



Crime and Punishment

Minety

Miscellaneous Crime Reports

1900

Jonathan Scarratt, 26, hawker, pleaded guilty to stealing a gelding, the property of Albert House, at Minety, on the 23rd June, and was sent to prison for six months, with hard labour. [Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette 5 July 1900](#)

Thomas Ratcliffe, Farmer, of Braydonbrook Farm, Minety, was summoned by Amelia Scott, tenant of Braydon Hall and Distillery Farm, Minety, charged with trespassing on her lands in pursuit of game on Thursday, September 5th. Mr Bevis appeared to prosecute. Mr Morrison, Swindon, defended. It appeared that on the day in question, defendant had a shooting party, and it was alleged by three witnesses for the prosecution that they saw Mr Ratcliffe shoot a pheasant on Mrs Scott's lands. For the defence Mr Ratcliffe, Mr John Pettifer, and Mr Thomas Greerman and others who were of the shooting party, said they never went all day within a quarter of a mile of Mrs Scott's lands. The bench dismissed the case, each party to pay their own costs. [Western Daily Press 5 October 1900](#)

George Brain, late of Minety, was summoned by John Hughes, keeper, for using threats towards him on 5th September, and was bound over to keep the peace for six months and pay 10s costs. [Western Daily Press 5 October 1900](#)

1902

George Waldron, of Minety, was fined 1s and 8s costs for committing a nuisance in Cumbria place. [Gloucester Citizen 12 August 1902](#)

1903

Eli Hughes, of Minety, was summoned by Henry Manners, of the same place, for assaulting him, at Charlton, on Wednesday, February 18th. The bench fined defendant 10s and 18s 6d costs. [Western Daily Press 5 March 1903](#)

1904

Elizabeth Paignton, Of Minety, remanded, charged with deserting her child. [Gloucester Citizen 23 March 1904](#)

1905

George Read, dealer, Minety, Wilts, was summoned for an infraction of the county swine regulations on February 17th, at Andoversford. The evidence showed that defendant employed William Jenkins, a Leckhampton dealer, on Andoversford sale day, to “truck” nine pigs for him at Dowdeswell station. The pigs were bought at the sale, and came out with the proper licenses consigned to someone at South Cerney. Jenkins had no specific orders to truck the pigs separately, and placed them in a truck with 21 other pigs belonging to defendant’s brother, and which had been transferred from the GW station to the Dowdeswell MR station. This constituted an offence against the regulations which apply to the isolation of swine. Defendant said that when the matter was pointed out to him by PS Cooper he did everything possible under the circumstances to remedy the mistake. The bench found that an offence had been committed, and inflicted a fine of 10s, and the costs, which amounted to £1 1s 9d. [Cheltenham Chronicle 11 March 1905](#)

1906

Herbert Miles, of Minety, was summoned by his wife for persistent cruelty, and she applied for a separation order. The bench, after hearing the evidence, refused the application. [Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette 24 May 1906](#)

1907

Henry Thomas, a young man carter, of Minety, pleaded guilty to riding on a wagon in the parish of Somerford Keynes on October 4th without reins. PC Hirons stated the facts. Fined 8s. [Gloucester Citizen 14 October 1907](#)

1909

Cecil Gouldsmith, of Minety House, who did not appear, was summoned for driving a motorcar through Cirencester without a tail light on Nov. 12. PS Neville proved the case. Fined 10s to include costs. [Cheltenham Chronicle 27 November 1909](#)

1910

Rev Thomas A Ludlow-Hewitt, Vicar of Minety, who did not appear, was summoned for permitting his Irish terrier dog not to be under proper control in Cirencester on Dec 24. PC Durrant gave evidence. Fined 2s 6d. [Cheltenham Chronicle 15 January 1910](#)

Thos Read, butcher, of Minety, was, on the evidence of Sergeant Simms, fined 18s, inclusive, for keeping a carriage without a full licence. [Western Daily Press 4 November 1910](#)

1911

Rowland Reed, Farmer of Minety, for allowing a horse to stray on the Siddington road on September 20th, was fined 2s 6d, costs remitted. PC Moody (South Cerney) proved the complaint. [Gloucester Citizen 9 October 1911](#)

1912

William Tidmarsh and Joseph Major. Wm Tidmarsh, senior, of Minety, was charged with assaulting Joseph Major, of Hankerton, on the high road, on June 5th. Joseph Major was likewise charged with assault at the same time and place by Wm Tidmarsh. Both pleaded not guilty. From the evidence of Major, it seemed that while riding a bicycle from Minety to Hankerton he overtook Tidmarsh driving a pony and trap and leading another horse behind. He rang his bell, and Tidmarsh pulled to and fro across the road to prevent his passing, and to try and drive him into the ditch. He got off the bike, and had to seize hold of the led horse to prevent it coming on top of him. Tidmarsh turned round, and said, “Let me have my horse,” and at once struck witness three times. The bench, after hearing the evidence, considered there was a great deal of ill-

feeling on both sides, and bound each defendant in £10 to keep the peace for six months, and to pay their own costs. [Western Daily Press 5 July 1912](#)

