the Worshipful Company*

*of Shipwrights* (2 vols, 1939-46), 1, 21; 2, 9

### **\* BOSTON, Massachusetts**

For Coram's shipbuilding career in America, the following reference has not been consulted: Hamilton Andrews Hill, *Thomas Coram in Boston and Taunton* (1892). It may be available only in the USA

**\* BROOK(E)S, family of Guildford bargemasteis**

Will of John Brooks of Guildford, bargemaster made 26 March 1708, proved 3 January 1709. To nephew Henry, son of brother Thomas 'All that Messuage Wharfe and prmisses' in parish of St Mary, Guildford, now occupied by Henry Deane and proprietors of Wey Navigation. If Henry dies without issue to pass to other children of brother Thomas. Out of this property Henry to pay his brothers and sisters £10 each when they reach 21 and he is to pay £5 a year to Ann Peytoe, a sister of John. To good friend Walter Gibbs of Bath, gentleman and Henry Newbery of Stoke, carpenter, all those 3 messuages in Priory Lane (one occupied by John), the stables in Priory Lane occupied by John. This property left to them in trust for my good friend Jane Ryall who lives with John and assists him in keeping his house and looking after his affairs. Jane was his married housekeeper. After Jane's death property to pass to nephew John Peytoe.

But this property is mortgaged for £150 with his brothers Thomas and Henry who are to receive all rents until this debt repaid. These trustees are also to sell all household goods, plate and linen to help pay off debts and make bequests. £15 to Jane to pay for funeral; £5 each to brothers Richard and Thomas; £1 to brother Henry; £5 to Henry Newbury

PRO Family Record Centre, PROB 11/506 sig.7

In 1720s Thomas Brookes was receiving rental payments for the meal wharf at Guildford from owners of the Wey Navigation. In August 1704 his father John had let the wharf to the owners of the Navigation for 99 years at £22 10s a year.

SHC, G.129/7/1, 129/10/121

**Inventory of Henry Brookes of Guildford, coal dealer, taken 27 October 1727, exhibited 4 November 1727**

wearing apparell & money in purse	£13		
goods in the kitchen	£8	11s	1d
goods in the brewhouse	£2	15s	6d
goods in the yard & summer house		19s	
goods in the old chamber	£1	9s	6d
goods in the cellar		13s	
goods in John Lee's house	£14	9s	
goods in William Dyme's house	£6		
debts sperate and desperate	£790		
Total	£837	17s	1d

On 4 November 1727 administration granted to Henry's brother, Richard Brooks, but on 27 May 1728 a second grant was made to another of Henry's brothers Thomas, while on 27 January 1732 a third grant was made to Thomas Peytoe, nephew of Henry Brookes.

PRO, PROB 3/26/172; PROB 6/103 fo.158, PROB 6/104 f.70v, PROB 6/108 f.6

Will of Thomas Brooks of Guildford, bargemaster, made 13 March 1728, proved 25 March 1732. To daughter Sarah, wife of George Stanton of Guildford, baker, £50; rest of estate after debts and funeral expenses met to my son Henry who is to look after Thomas' widow. This property included 'my Barge which I desire my Sonn may succeed in'. Notes that he has already provided for his other daughters 'as far as I was able'.

LMA, DW/PAJ5/1731/12

**MR BURCHET, miller at Woking, received toll from Coram**

*22 March*

In 1727 Thomas Burchet of Woking Mills, and a Philip Ot(t)way, miller of Woking, involved in local manorial disputes. Ottway still there in 1735.

C Webb, *Surrey cases and deponents in the Court of Exchequer 1561-1835*, West Surrey Family History Society Volume 19 (1994), 13 Geo 1/East/27, 9 Geo 2/Hil/9

Will of Thomas Burchett of Woking, miller, made 1 February 1732, proved 3 March 1732. To wife Ann, all the benefit and advantage of the lease to Woking Mill, leased from trustees of

James Zouch, esquire. Also all my share of the barge owned jointly with Mr Heyman; plus, rest of estate including stock, goods, cattle.

PRO, Family Records Centre, PROB 11/650 sig. 63

**MR COFFEN, in whose yard the powder barge was built**

*1 January, 25 February, 29 March*

John Coffen was apprenticed in April 1703 and received his freedom of the Company of Shipwrights in May 1716. He in turn took apprentices and served a term as an assistant of the Shipwrights Company.

Ridge, ed, *Records of the Worshipful Company of Shipwrights*, 1, 45,233; 2, 21

Will of John Coffen of Lambeth, boatbuilder, made 16 August 1734, proved 10 September 1734. To wife Elizabeth, 'All those my two Messuages or Dwelling Houses with the Shedd's Yards out houses Wharfs and all singular the appurtenances thereunto belonging' at Stangate in Lambeth. Property held by lease. John and Elizabeth live in one of the houses, widow Fletcher in the other. To daughter Sarah, 1 guinea; also after the death of my wife Sarah is to have 'my Two pictures or peices of painting being painted on Earthen Ware the one is Saint Stephen Stoned and the other the Conversion (*sic*) of St Paul'. To son George, 1 guinea; daughter Susanna, 1 guinea; rest, including stock in trade, book debts to wife Elizabeth, executor, 'to whom I commit care of my children'.

