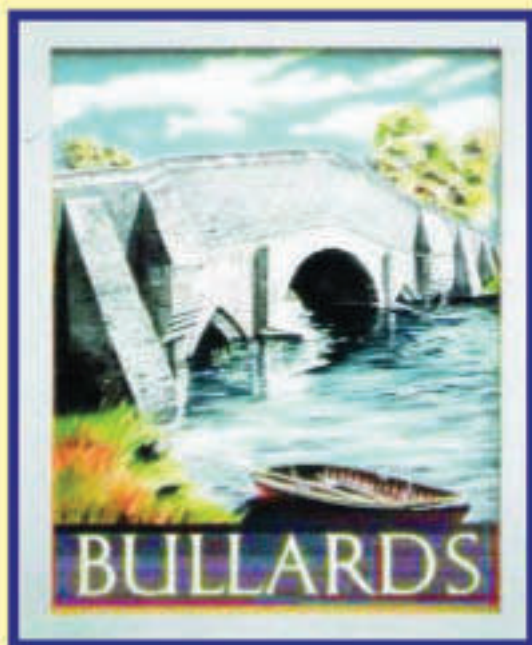


The Norfolk Ancestor



Volume Ten Part One
MARCH 2013



The Journal of the Norfolk Family History Society
formerly Norfolk & Norwich Genealogical Society

Postcards from Great Yarmouth



Lionel Jones has traced some of his relatives in Canada who have a large collection of photographs they inherited from their great grandmother Gertrude Nicols. The two pictures above were taken in Great Yarmouth. The first shows a woman and a child in a hammock on the beach. The second shows two women and a child in a motorcycle combination. Can anyone throw any light on these images which were taken in the late 1920s or early 1930s.

Norfolk Family History Society

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For a full list of contacts with email addresses please see page 35

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UK	£10	£15	£75	£112	£165	£250
Overseas Airmail	£12	£18	£90	£135	£200	£300

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NORFOLK FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY
 See pull-out form in the centre of this magazine or renew
 your subscription online.

Date	Event	Speaker	Branch
8 March	Interpretation of family military photographs He will also give advice on how to take family military history research further and is willing to look at any photos or material that members may wish to bring with them.	Neil Storey	Norwich
12 March	There's None So Queer as Folk	Ian Waller	Diss
6 April	National Maritime Museum's Caird Library	Gregory Toth	London
9 April	Fighting Families	Ian Hook	Diss
12 April	Norfolk citizens' experiences of the Grand Tour	Victoria Draper	Norwich
16 April	Trip to London (see page23)		Diss
10 May	Norwich in the 50s	Pete Goodrum	Norwich
14 May	Thru England in William and Mary's Time	Frances Hart	Diss
14 June	Newspapers in family history research	Rosemary Dixon of Archants	Norwich

DISS
 Diss Methodist Church, Victoria Road, Diss (A1066)
 SOUTH NORFOLK (2nd Tuesday of each month at 7.00 pm)
 £1 per member - £2 for non-members

NORWICH
 Kirby Hall, 70 St Giles Street, Norwich
 (2nd Friday of each month at 7.00 pm)

LONDON
 Society of Genealogists, 14 Charterhouse Buildings, Goswell Road.
 London EC1M 7BA
 (Approximately every six months, 2.00 - 4.00pm)



The Norfolk Family History Society

KIRBY HALL OPEN DAY

Wednesday 20 March 2013
10.00am - 4.00pm

Have you visited our headquarters at Kirby Hall?
Why not come and see us?

Take a look at the vast range of local genealogical resources we have available - meet the volunteers who can help you in your search.

Have you a particular problem in your search?
Why not book an half-hour session with one of our experts? To book log on to membership@nfhs.co.uk

Books for sale.



The Front Cover

The picture on the front cover is the pub sign for The Bridge at Potter Heigham. The pub opened in 1869 and in 1875 was taken over by James Chase who was also the parish clerk and pinder, constable, sexton and tax collector - now that's multi-tasking!

This picture is reproduced by the kind permission of Arthur Panks' (the artist) Family You can view this and other pub signs at http://www.norwich-pubs-breweries.co.uk/pub_signs/pub_signs_norfolk.shtm. Alternatively go to <http://www.norwich-heritage.co.uk> to view other work and see their plans for this year's project. Norwich Heritage Projects can be contacted at info@norwich-heritage.co.uk.

NOTICES

Kirby Hall Library Opening Times

Tuesday and Thursday	10.00am - 1.00pm
Wednesday	10.00am - 4.00pm
First and last Sunday in the month	10.00am - 1.00pm

The Norfolk Ancestor

The Norfolk Ancestor is a quarterly journal published in March, June, September and December. Opinions expressed in this journal are those of individual authors and do not necessarily represent the views of either the Editor or the Norfolk Family History Society which cannot take responsibility for the accuracy of facts in the articles submitted.

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Submitting an article:

Articles for future editions are always required - submit and see! But please note, the Editor cannot guarantee the issue in which your article will appear. Every effort will be made to reproduce articles as presented, but the Editor reserves the right to edit as necessary. The Editor will assume that all necessary authorisation for attachments, photographs etc. has been obtained and the Norfolk Family History Society will not be held liable in the case of a subsequent query.

Articles should preferably be typed in a 10pt font for an A5 page with a 1.4cm border - about 400 words per page without photographs. Please keep articles to 3 pages maximum - 1200 words approx. Email or CD versions are most helpful.

All material from regular contributors for inclusion in the June 2013 issue should be sent to the Editor at Kirby Hall NO LATER than 20 April 2013.

Our thanks in advance to all those who submit material for publication.

Notes and Queries:

Queries predominate, but offers of help and items of information and general interest may be included. Entries as brief as possible please, preferably less than 150 words, typed in a 10pt font.

Addresses should be given in full (an email address alone is insufficient as this may limit response). Membership number and email address should be included.

Non-members should include a cheque for £6 (drawn on a UK Clearing Bank) made payable to 'The Norfolk Family History Society', for each item intended for publication.

Address correspondence to: The Editor, c/o Kirby Hall, 70 St. Giles Street, Norwich, NR2 1LS. Email ancestor@nfhs.co.uk

Photographs:

Photographs are always welcome, they liven up the layout. Preferably send in your photographs by email as a JPEG attachment (Please scan at 300dpi if possible). Photocopies do not always reproduce well as they need to be scanned into a computer and they lose clarity in the process.

If you send in an original photograph, please state whether you wish it to be returned to you.



Dear members

Let me introduce myself. My name is Robin Whitmore and I have taken over the Editorship of 'The Norfolk Ancestor' from Denagh Hacon who has done a sterling job in the past. I have recently retired from John Lewis Norwich where, for the last twenty years, I have been creating a weekly in-house magazine for the branch.

I became a member of the Society in 2009 as I have been researching a book on an eminent local gentleman, General John Money, who lived at Whitlingham and who built the first Crown Point Hall, and intended to use the Society's very comprehensive family records.

Denagh's wish to retire as Editor came at an ideal time for me as I was looking for something else to fill my retirement. I am also heavily involved with the Horsey Seal Project and have spent many hours on the dunes talking to visitors who come to see the seal colony during the breeding season. I also love walking and exploring the wonderfully diverse landscapes we have in Norfolk.

I hope to continue Denagh's good work and put my own stamp on 'The Norfolk Ancestor'. I hope the small changes I have made in this, my first issue, will meet with your approval. Please do not hesitate to contact me with your comments, criticisms and suggestions.



Robin Whitmore MN | 1725

Buckinghamshire Family History Society Open Day

Saturday 27 July 2013, 10.00am to 4.00pm

The Grange School, Wendover Way, Aylesbury, HP21 7NN

Research facilities will include our names database, and Parish Registers, People and Places Libraries. Sales of Parish Register transcripts and other research aids.

Expert advice; guest societies and local heritage groups;

suppliers of data CDs, maps, software, archive materials and more.

Admission free, with free parking at the venue.

Further information, including full list of those attending, can be found at www.bucksfhs.org.uk



BOOK REVIEWS

Norfolk at War - Wings of Friendship

Frank Meeres

Amberley Publishing

ISBN 978 1 4456 0466 4

£14.99

Frank Meeres is a well-known local author. His other books include: Norwich Murders and Misdemeanours, Yarmouth and Gorleston Through Time, Norwich Through Time, Yarmouth Murders and Misdemeanours, Paranormal Norfolk and Thetford & Breckland Through Time.

Frank Meeres has done a wonderful job of putting together this account of life in East Anglia during the Second World War.

By using material from various American sources the book reads as a day to day account of the lives of the men, women and children of the area

alongside that of the young Americans who served at the time on our 'unsinkable aircraft carrier'. These young men, who had travelled half way round the world to play their part in the overthrow of the common enemy, deserve our grateful thanks. They could be playing darts, dominoes or drinking at the local one day and dicing with death over Europe the next. This did not stop them from bestowing their kindness on the locals - especially the children.

A stirring and heart-warming true account of friendship and courage.

The Norwich Book of Days

Carol Twinch

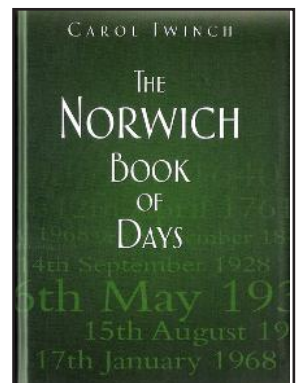
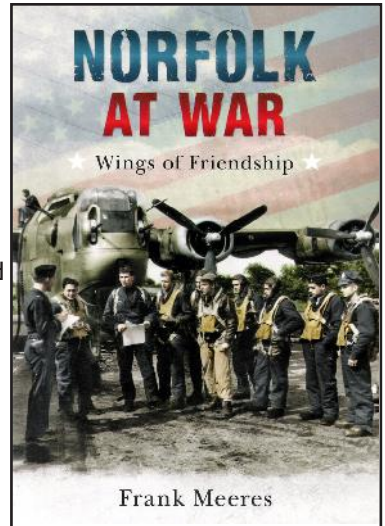
The History Press

ISBN 978 0 7524 65890

Hardback £9.99

Suffolk based author Carol Twinch has collected a notable fact about Norwich for each day of the year gleaned from various sources such as local newspapers. They date from the 12th century until the 21st century and cover a whole spectrum of subjects from Royal visits, extremes of weather, executions, strange events and many more.

The book's format makes it a very easy and interesting read. You can just read the entries for the day, the week or carry on to your heart's delight.



FROM THE BOOKSTALL

Harling Memories

Compiled and Edited by David O'Neale

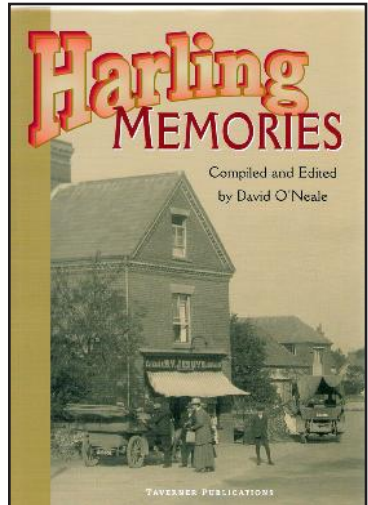
Taverner Publications ISBN 1 901470 20 2

£16.00

This fascinating book is full of photographs, memories and ephemera of East and West Harling, Norfolk, spanning the period from 1899 to the outbreak of the Second World War. The photographs and memories were sourced from various accounts including Harling School log books, a scrapbook of newspaper cuttings which date back to the 1890s and the diary for 1912 of Evelyn Nugent of West Harling Hall.

The compiler David O'Neale said that he had outstanding support from the local people and about 40 people arrived at the Old School Hall to help identify some of the people featured in pre-war photographs.

It's a great book if you're from Harling and a great and interesting read in its own right if you're not.