1914

Walter Clarke, Farmer, of Minety, who did not appear, was summoned for permitting nine store cattle to stray at South Cerney, as proved by PC Moody. He was fined 15s to include costs. [Cheltenham Chronicle 14 November 1914](#)

1923

Alice Greenslade, a widow, and a farmer, of Minety, who was summoned for failing to send her daughter regularly to school, wrote a letter in which she stated that a reason was that sometimes the girl could not breathe, and it was a matter of life and death. She objected to the child being compelled to play hockey and coming home with her boots full of water. Judge Randolph (a member of the Bench): Is that part of the school curriculum? Mr Seager (the attendance officer) said the child was kept at home to help in the house. The Chairman (Col W W Turner) observed that the master or someone else must be very much to blame if children were allowed to play in a field with water over their boots. The officer said he could hardly credit the defendant's statement. The mother had never made any complaint of the child getting wet feet, and she was not kept at home through illness. Defendant was fined 2s 6d. [Western Daily Press 5 April 1923](#)

1924

Harry Manners, of Minety, was charged with driving a motor cycle without a proper silencer at Cirencester on August 26th. PC Holmes was the informant, and defendant was fined 5s. [Gloucester Citizen 9 September 1924](#)

1926

Rev T A Ludlow-Hewitt, Vicar of Minety, was fined 15s for failing to renew a dog license. [Western Daily Press 4 June 1926](#)

1927

Charles Farwell, of Minety, for riding a bicycle without a light at Somerford Keynes at 8.30 pm on April 3rd. On the evidence of PC Ralph of Cirencester was fined 5s. [Gloucester Citizen 12 April 1927](#)

1931

Colin E Meakin, of Minety, was fined £% for failing to stop when signalled to do so after an accident, and £5 for driving a motor-car without due care and attention at Cirencester on March 30. It was alleged that his car had collided with and damaged a truck belonging to Harry Fletcher, of Cirencester, which was standing in Watermoor road, he failed to stop when the signal was given by Mr Wentworth Jones, Surveyor to the Urban District Council. [Gloucester Citizen 13 May 1931](#)

1932

Harry Clarke. For the unlawful use of a limited trade licence on a motor-car at Cirencester on February 5, Harry Clarke, of Minety, was fined 10s. PS Creed proved the case. [Gloucester Echo 17 February 1932](#)

Dudley Arthur Newman. For causing an obstruction with his motor-car for 45 minutes in Castle street, Cirencester, Dudley Arthur Newman, of Minety, was fined £1. [Cheltenham Chronicle 19 March 1932](#)

Violet Constance Mary Atkinson, of Church Farm, Minety, who did not appear, was fined 10s at Cirencester today for causing an obstruction with her motor-car for 26 minutes in Cricklade Street, Cirencester, on July 30. The case was proved by PC Groves and PC Foster. [Gloucester Echo 10 August 1932](#)

Reginald Walter Clarke. A fine of 10s was imposed on Reginald Walter Clarke, of Minety, for driving a heavy motor-lorry on the Cirencester-Gloucester road on November 26 at a speed exceeding 20 mph. Clarke pleaded guilty. PC James, who was on motor patrol duty, said he followed the lorry for a distance of three miles, and its speed varied from 25 to 32 miles per hour, while for a short distance it travelled at 36 mph. When spoken to Clarke said he knew he had been doing about 25 mph. [Cheltenham Chronicle 24 December 1932](#)

1933

Percival Channing, a youth, of Minety, was fined 2s 6d for riding a pedal bicycle without a rear red light or red reflector at Somerford Keynes on the night of December 28. PC Ralph, of Kemble, started the facts. [Gloucester Echo 11 January 1933](#)

Wilfred Thomas Hazell. No True Bill was returned by the grand jury, yesterday, in favour of Wilfred Thomas Hazell (25), a labourer, of Upper Minety Crossing, Minety, Wilts, who was committed for trial on a charge of stealing £2, the money of Mrs Gladys Allen, from the private room of a café at Quedgeley, near Gloucester. [Western Daily Press 20 May 1933](#)

John J Westmacott, of Minety, was fined 10s, and had to pay 26s 6d costs, for driving a motor-cycle without due care. Inspector Slope said that late at night Westmacott ran into three pedestrians, hitting two, William Morgan and Thomas Neeth, both of Minety. [Western Daily Press 6 October 1933](#)