PRO, Family Records Centre, PROB 11/667 sig. 194

**\* J W COOK, engraver of the portrait of Thomas Coram reproduced in figure 1**

Little is known of this engraver. He does not appear in the standard dictionaries of such. In the published catalogue of engraved British portraits in the keeping of the British Museum the entry in the index for J W Cook includes engravings for a J Cook working in the second half of the 18th century, a J Cook working in the 1840s as well as an engraver who signed himself as J W Cook. Whether the second J Cook and the J W Cook were one and the same has not been ascertained. Cook produced the engraving of Coram (Fairclough 1999, fig 1) for the first (1847) edition of John Brownlow's, *Memoranda, or chronicles of the Foundling Hospital, including the Memoirs of Captain Comm*. Cook's earliest known work in the British Museum collection is a series of engravings for an 1820 book, *The Lives of Eminent and Remarkable Characters, Born or Long Resident in the Counties of Essex, Suffolk and Norfolk*. He also engraved three plates for the 1826-28 edition of Horace Walpole's *Anecdotes of Painting in England*, and these were also used

an 1862 edition of the same work. The British Museum collection also includes work for John Saunders, *Portraits and Memoirs of Eminent Living Political Reformers*, issued in 1840, and prints published in 1848 and 1849.

**\* JOHN CORAM, father of Thomas Coram**

The will of John Coram of Hackney, timber merchant, was proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury on 26 April 1721. He asked to be buried at Hackney at 3.30 in the afternoon. He left his two daughters-in-law, Anne wife of John, and Eunice wife of Thomas £1 is 6d each; his grandson Richard, son of John, £1 ls; his sister Mary who lived at Combe Raleigh in Devon 30s; and his nurse Katherine Moss 10s. He left to his son Thomas his clothes and household goods and the rest of his estate. Thomas acted as his executor.

PRO Family Record Centre, PROB 11/579 sig. 66

Thomas Coram said of his family 'I descended from vertuous good Parentage on both sides as any Body, they were Famelies of Strict hon'r and honesty and alwayes of Good Reputation amongst the better sort of people'. . . 'my Mother Dying when I was Young, My Father Married again 4 or 5 years after at Hackney'.

WC Ford, ed, *Letters of Thomas Coram, Proc Massachusetts Historical Society, Volume 56* (1924), 15-56: at 19-24

**MRS CROWLEY, sold an anchor and other materials to Coram**

*16 January, 20 January, 23 January*

Mrs Theodosia Crowley, widow of John Crowley of London, esquire, and daughter of Doctor Joseph Gascoigne, vicar of Enfield. John Crowley died in 1728, leaving his business to his son Ambrose when he came of age, but until then it, including a mansion house and warehouses at Greenwich, was controlled by his widow. The Company was reported as making the best anchors in England by a visiting Swedish engineer.

M W Flinn, *Men of Iron: The Crowleys in the early iron industry* (Edinburgh, 1962); M W Flinn, 'The travel diaries of Swedish engineers of the eighteenth century as sources of technological history', *Trans Newcomen Society*, Volume 31(1961), 95-109.

**MR DABNER at Chilworth***1 February, 9 March, 2 April*

Probably Thomas Dabner, millwright, who would have been the manager at the Chilworth mills. In October 1711 the will of John Twist of St Martha's on the Hill, millwright, (the parish in which Chilworth powder mills stood) referred to a son and a grandson both called Thomas Dabner also Dabnett. Will proved July 1712.

LMA, DW/PA/5/1712/77

The son of John Twist was Thomas Dabner of Honley, miller, who made his will in October 1735. Left Newdigate Mill and all his personal estate to his wife, Rebecca. After her death to be split equally amongst all their children. Proved July 1744.

LMA, DW/PA/5/174<sup>4</sup>/<sub>2</sub>

Grandson of John Twist was Thomas Dabner of St Martha, Chilworth, millwright, who died in 1772. It was probably this Thomas, born in 1694, who dealt with Coram. His will provides no relevant details of the mills or of his working life, but he did own property in Bramley, Surrey and left monetary bequests totalling over £2000.

PRO, Family Records Centre, PROB 11/980 sig 289

The Dabner family had a long connection with milling in the Surrey area.

R J Dabner, *The Children of Ephraim, Root & Branch* (West Surrey Family History Society), Vols 2.4, 3.1 & 3.2 (1976); D. Stidder, *The watermills of Surrey* (Buckingham, 1990), 31-32; LMA, DW/P C/5/1747/5/1-3.

