Then and Now ...Carrow Road

September 1935

January 2015

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Remembering The Park Pagoda

ONCE again in this edition we are featuring the photographs of George Plunkett. On this page you can see a colour photograph of Chapel Field Gardens in Norwich taken on August 21st 1935. Today there are no seats around the bandstand and the pagoda has been removed. The gardens were opened in 1870 and the pagoda was built by Messrs BARNARD, BISHOP and BARNARD in 1876. It was designed by architect Thomas JECKYALL.

The pagoda was approximately 35ft long, stood 40ft high and weighed 40 tons. It was a flamboyant structure, the purchase of which was partly funded by a public appeal. Gradually it began to deteriorate and it was damaged by air raids in the Second World War. After the war it was decided that the pagoda was surplus to requirements and not worth re-building. As a result it was demolished in November 1949 and the materials sold for scrap for £98. Looking back, there is a feeling that it would have been a good idea to have repaired and renovated what after all was a piece of Norfolk history.

The front cover of this edition shows George's photo of numbers 6 to 9 Guildhall Hill, Norwich taken on April 16th 1939. No 9 was for many years ROSSI's gold and silversmith's shop, four generations of that family having carried on the business there. George ROSSI, the founder of the business, was born in Italy and came to Norwich after the Napoleonic Wars. The business closed in March 1936, when Theodore ROSSI, who had been associated with it for 54 years, retired.

George Plunkett’s Carrow Road

SOME places stay relatively the same over the years whilst others change almost beyond recognition. For the second in our series of Then and Now photographs we look at the changing face of Carrow Road—the home of Norwich City Football Club.

The top photograph on the back cover was taken by George Plunkett on September 14th, 1935. It is interesting both as an illustration of the changing face of Norwich and as part of the history of Norwich City, who moved to their new Carrow Road home for the start of the 1935/1936 season.

The new stadium could cram in almost 30,000 people and replaced The Nest in Rosary Road which was used by the club from 1907 until 1935. The Nest was built on a disused quarry and featured a concrete wall at one end of the ground which supported a cliff from where supporters watched matches. Thousands of tons of earth had to be moved before a pitch could be laid and structures on the Canaries’ old ground in Newmarket Road had to be moved.

Nevertheless Carrow Road took just 82 days to build. The move was made because of potential safety problems at The Nest, which became particularly noticeable when the pitch sank by 30 ft at one corner when the former chalk works gave way. The club also needed a larger and more modern home. Of course by today’s standards the original Carrow Road now looks very antiquated.

The first match at Carrow Road took place on August 31st 1935 and saw Norwich beat West Ham 4-3 in front of 29,779 people. Three sides of the ground were open and you can clearly see on George’s photograph that the stand known by many as The River End, and now officially the Norwich and Peterborough, consists of a banked area.

George’s photograph was taken on September 14th, 1935, when Norwich lost 2-1 to Leicester to sink to the bottom of Division Two in the middle of a run that saw them lose seven consecutive matches. A revival towards the end of the season saw them climb to 11th position. Floodlights weren’t added to the ground until 1956. The photo taken at the beginning of 2015 makes quite a comparison with the modern stand and new road which runs alongside blocks of modern flats. The club car park is now at the back of the Jarrold Stand and the ground is now all seater.
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The Norfolk Ancestor

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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

Group Meeting Venues

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 7.30 pm)

LONDON

Society of Genealogists, 14 Charterhouse Buildings, Goswell Road.
London EC1M 7BA
(Approximately every six months, 2.00 - 4.00pm)
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* More details of the events at the Norfolk Record Office and the Archive Ambulation events can be found on page 54.

**Buckinghamshire Family History Society Open Day**

This event will take place on Saturday 25th July 2015, 10am to 4pm at the Grange School, Wendover Way, Aylesbury, HP21 7NH.

Research facilities will include a names database (over five million entries), Parish Register, People, and Places libraries and Parish Register transcripts. Other research aids will be on sale. Expert advice will be on hand, with guest societies from around the country, local heritage groups, suppliers of data CDs, maps, software, archival materials and much more.

Admission is free, with free parking at the venue. Further information, including a full list of organisations attending, can be found at www.bucksfhs.org.uk.
WELCOME to the March 2015 edition of Norfolk Ancestor. We may already be approaching Spring but it's never too late to wish all our members a prosperous and happy New Year.

