

## **THE PAULS FAMILY**

The **Pauls** were the leading family in Tetbury for some years during the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries and their influence has lingered long in the town. Rarely was there a meeting of Feoffees without at least one Paul being present and as the leading law firm in the area their influence was far and wide. The last member of the firm was Aubrey Paul Kitcat, his mother was a Paul, when the firm was sold in 1935.

Among the homes occupied by the family at one time or another were Highgrove House, Doughton Manor, Barton Abbots, The Ferns, 43 Long Street [these last two now form The Surgery], Gloucester House, The Close, The Priory, The Chipping Croft and Northlands Cottage.

## **The Holfords of Westonbirt**

The Holford family came to Westonbirt on the marriage of (Sir) Richard Holford to Sarah Crew. He was 29, she 16. They had no children and although married young Sarah also died young, but a second marriage produced an heir in George Robert Holford. In 1823 the old house was pulled down and a new one built. George's son, Robert Stayner Holford inherited the estate in 1839 and rebuilt the house as we now know it.

He designed and planted the Arboretum and was succeeded by his son George, later Sir, who maintained the collection of trees, plants and orchids, and was also aide de camp to King Edward VII. He died without issue and the estate passed to a nephew Lord Morley, who having enough property of his own sold it and thus Westonbirt School was born.