

## Locket Book

Opening title of book is as follows:

The Minute buyk of ye craft of baxters of ye burgh of Dundee maid and begune ye 23<sup>rd</sup> day of Novembar the year of God Ane thousand five hundreth and fifty four.

Entry

**The IX day of July the zeir of Gad Vc and fifty six zeirs.**

James Cathrow, sone of James cathrow in Curburne is become prenteiss to Thomas Gray Baxt Burges of Dundee and to Isobel Mathe, his spous ye langer levand of yaine twa, for all ye dais and terms of seven zeiris.

**1<sup>st</sup> October 1574.**

After election of Deacon 'in the castlehill', the names of Ten members are elected 'as keepers of the keys of ye common lockit keyst of the craft for the year'in terms of the statute of 19th Oct 1573, and the late Deacon was made keeper of the key of the common locket book.

**Entry 19<sup>th</sup> April 1557**

Honorary Members

Quhild day in presce of ye Deacone, maystors and consull of ye craft..... Thomas Ramsay, Mayster of ye Schole and Maister Patrick Galloway, minister of Forgeune and Fowillis sones of Maysters of ye craft.

Apprentices accepted as Freemen

**7<sup>th</sup> January 1619**

The Craft agreed to insert Prentess as Freemen in the Locket Book and the admission dues

'quatsoever prentes of the Craft hes done his dewtie to his master and servitt his master his zeir in the Beackhous and given his master and ye craft contentment sall pay the fourtie marckis guid and usual monie of Scotland with ane dinner to the hail Craft nan except, the money to be the craftis awin proper guids for ye defrayinge of ye accidenttis'

Bankruptcy of Town

**27<sup>th</sup> September 1711**

Robert Watson would not take office until a super sedere be granted to the Town's creditors.

The first record of a new member not requiring to produce an assay was on 27<sup>th</sup> September 1825 when one George Ross Baxter, Confectioner, son of George George Baxter was admitted "*The Trade further agree to dispense with the said George Ross Baxter performing an assay piece; but declare that their doing so, shall in noways be construed into a precedent in entering other members.*"

He was the son-in-law of Thomas Baxter Jnr. A member of a long-standing Baker family in Dundee. No other example appears until 1854, when it appears that the practice of performing an Assay or Essay was no longer a requirement to become a member of the Trade. The First of this line was James Gordon, a Corn Merchant in Dundee on 14<sup>th</sup> November 1854.

**Tendell Family**

In 1573 David Tendell insituted the Poor Fund of the Nine Trades, or as in was termed by the Baker Trade at that time, St Cuthbert's Pennies.

## Keys Close

Keys Close was the passage between Couttie's Wynd and Will Schepert's Close. In 1485 it was occupied by Will Schippert, a leading baker of the period. At that time it was known as Will Schepert's close and was for centuries associated with the Baker Trade. Schepert was a Baker at the beginning of the 15<sup>th</sup> Century and was connected to the

Rollocks family who owned the house later known as *Monck's House*. In 1730 Andrew Watson acquired the property and the name was changed to Andrew Watson's Close and it kept that name until 1780. William Key, a cabinetmaker bought the property in 1780 which became known as Key's Close. He was deacon of the Wright Trade on several occasions. He retired in 1784 and died in 1843 aged 76. The Wright Trade bought the property on the South side of Key's Close and erected a meeting place known as The Wrights Hall. Thos Colville & Son occupied Key's House in 1816 and from there published the first number of *The Dundee Weekly Courier* on 20th September 1816. The printing office was moved by David Hill to New Inn Entry and later on 11<sup>th</sup> November 1872 to new offices in Lindsay Street.

*See Wright Trade for full details of this Street*

### **Forebank**

Part of the estate of Hillbank, which was purchased by Alexander Wyse in 1734.

His eldest son David erected a machine for spinning cotton and built a manufactory for spinning cotton near what is now known as Cotton Road

### **Makkeson's Close**

Makkeson's Close was another of the old passages built over when Whitehall Street was formed.