I am delighted as editor of the magazine to report that it is going from strength to strength and I am extremely grateful for all the articles and information that you have sent in. Work on this edition of Ancestor began in December, as soon as the last edition of 2014 was published. We are hoping in 2015 to take the magazine forward with improved content, whilst keeping the overall look and feel of the publication. I believe the magazine should be a good mix of information, personal family features and articles of historical interest. I am very much aware that, whilst many of our readers/members live in Norfolk, there are many others scattered throughout the world who feel nostalgia for their ancestral county.

You will find a few changes in this edition. For a start we have dropped the volume number on the front page and made things simpler by numbering the pages of each edition from one. Whilst changing a few things, the aim of the magazine will continue to be to entertain and inform. Throughout 2015, we will be featuring the photographs of George Plunkett. George was a great chronicler of Norwich and the county of Norfolk from the 1930s and you will find more about him on the front and back pages. We have kindly been given permission to reproduce George’s work by his son Jonathan. We hope his photographs will bring back memories for many of our readers.

Peter Steward Editor MN14801

KIRBY HALL TEMPORARY CLOSURE

We will be carrying out some remodelling works to the Library during late April which will necessitate the temporary closure of the Hall for a few days. It is anticipated that the Hall will be closed from 20th April until 4th May. If you intend visiting the Hall during April or early May, we would ask that you check the opening times either by looking on the website at www.norfolkfh.org.uk or by phoning us on 01603 763718 to avoid making an abortive journey.
A Sad Case And A Grisly Find

Roy Scott on a heart-breaking story of a family in turmoil

IT was 5.30 a.m. and barely light on Friday 14th October, 1910, when G.E.R. Foreman Platelayer, William PRECIOUS left his railway cottage at Arminghall, to walk along the track to his place of work. He had just passed under the viaduct at Harford, which carries the London line over the Cambridge line into a deep cutting, when he spotted something lying near the up line, about 150 yards from the Hall Road Bridge. Just at that time a slow-moving goods train came to a stop beside the 74 year old platelayer. The guard, together with the fireman, got down from the train to investigate a possible obstruction on the line.

It was just before 6 a.m. when the three men made the shocking discovery of the mutilated dead bodies of a man and a woman lying side by side. William PRECIOUS quickly walked back to Trowse Station, where the clerk was able to alert the railway management at Thorpe and also inform Norwich Police.

Police Constable William FULLER (aged 49) was sent, together with other officers and a horse ambulance, to Harford Bridges. He arrived at the scene, in the deep cutting, at about 6.50 a.m., where he found a man, lying on his right side, with his head pressed against the outside rail. The top of his scull had been crushed and his brain scattered. The woman was lying face down, about a foot from the track and a yard away from the man. Her head had also been crushed. Both fully clothed bodies were stiff and cold, with no other apparent injuries.

The difficult task of recovering the bodies, and taking them by stretcher, up the steep embankment, for removal to the mortuary, was then undertaken. The man’s body, dressed in a blue serge suit, was particularly difficult to move because, in life, he had been tall and very powerfully built.

He had iron grey hair, a moustache and was thought to be between 30 and 40 years old. The age of the woman was about 25 and she was dressed in a blue skirt with a long grey jacket. Her black hat, with three pins and trimmed with chiffon, was found close to her body. A note found in the possession of the dead man enabled the police to establish the identity of the couple.
On the back of an envelope was written in a clear hand:

*Please communicate with Mr W CASE of Tuttington, near Aylsham, signed E CASE*

On another was written:

*The last wish of the above is that we should be buried together in Colby churchyard, signed E. CASE and M. CLARKE*

The only possession found in the woman’s pocket was a handkerchief embroidered with the name *Margaret*.

We must go back to the 1880s to find the story behind this tragedy.

In 1881, William CASE JP, chairman of the district council and a farmer of 800 acres, employing 27 men and 10 boys, lived at Tuttington Hall, near Aylsham, with his wife Ellen Mary, nee GOOLD. Despite having 13 rooms, the hall (which is pictured on the opposite page) would have been quite crowded as nine children were still living with them. These were Blanche, aged 19, born at Stratton Strawless, before the family moved to Tuttington; Anna aged 16; Thomas aged 14; Philip aged 13; Henry aged 10; Edmund aged 7; Ellen aged 6; Lee aged 4 and Hannah aged 3. Ellen CASE’s parents, Thomas and Mary GOOLD, both in their mid-70s, were also living at the hall. William CASE employed his 47 year old, Swaffham born cousin, Anna SMITH, as a governess and Eliza DANIELS, aged 16, as a nursemaid. Two other young women were employed as “live in” domestic servants, Sarah RICHES and Emma VINCENT. William and Ellen’s eldest son William, born at Stratton Strawless in 1863, was living with Mr and Mrs LACK at their house in Hingham Market Place. He was a medical student, under the instruction of Thomas LACK, a surgeon and medical officer of health for the Rural Sanitary Authority of the Wymondham Union.