**MR FONVIVE, to whom Comm paid a visit***16 April*

In 1737 John de Fonvive, also John Espinasse de Fonvive, owned gunpowder mills at Fulham. In 1695 he founded the London newspaper, *The Postman*, which he owned and edited for many years. In 1704 the government offered him the post of editing *The London Gazette*, but he turned it down as the terms were not sufficiently attractive. Defoe described *The Postman* as the 'most worth reading of any paper yet extant'. Marlborough sent some of his campaign accounts to Fonvive rather than to the official Gazette.

W H Manchee, 'Huguenot London: Charing Cross and St Martins Lane', *Proc Huguenot Society of London*, Volume 12 (1919-24), 346-81; J.C. Sainty, 'A Huguenot civil servant: the career of

Charles Delafaye 1677-1762', Proc Huguenot Society of London, Volume 22 (1970-76), 398-413; W B Edwald, *The Newsmen of Queen Anne* (Oxford,1956), 227-28,232-33.

In 1702-3 John Espinasse de Fonvive, son of Henry Espinasse D'Fonvive and Joanna his wife naturalised. Had been born in Perigord, France.

W A Shaw, ed, *Letters of Denization & Acts of Naturalisation for aliens in England and Ireland 1701-1800*. (Manchester,1923), 13-17

In 1721 was appointed a director of the French Hospital of La Providence in London.

H Wagner, 'Directors of French Hospital of La Providence', Proc Huguenot Society of London, Vol 10 (1912-14), 137-55)

In February 1737, letter of administration to his estate awarded to his only daughter, Mary de Fonvive.

PRO, Family Records Centre, PROB 6/113 fol.27

### **MR FORD, supplier of beer at Guildford**

*20 March, 21 March*

Owned an alehouse on Guildford wharf where bargemen stayed during first trip. Two earliest breweries in Guildford owned separately by several generations of the Ford and Tewsley families.

Both breweries on east bank of Wey just below Town Bridge. A Richard Ford there in 1589, and family brewery continued until family sold out to Francis Skurray in 1769. Several members of Ford family served as Mayors.

M. Sturley, *The breweries and public houses of Guildford* (2 vols,1990-95,Guildford), i.36)

In 1701 Richard Ford of Guildford, gentleman, purchased four tenements in Friary Lane near Guildford Wharf, one of which was occupied by a Wey bargemaster, Jeremiah Brookes. In 1719 Ford pulled these tenements down to make a garden for his brewhouse. In 1703 he was noted as a beerbrewer, as was his son Richard in 1722. The father died in 1735.

SHC, G.24/10/9, 125/1/26, 1483/2/20-21

In 1717 the Prince of Wales, the future George II, was entertained in Ford's house in Friary Street along with other members of the local nobility.

Shirley Corke, pers comm

**MR GADSBEE, wheelwright employed on construction of powder cart***21 January*

Possibly the Francis Gadsbee of St Leonard Shoreditch, wheelwright who died in 1736. His will contains no details of his business. He left his three children, John, Anne, and Mary wife of Simon Farrier, 1 shilling each. Rest of estate to his wife Joan, who was executor.

PRO, Family Records Centre, PROB 11/678 sig. 153

**MR GALLOP, owner of meal barge who carried for Grueber & Coram***31 January, 18 February*

Spelt Gallop by Coram in pocketbook, but some records note family name as Gollop. In 1700 Thomas Gallop bargeman used by Sir Polycarpus Wharton, then living at Sewardstone, to carry £5 to Guildford to pay Thomas Bayly who was boarding Wharton's children at £10 a year.

PRO, C7 621/27

Thomas Gallop was long one of the most prominent bargemasters working the Wey Navigation. In May 1716 he wrote to an owner George Langton about his arrears of riverage dues, expressing surprise as he had already paid £548 14s 7d between Lady Day 1715 and Lady Day 1716. When efforts were made to revive the Navigation after 1723, Gallop was one of three bargemasters asked to survey the river and report back to the Earl of Portmore about the necessary repairs and improvements. Accounts show that from 1724 until his death in 1733 he was one of the three most important bargemasters using the Navigation, regularly paying up to and above £400 a year in tolls. The Wey Navigation accounts also show that he was one of the timber merchants supplying the Wey Navigation.

SHC: G.129/44/64; 129/45/50; 129/7/1

Thomas Gallop was son of Hannah Gallop of St Mary, Guildford, widow. When she made her will in February 1727 Thomas had two children, Thomas and Ruth, but both seem to have been dead by 1733 when Thomas made his own will for he did not mention them. A daughter of Hannah had married into the local Andrews' family

LMA, DW/PA/5/1730/51

Mr Thomas Gallop buried 2 August 1733; Mrs Gallop buried 29 December 1736.

