

SAFFRON WALDEN CHARITIES *circa* 1830s

Saffron Walden had a large number of charities, usually left by bequest. In 1836, new trustees were set up to amalgamate the Erswells, Sparrows and Turners charities, and to re-open the Grammar School. A huge number of charity documents and volumes, belonging to Saffron Walden Town Council, are stored at the Essex Record Office and the list can be viewed on their website <http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk/> by searching the SEAX database. They include extensive records of the Saffron Walden Almshouses, numerous apprenticeship indentures, etc. This list was compiled for research purposes from various sources and may not be comprehensive. If using this list, please acknowledge the origin as this website.

NAME of Charity	DATE(s)	BENEFACTIONS/CONDITIONS	Nos. (1830s)
Adams (or Tollesbury Charity)	1623	One quarter of income for clothing poor people of Walden; one quarter to the master of the free grammar-school of Walden; one half for putting out poor children apprentices or on clothing".	
Almshouses	1400, 17? and 1832-4	Expulsion for swearers and 'common haunters of alehouses' ; but generally held for life, included various perks like fuel.	30 residents
Baptist Chapel	?	Money to poor of congregation <u>Baptist Chapel Charity:</u> £119s10d appropriate to poor of congregation, distributed annually by deacons: trustees Edmund Farmer Reeve of Saffron Walden and Samuel White of Debden	£119 p.a.
Barlee	?	Apprenticeship once every 6 years – shared with several villages	
Broomfield	1682	Apprenticing poor boys.	2-3 boys each year
Charity School	1715	Schooling for poor children + clothing	30 children

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Elizabeth Erswells	1653	The "Twenty Shilling Money" was given in two halves - exclusions were?	Varying between 60 - 100 people
Falklands, Lady	1776	The 'Eleven money' was a clothing ticket for poor, preference to "the sick and antient".	39 people
Grammar School		<i>(Closed until 1844)</i>	
Hubbard's Charity	?	Distributed bread to the poor on Good Friday	
Leaders	1676 (or 1626?)	Bread for poor on the first Sunday in clean Lent and the Friday after Trinity Sunday"	12 people
Lord Howard de Walden's Charity (Howard's Livery)	1796	£2000 in 3% Consols, the dividend to provide clothing for 12 poor men and 12 poor women of Saffron Walden, and 5 poor men and 5 poor women of Littlebury. Six Wenden poor were added in 1826 but this was possibly short-lived?	34 old people
Martin's, Lettice Charity	1562 (or 1563?)	Money to "the most aged and deserving poor women residing at Audley End" and to "all the most necessitous poor belonging to Walden, a preference being given to the aged and sick". The share given to the latter varied from 1s to 5s, and to the poor women of Audley End, from 2s to 3s6d.	10-18 old people
Lying-in Charity Sheets were	1807	for the relief of Poor Lying-in Women in their own Homes - loan of sheets and baby clothes.	?

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lent, and baby clothes		Also various other subscription charities.	
Pennystone's	1654	Bread weekly to the poor on Sundays in the church, after Divine Service	About 25 people?
Rand's	?	Small sums of money or bread to Castle St poor (only every few years?).	Negligible
Sparrow's	1705	Rent of premises in Church Street distributed "amongst such honest and industrious poor inhabitants of Saffron Walden as had been of honest life and conversation, or were aged, or overburthened with young children ...". The money was occasionally used to apprentice a poor boy but was more generally distributed annually, in small sums, to six poor persons .	7 people
Suffolk & Turner's	1688 - or 1690?	Apprenticing poor boys	3 boys in 1834
Symond's	1481	Rent to mend foul highways	
Turner's, Edmund (of Audley End) Charity	1700	25s each to 20 Audleyend poor 5s each to 48 Walden poor.	68 people
Turner's, Thomas	1623	Various bequests: some "for the increase of diet for the poor people of the almshouse in Walden upon every Christmas Day"; some for a preacher "who should make a memorial sermon upon the day whereon he should	?

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		be buried" and for the sexton for preparing the bells and for persons to "ring the bells of the church of Walden on the same day"; also "five-dozen of penny-bread" weekly after Divine Service "upon poor people of Walden" in such a way that different people received each Sunday. The residue was "to be yearly bestowed in cloth, fitting for the wearing of poor people".	
Turner's, William	1612	Weekly bread to poor people bread was distributed, in the church, after Divine Service	6 people