At Tuttington Parish Church on 26th April 1883, the eldest daughter Blanche, aged 21, married 29 year old Charles John WATSON. At the time of the marriage, Charles assisted his father, John Ferra WATSON, a surgeon and Superintendent of Heigham Hall on Old Palace Road, Norwich, a private lunatic asylum with 75 inmates. From 1864, the asylum was run by three surgeons - W. P. NICHOLS, W. H. RANKING, MD, and J. Ferra WATSON MRCS (Charles’ father) - and employed approximately 25 staff. On Ferra WATSON’s death in 1886, his widow, Henrietta, and their daughter and son-in-law Mr and Mrs Alfred MOTTRAM, kept it until it was transferred to new owners in 1904.

It would seem that the majority of Ferra WATSON’s estate, valued at nearly £7000, in 1886, had gone to his widow and daughter. This left Charles WATSON out of a job and in poor health, so the family moved to the seaside, taking a house at Gorleston-on-Sea. However, at the time of the census in April, 1891, Charles, his wife and two children Mary and John, were recorded as staying at Tuttington Hall. They must have been just visiting the hall as Charles WATSON died on the 18th July that year, at their home at Cliff House, Gorleston-on-Sea. Probate of his estate went to his widow Blanche, valued at £251.8s.7d.
As mentioned previously, the eldest son of William CASE of Tuttington, was named after his father and was born at Stratton Strawless. As a child, he lived with his parents at the hall until he became a medical student lodging in the house at Hingham Market Place. By 1891 he is shown as a Medical Practitioner living in Willesden, Middlesex, with his wife, Nellie. The marriage of William to Stella Alvere ROBERTSON took place on 17th August, 1886, in London – her father was Thomas ROBERTSON, a Major in the army who served in India, where Stella was born.

Their second daughter, Anna, remained a spinster and helped manage the household at Tuttington Hall. Their second son, Thomas GOOLD, married Ada Jane GRIMES on 18th October, 1893 at Aylsham. Ada was the daughter of Police Superintendent Mark GRIMES. They lived at Ripon Hall Farm, Hevingham all their married life.

Their third son, farmer and land agent Philip James, was 34 when he married Cecilia PLUMBLEY aged 20 in 1903 in the Smallburgh Registration District. They moved into Banningham Hall near Aylsham and had four children in five years, named Edna, Mary, William and Ruth.

Their fourth and fifth sons both died young. Edmund died aged eight months on 9th June, 1870 and James died aged eight in September, 1876, both at Tuttington Hall.

Their sixth son, Henry earned his living as a Medical Practitioner. He was 22 when he married Ethel COOKE at Blofield on 27th March, 1894. His practice in 1901 was at Bury Lane, Whithnel, Chorley in Lancashire. At their house, which they called Tuttington House, they had one servant and also a coachman named POSTLE from Burgh near Aylsham. There were no children.

We now reach their seventh son Edmund, the man found dead on the railway line. He became a bank clerk and worked in Bungay, before gaining employment at Oakes Bank in Stowmarket. By the time he was living in Bury Street in Stowmarket he had married Louisa Jane POULTON from Edmonton in London, and they had two sons and two daughters whilst living there. The children were called Edmund, born 1895; Dorothy, born 1898; John, born 1900 and Muriel, born in the spring of 1904.

Ellen, the third daughter of William and Ellen Mary CASE, was born in the winter of 1875 at Tuttington Hall. Like her sister, Anna, she never married and remained
at home with her parents. Their youngest son, Lee, was born on 6th April, 1875 and sadly died at Tuttington Hall aged 23, just before Christmas, 1899. He was buried in Hevingham Churchyard, where his grave is marked with a stone cross. In the summer of 1878, at the age of 45, Ellen Mary delivered her last child, a daughter. Hannah, like her two older sisters, remained at home with her parents and never married.