SHC: Transcripts of parish registers of Stoke next Guildford

Will of Thomas Gallop of Guildford, bargemaster made 26 May 1733, proved 4 September 1733. To my loving wife Ruth, my nephew Thomas Gallop, and my friend Abraham Mills of

Rotherhithe, timber merchant: house where I live and the house nearby occupied by Richard Mudwick, both in St Mary's, Guildford. To sell and pay off my debts. To wife Ruth, all my china ware and household goods; to wife Ruth and friend Abraham Mills, 'All my Barges horses and Tackle thereunto belonging'; my timber and bark and rest of my stock in trade. Sell timber to help pay off debts. After debts paid, rest of estate to my wife for her life, and after her death to my nephew Thomas and his executors, as long as £50 each is paid to my sisters Hannah Andrews and Elizabeth Strudwicke, but if my estate is worth less than £100 when all debts paid off and funeral expenses met then these two legacies cancelled.

PRO, Family Records Centre, PROB 11/661 sig. 239

Ruth carried on the barge trade until her own death in December 1736, but at a much reduced level of activity. She left her estate to a niece Elizabeth Stephens who was living with her, but it was the nephew Thomas specified in her husband's will who took over the family business. This Thomas lived at St Leonard Shoreditch in London. After his death in 1739 the business was probably sold to William Carter by the guardians of his only son, Thomas.

LMA, DW/PA/5/1737/49; PRO, Family Records Centre, PROB 6/115 fo.107v; SHC, G.129/7/1)

**MR HAMMERTON, whom Coram called the earl of Portmore's bailiff***5 March, 22 March*

References in Coram's pocketbook suggest that Portmore's bailiff also retailed ale. Is it possible that he was the William Hammerton, an employee of Wey Navigation, and that Coram mistakenly noted him as the earl's bailiff. A William Hammerton was an employee of Wey Navigation. From 1724 onwards there are references in the Wey Navigation accounts to him being the wharfinger at Newhaw wharf, near the mouth of Wey. This wharf was leased to the owners of the Wey Navigation by its owner, Earl of Portmore. There are other references to Hammerton looking after operations along the lower navigation and to his being a lockkeeper at Newhaw Lock. The accounts show that he was being paid for more than one post by the owners of the navigation. The accounts suggest that he was dead by July 1731 when widow Hammerton noted. By July 1734 she had been replaced by William Hammerton, possibly a son of William

SHC: G.129/7/1

**DAVID HARRYMAN, paid for lighterage***18 February*

David Harryman of All Hallows Barking was bound apprentice to John Bridges in July 1709 and gained his freedom of The Company of Watermen and Lightermen of the River Thames in June 1724

Guildhall Library, Mss 6289/4 fo.233v

**\* WILLIAM HOGARTH, painted a portrait of Thomas Coram**

In May 1740 William Hogarth presented the London Foundling Hospital with a large-scale full-length portrait of Coram. This is still on display at the Thomas Coram Foundation for Children which now occupies the site of the Hospital. The painting was an important stage in Hogarth's career, both because it was his first large scale portrait and a deliberate attempt to change his artistic profile and because this gift was part of his design to set the Foundling Hospital up as a display centre for the work of contemporary British painters. Hogarth was from the start an active governor of the Hospital, and it became the fashion for foundlings to be named Thomas and Jane Hogarth, just as there was always a Thomas and Eunice Coram.

R Paulson, *Hogarth: his life, art and times* (London, 2 vols, 1971), 1, 436-41, 2, 40

In 1863 Edward Matthew Ward, RA, completed a painting commissioned the previous year by Duncan Dunbar. The painting was 'Hogarth's studio in 1739 — holiday visit of the Foundlings to view the portrait of Captain Coram'. It included Hogarth's completed painting of Coram being admired by several children, while Coram and Hogarth are holding a discussion behind the easel. In 1882 Ward's painting was bequeathed to York City Art Gallery who still display it.

*Royal Academy Catalogue: Art Treasures of England: the Regional Collections* (London, 1998), 226

**MR INGHAM the lawyer, owner of part of Faversham gunpowder mills**

*24 January, 5 February, 9 May*

In 1723 William Duhamel, citizen and cooper, owned the sub-manor of Kingsmill, part of the manor of Faversham, in which part of the gunpowder production facilities at Faversham stood. In his will he left this property to his friend, John Ingham, who in 1729 received £104 a year in rent for the mills. From John Ingham the property passed to his daughter, Lydia, and her husband Matthew Cox, whose bankruptcy and subsequent loss of this property was to cause the Ordnance Board problems when they purchased Faversham mills in 1759.

Kent AO, U390 M47-1718; PRO Family Records Centre, PROB 6/68 fo.48, PROB 11/361 sig 125; PROB 11/589 sig 24; J. West, *Gunpowder, Government and War in the mid-eighteenth century*, Royal Historical Society Studies in History, Volume 63 (Woodbridge, 1991), 150-1)

**\* HENRY JOHNSON, bargeman of Guildford**

When Henry made his will in 1714 he left the lease of his house in the parish of St Nicholas, Guildford to his son John, stipulating that he was to pay legacies to the other children. However he chose to leave his barge business, 'My Stock & out Doore goods Barge Barges boates horses Cattle & Implements of Trade & Stock Bargeing & husbandry' to his daughter Mary because she was 'Capable of Manadgement'

London Metropolitan Archives, DW/PC/5/1714/16

**LEFEBURE, Mr Grethen man***22 May*

Probably James Le Feaver, millwright at Faversham, who in 1728 gave evidence in a case about the illegal sale of gunpowder by John Wilson, a former employee of Grueber at Faversham mills.