It lay to the east of Scott's Close and took its name from another well known Dundee family.

The name of John Makkeson appears in the seal of cause of the Skinner Craft in 1516, and in 1539, a charter under the great seal refers specifically to the passage as Makkeson's Close. After many alterations it was latterly designated Harris's Entry, from Roderick Harris, Baker, uncle and predecessor of the late Bailie Harris, founder of Harris Academy.

### **Perrie Street**

Perrie Street, Lochee is named after Bailie Perrie, long known as "The Provost of Lochee". Born in Burrelton in 1835, he came to Dundee as an apprentice baker in 1846. He started his own business in 1854 and ran it until shortly before his death in January 1917 age 82. In 1876 he entered the Council and served until 1917. During that time he was a bailie and convener of most of the municipal committees. He served under 12 Lord Provosts and had so much influence that he was known as "*The Provost maker*"

Bread was invariably sold in loaves of four pennies and two pennies each, the weight of them being laid down by the council from time to time according to the value of the wheat. In a season of great plenty, the Baxters, "were ordained to make their bread good sufficient and dry, the two penny loaf to weigh 16 ounces and the other bread conform", but not long after a bad harvest caused great scarcity and the weight of the loaf was much reduced. In 1561 the dearth was apprehended by the council and by an arbitrary stretch of its authority enacted that the masters of the Baker Craft shall at Michlemas give an oath binding them to make bread during the following year to a weight to be given by the council with special reference to the price of wheat. The Bakers objected and raised an action before the Court of Session and the decision of the court appears to have been in the Bakers favour but the magistrates were sustained in the enjoyment of their full powers, which they used with great vigour against those who had ventured to call them into question. Shops in those days were by no means showplaces and were usually booths for storing the goods, which the owners usually used the open front to offer goods to passers by. This system was not followed by the Bakers, who seemed to have got into the practice of keeping their bread out of sight in the booths, which caused apparent scarcity and enabled them to evade the laws regarding weight. The council now prohibited this and declared that all Baxters having bread to sell "shall further hing their cavies (open shelves) before their doors in sign and packin that bread is there to be had and wha shall be fund having bread to sell and his cavie unhung furth with bread or who shall presume to tak down his cavie bread being therein unto the evening or till his bread be done so that the baillies when they come to the fey (to visit or examine) or try gif the axe tae be

observit may not have trial of pais weight of the same sall pay for the first fault forty shillings and for the second or third faults sall be punishit as them that diminishes the pais”

There follows a great deal more odd detail along those lines which is in The History of Old Dundee by Maxwell.

David Hume was born at Errol in 1813 and was apprenticed to a Mr McEwan, a baker in Perth. He went to London for some years, and came to Dundee where he started business as a Baker in a joint stock building in the Wellgate. He next occupied a shop in Morgan’s buildings in the Nethergate and latterly opened premises in Castle Street. When he removed his business to Castle Street, he devoted himself entirely to making ship’s biscuits, which were always famed for their excellence in providing ships stores. During the Crimea was he fulfilled some important contracts with both the British and French Governments to supply biscuits for their respective navies, and be able to do so efficiently he erected a building in Exchange Street which he fitted up with the most approved machinery. At this time his manufacture of biscuits raised about 30 or 40 tons weekly. He was a member of the Nine Trades, and in those concerns he took a lively interest. Probably his memory will be most respected for the part he took during the erection of the Morgan Hospital in Dundee. He was one of the prime movers to have it settled by law. It was the intention of the late Mr Morgan to set aside such part of his fortune as would be sufficient to endow an institution for the benefit of poor boys in Dundee. He spared himself neither trouble nor responsibility to secure his object. He was also a Harbour Trustee and a Gas Commissioner. He was Deacon of the Baker Trade. Mr Hume died on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November 1869 after several weeks of illness and in his 56<sup>th</sup> year.

