



People Newspaper snippets

Potterne

1765 - Stealing

On Monday last **John Kimber**, of Potterne in this county, labourer, was brought to our county goal, for stealing six bushels of barley out of the barn of Mr **Samuel Adams**, of Bishops Cannings.

[Salisbury and Winchester Journal, Salisbury, Wilts. - 18 November 1765](#)

1775 – Robbery

And on Friday was committed to the same prison [*Fisherton Gaol*], **John Franklin**, charged on a violent suspicion with robbing **Mr James Axford**, of this city [*Salisbury*], breecher-maker, on the 29th of December, between Potterne and Littleton, of a silver watch, three Bank notes or bills of the value of 60 L. and about 3s in money.

[Salisbury and Winchester Journal, Salisbury, Wilts. - 16 October 1775](#)

1777 – Escaped prisoner

Monday last **Thomas Watkins**, who a little time ago was committed to Devizes Bridewell, for a felony, made his escape with his fetters on, which he left on the road leading to Potterne, near that place. The morning of his escape, he picked a fellow prisoner's pocket of a guinea.

[Hampshire Chronicle, Winchester. Hants. - 21 April 1777](#)

1777 – Work vacancy

Wanted immediately, a Journeyman Blacksmith, who is a good hand at shoeing, and if expert at jobbing in general, he will be more acceptable. Such a person may have a constant place of work, and good encouragement, by applying to **Mr Ewens**, blacksmith, at Potterne, near Devizes, Wilts.

[Salisbury and Winchester Journal - Salisbury, Wilts. - 28 July 1777](#)

1784 - Charity

Wednesday last **Mr Robert Pitt**, of Pottern, near Devizes, generously relieved the poor inhabitants of that village; by distributing upwards of 6 xx amongst them, in proportion to the number in each family: An act of charity and beneficence no less laudable than worthy of imitation.

[Reading Mercury, Berks. - 16 February 1784.](#)

1795 - Suicide

Thursday evening, about eight o'clock, at Pottern, near Devizes, a corporal in the 9th regiment of Dragoon Guards shot himself through the head with his pistol in the church-yard, owing to a disappointment in a love affair. The lass was only 14, and he only 20; he came from creditable parents, and bore a most excellent character. The coroner's jury gave their verdict lunacy, and he was buried in the church-yard (where he first saw the girl) with military honours.

*[the parish records record his name as **Thomas Prosser**, buried 10 Jan 1795]*

Reading Mercury, Reading, Berks. - 19 January 1795