Lefebure would have been the manager at Faversham mills

A Percival, *The Faversham gunpowder industry and its development*, Faversham Papers no.4 (3rd edn, 1986), 4; Kent AO, Fa/JQe 21

**MAYOR of GUILDFORD, whom Coram met and from whom he hired a horse***8 March, 18 March*

John Goodyer was the Mayor of Guildford for the year 1728-29. He had also served in 1718-19. He was buried at Holy Trinity, Guildford on June 16 1735 and his will shows that he traded as a currier and a shoemaker, but also that he had several horses, mares and geldings, so it would be normal for Coram to hire a horse from him

G C Williamson, *The Guild Hall of Guildford* (Guildford, 1928), 103; LMA, DW/PA/5/1735/41

**\* B. NEBOT, painter of portrait of Coram (see Figure 1)**

The image of Thomas Coram reproduced as Figure 1 is an engraving made by J W Cook after a painting of 1741 by B. Nebot. Nebot is an almost unknown painter, even his forename of Balthazar has been questioned. The portrait shows Coram holding the Royal Charter in his left hand whilst pointing to a wicker basket containing a foundling with his righthand. The engraving adds detail of the London Foundling Hospital in the background. This does not appear in the original painting since the Hospital had not been built when Nebot portrayed Coram. Nebot was commissioned by Dr Robert Nesbit, a governor of the Hospital, who wanted the portrait for his own private use. In 1949 Sir Alec Martin presented the portrait to the Thomas Coram Foundation for Children who now occupy the site of the hospital. The portrait was first reproduced as an engraving in 1751 by Brooke. This engraving is better known and is reproduced in Nichols & Wray's history of the hospital. Brooke also added details of the completed hospital .

Benedict Nicholson, *The treasures of the Foundling Hospital* (Oxford,1972), 2-3, 74

Balthazar Nebot was a painter of urban genre and topographical landscape. He described himself as a Spaniard. On February 5 1730 Balthazar Nebot of St Giles in the Fields married Mary Johnson of St James Clerkenwell in St Paul's Covent Garden. In the 1730s he was working in London, specialising in London scenes and fish stalls. His portrait of Coram in 1741 is a rare example of his work as a portrait painter. In the 1760s (perhaps as late as 1770) he was painting topographical views of Yorkshire, including the park at Stanley Royal and Fountains Abbey.

M H Grant, A chronological history of the old English landscape painters (8 vols, 1957 edn, Leigh-on-Sea), 1, 76-77

**HENRY NEWBERRY, supplier of plank at Guildford**

*7 March*

Henry Newberry of Stoke next Guildford was described as a carpenter when his wife made her will in 1697, a carpenter in 1703 when he was awarded a 21 year contract to maintain the Wey Navigation for £170 a year, but a timber merchant in 1718. He remained responsible for maintaining the Wey Navigation until c.1728 by which date he was being paid £400 a year. He also leased the Town Wharf or Meal Wharf at Guildford from the Trustees. In maintaining the navigation he may have received assistance from William Newberry (see below) and a Henry Newberry, junior. In 1708 Henry was appointed a trustee of the estate of a prominent Wey bargeman, John Brookes. He was a member of Guildford corporation and leased the Rye Market House from the corporation. He was buried at Stoke on 10 April 1737.

S Corke, Wey & Godalming Navigations, 33, 49-50; SHC: G.129/7/1, 12<sup>9</sup>/4/27, 129/45/4,17 (both missing), 1483/3/7; PRO Family Records Centre, PROB 11/506 sig 7; LMA, DW/PC/5/1697/13

**WILLIAM NEWBERRY, wharfinger at Guildford**

*28 March*

Probably a brother of Henry Newberry. Wey Navigation accounts show that William Newberry was employed as the wharfinger at Dapdune wharf at Stoke at £10 a year.

SHC: G.129/7/1

**MR ROBERT NORMAN, provider of financial assistance**

*13 January, 24 January, 5 February, 13 March; receipts*

Robert Norman was a gunpowder producer at East Molesey in Surrey, obtaining his interest in the business through his marriage to a daughter of Robert Stiles. In August 1727 Robert Stiles assigned half his interest in a private trading partnership in gunpowder and a gunpowder magazine on Barking Creek to his son-in-law and partner, Robert Norman. In June 1728 Stiles conveyed his remaining interest in the private trading partnership and magazine to Norman. This probably meant that Norman was in sole charge of gunpowder business at East Molesey by this date. In 1727 and 1735 described as Robert Norman of London, merchant.