### **Ref: A.C.Lamb collection**

The Trade was called the Baxters up until 1750.  
 Hon members of the Trade were admitted from 1740  
 Earl of Strathmore in 1740  
 George Dempster of Dunnichem MP for Dundee in 1761  
 Provosts Alex. Riddoch and Patrick Maxwell in 1789  
 Viscount Duncan of Camperdown in 1798  
 Sir David Baxter in 1860

### **Extracts from Bakers Year Book 1895**

The Council had discussions with Grant Ogilvie of Herriot Watt’s and agreed on a special training course during which the first week instruction would be given in Heat Temperature, Quantity of Heat, Mixture Specific Heat, Conduction, Radiation and Convection, with laboratory work, Manipulation of Microscopes, Starches, Preparation and Examination, and Examination of Wheat-Berry.

The second week would be Experiments with Mixtures of Flour etc., Charts of Infuse Bowls and Instruction, Yeast Planting and it’s Impurities in Yeast and examination.

The Third week Flour Mixtures and Flour Tasting, and Fermentation

The Fourth Week, Practical testing of Flour and Baking Tests.

This course was for students who would then be eminently fit to pass the Honours Grade of the London City Guild, which would qualify them to become certified teachers.

The earliest notice in the public records is of the purchase of bread at Dundee for a King’s household is found under the date 1364 and several times in that year it appears that David II had obtained Dundee bread even when he was residing at some distance from the Burgh. The names of Richard Norhame and Henry Leyis are mentioned was the Dundee Bakers from whom the bread was purchased.

The King’s successor Robert II also caused wheaten bread to be baked for him at Dundee in 1373.

The Baker Craft in Dundee had a corporate existence and was comparatively wealthy, is shown by the fact on the 16<sup>th</sup> August 1486 the Deacon of the Craft was empowered to purchase "a messe buke you writtin and bundin" to be presented to the alter of St Aubert, the patron saint of bakers to be kept together with the vestments, silver chalice and chandeliers which the Craft had formerly consecrated to that alter in the Parish of Dundee.

The names of the leading bakers at that time were John Richardson, Deacon, Robert Cruikshank, Andrew Burn and Andrew Malcolmson.

Not a few names connected with the Baker Trade in Dundee are recorded in national history, as for instance, Patrick Galloway himself an admitted member of the Craft who was Chaplain to James VI, and his son who attained the title Lord Dunkeld and William Drummond, in whose house at the last Earl of Gowrie was captured.

A day's work for a young person, that is someone between 14 and 18 years of age, was 6 a.m. to 6p.m. or 7a.m. to 7p.m. Saturdays 6a.m. to 2p.m. with one and a half-hours off for meals on ordinary days and half an hour on Saturday. If a young person starts work at 5a.m. he may not work overtime that day.

### **1892 Shop Hours Act Section 3 sub-section 1**

No young person shall be employed in or about a shop for a longer period than 74 hours, including meal times in any one week.

Pethin and Black of 19 Waterloo Street Glasgow had an advert in Scottish Association of Master Baker's yearbook of 1895 advertising the Minnesota Patent as follows:

Fair fa your honest sonsie face  
Great chieftain o' the flourie race  
Aboun them a' ye tak your place  
And when we barm your bake  
Ye'r worthy o' a grace  
As lang's my arm

In there Flourie Path, they also sold a product called "The Tit Bit", the choicest winter wheat patent, in the following terms:

Know thou o stranger by thy power  
Of this much loved, much honoured flour  
That none that know it need be told  
It's equal can't be got for gold.

And in general about their various products:

O women's minds like winter winds  
May shift and turn and a' that  
These brands of flour are aye the same  
In consequence ye draw that

For a' that and a' that  
And twice as Meik as a' that  
Nae matter what ye hear folks say  
These are the flours for a' that

### **St Cuthbert's Altar**

This altar was founded as an endowment for its chaplain, provided by the Baxters of the burgh at an early time.

