

PATRIXBOURNE,

CH  
47

situated about half a mile to the North-east of the former village. It is a small Parish, containing not many houses, but among which is the pleasant seat called Bifrons, the property and residence of the Rev<sup>d</sup> Edward Taylor, the present Patron and Incumbent of the Vicarage.

THE CHURCH

which is apparently a very ancient structure, has some remarkable carving, in stone work, over the two South doors, particularly over that which is on the South side of the steeple, where is a figure, intended for the Almighty, sitting, accompanied by angels, The other has a Saxon zig-zag arch and some rude conceptions, such as frequently peculiarise this obsolete order, these, with the East-end, which has a circular window, divided into several Gothic compartments, with some antique figures at the sides, appear to be the most ancient parts of this small Church.

There is a square steeple, having four small circular windows, and covered with a slender spire, at the West end of the South aisle, containing three Bells\* inscribed

\*Hasted says  
but one  
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- 1<sup>st</sup> An inscription in black letters, but now obliterated
- 2<sup>d</sup> Ave Maria Gracia Plena (Sax<sup>n</sup> Cap<sup>s</sup>)
- 3<sup>d</sup> T. R. C. S. (Sax<sup>n</sup> Cap<sup>s</sup>)

Two aisles and a Chancel, form the remainder of this place of worship.

EPITAPHS

1<sup>st</sup> At the East end of the South aisle, which is partly inclosed and now called the Bifrons Chancel, are three mural tablets of white marble, within borders of black, on that at the East end is

"In this Vault lies JOHN TAYLOR, ESQ:  
who was Born Dec<sup>r</sup> 7. 1655 and died  
Apr. 4. 1729 Surviv'd by 8 of his Children  
i.e. 4 Sons and 4 Daughters.  
He Purchased an Estate in this Parish Sept.  
29 1694 Afterwards another in Bridge and  
when He had Improv'd them, and Rais'd  
a Beautifull Garden to Bifrons He settled  
the whole upon His Family.  
He gave several Ornaments of Value to  
the Church, was a strict Economist a Just  
Dealer, and a Friend to the Poor.



His Eldest Son Brooke L.L.D. & F.R.S.  
 dying in London Nov<sup>r</sup> 29. 1731 was buried  
 in St. Ann's Church Yard by his own order.  
 A Gentleman of Learning, great ingenuity,  
 and endow'd with many valuable  
 qualities both natural and aquired, which  
 made him highly esteemed by those  
 that knew him, particularly the Virtuosi,  
 and his death much lamented.

He left no issue Male"

\*Hasted errone-  
 ously writes  
checky, Ar. & Sab.

Arms, Taylor, viz. Gu, 3 Roses, Ar. a chief Vaire\*, Ar. & Az.  
 Crest, a Wolf's head eras'd, Er. collar'd, Gu. charged with  
 3 Roses, Ar.

2<sup>d</sup> On the next, at the South side of the Chancel, is

"Here lies Olive the Wife of John Taylor of  
 Bifrons Esq: (who died in the 60<sup>th</sup> Year of her  
 age on the 7<sup>th</sup> of April 1716) She had by him  
 18 Children, whereof 5 Sons and 4 Daughters  
 mourne for the loss of their good Mother,  
 Margarets the 3<sup>d</sup> Daughter who died May  
 24. 1738 lies buried near this Chancel"

Arms, Taylor. impaling Tempest, viz: Arg. a bend, betw.  
 6 Martlets, Sab.

3<sup>d</sup> On the next at the West side of the above is,

"Underneath lies the Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> HERBERT TAYLOR  
 late of Birfons, Rector of Hunton,  
 & Vicar of this Parish.

He married Mary the Daughter of D<sup>r</sup> Wake  
 Prebendary of Canterbury, by whom he had  
 only two Sons surviv'd him.