PRO, C11 113/19; Treasury Solicitors office, Taunton, 1136/50

Will of Robert Norman of London, merchant, made 11 August 1753, proved 19 March 1757. To wife Ann, furniture in two chambers (one in house at East Molesey, other at house in London which shall be my dwelling when I die); all watches, jewels and rings usually worn by her; plate that belongs to her. To each of my children, silver plate that belongs to them. To children James, Mary and Ann, all rings and jewelry not belonging to my wife. To James until 21, £50 a year for his diet and lodging; James to take over gunpowder business when 21, until then 'my Trade or Business of making Gunpowder and Rock Petre shall be carried on by my executors for the account and benefit of my said Wife and all my children (except my son Robert Stiles Norman); but if James dies before 21 then business to be run for my two daughters. Orders an inventory of stock in trade, then one third to my wife to be paid in money, two thirds to son James and my 2 daughters to share. To James and his heirs also, my quarter share in a magazine and land at Barking Creek; my magazine near Liverpool held by lease from the Corporation of Liverpool; my other magazine near the Black Rock near Liverpool leased from the Corporation; my copyhold messuages in manor of Molesey Prior; my freehold messuages next to church at Thames Ditton; all my powder mills at Molesey held on lease; 'all the Mill Stones which shall then belong to the horse Mills and all the Coppers Copper pans and other utensils' (but not my horses, wagons, carts, plows, hay and corn which shall be valued and counted part of my residual estate)'.  
To son Robert Stiles Norman, £100; to son James Norman, £4000 when 21, my library of books; to daughters Mary and Ann, £700 each; to sister Jane Norman, £20 and £20 a year; to friend Mr Charles Pole of Mark Lane, merchant, £100 for his trouble as executor.

To friend Mr Timothy Cockshutt, citizen and haberdasher, £100 for trouble as executor. To Thomas Stevens, clerk of works at Molesey, £50; and a ring; and a ring for his wife; to servant James Shanks, £50.

Rest of estate, one third to wife, two thirds to James and daughters Mary and Ann. Codicil 4 July 1756: Since daughter Mary had married Mr John Lloyd the younger and received

a marriage portion of £3000, this is to be counted as part of her inheritance.

Family Records Centre, PROB 11/829 sig 95

**SIR WILLIAM OGBORNE, supplier of timber for powder barge**

*21 January*

Sir William Ogborne was the Master Carpenter of the Board of Ordnance, a JP, a Colonel of the Tower Hamlets Militia, an elder brother of Trinity House, and a member of the Carpenters' Company. He was knighted in 1727 whilst serving a term as Sheriff of London. He had been born a Quaker, but had conformed. He died in October 1734.

*Gentleman's Magazine, 4 (1734), 572*

Will of Sir William Ogborne of Rosemary Lane, Whitechapel, citizen and carpenter, knight Possessed several houses in London area which he let out. Left bequests to St Thomas Hospital, the poor of the Carpenters Company, the poor of Trinity House, and the poor Quakers of the Ratcliffe Meeting. Made 5 October 1734, proved 23 October 1734.

PRO, Family Records Centre, PROB 11/667 sig 224, not fully noted

Not pursued, but his name appears numerous times as a supplier of timber to the Ordnance Board in Ordnance bill books.

**OLD SWAN STAIRS**

*2 January, 29 January, 31 January, 22 March*

These stairs were the first landing place on the north bank of the Thames above London Bridge,

and seem to have been the landing place close enough to Coram's dwelling house to be his local stop. At the stairs was an inn known as the Old Swan and a warehouse and wharf rented by the East India Company. Passenger craft which needed to pass through London Bridge would often allow passengers to get off and walk between Old Swan Stairs and Billingsgate Stairs while the boat made the hazardous journey under London Bridge

H. Phillips, *The Thames about 1750* (London, 1951), 62, 204

**MR THOMAS PEARSE, provider of financial assistance, and signatory of petition in favour of Foundling Hospital**

*24 January, 5 February, 23 March, 21 April; receipts*

As stated in the text the Mr Pearse mentioned in the pocketbook who provides credit to allow the business to keep afloat has not been definitely identified, but it has been assumed that it was the father. The father and son were both involved in the business after they had acquired it from the Grueber family, but their exact roles has yet to be precisely explained. Was it the father who acquired the property, whilst his son managed the business until his father's death when he inherited it?

**Thomas Pearse the elder**

He was a signatory of petition in favour of the Foundling Hospital. In 1693 Thomas Pearse had commenced work for the Navy Board as a clerk responsible for seamen's wages, and in 1716 he was promoted to chief clerk for the storekeeper's accounts. In December 1723 he resigned from the Navy Board, but in November 1725 was taken back as the chief clerk for seamen's wages and was promoted to Clerk of the Acts in October 1726, the post Samuel Pepys had once held. Pearse held this post until his death in 1743.