Form a deed executed in 1486, we learn that its appointments had been of a complete character "The Deacon of the Baxter Craft under lave of the Craft have bocht of the alms and duties of the craft frae Thomas Turnour of Sanct Johnstoun a mess buke new written and boundin and to offerit to Sanct Cuwburts Altar within the paroch kirk of Dundee, there to remain for ever mair; and has ordainet and decraetit amangst them that neither the

said mess buik, nor the silver chalice ower-gilt, the vestments of silk and the vestments of abukkasy nor the chandillars whilk they have conquest till the said altar be anlyt wdsat nor put away frae the said altar to be the chaplian nor nane others for nae kind of nesessity. And the Provost and council to attedatt it to maintein and defend their gift foresaid”.

The Baxters appear to have chosen St Cuthberts Chaplain annually at the same time as they appointed their Deacon. The latter was to be responsible for any wrong entry on their lockit book and “gif ony deis don he sal pay forty shillings to the uphald and retairance of the Sanct Corbrots Altar.” Each Baxter was required to make a weekly payment for the support of the altar; and this under the name of “Cobbarts Pennies”. The book continued to be listed afytre the time oif the reformation.

In 1573 under the same designation it was appropriated “to the person of the Craft that puir and lait support”

Around 1521 there were as many as 50 Master Baxters within the burgh, but they didn't all have separate bakehouses. It was a common practice for a number of them to join and occupy one. It was not unusual for as many as five Baxters operating from one bakehouse

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**18<sup>th</sup> October 1909**

Winston Spencer Churchill made honorary member of Baker Trade as Member of Parliament for the Burgh and President of The Board of Trade.

1<sup>st</sup> October 1912

"That the Trade resolve to present to each of the former Deacons who are still alive and in future to each Deacon on his demitting office a small gold medallion at a cost not exceeding 30/- each"

The meeting also resolved to purchase the die outright from Andrew McLeish, 50, Hawkhill, who supplied the Medallions and this should be in possession of the Trade.

**30<sup>th</sup> September 1913**

The Clerk read a letter from Lord Provost Urquhart to the Deacon, which is in the following terms.

City Chambers  
Dundee 7<sup>th</sup> February 1913

Dear Sir

Referring to my recent interviews with you, I have pleasure in intimating to you that the Trustees of the late Mrs Carmichael have resolved in deference to your wishes to make a gift to the Incorporation of the Oak Armchair which had been for so many years been the Deacon's Seat at all kinds of gatherings of your members. The condition which the Trustees made is that while the chair is from this date will become the property of the Incorporation and be available for its meetings wherever held it will remain permanently held in the custody of Messers Carmichael Limited so long as that firm continues in business. It will be subject to removal at any time on order of the Deacon on giving the Manager of Carmichaels two days notice, and will be returnable within two days after the Function for which it is required. I hope the terms of this letter will be satisfactory to you.

I may add that it is a pleasure to me personally to be able to make this Gift during your term of Office, as I am aware how deeply interested in the Incorporation and how much you have done for it's welfare.

I am

Yours faithfully

(signed) J. Urquhart.

**30<sup>th</sup> September 1913,**

The clerk explained that ex Deacon Foggie had handed him a Print of the Rules of the Journeyman Bakers Association Dundee, dated which he recently secured and desired now to present to the Incorporation as a suitable custodian for a document of such antiquarian interest. The meeting resolved to place on record an acknowledgement of the gift of the Rules and to express thanks to Ex deacon Foggie.

**3<sup>rd</sup> November 1926**

Excerpt of the Will of the late Ex-Deacon William Forwell. St Helens, Barnhill Dundee dated 3<sup>rd</sup> November 1926.