He was a Person very able and diligent in his profession  
Remarkably chearful, & instructive in his conversation  
of Great Benevolence to all Mankind,

And in his Family

The best of Masters, the kindest of Fathers  
& tenderest of Husbands

He dies universally beloved & regretted  
 Sept<sup>r</sup>. 29<sup>th</sup> 1763. Aged 65"

Arms, Taylor impaling Wake, viz: Or, a trefoil, V  
 betw. 2 Bars, Gu in chief 3 torteaux

Motto: FAMA CANDIDO ROSA DULCIOR

4<sup>th</sup> On a plain stone at the West end of the South chancel

"Per totum hoc Sacellum	)	Generosa
Sparsa est	)	Bargrauiana Terra



Cuius Familiae Armigeræ Johannem BIFRONIIS conditor Et Hæres eius Robertus sub hoc Marmore Una cū Uxoribus	} Tacent
Bello Ciuili ex ptibus Regxs Stetit et cecidit FAMILIA	} Amen
Lugens scripsit Filius Et Frater Johan	} Eccles. x <sup>ti</sup> Cant. Præb
Johan Hæres a ruinus In Ruinas lapide prosuit	} An.Dni M DCLXIII "

Arms, Bargrave. Crest a Pheon

5<sup>th</sup> On a small mural monument of grey marble, against the North side of the Entrance of the Chancel, with a pediment and an oval tablet of white marble in the middle, is,

"Sacred to the Memory of  
EDMUND BARHAM ESQ<sup>r</sup>  
many years Agent of his Majesties  
Packet Boats at Dover  
whose remains are deposited near this Tablet  
He died Oct.<sup>r</sup> 21<sup>th</sup> 1787, Aged 80 years  
Sincerely Lamented"

6<sup>th</sup> On an oval tablet of white Marble, at the East end of the North side of the Aile, is,

"Sacred  
to the Memory of  
JOHN PECKHAM ESQ<sup>r</sup>  
who was descended from the  
Ancient Family of PECKHAM  
of CHARF-SUTTON in this County  
& Youngest son of ROB<sup>t</sup> & MARY PECKHAM  
(Late of COURT LODGE in this Parish,  
where He resided  
during the whole period of his Life  
and left only one Brother to survive him,  
Viz:  
ROBERT PECKHAM  
of the ARCH-BISHOPS' Palace  
in BEAKSBOURNE  
He was a good Master and Sincere Friend  
much regretted  
by his Friends and Acquaintances  
He departed this Life  
January 5<sup>th</sup> 1792  
in the 67th Year  
of his Age"

[Chart-]



Arms, on a Shield at Top, Ermine, a chief quart<sup>r</sup> Or & Gu  
Crest, on a Wreath, an Ostrich.

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7<sup>th</sup> On a monument of white marble about the middle  
of the North wall is,

"Near this place  
lieth the Body of Elizabeth the  
Wife of Thomas Denne of this Parish Gent.  
& only Child of John Alleyan of Stowting  
Gent. & Ann his Wife, She was born the 12 day  
of August 1680 & departed this life y<sup>e</sup> 4 Day  
of Sep<sup>r</sup> in 1701, She was a dutyfull Child  
a Lover of piety, & a very loveing Wife"

Arms, on a shield at the top. Alleyan viz: parted per chevron, Sab. &  
Er. 2 Wolves heads eras'd in chief tr.  
another shield at the bottom Denne of Dennehill, viz:  
Az. 3 Leopards heads coup'd, Or.

8<sup>th</sup> On a plain stone in the Aile before the above Monument is,

"Here lieth interr'd y<sup>e</sup> Body  
of Elizabeth the Wife of  
Thomas Denne, Aged 21 Years  
& 23 Dayes"

9<sup>th</sup> On another near the above is,

"Here lieth the body of John Denne  
late of this Parish Gent. who died  
December y<sup>e</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> 1690, Aged 71 years  
Elizabeth his wife lieth under this  
pew, who was buried November  
the 16<sup>th</sup> Aged 32 Ye.<sup>s</sup>"

Arms, Denne, viz: 3 Leopards Heads coup'd

10<sup>th</sup> On another is,

"Here lieth the Body  
of David Son of  
John Denne who  
died Sept: y<sup>e</sup> 18th day  
1702 Aged 39 Years"

11<sup>th</sup> On a plain stone at the East end of the North aile is

"Beneath this stone  
are deposited the Remains  
of EDMUND BARRHAM Esq<sup>r</sup>  
He died October 21<sup>st</sup> 1787  
aged 80 Years "

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On Hatchments  
in Bifrons Chancel

- 1<sup>st</sup> Taylor, and its Impalement, as on the 2<sup>d</sup> Monument Tempest  
 2<sup>d</sup> Taylor, and D<sup>o</sup> - - - - as on M. 3. "Wake"  
 3<sup>d</sup> Taylor, singly  
 4 Taylor, impaling Gu. 3 Lions pass<sup>n</sup> gard<sup>t</sup> Ar, over all  
 on a Bend Or, 3 mullets pierced, Sab.