J M Collinge, ed, *Office-holders in modern Britain, Volume VII, Navy Board officials 1660-1832* (London, 1978), 128-2)

Thomas Pearse of Tower Hill, London and Wilchampton, Dorset, MP for Weymouth-Melcombe Regis 1722-11 October 1726; 1727-41. Son of James Pearse of Weymouth. By first marriage 1 son and 3 daughters; by second marriage 2 sons. Died 3 April 1743. Details of his parliamentary career.

R. Sedgewick, ed, *The History of Parliament: the House of Commons* (2 vols, London, 1970), 2, 328-29

In 1735 it was Thomas Pearse the elder who showed American visitors around his gunpowder works at Faversham and Chilworth. At Chilworth Pearse had a house next to the paper mill. This mill had once been part of the gunpowder works before being converted in 1704. As a treat for his visitors he served them frogs for a meal, but this may not have been appreciated as he ate most of them himself.

B McAnear, 'An American in London, 1735-36', *The Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography*, 64 (1940), 166-217, 356-406

Will of Thomas Pearse of the Navy Office, esquire made 5 July 1733, proved 12 April 1743. To my eldest son Thomas, all my real and personal estate except that which is settled on my present

wife and the children we have had. Out of this legacy Thomas is to pay my sons-in-law, Matthew Humberton, esquire, and Francis Barrel, esquire, £50 each for mourning for themselves and their wives, Ann and Rebecca; to my daughters Ann and Rebecca £10 each for a ring; to my unmarried daughter Charlotte £2000, but if my estates worth more than £10,000 then she is to have an additional £1000 so that her legacy equal to what her other two sisters have already received. Moneys settled on my present wife and her children to stand, but he noted 'the narrowness of my fortune' and hoped that his present wife would not take it amiss that he had not been able to do more for her and her children.

PRO, Family Records Centre, PROB 11/725 sig 129

### **Thomas Pearse the younger**

Began work for the Navy Board in May 1726, as clerk to the Clerk of Acts, but he was discharged in January 1729. However he re-entered the service in December 1730 and worked in his father's department. He resigned in July 1743, shortly after his father's death.

Collinge, J M, ed, 1978 *Office-holders in modern Britain, volume 7: Navy Board officials*  
16601ND71832

The Pearse family business was to become the largest suppliers of gunpowder to the Ordnance during the War of the Austrian Succession (1740-48). After his father's death in 1743 the son remained the largest gunpowder producer in England. He ran the business himself until 1748 when he took on a partner. From 1754 onwards financial difficulties forced him to withdraw from the industry, and in 1759 he sold Faversham mills to the Ordnance Board. He was accused of underhand dealings in this sale.

West, *Gunpowder, government and war*, 150-55, 212

**MR JOHN PIGOU, lent money to Graeber***18 February*

The Pigou and Grueber families were cousins, and members of the two families were to form a partnership to produce gunpowder later in the century. This is an early example of their family business links.

J S Tassell, 'Notes on the French Congregation at Faversham, Kent, and the part played by the families of Grueber and Pigou in the manufacture of gunpowder', *Proceedings of the Huguenot Society of London*, 20 (1958-64), 139-41

**LORD PORTMORE, owner of half of the Wey Navigation***5 March, 10 March, 19 March, 22 March, 25 April*

This was David Colyear, 1st Earl of Portmore, a professional soldier who had come to England with William and Mary in 1688 and who had been the governor of Gibraltar. He had married a mistress of James II, Catherine Sedley, Countess of Dorchester, who had been granted an estate at Weybridge which became the family residence. On her death in 1720 she left this estate and a house in St James Square in Westminster in trust for eldest son, David. Her husband David and George Pitt were the trustees.

GEC; *DNB*; R. Sedgwick, ed, *History of Parliament: The House of Commons 1715-1754* (3 vols, 1970), 1, 567; PRO, Family Records Centre, PROB 11/575 sig.193

In 1716 a Chancery decision settled long standing disputes about the ownership and control of the Wey Navigation by recognising the existing state of affairs. The Court decreed that the Navigation should be managed by the owners of two moieties created in 1675, namely George Langton and Winifred Hodges. In December 1723 the Earl of Portmore purchased the moiety owned by Hodges and in May 1724 he and Langton became the owners and managers of the Navigation. Portmore died on 2 January 1730, and was succeeded by his second son Charles who also inherited his share of the navigation or the 'river of Guildford' as his father described it in his will. After Charles' death the navigation was to pass to his eldest son or other male heir. All Coram's dealings were with Portmore, the name of Langton does not appear in the pocketbook. The Langton family lived in Lincolnshire and were probably less involved in managing the Navigation at this date, whereas before 1723 they had been much more involved. George Langton had died in 1727 and his share had been inherited by his son, Bennett Langton.

[Lord Portmore continued]

SHC: G.129/10/136-139, 129/52/2; London Borough of Lambeth Archives, Class 1 3017; S. Corke, *The Wey and Godalming Navigations*, 48-49; PRO Family Records Centre, PROB 11/635 sig 15

**POWDER OFFICE, where Norman paid out dividends receipts**

*Receipts*

Not positively identified, but possibly a London office used by a combination of powdermakers as a trading centre, possibly in Castle Alley, Cornhill.