"My Trustees shall at the first term of Whitsunday or Martimas after my death make payment of the following legacies free of Government Duty, viz:-

To the Baker Incorporation being one of the Nine Incorporated Trades of Dundee the sum of Three hundred pounds, the income of which shall be applied towards promoting Technical Education among the young Bakers in Dundee whether by means of Book Prizes or Bursaries or otherwise as the Council of the said corporation may think advisable from time to time or if in the opinion of the said Council the necessity for or advisability of so applying

the income shall pass away, the said council may apply the said Income in whole or in part towards the same purposes as the Income from the General Fund Money of the Nine Trades of Dundee may then be applied or for such other similar purposes as my Trustees may determine from time to time."

#### **25<sup>th</sup> September 1979**

It was agreed that the Banner of the Trade be given to Mr Boyd of the Dundee Museum, at least on a temporary basis. Note: In 1983 it is recorded that the Banner is now on display in a glass case in St Andrews Church. A new screen printed banner whose motif was not the same as the original, but was a more stylised version was ordered at a cost of £350. Mr Roy. D. Guild of Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art was responsible for the work. In addition miniature mounted banners were to be made available to craftsmen at a cost of £20

#### **14th October 1980**

The meeting discussed the possibility of Ladies as members of the Trade.

It was agreed that the Trade did not want lady members. If any applications should be made, the committee would refuse them without explanation.

#### **30<sup>th</sup> October 1986**

It was reported that Ex-Deacon Brown had offered to donate the new Lockit Book for the Incorporation, to commemorate the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of his firm, Messers Rough & Fraser, Kinghorne Road, Dundee. This was unanimously accepted.

#### Extract from General Meeting of the Trades **24<sup>th</sup> September 1761**

.....after leiting and voting Mr George Dempster of Dunnichen, Advocate, Member of Parliament was chosen Deacon to the Bakers.

### **Council Acts**

**1762. Item** the Sabbath to be religiously kept – no bakers to bake, no barbers to dress wigs; and for better observance thereof, no inhabitant drink in any ale house or tavern the said day, under the penalties contained in the Act of Parliament thereanent and that no Brewer or Vintner allow any person to drink within their houses on the Sabbath day (except strangers), under penalty of four pounds Scots, to be exacted from the Master of the ale house *toties quoties*.

**15<sup>th</sup> October 1551** It is statuat be the provest, bailies, counsell, and haill dekyne of craftis, yt gife ther be any baxter within this brugh in tyme coming havand dry wheat or flour within his house & wanting bread in his house, or into the ovene, and dry malt into his house and wanting wort or aill, that the faulte in yt cace, be determination fo the provest, bailies, counsell, and haill dekyne of craftis, and of ther own consents, be expellit fra baking and brewing for year and a day.

**Uno die.** – It is statut, yt gif any maltman or neighbour of this brugh hes dry malt or wheat within ther loftes or houses and will not sell the samene to baxters and brousters upon pryces qrbie the actess and statuts may be observit and keppit, yt the persones whilk refuses to doe the samene shall be expellit fra malt buying and wheat buying for zear and day; and this actes to be publick in the tollbooth, and to have force the and strength of ane decree.

### **Price of Bread**

#### **Head Court, 6 October 1594**

**Item**, it is statute and ordainit that the baxteris of this brugh have their bread good, clean and sufficient, and dry stuffe, and that nane of the saids baxteris presume to bake or sell any oat bread within this brugh, under the pain containit in the Acts made thereanent before.

**Feby.7. 1626.** –It is statut that no Baxter, Maultman, nor no other inhabitant within this Brugh, presume to take within their houses or possessions either Wheat, Bear, or any Victuall whatsoever untill the Pettie Customer ne satisfied of the dewties thereof, under the penaltie of twentie pounds Scots *toties quoties*.

**6 May 1707** The Council, upon a petition given in by John Taylor, Deacon of ye Baxters, craving ye weight of bread to be altered, Considering that the Petitioner, as Deacon of ye trade, has ever since ye proclaiming of ye acts discharged ye whole trade to baik any bread to serve ye inhabitants; and the Deacon being called, acknowledged ye trade did agree not to baik any bread till ye Council altered the statute anent the weight of bread, - Therefore ye council fines and ameciats ye said John Taylor in ten pound Scots, and ordains him to pay ye same penalty, or stay in prisone until payt; and ordains ye trade to serve ye lieges in bread, otherwise ye Council will give allowance to others to serve ye town.