USEFUL WEBSITES

For those of you with early Australian connections in your family tree these websites might afford you some help in your research.

www.genealogylinks.net/australia/all-australia/convicts.htm This website contains a wealth of information including the Australian Convict Index 1788-1868 and 'Claim a Convict' which has a searchable index of all convicts arriving in Australia between 1788-1850.

convictcentral.com Convicts to Australia - Most family historians in Australia regard a convict in their ancestry as enormously desirable. This website is a work in progress and data is being added regularly. It includes chronological lists of all convict transports sent from England and includes alphabetical lists of the First, Second and Third Fleet convicts.



NFHS WEBSITE

The redesigned NFHS website 'went live' on 7 November 2013 - www.norfolkfhs.org.uk. Our objectives included 'A modern design, simple navigation and an interactive members' area providing facilities here to:



- Access the current Norfolk Ancestor journal plus others
- Find and contact those members researching similar family interests
- Join the Society online
- Renew subscriptions and make purchases online, etc.

Following about 5000 visits in the first month, the encouraging emails received indicate that we have achieved those aims. Nevertheless, a few members have encountered problems such as:

1. Unable to obtain password due to the recorded email address being out of date or incorrectly registered, therefore the confirming email is not received. The only solution is to phone or write to Kirby Hall with correct details, after which a password can be obtained using the forgotten password routine. It is, therefore, most important to keep any changes in personal details, especially email address, up to date using the 'Membership', 'Amend Details' menu.
2. The 'Library' menu is not interactive and the displayed results are only lists of what is available to view at Kirby Hall, Norwich. It does not create a further online record search.
3. NORS (Norfolk Online Record Search) remains a separate entity exactly as before. It is used for researching Parish Registers and Monumental Inscriptions online. Login requires the NORS password that is issued to new members. However, the 'User name/Login' always remains identical for both the new website and for NORS. Note: At any time members can change either or both passwords by using the respective 'Change details' menus. Finally - there is no need to firstly log into the NFHS website if the only intention is to use NORS.
4. We are aware that some members, when completing online financial transactions, have received 'Error 508' and have been unable to proceed. This is a result of an intermittent error in the HSBC software and is being investigated by the bank. If this repeatedly happens please contact treasurer@nfhs.co.uk.

I hope that this clears up a few misunderstandings; meanwhile there are answers to some other questions under the 'Membership/benefits' 'F.A.Q.s' menu.

If you have not yet visited the new website, why not do so now?

Mike Dack - Acting Webmaster

NORS (Norfolk Online Record Search)

While 2.7 million records have now been added to NORS this remains an on-going project with more parish registers yet to be uploaded.

One exciting new development is the addition of Burials/Monumental Inscriptions of Earlham Cemetery, Norwich. This is a mammoth task having been undertaken by Patrick Palgrave-Moore. Eric Rivett is copy typing the meticulous records, made by Partick circa 1989 and again in 2006 onwards, in a format suitable for uploading to NORS.

Patrick divided the cemetery into 117 areas and currently areas 1 to 5 have been uploaded to NORS together with their associated plans identifying grave locations.

A significant recent addition is that of Holt banns, baptisms, marriages and burials, amounting to about 15,000 entries transcribed by Edmund Perry.

Another exciting on-going project headed by Roy Scott with other members of the team - Jean Palmer, Karen Ager and Bernard Hale - who have all been working on Norwich Death Returns, which reveal information not found elsewhere. The first tranche, 1894-1898, will shortly be available on NORS.

Mike Dack - NORS Administration

SCHOOLDAYS

School records are an important resource for tracing names and activities of ex-pupils. Many public schools now employ their own archivist to keep records and collect information about former pupils who are successful. However, our own records in this area are limited. The Library does not have a section on 'Education' although it contains some interesting items about Norfolk schools, such as copies of Old Log Books for Stibbard 1863-1905. Journals like the Norvician 1913-1917; 1934-1985 and Old Norvicensian News 1976-1996 about the Norwich School. Magazines from the old County Grammar School 1964-1968 and from its mentor, Wymondham College 1966-1968; 1978-1990. Headmaster Reports of Swaffham Grammar School 1947/8; 1951/1. Also a number of useful books: Gt Yarmouth Grammar School 1554-1905; King's Lynn School by Bob Booth; Bungay Grammar School 1565-1905; History of the Paston School (North Walsham) by Charles Forder; History & Register of Gresham's School 1555-1955; A Reminiscence of King Edward VII Grammar school by Anthony Avis; and This Saddening List (of WWI casualties from the same school) by C.J. Dixon. Recent acquisitions: Gt Yarmouth School by Michael Boon and Langley School: One Hundred Years by Grace Corne, have lists and photos of staff and pupils.

If you own any old magazines or documents relating to Norfolk schools and no longer wish to keep them please consider donating them to the Society's Library. Edmund Perry



CHARLES DICKENS in NORWICH

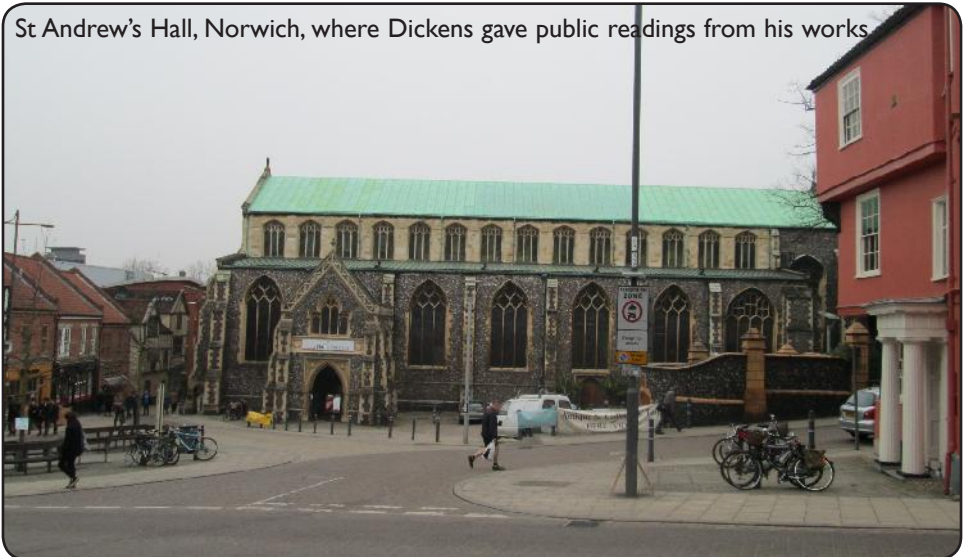
In a year celebrating the 200th anniversary of his birth, it should be remembered that Charles Dickens had connections with Norfolk. In the second part of the article written by Edmund Perry, he tells us of Dickens in Norwich.

After the visit to Norwich in December 1847, Dickens returned ten years later to give live performances at St. Andrew's Hall. The debut was billed for January 1858 but had to be postponed until 11 October 1859. On the Wednesday night there was hardly a vacant seat when he read 'The Christmas Carol' and the trial scene from 'Pickwick Papers'. Dickens spoke with a light lisp on some syllables and The Norfolk Chronicle thought his voice far from powerful, but showed remarkable expression and disguised his voice cleverly to distinguish between four different people conversing. The Mercury praised his voice "as rich, mellifluous, penetrating and powerful". Thursday evening the

audience wasn't as full, but the programme also dealt with 'Little Dombey' rendered as a wheezing unlovable child, and 'Martin Chuzzlewit'. This time The Chronicle journalist thought Dickens better at the comedy of Pickwick than the tragedy of Dombey. Dickens bought his wife a silk shawl, but evidently wasn't too impressed by its quality. His letter to her said: "I don't think much of it. It's Norwich manufacture. That's all I can say. But it's bright and cheerful besides . . ."

In his second tour of 1862, on 28 October, Dickens read parts of 'David Copperfield' beginning with the beach at Yarmouth and ending with the death of Steerforth. His stay at Norwich was enlivened by the visit of a friend the Reverend Whitwell Elwin, editor of the 'Quarterly Review' and Rector of Booton, who much enjoyed the show. However The Chronicle complained that many of the audience could not hear and failed to

St Andrew's Hall, Norwich, where Dickens gave public readings from his works



get their money's worth for the 4/- paid for one and a half hours reading. Evidently Dickens had considerable dramatic power with both vocal and facial expression. He rather spoilt the trial of Pickwick by laughing at his own jokes on the second night when selections from 'Nicholas Nickleby' were also read. The journalist felt Dickens failed to do justice to himself as a great author, whereas Dickens felt the Norwich audience was the least responsive he had ever met.

Dickens visited again five and half years later by which time he was being paid £50 to £80 a night - and he received a better write up. On Friday 29th March 1867 he had "a numerous and fashionable audience" and spoke from memory in the short sentimental story about Dr Marigold and his performing dog with the pathetic death of little Sophy on his

shoulder. As he carried on "business as usual performing again Pickwick's trial for breach of promise, he kept his audience entranced for two hours alternatively exciting them to laughter and moving them to tears". The Norfolk Chronicle described Dickens' readings as "one of the greatest intellectual treats in the shape of amusement we ever heard in Norwich".

Edmund Perry MN3181

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GROUP REPORTS

Correspondence about individual groups and meetings should be addressed to the following organisers;

South Norfolk: Mrs Edith Morley, 'Thwaites', Fersfield, Diss, Norfolk IP22 2BP
Norwich: Mr and Mrs Roger Peck, c/o Kirby Hall (see page 3)
London: Miss Mary Seeley, Flat 3, Butterfield House, 7 Allen Road, London N16 8SB
Email: mary975@btinternet.com (home) and ms28@soas.ac.uk (work).

SOUTH NORFOLK GROUP REPORT

Jenny Jenkins

On Tuesday 13 November our speaker at the Diss Group of the Norfolk Family History Society was Neil Lanham, a former auctioneer, whose talk 'Adventures in Stories and Song in the Oral Tradition of Norfolk and Suffolk' together with recordings and pictures evoked a world that had existed in the 50s and 60s. Although just over half a century ago now, but light years away in terms of culture it was to this world that Neil was introduced at the age of five. This followed the death of his father, when he and his mother Ruby moved from Yarmouth to go and live with an uncle on a Suffolk farm. It was here, where there was no electricity or indeed any modern conveniences and where the house cow provided the milk for butter, that Neil's fascination with the oral traditions of the region began. In the midst of a warm extended family, who would gather by the light of the Tilley lamps in the evening to play cards, his uncles and mother would sing songs and tell riddles and stories. Neil's mother Ruby loved and had a long involvement with horses and the land and her songs reflected this. The young Neil was captivated and as he grew older he became aware that the songs would one day vanish if nobody tried to preserve them for future generations.

The traditional singers and story tellers generally performed in the village pubs where strangers were not welcome and everyone drank mild. Rich in wisdom and metaphor, sometimes bawdy, sometimes relating famous murders of the past when the news was spread by ballads and broadsheets, these songs have been passed down through the generations and evolved over time unfettered by the conventional rules of literacy and music. The names Gunboat Smith, Cocky King, Cyril Poacher and Bob Scarce, to name a few, became legends and, thanks to Neil, they and their songs live on in the recordings and film he has produced.



Neil Lanham on a vintage roller



Another group of rural heroes were the horsemen, many whose names have never been forgotten, who were revered and respected in communities who could not have survived without the horse, for their ancient wisdom and skills in horse management and welfare were honed over centuries. It was with great pride that these men wore 'the Suffolk jacket' commissioned by themselves and costing thirteen weeks wages, a considerable sum in those days.

It was a most interesting talk and more information can be obtained from Neil's website, www.oraltraditions.co.uk.

On 11 December the Diss group held their final meeting of the year. To celebrate the season Mike Wabe, one of our regular and very popular guest speakers, was on hand with a selection of music to lead us, with his powerful voice, through a delightful evening of carols. These were interwoven with stories written and narrated by himself, some amusing and thought provoking, some poignant and one or two extremely spine-chilling, together with a dramatic recitation of 'Christmas in the Workhouse' by George R Sims.