**POWELTS barge, carried empty gunpowder barrels**

*19 April*

Probably Andrew Powell, a bargemaster recorded as a regular user of the Wey Navigation until his death in 1729. In December 1720 married Mary Martin, and after his death she took over the use of 'my Barge Goods Chattells and Estate' as specified in Powell's will. He further specified that after her death the business was to pass to his wife's son Thomas Martin and her grandson Henry Edwards. Powell's will made 18 June 1729, proved 26 September 1729. Wey Navigation accounts record the widow taking over the barge after her husband's death.

SHC, G.129/7/1: receipts of Wey Navigation; transcripts parish registers of St Nicholas, Guildford; LMA, DW/PA/5/1729/106

**MR RUSEL, miller at Stoke Mills**

*21 March*

Possibly John Russell, son of John Russell of Guildford, maltster. The father had been the miller at Stoke Mills since at least 1724, and he let part of his leasehold property, Dapdune Wharf, to the owners of the Wey Navigation for £20 a year. The father died in 1726. In this will he left his son Dapdune wharf and meadow ground in Stoke, and the rest of his stock in trade, goods and chattells except his household goods which were left to his widow Elizabeth and his two daughters Hannah and Catherine. The son was required to pay off his father's debts and pay legacies of £400 to his each of his sisters. Another sister Horsenall was left only £10. By the late 1730s the son was bankrupt and the rent for the wharf was paid to the assigns of his estate.

LMA, DW/PC/5/1726/28; SHC: G.129/7/1; D Stidder, *The watermills of Surrey* (1990), 87)

A previous miller, John Flood, had in 1703 described the mills as paper and corn mills. He left the lease to the mills to his widow Elizabeth as well as an inn known the 'old anchor' at Stoke. One of his sons Joseph was a baker.

LMA, DW/PA/5/1704/37, DW/PA/5/1723/42

**SPARROWS QUAY(?), where powder barge tested for being watertight***28 February*

Not identified, but possibly belonging to Samuel Sparrow of Rotherhithe, shipwright.

Will of Samuel Sparrow of Rotherhithe, shipwright, made December 1733, proved 28 March 1735. To wife Lucie, 2 messuages at Duke Shore in Limehouse; another messuage at Limehouse; several tenements in Rotherhithe. For life as long as she does not remarry. To eldest son Joshua, half my estate in Spitalfields, namely the 13 houses in Fashion Street. To wife Lucie and son John, my trade or business, but when Abraham attains 21 he is to take over Lucie's share. To son Abraham, other half of estate in Fashion Street Spitalfields, but Lucie to have control until Abraham is 21; messuage in St Olive Street; my shares in ships. To daughter Neetsby, wife of John Neetsby of Southwark, leatherdresser, 2 messuages in Tooley Street, Surrey. To daughter Sarah Sparrow, £300 and tenement in Barnaby Street. Some other houses to be split amongst all four children equally. To brother Joshua £10 and to continue to live in house he now occupies rent free for rest of his life.

PRO, Family Records Centre, PROB 11/678 sig 62

**MR TERRY, a smith at Guildford***20 March*

The will of Thomas Terry the elder of St Mary, Guildford, blacksmith makes it clear that there were two blacksmiths of that name working in Guildford in 1740, probably cousins. This Thomas Terry had a smithy in the parish of St Nicholas, Guildford which he left to his servant, Thomas

Wood, who already occupied it, but Wood had to pay £20 to a kinsman Thomas Terry of St Mary, Guildford, blacksmith. This kinsman also received all Thomas' working tools and stock in trade, and £80.

LMA, DW/PA/5/1741/105

**MR TIBBALD, MR IHEOBALD or MR THOBALDS, supplier of mast spar and deals***25 January, 19 February, 17 April*

Possibly the same man; possibly the Messrs Tibbalds, Timber Merchants who later provided a model of a saw mill for the benefit of the Georgia colony with which Coram was associated after the end of the gunpowder partnership

A D Candler *et al*, eds, *The Colonial records of the State of Georgia*, 1, 32

**UNDERHILL, esquire**

*Signatory of petition in favour of Foundling Hospital*

Probably Samuel Underhill who in 1727 married Catherine Fogg, widow of a gunpowder producer Jonathan Fogg. Samuel then took over control of Bedfont powder mills, running them in trust for Catherine's children. Underhill was to become a governor of the Foundling Hospital.

J West, *Gunpowder, government and war in the mid-18th century*, 1991, 199

**JOHN WALTON, powdermaker**

*Signatory of petition in favour of Foundling Hospital*

From 1723 onwards was a partner working with his mother, Philippa Walton, producing gunpowder at Waltham Abbey mills.

K R Fairclough, Philippa Walton, gunpowder producer at Waltham Abbey, *Essex Journal*, **31.1** (Spring 1996), 18-22 & **31.2** (Autumn 1996), 55-59