Motto: IN CAELO QUIES

- 5<sup>th</sup> In the Vestry. Taylor, impaling, Or, 2 Bars Az. fretty Ar  
 a chief indented of the last  
 6<sup>th</sup> In the Belfry. In a Lozenge, Az. 3 estoils, and on a  
 chief, Ar. a Lion pass<sup>t</sup> Gu. impaling Az. a Pelican  
 vulning herself

In the West window of the North aisle are the Arms of Fogg

Church Yard

- 12<sup>th</sup> Adjoining to the South wall of the Church is a Tomb  
 enclosed with iron rails, inscribed on the top

"Beneath this Tomb  
 rests the Body of  
 MARY TAYLOR Eldest Daughter  
 of JOHN TAYLOR Esq of Bifrons  
 She died the 24<sup>th</sup> of March 1771  
 in the 91<sup>st</sup> Year of Her Age"

(The following Verses which are on a Tablet in the front  
 of the Tomb were written by the present Dowager Lady Young)

"Beneath this marble rests the Mortal part,  
 Of Her, who once delighted every Heart,  
 How Good she was, and What Her Virtues were,  
 Her Guardian Angel can alone declare,  
 The Friend that now this little Tribute pays,  
 Too Exquisitely feels, to speak Her Praise,  
 Yet would'st though know, the pious Life she spent,  
 How many from her hands receiv'd Content,  
 How many Breasts, that Poverty had fill'd,  
 Her Charity, with Peace, with Rapture fill'd,  
 The Village nigh shall Gratify thy Ears,  
 And tell Thee, some with Words, but Most with Tears!"

- 13<sup>th</sup> On a Tomb at the West Side of the Church Yard is

"Beneath this Marble rests  
 the Mortal part of  
 JOHN DILNOT, late of this Parish  
 who died greatly lamented by his  
 disconsolate Widow



and Surviving Children  
 on the 13<sup>th</sup> of April 1781  
 aged 52 Years

---

Judge ye who piercing anguish know  
 What griefs their Bosoms rend  
 Who part from all held dear below  
 Their Father, Husband, Friend.

'Twas his his Partners life to chear  
 To guard his Childrens weal,  
 And silent stole the genuine Tear  
 O'er woes he could not heal.

Such were the Virtuous paths he trod  
 Let pride his errors scan  
 Thos waft his spirit to his God  
 And they but mark'd him Man"

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In this Parish, which is about two miles and an half long and nearly two miles broad, there is only one village which is seated on the banks of the river Stour, which runs, in its course from Bridge, very near the church yard. It is peculiarly pleasant, particularly in the summer months, as it is surrounded with delightful meadows, inclosed with quick-fences, and ornaments with many fine elms in the hedge-rows. There being no thorough-fare of any consequence in this village, it is very retired, nay, to many who have been used to the bustle of life it would be very solitary.

/ed

The seat called Bifrons, above mentioned, is situated at the upper, or North-west side of the parish, and though the present structure is not on the plan from which the original derived its name (two fronted) yet, it is a large commodious house, on a plain neat design, wherein convenience appears to have been more studied than elegance. Its gardens are pretty, but so modernized that there does not appear ever to have been anything in them so peculiarly uncommon or useful, as for the atchievement to have been particularized on the monument of their designer, as we find this, is, in the first inscription in this Church.

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The grand valley which we described at Bridge follows the same direction, from North to South, through this parish, and as it here extends its width



there is much greater degree of fertile soil, some of which produces excellent corn and hops. The acclivities on each side of the vale, become more sterile and poor as we ascend, 'till at the out-skirts of the Parish, it produces little but the meaner sorts of grain and coppice wood.

The face of the Country is very little diversified from the last described Parish, their situation being so very similar, as to make a particular account of it unnecessary, though the valley, as before observed being here something wider, the prospects are rather more extensive and consequently command more pleasing views of the adjacent acclivities.

The living is a Vicarage, and the Church is dedicated to St. Mary, to which Bridge Vicarage is now annexed