This was followed by an excellent buffet.

The Diss group send best wishes for 2013 to all members of the Society wherever they are in the world. Any members in the vicinity of Diss on any of our meeting evenings are assured of a very warm welcome.

On 8 January the Diss group held their first meeting of 2013 and three of our members gave us three totally different but engaging talks.

Mrs Edith Morley's talk, entitled 'Paviour and Pugilist Champion of England', was a tale of family ancestor Thomas Juchau, whose family were believed to be of Swiss descent but, more probably, French. Thomas was baptised on Christmas Day 1739 at St Giles in the Fields in London and was a paviour like his father, but he also became famous as a bare-knuckle boxer, fighting under the names 'Tom the Paviour', 'The Disher' and also 'Tom the Swiss'. This extraordinary man was 5' 10" high and weighed 188lbs, and won many fights against notable contestants by sheer strength and hard hitting, maybe as many as 100, formally claiming the 'Championship of England' which nobody challenged until 1766 when William Dart, the Spitalfield dyer decided that he would vindicate the damaged prestige of British boxing against 'The Foreigner'.

The Duke of Richmond had become Tom Juchau's patron and arranged the match. Desirous to raise the profile and reputation of the sport which had fallen into a disgraceful state he, and some aristocratic friends raised 1000 guineas prize money and Juchau and Dart were told to 'train and fight with dignity and honour'. This event would be well managed and orderly.

The ring was raised and a stand for the gentry which included the Duke of Richmond and the Earls of Derby and Grosvenor. Seats were provided for spectators who were charged 5 shillings and the event was attended by people from all walks of life and all parts of the country, eager to see the fight between these two powerful men, but the mighty Juchau finally met his match. He was unable to land his powerful punches against his younger, agile opponent, although he did deliver one powerful blow to the top of his head and felled him, but Darts recovered and after 40 minutes of furious fighting he knocked the Champion of England senseless with a crushing blow to the breastbone. He had redeemed the reputation of his country and won the 1000 guineas.

It seems likely that Tom Juchau never fought again, but he died a wealthy property owner in 1806,

Some of his fights are recorded in 'Famous Fights Past and Present' edited by H Furniss, Shurey's Ed, Vol 1. No 6.

Next followed an interactive and amusing talk by Tony Skinner entitled 'Banging Me Head on a

Brick Wall', a topic which struck a chord with most of us. Tony's particular brick wall concerned his father's life during the war years subsequent to his being called up in 1939 and based in Surrey with the 6th Army. Tony's first lead was his own birth certificate of 1941 where his father's occupation was shown as a Rinco planner, being employed by the huge print plant the Sun Engraving at Watford. Searches at the local Watford library, the Records Office and the MOD in London elicited nothing. The brick wall was getting higher and thicker.

Tony at last found a web local to Watford and discovered that during the war the Sun was printing billions of propaganda leaflets to be dropped over Germany and also invasion maps which changed according to the circumstances in the theatre of war. This information tied in nicely with Tony's father who had been in the Royal Ordnance Survey Regiment at the end of the war. Further reading revealed that the Sun had been involved in the production for the development of the Manhattan Project as well as the production of material for the Radar Confounding Technique - code named Window so obviously these records are covered by The Official Secrets Act, but some of the bricks had tumbled and Tony just has to wait 30 years for the 100 year time limit for The Official Secrets Act to expire. Ouch!

Finally, Julie Kersey gave us a rather thought provoking talk entitled 'The Kerseys of Wetherden' in which she concentrated on one tiny detail of her family tree. Samuel Kersey was baptised in May 1819 and died in 1821, a common enough event in those days of high child mortality rates and easy for such a short life on a chart to be eclipsed by those who had enjoyed a longer more fruitful existence.

However, one day when Julie was in the Suffolk Record Office she discovered that the Ipswich Journal had been digitised and the dates available covered 1821. On searching she found an entry for Saturday 11 August 1821 which mentioned an inquest by the coroner at Walberswick. "Samuel Kersey found drowned in pond at father's house." Verdict accidental death. Another notice mentioned the amount paid for beer at the inquest at the Maypole Inn, Wetherden

Julie had put flesh onto the bones of a couple of dates and a name and this we could relate to a grieving family and a sad little episode which, although it happened a long time ago, seemed no less significant over the passage of years.

LONDON GROUP REPORT

Mary Seeley

The next meeting for the London group will be Saturday 6 April at the Society of Genealogists (between 2.00pm and 4.30pm). As Norfolk is a county with a proud sea-faring history, our speaker will be Gregory Toth, the Librarian for Acquisitions and Cataloguing at the National Maritime Museum's Caird Library (the most comprehensive maritime archive in the world). This will be an introductory session on how the Caird Library can aid your family history research. The library is a specialist reference library with a collection including over 100,000 books, 20,000 pamphlets, 20,000 bound periodicals and 8,000 rare books dating from 1474 to 1850. It covers all aspects of British seafaring history from the 14th to the 20th centuries.

The London group will also meet on 19 October, for a members' day. Please let me know if there are any themes you would particularly like to focus on.



PANDORA'S BOX

Researching your family history can reveal some dark secrets and Anne Young, a Member from Australia, tells of some of her surprising discoveries.

She writes:

While researching my family history, some of the 'family secrets' I have uncovered include:

- A) Bigamy
- B) Great great granny jailed twice for drunk and disorderly behaviour and attacking her estranged husband
- C) Familial sexual abuse
- D) A 'con-artist' who preyed on vulnerable women
- E) A previously unknown uncle who was hanged for murder.

Fortunately, shameful as some of these incidents are, I am able to view all of them as simply grist to the family-tree mill.

My quandary begins when other family members ask to see my research. As some of these events are still close to home, do I censor my research and give them a sanitized version?

Explaining to some of them that they may learn things that are unpalatable, does not and cannot, prepare them for the for the news that their father 'behaved inappropriately' with his sister, or that their whole tribe was illegitimate.

Giving one branch the unvarnished story, will, in time, inevitably lead to any censored version being compared and found wanting!

Where does my responsibility to both the living and the dead begin and end?

The truth may set some free, but a truth once freed, can never be recaptured.

Family History - a 'Pandora's Box' indeed.

Anne Young MN 3436

Pinpoint Your Past

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Local & House History
Document Transcription & Translation
Photography

Christine Hood, BA

137a Nelson Street
Norwich NR2 4DS

Email: pinpoint1@btinternet.com

Website: www.pinpointyourpast.co.uk

Telephone: **01603 666638**

ARE YOU RELATED TO PRESIDENT LINCOLN?

To help celebrate the British launch of Steven Spielberg's movie 'Lincoln' and the 204th anniversary of the president's birth on 12 February 1809, genealogist Anthony Adolph is working with the Illinois Office of Tourism to find British relatives of America's most famous president.

In 1637, Samuel Lincoln, an apprentice weaver in Norwich, left his home in the obscure Norfolk village of Hingham to brave a voyage across the Atlantic. Samuel had no idea that he would survive to raise a family in the new colonies of America, let alone that his great great grandson Abraham would become one of the greatest figures in American History.

This means that if you have ancestors from Hingham or have Lincoln ancestors from the Norwich area, you could have President Lincoln in your family tree!

Illinois, the home state of Abraham Lincoln, hosts many Lincoln attractions and is a great place to visit for a truly adventurous holiday, where you can visit the house Lincoln shared with Mary Todd, the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum and the Springfield Cemetery where he is buried.

If you know of a family connection with the Lincolns of Hingham, Norfolk, please contact Anthony Adolph via www.anthoniyadolph.co.uk or mail@anthoniyadolph.co.uk. You could win a trip to Illinois!



Yorkshire Family History Fair

Saturday 29 June 2013 - 10.00am - 4.30pm

Yorkshire Racecourse Knavesmire Exhibition Centre

All exhibitors under cover.

Exhibitors will include: over 40 Family History Societies from England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland. County Records Offices, Postcards, Books, FindMyPast, GenesReunited.

Admission £4.50 (free for children).

See a full list of exhibitors on our website www.yorkshirefamilyhistoryfair.com

The largest family history event outside London
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FAMILY TREE APPEAL

The NFHS requests FAMILY TREES (even if incomplete) to add to its large collection. These have proved very helpful to other members. Since the last Ancestor Family Trees in respect of the following names have been received and lodged at Kirby Hall.

SURNAME	AREA
FELLOWES	Shotesham
FULLER	Norwich, Topcroft, Blofield (Henstead area)
GEORGE	Witton, Blofield, Besthorpe to Australia
GRIDDLESTA(E)IN	Norwich
GROOM	Congham to Kent
HEWETT/HEWITT	Wicklewood
SAYER	Gt. Yarmouth, Gorleston, Leiston, Beccles
WALDON	Fincham, Crimplesham to Australia
WHITE/GERMANY	Helhoughton, Hempnall

Areas shown indicate where the earliest generations or main concentrations of the family occurred.

Attention of Members submitting a Family Tree is drawn to Copyright Law.

Family Tree compilers are not restricted to any particular format. However the FAMILY NAME under which the tree should be recorded must be emphasised.

Members' full postal address and membership number must always be included. Full details can be found on our website.

UNWANTED BMD CERTIFICATES

Again this quarter I have received a lot of unwanted BMD certificates. May I once again thank all those who have sent them in. These are very helpful and much appreciated, so please keep them coming in.

Pam Bridge, Family Tree Co-ordinator MN3292

ADVERTISEMENTS in The Norfolk Ancestor

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Cost:	¼ page	£40.00
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PARISH	Baptisms	Marriages	Burials	Banns
WINFARTHING	1616-1837	1707-1837	1679-1837	1755-1837
TILNEY ALL SAINTS	1558-1930			

The printed material is a finding aid; there may be further unprinted data available on the computers at Kirby Hall. Full details can be checked on copies of the original registers held on fiche or film in Kirby Hall or at The Archive Centre.

TITBITS FROM THE TRANSCRIPTS

Several years ago, while trawling through transcripts of Norfolk Parish Records at the Society of Genealogists, I made a note of the following.

Amongst the Marriages at the Church of St Nicholas, Great Yarmouth.

"Richard TODD, bachelor of this parish, married Maria WRIGHT, spinster of this parish, on 8 May 1830. Witnesses David ABSOLON and Muriel MURREL

Footnote:

"Bridegroom and bride each had a wooden leg, the bridesmaid was lame and blind in one eye, the father was deaf and lame. See The Norfolk Chronicle. David Absolon who signed was the Parish Clerk."

The Norwich Chronicle reported the wedding as follows:

Saturday last, at Yarmouth,

"TODD shoemaker, to Maria Wright, the bride and groom each had a wooden leg, and to add to the singularity of the group, the bride's maid was lame and blind in one eye, and her father was deaf and lame."

Ian Pidgeon MN 12686

NORFOLK RESEARCH

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CERTIFICATES**

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W. Hepburn

11 Preston Avenue, Wymondham, Norfolk NR18 9JE

Email: willie.h.1945@virgin.net

Norfolk Family History Society - Diss Group

Visit to the Royal Hospital Chelsea and the National Army Museum

Tuesday 16 April.

Coach from Simmonds' Coach Station, Roswald House, Diss leaving at 8.00am. Arriving at the National Army Museum at approximately 11.00am. Wander around the Museum (for about one and quarter hours) and possibly have your lunch there.

The Base Café offers freshly made tea, coffee, seasonal foods and snacks, sandwiches and salads, cream teas and cakes.

Visitors to the National Army Museum may deposit hats, coats and small hand luggage at front reception.

Photography IS permitted within the Museum.

Go next door to the Royal Hospital, where a tour will be booked for 1.30pm.

Be at the Chelsea Gate (next door to the National Army Museum) by 1.25pm.