The Situation in 1909

Although Blanche’s short marriage had given the CASE family two grandchildren, she was now back at home aged 46 with her three unmarried sisters: Anna now aged 43, Ellen, aged 33 and Hannah, aged 30.

William, the medical man, has not been traced since the 1891 census, but the next two eldest sons, were now married and established in farming. Thomas was, with his wife Ada, at Rippon Hall Farm Stratton Strawless and Philip, with his wife and young family at Banningham Hall.

Henry, the fourth son, was living in Lancashire, practicing medicine and had been married to Ethel nee COOKE for 15 years. They now had one son, Claude.

The main character of the story, Edmund CASE, was raising a family and apparently making a career for himself at Oakes Bank in Stowmarket, where he was included in the 1901 census. All appeared to be going well for Edmund, working at Oakes Bank and living in Bury Street, Stowmarket, with his wife Louisa and their four children, until 1907 when he became infatuated with a young woman who came into the bank. Reacting upon his fantasy, he disappeared from work and home, eventually being found in London, in a very morose and low state of mind. His father, William, persuaded him to return home and his employers at Oakes Bank kindly agreed to overlook his lapse and he was re-employed in London. Unfortunately, in the autumn of 1909, a similar situation arose when he fell in love with another young lady.

Edmund again deserted his family and left his place of employment. On this occasion it was 10 days before he was found, wandering on a beach in the Isle of Man, by a sympathetic woman who got into conversation with him and contacted his pregnant wife Louisa. The family, with four school-aged children, had relocated to Enfield in London, no doubt Louisa happy being closer to her own family.

Again Edmund’s father persuaded him to return, but the Stowmarket Bank were unable to forgive a second breach of responsibility and he was sacked. He agreed to live at Tuttington Hall, working for his father during the week and, paying monthly visits to his wife and family in London, by train. Louisa CASE’s youngest child, Philip Gordon Lee, was born in the early summer of 1910 and, together with her other four children, were living at 106, St Mark’s Road, Bush Hill Park, Enfield, with the support of her father in law, William CASE.

Among the domestic staff at Tuttington Hall was Margaret CLARKE, the daughter of James CLARKE, an agricultural team man from nearby Colby. She had been
there since the early months of 1909, was happy in her work and celebrated her 18th birthday there on the 10th April that year. She visited her parents from time to time, but during the late summer of 1910, whilst working for his father at Tuttington Hall, Edmund CASE started paying more attention to Margaret, who lived and worked there as a cook.

On recent visits home, Margaret mentioned she was worried about extra work she would have to do, because Miss Anna CASE was “going out to stay”. During the summer, Margaret was clearly not herself, often complaining of headaches. One afternoon in August she went home and told her mother about a quarrel she had with Edmund CASE because he had taken a letter from her pocket when she was making breakfast. Her mother advised her to tell Miss CASE and hand in her notice. However, when Edmund apologised for what he had done and said it would not happen again, the young servant took no further action.

On a visit home on Sunday 2nd October, 55-year-old Hannah CLARKE noticed her daughter Maggie seemed downhearted and was crying. Maggie said she was sad because she was worried about her younger sister Dulcie, who was poorly. Hannah didn’t believe this to be the real reason.

It was during early October that William CASE’s son, Philip CASE of Banningham Hall, heard unpleasant rumours about his brother Edmund and Margaret CLARKE. On Thursday October 6th, whilst Edmund was on an extended visit to London, Philip, having other business to transact with his father, made him aware of his concerns regarding the young cook. They decided it would be for the best if Edmund remained in London with his wife, so William sent the following letter to his son:-

Dear Eddie,

I was grieved to hear of your behaviour with CLARKE. You must stay where you are. We cannot think of having you here again. You must get something to do temporarily in London or elsewhere. I will go on allowing you for the present. The whole neighbourhood is talking about you. I have given you every chance of keeping yourself right, but it is all to no purpose. Do not come here. I cannot think of having you here. I grieve for your wife and family. I did not hear of this until you were gone.

On Monday, 10th October, following the receipt of the letter, Edmund CASE defiantly returned to his father’s house at Tuttington Hall. During the early evening he surreptitiously went to the kitchen door to make contact with Margaret CLARKE. She returned to her duties but, after eating a meal, left the hall at about 8 p.m. with nothing except the clothes she stood up in. She apparently met with the waiting Edmund and then the couple walked through the night to Norwich.