**30 May 1734**, a Petition was presented by James Marshall, present Deacon, and John Boyd, present Boxmaster of the Baxter Trade of Dundee, for themselves and in name of the Trade craving that they might be allowed to sell their bread at the rate of nine pounds for the boll of Wheat. The council allowed them to sell their Bread at the rate of £8.10/- per Boll of Wheat.

**8<sup>th</sup> October 1741.** – The Council unanimously agree, that for three months from and after this date, the price of wheat being eight pounds per boll, and fourty shilling Scots allowed for bakeing and making, - in heall Ten pounds pr boll; and appoints all bread to be sold conform to ye above price.

#### **A.C. Lamb “Quaint & Historic Buildings”**

The tenement at the corner of Thorter Row and Kirk Wynd belonged to William Drummond, baker, in 1640, and remained in his family's possession until early in the seventeenth century.

Whilst they owned the house, the Earl of Gowrie, who had taken a leading part in the abortive raid of Ruthven in 1683-4, had left his residence at Perth after the plot had been frustrated, and had gone to Dundee as if to take ship for the Continent. Francis Stewart, Earl of Arran, the favourite of James VI, obtained intelligence of his movements, and sent Colonel William Stewart with one hundred troopers to arrest the Earl of Gowrie. James Halyburton, Commendator of Pittenweem and Provost of Dundee, had instructions to proclaim Gowrie as a traitor at the Cross of Dundee, and as the Earl did not deliver himself up in compliance with the command, Colonel Stewart took measures to apprehend him. Gowrie had taken refuge in William Drummond's house, and had barricaded himself therein so strongly that Colonel Stewart was compelled to bring cannons from the harbour to fire on the house before he could gain access to the fugitive Earl. His capture was immediately accomplished on Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> April 1684, and he was taken before the Privy Council for trial. On 2<sup>nd</sup> May following he was beheaded beside the wall of Stirling Castle.

The first mention of the name Howff appears in the records of the craft in 1676.

“The Deacon, with consent of his counsell, met in the Howff, and ordainit in all tymes coming teat the Deacon sall not tak upon hand to consume or spend ony silver in ony taverns, aither upon ale or for wine, pertaining to the common gude of the craft.and for observation heirof, the said counsell subscrivit the act.”

#### **Paul Methven**

Dundee, at the time of he Reformation and before, had been leading the way in Scotland.

George Wishart, had been burned at the stake, and many Dundee citizens were prominent both here and on the continent.

John Knox had been a follower of Wishart and wrote a great deal about him.

Dundee Town Council, were strong supporters of the Reformed Church, particularly James Halyburton, born on 1518, who was Provost from 1533 till his death in 1589.

Another, Paul Methven, a Baker, was so filled with zeal that he rallied the people and by his eloquent persuasiveness welded them into a congregation “with the face of a Reformed Church in which the Word was preached openly and the Sacraments truly ministered”. Here, two years before the Reformation was officially established, we find a Church in Dundee with a full ministry of Word and Sacraments led by a baker.

He came to the attention of the Court and Provost Haylburton was required by the Queen Regent to arrest him, but he secretly warned Methven to avoid the town for some time.

The two principal Mill serving Dundee were Baldovan Mill and Pitkerro Mill. The full story of these two Mills is in the file on Dundee City History.

**1645** Robert Davidson, baker, was appointed quartermaster for the Seagate ward. This was in preparation for a possible sacking of the town during the Civil War.

John Ramsay, was found guilty of insulting two Bailies and ordered to be kept in custody.

**1685** David Ramsay, Baker, son of John Ramsay admitted as a member of Gilbert Guthries Mortification.

Margaret Stibles, wife of Alexander Williamson, banned from selling any bread or flour.