A Chelsea Pensioner Guide will take the group on a tour of the Hospital lasting until 3.30pm.

You can then either wander round the Hospital grounds and shop or return next door to the National Army Museum for one and three quarter hours where there is so very much to see. Both the National Army Museum and the Royal Hospital have souvenir shops - these are also available online.

For more information about the National Army Museum and the Royal Hospital, look at their websites.

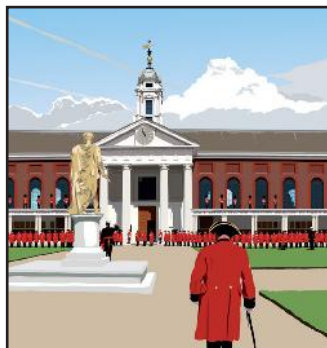
www.chelsea-pensioners.co.uk www.nam.ac.uk

Our coach will pick us up at 5.15pm to return to Diss

All this will cost a total of £25.00 each.
Non-members will be welcome provided
there is room.

Cars may be parked at Roswald House. Simmonds will
charge £1.00 per car which is cheaper than the town car
parks,

If you are interested please email bettymorley@uwclub.net
as soon as possible to book your place as this is a special
trip with a maximum of 30 places.



NORFOLK RECORD OFFICE REPORT

New Parish Register Accessions, October 2012 - January 2013

Bradfield	burials	1813-1997
Bressingham	marriages	1983-2007
Congham	baptisms	1580-1899
	marriages	1581-1837 (available to 1900 on microfilm)
	burials	1580-2011
Costessey	marriages	2008-2012
	banns	1976-2010
Grimston	baptisms	1552-1988
	marriages	1552-2011
	burials	1552-1988
	banns	1819-1975
Ingham	marriages	1992-2003
Roydon (near Lynn)	baptisms	1721-1967
	marriages	1728, 1740-1836 (available to 1901 on microfilm)
	burials	1721-2012

Completion of the Great Yarmouth Parish Registers' Microfilming Project

Last year, the Record Office began microfilming 59 parish registers from St Nicholas's Church, Great Yarmouth. Many of the volumes were very badly damaged when the church was bombed in 1942, and are in too poor condition to be used.

We are delighted to announce that we have completed this project. You can now view the Yarmouth registers on microfilm in our searchroom for the following dates:

*	baptisms	1558-1839, 1868-1952
*	marriages	1558-1853, 1857-62, 1864-1959
*	burials	1558-1891, 1895-1960
*	banns	1754-65, 1769-1912, 1932-50

Copies of the new films are also available at the Norfolk Heritage Centre situated in the Norfolk and Norwich Millennium Library and at Great Yarmouth Library.

Amongst the many hundreds of baptism and marriage entries, we noticed the following unusual occupations; ransacker (1907); private detective (1908); billiard maker (1910); pianoforte key maker (1911); NSPCC inspector (1915); gymnastic instructor (1921); compass adjustor (1927); genealogist (1940); and rodent operator (1952). Why not take a look at the films to see what others you can spot?

Norfolk Land Tax Assessments

We are pleased to announce that we have completed the catalogueing of some 443 boxes of Norfolk land tax assessments, 1831-1963. This collection also contains miscellaneous items, 1797-1957 which includes some income tax records.

Land tax assessments record the names of owners and occupiers of property in each parish, as well as the value of the property and the amount of tax paid. They are therefore potentially of interest to family and local historians. Survival of the assessments varies according to the land tax division, however. Another drawback with the records is that over time, increasing numbers of property owners redeemed the land tax (i.e. paid a lump sum for all time), so that the assessments

become less useful as a record of property ownership. For more information (including a comprehensive introduction to these records), go to NROCAT, our online catalogue at <http://nrocat.norfolk.gov.uk>, select an advanced search, and enter P/LT in the catalogue reference field.

Exhibition in the Long Gallery

Norfolk Record Office: Norfolk's House of History, celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the County's Archive Service, runs until 1 May 2013. This exhibition celebrates the Record Office's history, as well as the diversity and status of its holdings, which were 'Designated' in 2005 as being of outstanding national and international importance. Examples of the documents on show will include a thirteenth-century manuscript from the Great Hospital, Norwich, which was listed on the UNESCO UK Memory of the World Register in 2011; the late fifteenth-century Swan Roll, which was saved from export in 1999 after a public appeal: one of the lavishly illustrated journals of Hilda Zigomala of Rougham relating to colonial life in India with her cavalry-officer husband in 1894; and promotional material for confectionery manufactured in Norfolk by Caley's, Rowntree Mackintosh, and Nestlé.

This will be followed in May and June by The Story of Norfolk's Parish Registers exploring the changing formats of parish registers over the centuries, and how and why they were introduced. On display will be a selection of parish registers, revealing some of the fascinating stories, unusual names, and unexpected memoranda they contain. You will also be able to see baptism, marriage and burial entries of some well-known Norfolk inhabitants, including Nurse Edith Cavell (opposite), artist John Crome, and author, Henry Rider Haggard.



Lunchtime Talks

A programme of talks linked to the Norfolk Record Office's fiftieth anniversary began in January. These talks, starting at 1.00pm, and held in the Green Room at the Archive Centre, are free of charge and continue into March and April with:

Tuesday, 12 March, The Archive Centre Years, by Dr John Alban

Tuesday, 19 March, Norfolk Sound Archive: the First Decade, by Jonathan Draper

Wednesday, 27 March, Paper, Parchment and People, by the NRO Conservation Team

Tuesday, 2 April, Never Too Old, Never Too Young, by Victorial Draper

Tuesday, 9 April, BRO: Before the Record Office, by Michael Begley

Tuesday, 16 April, Archival Explorations, by Professor Carole Rawcliffe

Tuesday, 23 April, The Ideal Record Office: One Without a Searchroom? by Claire Bolster, Susan Maddock and Jenny Watts

Create a Hand-made Notebook Workshop for Adults

Take the opportunity to develop your creative skills and to spend a relaxing and inspiring afternoon with a cup of tea here at the Norfolk Record Office. Find out about the basics of book-binding and have a go at creating your own hand-made miniature notebook. No previous experience necessary, as our tutor will guide you through the project step by step. The session will be held on Wednesday, 6 March, from 2.00pm - 4.30pm at the Green Room, the Archive Centre, Norwich. The session costs £5.00 per person, which includes all materials. Please book by contacting the Norfolk Record Office on 01603 222599.

Talks at Norfolk Heritage Centre

'Heritage Hour' runs at the Norfolk Heritage Centre in the Norfolk and Norwich Millennium Library, Norwich on Wednesdays at 12.30 - 1.30pm.

Wednesday, 13 March, Merchant Seamen

Wednesday, 27 March, Researching Ordinary Women

Wednesday, 10 April, Introduction to Poor Law and Workhouse Records

Wednesday, 24 April, Gems of the Stack (booking necessary, places are limited).

Wednesday, 8 May, Introduction to Military Records

Wednesday, 22 May, BMD: Beyond the Basics



On the Wednesdays when there is no talk, and on Tuesdays at 5.30-6.30pm, the Heritage Centre offers drop-in 'Ask an Archive Specialist' research clinics, aimed at people who are new to the Heritage Centre or who have questions about resources there.

For more information and to check times and themes (which may be subject to change), please contact Norfolk Heritage Centre by telephoning 01603 774740, emailing norfolk.studies.lib@norfolk.gov.uk or see the website at <http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/heritagecentre>

Dr John Alban retires as County Archivist

This will be the last Norfolk Record Office report which I submit to The Norfolk Ancestor, as I shall be stepping down as County Archivist on 31 March, exactly 16 years to the day since I took up appointment to the post. I am deeply honoured that I was given the opportunity to serve the people and communities of Norfolk in this office and I shall leave it with some regret, although tempered with pride in all that the Record Office staff have achieved, with the unflinching support of Norfolk County Council and the Norfolk Records Committee, over the last decade and a half. Not least, it has been an enormous pleasure working closely with the Norfolk Family History Society during all the time I have been at the Record Office, and I wish the Society every success in the future.

Dr John Alban



For further information about Norfolk Record Office events and news, see our website <http://archives.norfolk.gov.uk>, telephone 01603 222599, or look out for posters at the Record Office.

WHO TO CONTACT AND WHERE TO REACH THEM

All written correspondence should be addressed to Kirby Hall, address on page 3.

- Family Trees: Donations of family trees, pedigrees, wills and BMD certificates:
Address correspondence to Pam Bridge
By email: familytrees@nfhs.co.uk
- Copy requests: For family trees, pedigrees and wills
Address correspondence to Judith Parks
By email: copyrequest@nfhs.co.uk
- Membership: Address correspondence to the Membership Secretary, Jean Stangroom
By email: membership@nfhs.co.uk
- Members Interests:
Address correspondence to Peter Spurgeon
By email: membersinterests@nfhs.co.uk
- Monumental inscriptions:
Address correspondence to MI Co-ordinator, Mary Mitchell
By email: minscriptions@nfhs.co.uk
- NORS - Passwords:
Address correspondence to Judith Parks
By email: nors@nfhs.co.uk
- NORS - Administration:
Address correspondence to Mike Dack
By email: norsadmin@nfhs.co.uk
- Look-ups: Address correspondence to Alan Bullard
By email: lookups@nfhs.co.uk
- Bookstall and fairs:
Address correspondence to The Bookstall
By email: bookstall@nfhs.co.uk
- The Ancestor: Address correspondence to the Editor Robin Whitmore
By email: ancestor@nfhs.co.uk
- Transcripts: Volunteers wishing to assist with transcription or similar work contact the
Transcripts Organiser Paul Harman
By email: transcripts@nfhs.co.uk
- Treasurer: Address correspondence to the Treasurer Carole Taylor
By email: treasurer@nfhs.co.uk
- Volunteers: Address correspondence to Volunteer Co-ordinator, Carol Reeve
By email: Volunteers@nfhs.co.uk
- Webmaster: Address correspondence to the WebMaster
By email: webmaster@nfhs.co.uk
- Secretary: Address correspondence to the Company Secretary, Edmund Perry
By email: secretary@nfhs.co.uk
- Enquiries: For topics not covered in the above list, address correspondence to Enquiries
By email: enquiries@nfhs.co.uk
Please state the nature of your enquiry in the email subject box.

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Cost: £14.00 per workshop
Discount Offer - pay for all ten together for £120.00
Each workshop can be taken individually - booking essential.

A series of ten linked workshops to guide participants through the different phases of writing and editing. Students will actively engage in writing and producing their family history. Every workshop will include practical writing exercises. Students are encouraged to analyse their own and other people's writing and review their progress throughout.

Contact Gill Blanchard, Suite 14, Meadow View House, 191 Queen's Road, Norwich NR1 3PP
Telephone: 01603 610619 Email: gblanchard@pastsearch.co.uk.
Cheques should be made payable to Gill Blanchard.

Workshop One - 13 May Starting out and developing a writing style	Workshop Two - 20 May Making it interesting
Workshop Three - 3 June Building background material	Workshop Four - 10 June Expanding your family history biography
Workshop Five - 17 June Developing your writing style	Workshop Six - 24 June Putting pieces together
Workshop Seven - 8 July Making your work look good	Workshop Eight - 15 July Producing a book, booklet or newsletter
Workshop Nine - 22 July Publishing to E-Books/Kindle, Blogs and Websites	Workshop Ten - 29 July Finishing off

About the Tutor

Gill Blanchard is a published author, professional genealogist and qualified tutor. She has been running a genealogical and historical research business called Past Search since 1997. As a qualified tutor of adults she has designed and run numerous family, house and local history courses locally, in London and online since 1998. Author of *Tracing Your East Anglian Ancestors* and *Tracing Your House History*, Gill has been commissioned by Pen and Sword Books to write a guide on *Writing Your Family History*, to be published in 2014.