James PEASE, a groom in the employ of William CASE at Tuttington Hall was told by another servant that Margaret CLARKE had gone out at 10pm on the evening of Monday 10th October and had not returned. Early Tuesday morning, PEASE advised his master of the servant’s disappearance and eventually James
CLARKE, who was working in the fields, learned that his daughter was missing. Mrs Hannah CLARKE, was told by her husband at dinnertime and, after a visit to the hall on Tuesday afternoon, had no hesitation in reporting the matter to young Police Constable Arthur BALLS who lived in Colby with his wife, Anna.

Edmund and Margaret were seen drinking coffee in a Public House in St Andrew’s at a quarter to five on Tuesday morning by Policeman Oliver GOLDSMITH who said they looked as though they had been out all night. At about 9 a.m. on the morning of Tuesday, 11th October, Edmund CASE booked accommodation at 54 Queen’s Road, Norwich, the home of 64-year-old Miss Agnes WARD where she ran a small boarding house. Her younger brother, a cab driver, also lived at the address.

Edmund returned to the lodgings at about 1.15pm in the company of a young woman. He told Agnes that they would require the room for a week, but they had already had dinner, were tired from their journey and so would go to bed. Miss WARD took tea to their room at about 6 p.m. after which the couple went out to the pictures at the Theatre de Luxe, returning at 10.20 p.m. Agnes WARD became suspicious of the couple because she could not see a ring on the young woman’s finger and she kept her left hand hidden. When asked her name she said it was Margaret CASE.

On Wednesday morning, Margaret came down to fetch breakfast which they had in bed, spending all day in their room. The couple went out at 6.30 that evening, saying they were going to see Horace Hunter and Co, as well as Bombay, a novel dance act, performing twice nightly at the Hippodrome. When they returned at around 9 p.m. on Wednesday evening, Margaret was crying but Edmund CASE passed it off as a joke.

They had breakfast together in the sitting room of 54 Queen’s Road at 9.30 on Thursday morning, before going out at 11.30. They seemed happy and Edmund CASE said that they were going out for a stroll and would be back at dinnertime. Miss WARD had not received any payment thus far and was concerned when they failed to return.

On Friday, 14th October, Agnes WARD examined their room and found a small portmanteau, the only luggage they had brought with them. It contained a woman’s apron, a small box, a shaving brush and a piece of soap. It was later that day that she read of a double tragedy at Lakenham and reported her
concerns to the police. It was Monday, 17th October, 1910 when the Coroner, Richard W. LADELL held an inquest at St Anne’s Mission Rooms in King Street, Norwich, on the two bodies, found on the railway line at Lakenham. Mr H.J. MILLS represented the CASE family and Inspector GILLINGWATER represented the railway company, but the CLARKE family was not represented.

On a search made at the mortuary, the police recovered a gunmetal watch, which had stopped at 7.24, a razor in its case, a pocket knife, a small key, a tobacco pouch with some cigarettes and a pipe. In the pockets of the dead man’s clothes they also found a brown leather purse containing 6d, a pencil case, a pocket book which contained the photograph of a woman, and several letters. Nothing was found on the woman’s body except a small pocket handkerchief embroidered with the name “Margaret”.

Philip CASE of Banningham Hall identified the deceased man as being his 37 year old brother Edmund. He described him as a tall, powerful, healthy man who was subject to periods of depression. Philip said he had no idea why his brother took the servant away from Tuttington Hall, other than a sudden attack of madness or unsound mind.

Mrs Hannah CLARKE identified the body of the female as that of her 18 year old daughter Margaret, who had been a servant for the CASE family for the last 18 months. She told the court of her recent visits home to see her parents at Colby and how she had seemed upset recently. She stated she last saw her daughter alive on Sunday, 2nd October.

Railway platelayer, William PRECIOUS was called to explain how he found the bodies, and gave a graphic description of the injuries to the deceased, which seemed to be confined to the skulls. On direction from Mr MILLS, PRECIOUS confirmed that the clothing of both bodies was undisturbed.

Police Constable William FULLER told the court of the difficulties experienced when recovering the stiff and cold bodies of the couple. After questioning from the CASE family’s solicitor, the policeman confirmed that the clothing of the two deceased persons was undisturbed and that there was no sign of a struggle. From the position of the bodies it would appear that the man was struck first.