1934

Mrs Kate Ratcliffe and Mrs Annie Messenger. Mrs Kate Ratcliffe of the Vale of White Horse Inn, Minety, was summoned for supplying intoxicating liquor during prohibited hours, and Mrs Annie Messenger was summoned for taking liquor from licensed premises. Sergeant Mortimer said he saw Mrs Messenger going to the inn, and he stopped her when she returned with a paper carrier. When asked the contents she replied "a few greens," On opening the bag he saw a bottle, and the woman said she thought it contained cider. He found the bottle contained beer. Mrs Ratcliffe stated that the beer was sold to her brother, Herbert Ponting, on the previous night. When Mrs Messenger came to the inn with some greens for her, she asked her to take the bottle back to her brother. Mrs Ratcliffe was fined £2, to include costs, and Mrs Messenger was fined 5s. [Western Daily Press 4 May 1934](#)

Austin S Clarke, of Minety, was fined £15 for causing his son, John, to use an uninsured motor vehicle, and for causing him to drive it while under the proper age. Judge Randolph said: We regard this as a very bad case. It is no answer to say that the vehicle you used was the only one available for you. You should not have sent it out. It was also very wrong to get your son to take out an uninsured vehicle. The judge said that the son's licence would not be suspended, as he had acted under his father's instructions. [Western Daily Press 4 May 1934](#)

Reginald L Clarke. For failing to produce his certificate of insurance in respect to a motor lorry within five days when requested to do so by PC Foster at Cirencester on Oct 1, Reginald L Clark, of Minety, was fined 5s. It was stated that a certificate of insurance was in force at the time Clark was stopped by PC Foster, but that certificate was not shown until nine days after Clark was stopped. [Cheltenham Chronicle 3 November 1934](#)

1935

Thomas Clarke. For using a motor lorry at Malmesbury on December 4 without a reflector, Thomas Clarke, of Flisteridge Farm, Minety, was fined 5s and 4s costs. [Western Daily Press 4 January 1935](#)

Roger Charles Kennaway. After leaving some point-to-point races, Roger Charles Kennaway, a twenty five year old farmer of Minety (Wilts), went to a party. His revels cost him £50 and two guineas costs, the penalty imposed on him at Oxford on Friday for driving a car while under the influence of drink. It was stated that he tried to cross a main road with the traffic lights against him. A policeman was forced to mount the running board, put his arm through the window and put the car out of gear. Kennaway then had to be locked up for his own safety. His licence has been suspended for a year. [Taunton Courier and Western Advertiser 13 March 1935](#)

Dennis Pennil and Harry Clarke. A summons against Dennis Pennil, of Minety, Wilts, for driving a motor lorry with defective tyres was dismissed. The owner, Harry Clarke, of Minety, was fined £1 for causing the vehicle with defective tyres to be used. The magistrate's clerk read a letter from Clarke, pleading not guilty, saying he found the steering out of alignment, which caused the tyres to wear on this journey. PC Preedy, of Tewkesbury, said three out of the four tyres had smooth treads and canvas showing. He pointed out to the driver how dangerous this was. The driver said he was not the owner. His master was Harry Clarke, who saw the tyres every day. Clarke's statement about the alignment was discounted. [Cheltenham Chronicle 14 September 1935](#)

1936

Harry Moss. A prosecution was brought by Our Dumb Friends League against Harry Moss, motor lorry driver, of Minety, alleging that he used a vehicle not provided with side rails for the unloading of animals at Cirencester Market on March 2. Daniel Ryan and Major S G Sanders, inspectors of the league, gave evidence, and stated that two bullocks were unloaded without the use of side rails. Patrick Targett, of Minety, the employer of Moss, said that he had unloaded in a similar manner in four counties and had never had any complaints. He added that while there were no side rails on the vehicle, when attending the Cirencester Market he unloaded in such a position that a wall acted as a rail on one side. The case was dismissed on payment of costs. [Cheltenham Chronicle 14 March 1936](#)

Mervyn Jeffries. "It is evident that he is determined not to pay, and it appears to have become a war of exhaustion to see who becomes tired first." This statement was made by Mr H L Perkins at Cirencester Police Court today, when he asked that a committal order against a man for non-payment under an affiliation order should be suspended. A further suspension of 14 days was made in an order against Mervyn Jeffries, a farm labourer, of Minety, who failed to pay weekly amounts due to a Cirencester woman. Mr Perkins said that Jeffries had paid 5s and had written to say he had been ill, and was now returning to work. [Gloucester Echo 22 April 1936](#)

Geoffrey H Raines, of Minety, was fined 10s for causing an obstruction with his motor car, in Castle Street, on May 22. PC Foster proved the case. [Cheltenham Chronicle 6 June 1936](#)