THREE FAMILIES OF SILK MERCERS - A TALE OF NORFOLK ACORNS

Part Two

The second part of Peter Mayes' story of three families which began in Wymondham, Norfolk

In the following year Joseph JORDAN KNIGHT now 59, retired from Shoolbreds. 'The London Gazette' of February 2nd 1869 records: "Notice is hereby given that the partnership subsisting between the undersigned James SHOOLBRED, Alfred SHOOLBRED, Frederick Thomas SHOOLBRED, Walter SHOOLBRED, Joseph Jordan KNIGHT and Thomas JONES in the business of Wholesale and Retail Warehousemen at Tottenham Court Road, Grafton Street East, Sussex Street and University Street in the County of Middlesex under the style or firm of James Shoolbred and Company was dissolved on the 18th of January 1869 by mutual consent as regards the said James Shoolbred and Joseph Jordan Knight; and that in future the said business will be conducted on by the said Alfred Shoolbred, Frederick Thomas Shoolbred, Walter Shoolbred and Thomas Jones under the style or firm of James Shoolbred and Company; and that all outstanding partnership debts will be received, and all partnership liabilities defrayed by the said Alfred Shoolbred, Frederick Thomas Shoolbred, Walter Shoolbred and Thomas Jones. Dated the 18th of January 1869. James Shoolbred, Alfred Shoolbred, Frederick Thomas Shoolbred, Walter Shoolbred, Thomas Jones, James Jordan Knight."

Joseph retired eventually to Mera

Lodge, Bexley Heath where he stayed for the rest of his long life, dying on the 11 December 1899 aged 89.

By the 1870s, the company had started to design and manufacture their own furniture. This furniture, along with other interior accessories, was displayed in a series of catalogues that started to appear from 1873 onwards. The catalogues were meant to expand the appeal of James SHOOLBRED and Co beyond their Department store and, more importantly, beyond London. Furniture design became an increasingly important aspect of the company and therefore plays a large part in the catalogues that the company produced every year. All the major fashionable Revival movements were included, ranging from Gothic to Japanese, and included numerous French styles.

By the 1880s the company had expanded to such an extent that the business had to move again, this time to premises that functioned as an early Department Store. The new store was popular from the start; one aspect that proved popular with customers was the detailed displays of interior decorative schemes. Furniture, textiles, carpets and various accessories would be laid out as they would be seen in a real interior. This made it much easier for customers to perceive what their purchases would look like outside the constraints of the Department Store. It was also a good retail trick in that it encouraged customers to buy whole ensembles,

is still used extensively today by such retail giants as Ikea.

In the mid 1880s they were awarded the Royal Warrant and Queen Victoria purchased furniture from them.

The first indication of a union between three merchant dynasties comes in a photograph of 1861. It is taken in the New Forest by the Rufus Stone. Seated on the ground with his back to the Stone is Edward MAYES, now 60. On his right is his wife, Mary Ann, also seated on the ground. Leaning against the other corner of the Stone is the young 19 year old Charlotte Elizaeth KNIGHT, daughter of Joseph Jordan KNIGHT and Martha COOK. On her left, cross legged on the ground is Edward's youngest son, 23 year old Frederick. There is champagne and wine. Maybe it is a celebration of Edward's 60th birthday, or even an engagement?

Some of William COOK's children found considerable fame and fortune. His eldest son William, though dying at the young age of 38, achieved peculiar distinction by being, through his daughter Edith Frith COOK, the grandfather of Maud GONNE, the famous Irish patriot, actress and revolutionary - a woman who not only played a large part in contemporary Irish history but became the muse of the poet W B YEATS, who also wrote about her in many poems. He asked her several times to marry him, but she refused, saying that he was not radical



Maud Gonne

enough for her. One of his most popular poems was written for her:

He Wishes For The Cloths of Heaven
Had I the Heaven's embroidered cloths,
Enwrought with gold and silver light,
The blue and the dim and the dark cloths
Of night and light and the half-light.
I would spread the cloths under your feet;
But I, being poor, have only my dreams:
I have spread my dreams under your feet;
Tread softly because you tread on my
dreams.

Her son Sean McBRIDE, as well as being originally a fervent Irish Nationalist, eventually worked for the United Nations, as a co-founder of Amnesty International and was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1974 and the American Peace Medal in 1975.

William's second son, Francis, who took over the business after the death of his father in 1869, was a merchant, art collector and philanthropist. He started in the business in 1833 and was made a partner in 1843. Despite other interests, he superintended the business actively when he was in the country, even up to within ten days of his death in 1901, aged 84. He encouraged the employment of commercial representatives, who travelled to localities with samples of the firm's goods, using the new extended rail network. Twice a year he travelled to Portugal and eventually in 1856 he bought the palace of Monserrate at Cintra which he had completely restored and he also embarked on the development of the magnificent gardens. Because he had renewed the prosperity of the district and because of his benevolence to the poor, in 1864 he was made Visconde of Monserrate by the King of Portugal.

Having acquired Doughty House in Richmond Hill he began to gather together one of the most important collections of paintings in the country. He purchased works from all the major schools of European painting, and he had a special enthusiasm for Spanish art. His huge collection contained works by Filippo Lippi, Sodoma, Parmigiano, Piombo and Titian, Van Eyck, Durer, Van der Weyden, Berchheyde, Rubens, Rembrandt and Metso. He included some from the English School and owned works by Gainsborough, Hogarth and Turner. He tried to make his collection accessible to students and was elected FSA on the 16 January 1873. In 1885 he established Alexandra House as a home for women students of music and other branches to the arts at a cost of £80,000 and was created a Baronet on the 10 March 1886.

William's youngest son, Edwin Adolphus, was born in 1827. At the age of 20, he joined the 11th Hussars, Prince Albert's Own, as a Cornet. They were known as 'The Cherrypickers' - this was linked to the vivid cherry colour of their trousers, part of their superb, rather theatrical, uniform. He was made a Lieutenant in 1848 and a Captain in 1853, then in May 1854, he embarked for the Crimea in the PT 'Trent'. He was made a Brevet Major on the 12 December 1854. He then appeared to have succumbed to some fever because he was on sick leave from the 2 August to the 20 October 1855. These dates are particularly significant because 5 days later he was directly involved in the infamous Charge of the Light Brigade.

The 11th Hussars were in the second wave of the Charge on the left half - Edwin was riding in front of the troops with Lt. Colonel DOUGLAS on his right

and five other officers. Cecil WOODHAM in her excellent book 'The Reason Why', describes what happens next: "While this fierce and bloody combat was being waged, Colonel Douglas, outflanking the battery with the 11th Hussars, had charged a body of Lancers on the left with considerable success, only to find himself confronted with the main body of the Russian Cavalry and Infantry in such strength that he felt he was confronted by the whole Russian Army. He had hastily to retreat with a large Russian force following in pursuit."

Roy DUTTON, in his book 'Forgotten Heroes', says:

"According to TSM George Loy SMITH, when the charges tried to form up behind the guns, the only officers left were Colonel DOUGLAS Captain COOK and Lieutenants DUNN and PALMER. COOK taking command, organised the remnants of his men, the object being to reform and make a final charge at the enemy, using the strongest horses at the front and the weaker ones to follow. It was important to form a compact group to stand any chance of breaking through the enemy. It was some time after this that Captain COOK was wounded."

Fortunately we have Edwin's own words on the charge. He says:

"Our order to charge was brought by a half madman, Captain NOLAN. There the enemy consisted of fifteen thousand Infantry, four thousand Cavalry protected by ten guns. To reach them we had to go down a ravine between two hills with ten guns of each besides a host of Riflemen. Down we went very steadily - the fire was terrific. It seemed impossible to escape - we were well in range of grape-shot on each side beside the barkers in front. I got through safe up to the guns,

cut down all that came within reach and then at the Cavalry behind, but to our horror the Heavy Brigade had not followed in support and there was alarm that we were cut off in the rear, which was true..

"There was nothing for it but to cut our way back the same way we came - the Lancers who cut us off made a very mild resistance - they seemed to be astonished at our audacity at charging them in the wretched conditions we were in. We got through them with very little loss. Just after getting through these beggars, I thought I heard a rattle behind, and by Jove I was only just in time - we were pursued and, on looking behind, a Muscovite had his sword up just in my range and was in fact in the act of cutting down. I showed him the point of my sword instantly close to his throat. He pulled his horse almost backwards and gave me the opportunity of getting more forward. I now had nothing to fear being on a good horse, except going through those infernal guns again. It was very difficult to understand . . . On Lord Lucan asking what he was to charge, the only information was "There is your enemy and there is your order". "

Cannon to the right of them,
Cannon to the left of them,
Cannon behind them
Volleyed and thundered;
Stormed at with shot and shell,
While horse and hero fell,
They that had fought so well
Came through the jaws of Death,
Back from the mouth of Hell,
All that was left of them,
Left of six hundred.

Alfred, Lord Tennyson

He was awarded the Legion D'Honneur by the French and came home to settle in London and Roydon Hall. He became a JP and Deputy Lord Lieutenant of the County of Kent. Eventually in the year 1867, at the age of 40, he married Annie Augusta PALMER and they had four children. But Edwin died young - maybe because of his wounds - on 30 May 1872 in Berkeley Square. One of his children, following in his father's military footsteps, becoming Commanding Officer of the First Life Guards from 1910, but unfortunately was killed in the first year of the 1914-1918 war.

Edwin's cousin Martha KNIGHT also lived a remarkable life; she gave birth to 14 children, 13 of whom (I think) and survived to adulthood - not a bad record for Victorian times. She lived to an extraordinary age of 95, dying in 1913. I have a photograph of her, taken in 1902, with her grandson, my grandfather, Arthur MAYES, and holding her great grandson Edric MAYES on her knee. Her daughter Charlotte Elizabeth KNIGHTS had eventually married Frederick MAYES, youngest son of Edward MAYES, on the 29 January 1868 at St Pancras and with the birth of their three sons, Herbert, Arthur and Hugh, the blood of these three merchant families was for the first time united - an inheritance I think to be proud of.

There was one strange coincidence; Herbert Frederick MAYES was born in 1869 - Sir Francis COOK's grandson, also Herbert Frederick, was born in 1868. Both young men went to Balliol College, Oxford; both studied law; both became practising barristers at law - did they know each other? Both died in 1939.

What became of these great institutions? Walter Mayes's son Howard took over E MAYES and Son and during the last war it had a direct hit, but was rebuilt and on his retirement in the 1950s, it was rebuilt and on his retirement in the 1950s, it was taken over by OWEN and OWEN. Frederick Mayes started a branch of E MAYES and Son in Bench Street, Dover. This also received a direct hit and the branch did not recover. James Shoolbred and Company continued to prosper through the first half of the twentieth century, but did not survive the financial crisis of 1929 and closed the department 's door for good in 1931. COOK sons and Company was incorporated and became COOK, Sons and Co (St Paul's) Limited. At this time it had one of the largest warehouses in the wholesale textile industry, consisting of four main blocks opening on to eight streets and connected by no less 18 bridges and tunnels. Capital for this thriving concern was given as £4,000,000. Indeed one could say that this family of Norfolk stock was a fine example of little acorns. Then in 1959 this petition appeared:

The High Court of Chancery

Notice is hereby given that a Petition for the winding up of the above-named company by the High Court of Justice was on the 30th day of June 1959 presented to the said Court by Cook, Son and Co (St Paul's) Limited of 13 - 23 Carter Lane, London EC4, Textile Warehousemen, and that the said Petition is directed to be heard before the Court sitting at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London on the 13th day of July 1959 Etc. Etc.