Extract from Council Minutes  
**Vigisimo Nono Aprilis and Dei 1589**

Anent the t'me assignit to ye dekyne & M'rs of the Baxter Craft to p'duce ye reasonis quhy yai aucht not to subscriyve ye letter gratit be ye Maltmen for yr contributioun to ye Minister Stipend.

Compearid the Deacon of the said Craft who objeted to being stented to more than the part they already paid along with the Crafts under Dekynrie and swa can not be subject to the Vyr &c

The same was protested Against by the hail Deacons in support of the objectein made by the Baxters – which was replied to by Baillie Alex Scryemizuer that the same was of No Consequence “because ye haill of ye estait of yis burt Merchandis & Maryners arcaiss yai handle not Malt ar subicit to the contributiounis desyrit not wtstanding yt yai pay of y rpartis of yr ain contributionis Lyck as the Craftsmen under Dekynrie quha traffiques in Merchandice payis as weil to the gildes Contribution as to the Crafts – And that the grounds of the objectun offered was nae Admissible because that the Contributien craved is New.”

**2<sup>nd</sup> May 1605**

Quhilk day sir James Scrymizuir of dudhop Knicht Provost and Constable of ye burt of dundie and the Baillies yrof with a grit nuber of ye C'sall of ye said burt being c'venit in ye C'sall hous yrof Anent Coplaint maid by George Ramsay Baillie aganes Johne farnie Baxter Viz That ye said Johne upon ye first day of yie instant upon ye his Calsay of yis burt foreanet ye M'cat Croce yrof abused & vilipendit ye said George Ramsay Baillie be lifting of his leg Skornefullie & flinging at ye said George – And be setig up his nose & thraving his face at ye said George – And lykways that ye said Johne being comandit to pass to waird be ye said George for his behavior forsaid he disobeyit wilfillie & out hand in the officer \_ Baith ye pairties being hard & ye depositions of C'tain famous Witnesses sworne & admittit in p'ns of ye p'te the foirsaid Provost & Baillies found that ye said George Rasay Baillie in Manner forsd be thravig of his nose & foute & flinging at ye said Baillie and lykwayis that the said John disobeyit & made inpediment to the said off'er qn as yai comandit him to waird – And therfoir dec'nis ye said Johne Farnie to pas p'ntlie to ye Croce of yis burt and yruon his kneis ask ye said George Ramsays pardone – And in caiss the said John at ony tyme heirafter trouble or molest any peaceable ny'tbor vywayis nor be ordor of law he is aitet to pay thrie hundret merks – sic Subscribit

Johne Ferne vt my hand

Above Bakers Pew in Old Church was carved “Bread is the Staff of Life”  
As a result the Fleshers carved “Man Shall Not Live by Bread Alone” above theirs.

**29 January 1556-7**

Alexander Kyd had a heich buith and John Gardine had a laich buith in ane fore land lying upon the north side of the Hie Mercat Gait.”

A baxter was allowed to build his oven under the street on condition that he restored the roadway properly. “The Council hes grantit licence to Dunkan Kyneir to tak up the calsay

before his land, to the effect that he may big ane pend fornay<sup>1</sup> foreanenet his bakehouse; providit that he big the calsay complete again, naither heicher nor laicher nor waur not it wes.”

**4 December 1521.** Reche Crag, baxter, having been amerced for selling bread under weight, lost his tempper and “mispersonit the officer, saying, that he had false weights to weigh his bread with. For mends he is ordainit to come on Sunday next in time of hie mess with a candle of a pund of wax, [to be offered] at the will of the judges, and ask him forgiveness, and say That the word was false he said.”