Harry Clark, of Station Road garage, Minety, appeared at Malmesbury, for the non-payment of fines totalling £11 16s 6d. He paid one £1 leaving a balance of £10 16s 6d. He agreed to pay £4 in the court and to pay 5s a week towards the liquidation of the remainder. [Western Daily Press 3 July 1936](#)

1937

Percy Victor Cook. An accusation against Percy Victor Cook, of Minety, Wiltshire, of leaving a motor car without lights in Ashcroft road on January 2 was dismissed on payment of costs. Cook admitted the offence, but stated he was unaware lights were required in a parking place. [Cheltenham Chronicle 23 January 1937](#)

Robert Charles Lewis Kennaway, of Swillbrook Farm, Minety, was fined £5 at Malmesbury Police Court for failing to notify the existence of swine fever. It was stated that a post-mortem examination of several pigs

revealed that they were suffering from the disease. Kennaway said he thought the pigs were suffering from pneumonia, and this view was held by his pig man. [Western Daily Press 8 February 1937](#)

Miss K M Raimes. A fine of 10s was imposed on Miss K M Raimes, Minety, who failed to obey the "halt" sign at the Picture House Crossing. PC Smith said that the offence was committed on May 25. [Gloucester Echo 17 June 1937](#)

1938

Rev Stanley William Emberson, of the Vicarage, Minety, Wilts, was fined 10s for causing an obstruction with a motor car. [Gloucester Echo 3 February 1938](#)

Charles Bush, Farmer, of Minety (for whom Mr H Lemon appeared), pleaded not guilty to driving a motorcar without due care and attention at Kemble on July 31. The case was a sequel to a collision at crossroads between Bush's motorcar and a motorcycle driven by Wm Arthur Church. Bush was fined £1, with 15s costs, and licence endorsed. [Gloucester Echo 29 September 1938](#)

1939

Roger Charles Kennaway, a farmer, of Swillbrook Farm, Minety, was summoned on a number of counts for selling 173 gallons of milk which contained an average of 20 per cent added water. Mr E C Mercer, chief inspector of the Wilts County Council under the Food and Drugs Acts, prosecuted. Defendant, who pleaded not guilty, was represented by Mr Lloyd Perkins, solicitor, of Cirencester. Altogether, said Mr Mercer, there was a total of 30 gallons of water contained in the 14 churns of milk, which contained 173 gallons. For the defence, Mr Perkins said defendant had been farming for five or six years and had no previous complaint about his milk. Mr Perkins added that defendant was an amateur farmer and his methods were extremely slipshod. The magistrate fined Kennaway £50 and 17 guineas costs. [Western Gazette 8 December 1939](#)

1940

Richard George Clarke, of Minety, was fined £1 for failure to immobilise a motor car. The facts were given by PC Jefferies of Kemble. [Cheltenham Chronicle 28 September 1940](#)

1941

Raymond Jesse Lewis, of Upper Minety, was fined 10s for riding a cycle without proper lights. [Cheltenham Chronicle 8 March 1941](#)

Mrs Edith M P Almack and John Peter Almack. The magistrates dismissed, on payment of costs, a summons against Mrs Edith M P Almack, of Granville House, Minety, for driving a motor car at Cirencester on March 28 when not covered by third party insurance. A summons against John Peter Almack for permitting his wife to drive the motor car when not covered by insurance was also dismissed on payment of costs. [Cheltenham Chronicle 10 May 1941](#)

1942

Albert Ponting. Compulsorily enrolled in the Home Guard on September 1, Albert Ponting, a 33-years-old farm worker, of Minety, was at Malmesbury yesterday sent to prison for 14 days for absenting himself from parades. In court, Ponting persisted in his refusal to attend. [Western Morning News 27 October 1942](#)

1943

Capt Geoffrey H Raimes, of Hovington House, Minety, was fined £2 for wrongfully using petrol. He pleaded guilty. [Western Daily Press 3 February 1943](#)

Jack Martin, motor lorry driver, of Minety, was at Cirencester Court on Wednesday, fined £3 for exceeding the speed limit of 30 mph with a motor lorry on the Cricklade road, South Cerney. PC Crump, of Stow-on-the-Wold, who was on motor patrol duty on May 24, said that the speed of Martin's lorry on a portion of the road varied from 36 to 44 mph. When told, Martin said that he had been held up owing to one of the diggers at a quarry having broken down. Martin sent a letter to the Bench pleading guilty. [Cheltenham Chronicle 19 June 1943](#)

1944

Capt Geoffrey Raimes, of Minety, was, on the evidence of PWR Sparrow, fined £1 for causing an obstruction with his motor car at Cirencester on February 14. [Gloucester Echo 2 March 1944](#)