The Company then merged with another warehouse company in 1960,

S & J WATTS and Co to become Cook and Watts. This was taken over by the COURTAULDS Group in 1969

Acknowledgements

I could not have written this without the generous, enthusiastic and highly skilled help of Sir Christopher COOK, great, great grandson of Sir Francis Cook, who has an encyclopaedic knowledge of his own family and to whom I owe a huge debt. When I started on this journey my knowledge of the COOK family was limited to Eliza MAYES's memoir of her father and a comment in a letter written by Harriet KNIGHT, sister to Charlotte, to her nephew Arthur MAYES in 1940: She says: "I am getting rather tired of our family tree - the branches seem to get so twisted! Our mother was the daughter of Mr Gregory COOK of St Paul's Churchyard. I don't know her mother's name before her marriage."

Because of the mention of St Paul's Churchyard, I suspected there might be a link between him and William COOK. Christopher also knew very little of Gregory COOK, but between us we managed to piece together the jigsaw of his life and it has been great fun. My thanks also to Jim KNIGHT of New Zealand whose wide knowledge of his branch of the Knight family has been a great help. We could not have achieved this, of course, without the help of so many references from the internet.

Bibliography:

'The Reason Why' by Cecil Woodham Smith
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'A Memoir of My Father' Eliza Mayes
Letters of Florence Nightingale
The Collected Poems of Alfred, Lord Tennyson

HUNTING FOR JOHN HUNTER

I have for some years now been tracing my family history. My paternal side has been relatively easy as they appear to have been reasonably well off and educated and as such they had wills etc., all of which helped in my quest. On my maternal side, although mostly agricultural labourers or in service, thanks to the census reports and parish records, I have also progressed well. Another thing that helped is they did not move about much prior to World War One. But I have one missing link: John HUNTER. In about 1921 my grandmother Ellen Violet had a liaison with him which produced a child in 1922. I am fortunate enough to have a picture of him found amongst my grandmother's possessions in an envelope marked 1937, although I have a suspicion the photograph might be earlier. Also from other information it appeared that he was taken to Court by my grandmother for maintenance. Having checked the Petty Court books in Norwich Record Office I have found this to be true, on the 17 May 1922 there is an entry for Ellen Violet WARD v John HUNTER. She is listed as a spinster living in Ellingham and he is listed as an ex-farm bailiff living in Loddon Ingloss. It also states that the child was born 10 March 1922 at Loddon Ingloss Road, Ellingham. A further search in the Electoral Rolls in autumn 1922 showed him living at Loddon Ingloss c/o Mrs Forder. Prior to this he is not to be found. This all raises several questions, why did he not marry, was he already married? Why is he an ex-farm bailiff and did he lose his position because of it? Being c/o Mrs Forder seems to imply he was in lodgings. The answer to this could



possibly lie in the 1921 Census, but this is not available until 2022. There are many John Hunters in other records, but to find out which one he is I need to find his date of birth, his birth place or any other information that might link him to Ellen Violet WARD. Is there anyone who recognises him or knows of him? I would be grateful for any help. Most of my maternal family comes from an area around Loddon down to the Suffolk border; the names involved are WARD, FENN, WARNES, SAUNDERS, SCARF, BURGESS, SMITH, SPARROW, WIGG, BAKER, FISKE and MASON. I do have quite a bit of information on these families and would be happy to share that with anyone interested.

I can be contacted by email on peterjosling@hotmail.com.

Peter Josling MN 13810

NORFOLK MARGINS

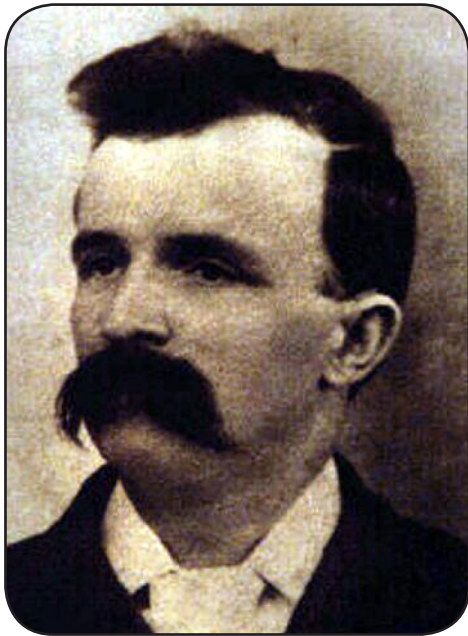
I am descended, via my paternal grandmother, from an Elizabeth FLIGHT (1840-1923) from Ingoldisthorpe, and William Nathaniel NELSON (1842-1907) from Terrington St Clement; both are north western Norfolk villages. Further research has shown that the surname FLIGHT in Norfolk is relatively rare, making research much easier - I am related to all except one of the people with the surname FLIGHT in Norfolk in the 1851 census. The search for the ancestors of William Nathaniel Nelson has proved difficult. I have now managed to take his line back to a Robert NELSON who was born in Norfolk c. 1775 and who married Elizabeth WHILEY in 1806 in Terrington St Clement, when he was stated to be 'of the parish'. Unfortunately, he died before the 1851 Census, and the 1841 Census only states that he was from Norfolk. Tracking Robert down has been problematical. Over almost 40 years of research I have therefore, together with my husband, kept a record of every reference to the surname NELSON which we have encountered in Norfolk, in an attempt to put the various Nelson trees together again. Of course there is Lord NELSON himself whose tree is well documented - and I have also got many unlinked Nelson trees. I am always happy to help others with their Norfolk Nelson research.

My research has entailed trawling through records of all kinds, but the fascinating comments by the Rectors, Curates and other officiating Ministers, often in the margin of the parish records, give an additional insight into life. These

have caught my eye over the years - and I have resisted the temptation to follow some of these interesting families - unless, of course, they were linked to my tree or the surname NELSON! Some officiating Ministers just stuck rigidly to the officially designated information required, but others gave little gems of additional information. I have found that the burial records offered most scope for the Minister to add his own comments, sometimes there is a reference to a local tragedy. Blakeney Parish records the burial of five young people who were drowned in 'returning from chapel to Blakeney by the sinking of the boat in which they were crossing the waters; Alfred Clarke SISSON 27 years, Sarah MURRELL 23 years, Thomas WHISKER 21, Francis MURRELL BAINES 19, and Hannah SMITH BALCOMBE 17. All were buried on 21 February 1816.

Records which help future genealogists

Some details written in the parish registers are an absolute gift to future genealogists. In the Ashill registers at the foot of one of the pages are the details of a local man, Mr J MILLERS of Uphall, who died on 12 November 1895 and was buried away from home in Edinburgh. Also of help to those researching their family tree was the recording, in South Lynn All Saints, of the burial of Susanna in 1827, wife of John DIXON, a cabinet maker. The parish records additionally state that she was previously the widow of Edward DIXON, a sawyer. When Eleanor GREAVES, wife of the Vicar of the parish of South Lynn All Saints, was buried in



John Nelson



Eliza Jane Painter

While searching for her ancestors, 2 of whom are pictured above, Elizabeth Wiggins came across lots of additional information in the margins of parish registers.

1846, the records helpfully state that she had been born in the parish of 'Upton in this County'. Mary MATTHEWS was buried in Hunstanton in 1824, aged 76 years, and the parish registers show that she was 'the last branch of the House of Castleton, a very ancient Baronetage'. A margin note in the Snettisham parish registers records a John George FOSTER GRANT, son of Robert FOSTER GRANT and Mary HADE his wife, who was baptised, not in Snettisham but in the parish of St James in London, on 19 December 1813. In the same parish Eliaia L'ESTRANGE daughter of Henry STYLEMAN Esq, and Emilia, his wife, was baptised in Marylebone, London, in the same year but also recorded in the margin of the Snettisham registers.

In Congham, two siblings were buried in

1842; Joseph John WRIGHT, an infant, in January and Mary, 3 days old, in July of the same year. The officiating Minister made a margin note that the family had removed to West Dereham on 22 August 1842. In the front of the parish registers for Fincham burials 1813-1863, there is a complete pedigree of the COMPLIN family, covering several pages. Also in Fincham, the incumbent has recorded the burial of Martha FLOOD aged 36 years from Narborough, and a few weeks later the burial of Eliza GRUMMETT from Beecham Wells. A note in the margin informs us that 'these two were married sisters, Mr KEMP's daughters;'. In Langham baptism records, in several instances, against the baptism, the place of marriage of the parents is recorded, for example, when John son of William and Mary

CARLE (nee CLAXTON) was baptised in 1817, the curate has added that the parents were married in North Tuddenham.

Long serving church officials

Church officials often get a special mention. Ashill parish registers record the burial of Bartholomew EDWARDS, rector for 71 years. He was buried on 28 February 1889 aged 99 years 11 months and 21 days. I wonder if a party had been planned for his 100th birthday!

Causes of death

The parish records do not ask for a cause of death. Sometimes it has been added in the margin, and sometimes recorded in the column for the same name of the deceased. In Hockham, William GALL Junior of Saham (Toney) was buried in 1879, aged 36 years. He 'died in five minutes from suffocation caused by attempting to swallow a lump of beef at a club feast'. When recording in the burial records of Norwich St Giles, the officiating Minister in the year 1844 routinely gave the cause of death when known. However, these were not too 'medical' by today's standards! In one year, of the 71 consecutive recorded deaths, the causes given were decline (11 cases - adults and children), infirmity (1 case aged 76 years), thrush (2), in hospital (1), asthma (10), inflammation (5), dropsy (2), fever (1), and smallpox (3). For the rest of the deaths, no cause was recorded. In Hunstanton, in 1861, there were 3 burials all recorded as being due to diphtheria (Alfred RICHARDSON, 5 years, Thomas WELLBERG SADLER, 6 years, and Lucy DOWDY, 6 months).

Sometimes the death details have been

linked to another related death. When Elizabeth RUST of Shouldham was buried on 20 August 1834, aged 48 years, a note has been added by the officiating Minister stating that 'Elizabeth RUST died of malignant cholera: she is supposed to have caught the disorder from her daughter at Magdalen who also died' The infectiousness of cholera caused the incumbent of Fincham to bury those who died of it, without taking the body into the Church. This was recorded as the case when Sarah CANEY, 34 years, and William CORSTON, 5 years, were buried in 1854,

Accidental and sudden deaths

Sudden deaths often warranted a special mention. A sad 'death caused by burning' was recorded when Dinah FUTTER, 7 years, was recorded in Burnham Thorpe in 1852. Similarly, Robert MONEY, aged 62 years, in South Lynn, was accidentally burnt to death in 1816. The Fincham parish registers tell of Mary Priscilla EMMERSON, aged one year, who was buried on 26 March 1849, having been 'burnt to death'. Four years later, Edward LAWES was buried after being 'killed in harvest time'. In South Lynn, Richard TOWNSEND, an engineer, was killed by a fall from his horse, aged 36 years, in 1818 (Coroner's Inquest). In 1821, in the same parish Thomas CHADD, a mariner, was accidentally killed from falling from a mast in 1821 (Coroner's Inquest). Also in South Lynn, Jacob UTTEN POWELL, a wagoner from Sporle, was accidentally killed in the parish of South Lynn, aged 21 years. In 1833, Henry SMITH, a married man aged 73 years from Docking, was recorded as having 'died suddenly in the street'.

When 10 year old William Dent was buried in Larling in 1868, it states that he had been struck by lightning. The officiating minister was from the parish of Muker in Yorkshire, which might reflect some family connection. Also struck by lightning, but this time in church, was Susan NOBES, 14 years, who was buried in Sedgford in July 1819.

James STUBBS was buried in Wicklewood after being 'killed on the railway' in 1857; he was 66 years old. William TRIANCE, 68 years old, was killed by a bull and buried in Middleton in 1832. Two men, John GOODBODY, 38 years, and Edmund CRASKE, 31 years, both from Thetford St Mary, were drowned in Fowlmere Pit in the parish of Wretham. They were buried in June 1842. James GOODBERRY of Shouldham was 'accidentally killed in a sand pit' in 1820 aged 40 years.