**10 March 1556-7** although burgers commonly wore whingers, it seems odd that bakers should be at work in their arms. It is found “be the depositions of syndrie and famous witnesses,” that while Duncan Kynere and John Efak were at work. “Andro Broun committit stroublance in upstricking of the bakehouse door, and coming upon them, with ane drawn whinger;” and that, thereafter “Duncan committit stroublance of Andro in following and stricking of him in the kirkyaird.” For these offences both parites are amerced, and Andro is besides ordained “to content and pay John Efak six shillings, and that for the skaith in the burning of his bread in Duncan’s oven in the time” of the brawl. Efak was himself a brawler, for we find him afterwards “convict in stroublance of this gude town, and of drawing Henry Robertson’s blude in the Fish Mercat, [for whicch] he is decernit to pay Henry six shillings eight pence, and the Bailies eight shillings for their unlaw.”

**Bakers Call House.** These premises were located near the junction of King Street and King’s Road, beside the laundry run by the nuns of the Nunnery in King Street and near St. Andrew’s Church. Its purpose appears to have been a kind on Trade Union Office. However unemployed Bakers would go there each morning in the hope of picking up a day’s work, until they were full employed again. He premises were certainly there in 1933, as there is a reference to them in a Pension Petition by a Baker in that year. *See separate file.*

**4<sup>th</sup> October 1566** Alexander Carnegy was appointed to hold one of the keys to the Town Common Kist.

**1685** William Watson was Burgh Treasurer.

**1523** Regarding a woman’s inabilty to do business “Maister James Matland compearit in court, and openly showit how his mother, Jonet Grenlaw, is and unhable woman to buy or sell with ony manner of person, or till analy (transfer to the ownership of another) ony ,manner of land, annual, or other guids moveable or immovable. And gif ony person buy or sell with her in time to come, he protests that it be of nae avail because of her inabilitie, and that it turn him nocht,, not yet nane other, to prejudice. Considering them it may concern, this is openly made in judgement.”

**5th December 1685** Baillies Watson, Moodie and Arbuthnot to try to settle the differences between Alexander Williamson and the Baxter Trade. (Town Minutes).

**16<sup>th</sup> February 1686** David Ramsay, on of John Ramsay, Baker, admitted as a member of Gilbert Guthrie’s Mortification. (Town Minutes)

**13October 1685** Margaret Stibles, wife of Alexander Williamson banned from selling any bread or flour. (Town Minutes).

Maxwell’s Dundee Prior to the reformation records that John Wallace “complainit that Jonet Hardy his feeit servant, wald nocht enter hame to his service. Whairfore the Bailies hes commandit the officers to pass to Findlo Fell’s house, and put inhibition to Findlo and his wife that they neither give meat, drink nor labour to Jonet until she compear in this tolbuith, and it be declarit whas servant sho is.”

## **Perrie Street**

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<sup>1</sup> An arched furnace.

Perrie Street, Lochee is named after Bailie Perrie, long known as "The Provost of Lochee". Born in Burrleton in 1835, he came to Dundee as An apprentice baker in 1846. He started his own business in 1854 and ran it until shortly before his death in January 1917 age 82. In 1876 he entered the Council and served until 1917. During that time he was a bailie and convener of most of the municipal committees. He served under 12 Lord Provosts and had so much influence that he was known as "*The Provost maker*"

### **Council Minutes**

#### **Alasone, John (Dean of the Baxters)**

- Attacked and hit on the ear by a sword, the culprits names given in the minutes (17 April 1604).
- Patrick Brown confesses he was in the group (17 April 1604).
- Andrew Philip (gownmaker) convicted of drinking and calling the dean "hangman" (17 April 1604).

An interesting sideline from Enid Gaudie's book about Angus Millers: "that grinding with a hand quern was woman's work but as soon as the simplest of mechanisms was introduced to produce the horizontal mill it became man's work. However the women kept their hand querns, because it was always simpler to grind their own meal instead of waiting for the men to organise and it was just as quick because the mechanised 'man's mill' kept breaking down". It was ever thus... *(do you think the first very simple mechanised horizontal mill could be the original man's shed?)*