Self inflicted deaths

When a death is considered to be self inflicted, this fact is sometimes recorded, and a funeral service may not always be allowed at the time of the burial. James FOWL was buried on 23 December 1833 at Thetford St Mary, aged 57 years, and it is recorded that he had no funeral service, following his suicide by poisoning. The parish registers record suicide in its Latin form - 'felo de se' (felon on himself). More graphic detail is given when James WHITESIDE, 40 years, from London was buried in Middleton in 1821. He 'cut his throat from ear to ear on the Turnpike Road'. In South Lynn, Deborah the wife of William BECK, a labourer, was buried in 1816 after poisoning herself.

Late identifications

In the records of Norwich St Michael at Coslany a 'women unknown' found drowned in the river at Hellesdon' in 1827. 'age unknown', was buried by Coroner's Warrant. There is a note in the records to state that the person was afterwards ascertained to be Sarah HALL, by Affidavit, sworn before the Mayor, Peter FINCH Esq. in the presence of the Curate Thomas WATSON. She was aged 42 years. In another case in Norwich St Michael at Coslany, in 1834 a 'woman unknown' was buried, also by Coroner's Warrant. Further on the same page was recorded that Emma ALLEN, parents' names unknown, was buried as an infant one week later. The parish records state as a fact, added later, that she was the daughter of the 'woman unknown' listed above. It does not make clear whether the child was given the name Emma ALLEN, or if the name of the mother had been ascertained later.

Correction of inaccuracies

Some vicars felt that total accuracy in the record was of paramount importance. In South Lynn All Saints, William SHARP FORSTER (a merchant of Stonegate Street, Lynn St Margaret), was buried in 1817, aged 36 years. The Vicar has made a note in the margin to state that the name had been entered as it was told to him after the funeral. However, he learned three months later that the middle name Sharp should have been spelled SHARPE, as was recorded on the grave stone.

Parents should be very careful when choosing their godparents. In a baptism in Cockley Cley, in 1819, the daughter of John and Mary SCOTT was baptised as Elius. However the Minister recorded in the margin that the name was given by

mistake by the godmother and the child was called Sophia by the parents. The additional margin note was signed and dated by the Minister a few days after the ceremony. In Martham, the baptism of William illegitimate son of Ann CAMP of Martham, a labouring woman, was recorded. However, in a different hand, in the margin, has been added 'William CAMP (owing to some mistake) had always been known by the name of James CAMP'.

Comments on the funeral service

Sometimes additional comments relating to the funeral service itself are recorded. For an unrecorded reason, when 7 years, old Eliza DAVY of Salters Lode was buried in Downham Market in 1843. A 'hymn was not allowed to be sung over the grave after the burial service'. Also in the same parish in December 1843, when Edward KENNY as buried 'the Foresters wanted to perform some service of their own after the burial of Edward KENNY, which was not permitted by the officiating Minister or the Church Wardens'.

Legalities

Legal niceties must be obeyed and probably there is guidance given for the procedures to be followed. Germaine Jeanne Felisia VAN MACLE from Brussels, Belgium, was buried in Hunstanton in 1906, aged 18 years. Her body was disinterred 9 months later 'by Order of the Secretary of State for Home Affairs for removal to the family vault in Brussels'.

Conclusion

There is a wealth of additional information often recorded in the official

parish registers, and it not only, very importantly, verifies the data gained from other sources which are reliant on someone else's transcription, but it can also add real family information. Whenever possible look at the original parish registers of baptism, marriage and burial, and indeed those of the Census records and other genealogical sources. Check the records you have previously extracted from various sites. So much more can be gleaned - this has only been a snapshot.

References

All records relate to the original parish records.

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WILLIAM JOHN HOLMAN HAYWISEMAN

This is the story of three brothers, but mainly the eldest son of William WISEMAN (1787-1842), a Purser in the Royal Navy, and his wife Marian (nee CLARKE) of Bacton on Sea, North East Norfolk. The three sons, who were his only children to survive into adulthood were William John Holman Hay WISEMAN, and his younger brothers Mandervill Clarke WISEMAN and Murray WISEMAN, pretentious names that would arouse the interest of many genealogists and just crying out to be researched.

The trail started one afternoon while walking, it happened that I passed the gates of the Royal Naval Cemetery, Gosport, Hampshire. The Chapel of Rest is only a few steps from the road and there in the vestibule was a printed list of all the gallant men interred in the grounds. As all avid family historians do when a list of names is to hand, one looks up the family name of most interest, and there was found 'WISEMAN. William John Henry Esq. Late Paymaster & Pu' Plot R' a name to investigate on my own doorstep as it were. Having researched at arm's length in the days before the internet, with ancestors coming from Norfolk and me living in Gosport, to find a lead just down the road was a red letter day!

The Naval Cemetery at Clayhall on the edge of Haslar Creek, Gosport is extensive, quiet, tranquil and well kept. Finding William John Henry WISEMAN listed in the Cemetery Chapel's Plot Reference Book was a lucky chance starting a trail that led all around the world. For a start, the grave location was shown as 'Plot R' whereas the cemetery site plan did not have such a plot! The

groundsman soon put me on the right track with the information that 'Plot R' was within the grounds of The Royal Naval Hospital, Haslar, about a mile down the road and predated the Cemetery (which opened in 1859) so W.J.H.W was pre that date. With no accurate location to go by other than 'Plot R' and the area of a couple of acres being less well tended than the Cemetery (now classed as a 'Garden of Remembrance'), a few hours passed in locating the well obscured grave with undergrowth and ivy being the main problem. This was a blessing in disguise as the foliage had protected the grave (with a head and foot stone) from the elements. The name and age at death was still readable, though with some discrepancy with the initials, (H.H. in place of the expected J.H.). Portsmouth Record Office holds a transcription of the grave inscription (Ref.1) done some years before the Navy Lists, held at Portsmouth Central Library, confirmed his full name as William John Holman Hay WISEMAN and his Death Certificate showed that he died on 3 March 1853 from 'Phthisis' (tuberculosis).

A search of the records of the Perogative Court of Canterbury Wills held at the Public Records Office and indexed online, produced William's will. The entry gave all his given names so there was no mistaking that this was our man. By the following evening I had a photocopy of his will, PROB 11/2205 (Ref. 2) over the internet which then took some hours to transcribe from the copied manuscript. What a will! I just hope I can write as interesting and informative a will as William did. It was full of detail and

intriguing things to chase up. The first point was that he came from Norfolk and that his father was also a Purser in the Royal Navy. The 1851 Census for Norfolk, which was the pilot for the 1881 transcription, revealed William's mother, Mary(i)an and brother Murray, living at Bacton. Maryian was shown as 'Widow of Purser RN Annuitant'. Back to the Portsmouth Record Office Will Index and there was William's father and brother Mandervill Clarke WISEMAN, also named in his brother's will.

Having found that the family came from Norfolk, a search of the 'Members' Interests' of the Norfolk Family History Society' turned up Keith HART, a new member of the Society researching WISEMANs of North East Norfolk - wonder of wonders! Keith was in possession of a number of artefacts relating to William the Navy Purser which had been handed down through the family from his great x 2 uncle, John WISEMAN of Walcott Hall. The items included this very grand portrait of



William in full dress uniform, 'British Naval Dress' (Ref. 3) confirming the finer points of the uniform and that it was contemporary with William's promotion to Purser Paymaster on 27 April 1844. The title Purser & Paymaster was created in 1842. One of the distinguishing points of the uniform is that the breast buttons are arranged in pairs, not too obvious in this portrait. The following year a second epaulet as added to the left shoulder replacing a previous strap. His two medals are the 'Naval General Service Medal (1793-1840) with 'Syria Bar' on his left, which was awarded when he was on Her Majesty's Ship 'The Princess Charlotte' flag ship of Admiral Robert STOPFORD, Commander in Chief, Mediterranean, during the 'Syrian Expedition of 1840-41. The second is the Jean D'Acre Medal awarded by the Syrian Sultan. Both were awarded during his time as Admiral's Clerk and before his promotion to Purser Paymaster.

William's will, written on the 12 day of December 1849 while serving on HMS Centaur on the West African Station, makes many interesting bequests, recalling his time on the staff of the C in C Mediterranean, based in Malta. He directs that: "the sum of one pound five shillings be sent to Signor Girsiauco Zarb of Giovocui Siilora, Malta as I am by no means certain of having repaid him that sum of five dollars which I borrowed of him some years since and I wish to give him the benefit of that doubt notwithstanding that he himself states he has been paid."

William was obviously a man of conscience as it seems the uncertain debt preyed on his mind, it was a shame he never got back to repay the sum in

person as it seems Signor Girsiauco made a great impression on him.

His will also recalls his period of service (1841-1845) 'in charge' at Her Majesty's Naval Vict(u)aling) & Stores, Valparaiso, Chile. A print from the handmade copper stamp he used while in that post is shown below. He retained the hand stamp on his return to England and it is now in the possession of his first cousin three times removed, Keith HART of King's Lynn, Norfolk, who was kind enough to supply the copy of William's portrait.



The 'N' of Naval was inscribed back to front.

Valparaiso was a very important supply port for the Royal Navy in the mid 1800s as it was the first port of call after the arduous voyage around Cape Horn into the Pacific Ocean with no easy way, as now, through the Panama Canal. The Chilean Navy was commanded by many British officers who made names and fortunes for themselves with their daring escapades. William must have felt quite at home with so many British ships and personnel around.

Admiral Lord Thomas COCHRANE seems to have fallen out of favour with the British Admiralty in London so continued his Naval career with great success confronting the enemies of Chile. Valparaiso, the country's chief Naval port

has many grandiose monuments to him and his fellow officers and the battles they won. We stopped off in Valparaiso for five days on our way to Australia via the westerly route and spent some time going through records in the Naval Museum, but were unable to find anything relating to William's tour of duty.

William's will made 2 bequests to friends he made in Chile. Unfortunately, we were also unable to find out more about the recipients of these bequests, but it was an interesting and relaxing city and one wonders whether Dona Rosa Dias Perez was 'William's the sailor's girl' in Valparaiso as he wrote:

"I bequeath the sum of one hundred pounds to Dona Rosa Dias Perez of Valparaiso as a memento of that affection which I have always retained for her. I also bequeath the sum of twenty pounds for the purchase of some articles of jewellery as shall be settled on by my Executrix and Executors to be sent to Mr Robert C MARFARIANT (?) of Valparaiso as a slight memento of my gratitude and esteem and it is my will that an inscription to such effect be engraved thereon."

One hundred pounds was a large amount of money in 1849 and equivalent to around sixty five thousand pounds in today's earnings! Enough to buy a fine house in Valparaiso. Another visit is obviously called for to track down the descendants of Dona Rosa and Robert Marfariant, now that we know more about them. William also made a small bequest to his Uncle John in rather strange terms:

"To my Uncle John Wiseman of Walcott Hall in the aforesaid county of Norfolk. I likewise bequeath the sum of one Doubleloon, (£5-4-0) wherewith to

purchase a mourning ring in remembrance of me."

I think doubloons were not in common circulation in the 1850s, though William may have collected some during his time in Chile. William's brothers Mandervill and Murray each received half the remainder of William's assets after the bequests were made. This must have been a sizeable sum as Mandervill was also directed to reserve £500 of his share for his daughter, Marian Leacroft WISEMAN (who was William's goddaughter)/ when she attained the age of 21 years or got married with her parents' consent.

Mandervill and Murray would not have known of William's death on 3 March 1853 for some time after, as they had sailed on the sailing ship 'Africa' on 30 November 1852 from Liverpool bound for Port Philip, Melbourne, Australia (Ref. 4) where they arrived on the 16 April 1853. The voyage of the 'Africa' is recorded in the day to day log of Henry Upton ALCOCK (Ref. 5), a fellow passenger. The log is a history lesson in its own right describing in some detail, the hazards of such a journey. Only a few days out and most of the rigging was carried away in a violent storm in the Bay of Biscay. The ship just about made it to Lisbon where they spent two weeks getting repairs. When back at sea, the Irish contingent seemed to spend a lot of time singing, drinking and gambling, much to the annoyance of other passengers. Alcock writes:

"The ship sails like a coal barge and rolls like a washtub the captain knows nothing of his profession the mates are beasts that are always drunk whilst the crew are brutes that are never sober the potatoes are rotten and the biscuits mouldy."

With seven people dying, numerous fights and cramped conditions. There were some more bizarre moments:

"This day about 5 o'clock all who were on deck were alarmed by seeing our Parson Smith running aft upon the poop exclaiming 'get buckets the ship's on fire'. The general consternation can be best imagined than described some thought a man had fallen overboard others took off their coats and hats for a swim to South America or Australia some ran to the pumps, two or three dived below to their berths and in minutes were encased in life belts, one was pious enough to think of the hereafter and scrambled to his knees on deck and commenced praying most devoutly. Some women fainted and others broke into hysterics and one emptied the best part of her husband's gunpowder through the port hole before he could stop her."

On the lighter side, a number of children were born and two marriages took place during the voyage.

Mandervill and Murray's quest in Australia was their fortune in the recently discovered goldfields of Ballarat, but they arrived in Melbourne to find that a large number of other souls had had the same idea and a licence to dig could not be had. The goldfields were very unruly and the miners resentful of the Government's licencing laws resulting in the 1853 'Bendigo Goldfield Petition' and the 'Eureka Stockade' riots. It seems the 2 never reached the goldfields and were forced to live in tents at 'Canvas Town', a temporary settlement set up at Emerald Hill on the south bank of the Yarra River outside of Melbourne. On arrival in Australia Mandervill was listed as a carpenter and Murray as a tailor, so they may have carried on their trade in Canvas

Town. It was here that Mandervill met his death on 17 December 1853. The inquest (Ref. 4) was held on the 19th in front of Coroner W. B. WILMOT and twelve 'good and lawful men of Emerald Hill' and concluded that he died from:

"Natural causes but the fatal result has been accelerated by the use of ardent spirits."

Two witnesses were called, but no mention of a brother is recorded in the inquest notes. No burial record for Mandervill was found. The cemetery records were destroyed in a fire some years ago and the cemetery itself has been redeveloped as a market place. Murray returned to England in May 1854, taking passage on the sailing ship 'Roderick', bound for Glasgow. He would have arrived home about the end of October 1854 and is recorded as a 'proprietor of land' or with 'income from land etc.' in the following Census returns. 'The Return of Owners' Land for 1873' shows him in Bacton with a 'Gross Estimated Rental of £58', so it seems he invested his inheritance from his brother to good advantage. He died in April 1890 having never married and is buried with other members of the family in Walcott Churchyard.

William Mandervill and Murray's father, also William and a Purser in the Royal

Navy, died in 1842, and, like his son, was in Haslar Naval Hospital. He was also buried in the family plot at Walcott Church. The transportation of the coffin to Norfolk would have been an impossible task had it not been for the opening of a new railway link from Gosport to the expanding national network earlier that year. One does wonder why his son was not returned to Norfolk on his death some eleven years later in 1853 if it had, this trail would never have started.

Roger B Wiseman MN 2847

Keith Hart has since died and kindly arranged for William's portrait and other related items to be passed on to me.

Reference:

1. Portsmouth Record Office
2. Public Record Office Wills PROB 11/2205
3. British Naval Dress, by Dudley Jarret, page 87
4. Public Record Office, Victoria Unassisted Immigration to Victoria, 1852-1923
5. State Library of Victoria, Diary of Henry Upton Alcock MS9447 MSB38
6. Public Record Office, Victoria, Inquest Deposition Files

Where Roger Wiseman's search for William John Holman Hay Wiseman began, Haslar Royal Naval Hospital at Gosport Hampshire.



NOTES AND QUERIES

PIGMAN

We have had two responses about the identification question featured in Notes and Queries, Pages 194 and 247, The Norfolk Ancestor, Volume Nine, Part Four December 2012.

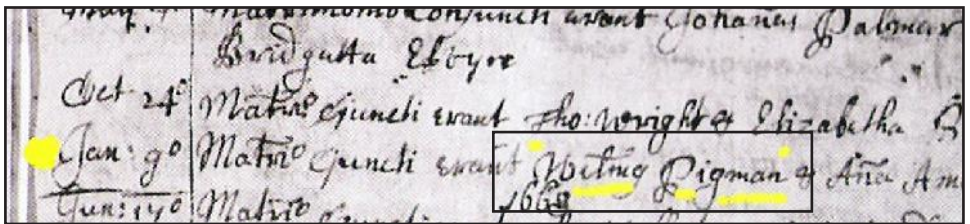
On receipt of my copy of the December issue of The Norfolk Ancestor, I read about your dilemma over William's entry.

I'm not a complete expert, but have done enough to tell you that you are right with the Wi - the next letter is an 'l' and the squiggle over it is an abbreviation mark which indicates that there is a letter or letters missing. So, there would be another 'l' and probably, it included the 'ia' as well - the next letter is an 'm'. The next letter is, in fact, another word and is what is known as a 'thorn' and stands for 'the' so it reads Wil[lia]m the Pigman.

Ana is actually Anna as she has the abbreviation mark over the 'n'.

Hope this helps.

Alison Cameron MN 10867



PIGMAN

Brian Grimmer MN 12195, telephoned the Society about the query on pages 194 and 247 of the December issue of The Norfolk Ancestor. He has done some research and found the answer on Family Search. He says it is William PIGMAN and Ann Amond - 9 January 1667. In Hunstanton Film Number 1951636 - born in 1644 to a George and Mary (in some records called Mara) PIGMAN. He added that the reason the year does not seem to change is because then the year changed on 1 March on Lady Day.

Anccestors of Henry PANK

I have noticed over the years, references to the PANK surname in The Norfolk Ancestor. I have traced the family in St Giles in the Fields, London, to baptisms back to 1802. The parents are Henry and Mary PANK. I have searched the records at the Church for a marriage (they have not been deposited) to no avail.

There is a marriage in Portsea of Henry PANK to Mary LEE in 1799. A witness appears to be another Henry PANK. Over the years I have tried unsuccessfully to find any issue from this marriage in order to eliminate them.

I would be grateful to hear from any member who has a missing Henry PANK around this period, or has knowledge of this surname.

Thank you: Charles Hawker, 2 Little Park, Berryfield Road, Princes Risborough, Bucks, HP27 0HS.

Charles Hawker MN 5423

Francis LAKE or LEAKE born Melton Constable, Norfolk in 1751.

I have been researching my family name of LAKE for many years. They all lived in Chester, Cheshire and Lancashire since 1780 where my G x 4 grandfather, one Francis LAKE, married in 1780. I think he was born in 1751/2, but cannot find where.

After a long search I located a Francis LAKE born that year in Devon and think that he may be one and the same but cannot be sure. There is a lot of supporting evidence for that but no proof.

However, a friend (also interested in this name) has located another Francis LAKE. His parents were Thomas LAKE and Christian CLARE who married at Cley-Next-The-Sea (or at Bodney) on 18 April 1743. Their children were Anne (Baptised Anne LAKE at Thornage), James, William, Francis and Mary (all baptised as LEAK or LEAKE at Melton Constable).

If any readers of The Norfolk Ancestor have any knowledge of these in their researches I would be most grateful if they would contact me.

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THE DISAPPEARING TREES OF MANNINGTON

While browsing in the Bodleian Library Society Member Patricia Munday came across this fascinating reference to Norfolk in a publication entitled Gough's Norfolk dated 1718.

An account of the sinking of three oaks into the ground at Mannington in the county of Norfolk. Communicated by Peter Le Neve Esq. Norroy King at Arms and fellow of the Royal Society.

On Tuesday 23 July of the last year 1717 in the grounds and near the seat of Sir Charles Potts baronet in the county of Norfolk and parish of Mannington, (Which lies about midway between the market towns of Holt and Aylsham and about seven miles from the coast near Cromer) in the day time to the great astonishment of those that were present first one single oak with the roots and ground about it was seen to subside and sink into the earth and not long after at about 40 yards distance, two other oaks were contiguous sunk in the same manner into a much larger pit being about 33 feet diameter whereas the former is not fully 18 feet. These as they sunk, fell across so that obstructing each other only the roots of one of them reached the bottom whereas the first stands perpendicular.

When the first sunk it was observed that the water boiled up in the hole, but upon the sinking of the greater pit the water drained off into it from the former which now continues to dry. The depth thereof to the firm bottom is 9 foot 3 inches and the tree that stands upright in it is 3 feet 8 inches in girth and its trunk

about 18 feet long, half of which is now within the pit. In the bottom of the greater pit there is a pool of water about 8 feet deep, whole surface is 11 feet 3 inches below the ground and the trees that are in this pit are much as the same length with the other but somewhat smaller the one being in girth 3 feet 5 inches and the other but 2 feet 9 inches. The soil which these trees grew in is gravelly but the bottom is a quicksand over clay on which there are springs which feed large ponds adjoining Sir Charles Pott's house at about a quarter of a mile from these holes.

The nature of the soil seems to afford us a reasonable conjecture at the cause of this odd accident which some perhaps maybe apt to reckon as a prodigy. The springs running over clay at the bottom of a bed of very minute sand, such as your quick sands usually are, may reasonably be supposed in many ages to have washed away the sand and to have thereby excavated a kind of subterraneous lake over which these trees grew: and the force of the winds on their leaves and branches agitating their roots, may well have loosened the sand under them and



occasioned it to fall more frequently than elsewhere: whereby in length of time the thin bed of gravel being only left, it might become unable to support its own weight and that of the trees it bore.

That this is not a bare conjecture may appear from the boiling up of the water at first in the lesser hole and its standing in the bigger and lower. And if it shall be found that it was a very windy day whereon this accident happened it will much add to the probability of this solution. An accident not unlike this lately happened in Fleet Street, London by the defect of the arched roof of a very deep common sewer. The earth gradually falling into the sewer was carried away by it so

as not to obstruct the water and the continual tremor of the ground occasioned by the constant passing of carts and coaches by degrees shook down the earth so as to leave a very great cavern, the top whereof at length grew so very thin that one day a weighty cart having just passed it, a great space of the pavement sunk in the middle of the street not without hazard to a coach then driving by.

Patricia Munday MN 7156

EDITOR: Memories of the double-decker bus falling into a hole in Earlham Road!



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JOHN DALY JONES BLACKETT

Member Marie-Christine Frost (MN 8223) has sent in the photographs on these two pages and asks readers if they have any information her grt x 1 grandfather. His name was JOHN DALY JONES BLACKETT. He was a musician in Great Yarmouth before, and after, he joined the RAMC at Kneller Hall as a young boy. He later became musical director of The Theatre Royal in Great Yarmouth. He played in various bands including the Britannia Pier band (pictured opposite) and the Aquarium Band (pictured below).

Marie-Christine would be grateful for any further information about these bands and who the other members are. She thinks that one is the brother of John Daly Jones Blackett named Walter. He was also a musician who moved to Norwich. He composed music under the name 'Retlawsenoj' (his name backwards). Marie-Christine has never come across any of his musical compositions.

In the photograph (below right) is one of John Daly Jones Blackett's four children, MARY BLACKETT, the eldest. Can anyone throw light on the institution - Great Yarmouth C C Centre? It is thought that Mary was also a musician.

If you have information Marie-Christine can be contacted by email:
mcfrost47@hotmail.com







Society Member Diane Kramer (nee Kent) (MN 6854) from Australia, is asking if anyone can throw any light on this photograph. It is of nurses during the First World War outside an hospital on Bracondale or at Thorpe. The girl on the front row (first left) may be a relation of Diane's - the family names are MARSHALL and BUNN. If anyone can identify any of the other nurses Diane would be pleased to know.