Mr MILLS, representing the CASE family, agreed to reimburse Agnes WARD for the debt incurred by the deceased. He then made a detailed statement to the court outlining the state of mind of Edmund CASE, who was subject to peculiar attacks, causing him to disappear from his family. He concluded that it was unfortunate that one of these attacks brought this young girl into trouble and it was no doubt a case of suicide, but suggested that both the deceased were in an unsound state of mind. The room was then cleared while the jury considered its verdict. On the public being readmitted, the Coroner said the verdict was one of suicide while temporarily insane. The Foreman of the jury, Mr. R. G. LAKE, the Coroner and Mr MILLS all expressed their deep sympathy with the families of both the deceased.
The cost of hiring St Anne's Mission Rooms for the inquest was 2s. 6d. The coroner’s statutory fee was £1 6s 8d for each of the deceased. The jury’s expenses amounted to 6/6d for each case and the witnesses were paid 6s. in total. No medical evidence was required but a plan of the death site was drawn up at a cost of 2/6d making the grand total for both inquests of £3.17s.4d.

Later that day, the last wish of the deceased couple to be buried together in Colby churchyard was ignored. Edmund’s body was buried in Hevingham Churchyard, alongside other members of the CASE family with the Rev Harold BOOTH officiating. Margaret Emma CLARKE was buried the next day, Tuesday 18th October, 1910, somewhere in Colby churchyard with the Rector, the REV A. W. BLANCHE officiating.

The will of Edmund CASE was proved in London by his farmer brother Philip James CASE on 9th December 1910. His effects were valued at £495. 18s. 0d.

Sources:
Parish Registers Tuttington, Colby, Hevingham, Aylsham.
Census Returns 1871 1881 1891 1901 1911
Monumental Inscriptions NFHS (NORS)
Norwich Death Returns 1910 (NORS)
Coroners reports NRO ref COR 3
Eastern Evening News, October 1910
Eastern Daily Press October 1910
Cromer and North Norfolk Post 8/12/1929
Norwich Probate Register PRDR 2/203/1929/447

Roy Scott MN 475 roy.scott@sky.com

Roy has written an extensive history of the CASE family of Tuttington Hall from 1880 to 1920 which has been deposited at the Kirby Hall Library. Anyone wanting more details of this fascinating family’s story can contact Roy through his e-mail address.

See You In Birmingham In April
This year’s “Who Do You Think You Are? Live” takes place at Birmingham NEC from April 16th to 18th from 9.30 a.m. on each day. The Norfolk Family History Society will be represented each day and will have a number of resources available. We look forward to helping you with your research.

DNA Testing Request and Famous Relatives
Are you related to somebody famous or well known or somebody infamous? Has your research unearthed skeletons in the closet? If it has and you would be willing to share your story please e-mail the editor. We are also looking for people who have undertaken DNA testing for genealogy purposes for a future article.
Names Embroidered For Posterity

Jim Bilham-Boul on a very unusual heirloom

THE embroidered cloth seen below was created between 1895 and 1905 by the daughters of Louise Eliza BOULT in Great Yarmouth. Visitors to the house were asked to sign their name on the cloth and each of these names was then embroidered. There are 90 names on the cloth. Most of them are relatives from both England and Holland. This photograph of part of the cloth was taken by myself in Sacramento, California in 2013 and the following article is the genealogy which determined the route taken by the cloth from Yarmouth to Sacramento.

To understand the journey requires knowledge of the genealogy of the BOULT family, descendants of Louise Eliza BOULT (nee SMITH) born 1806 and her husband Edward Rising BOULT born 1806. Edward was a farmer in Moulton St. Mary, Norfolk and his family grew up there until he died in 1880, when Louise and four of her daughters moved to Crown Road, Great Yarmouth. This is where the cloth was created. While the family was living in Moulton, son Robert married Kate BULLARD (daughter of the founder of the Bullard Brewing Company in Norwich) in 1874 after winning her hand in competition with Volkert Willem de VILLENEUVE. Volkert was born in Paramibo, Dutch West Indies and I have not been able to ascertain why he was living in Norfolk in the 1840s. Robert and Volkert must have been good friends as Robert committed to name a son after Volkert after he had won Kate’s hand. The records show that Robert named one of his sons, Volkert Willem de Villedeneuve BOULT.

Volkert returned to Paramibo and persuaded Robert’s sister Emily to travel there to marry him. They subsequently returned to ‘s-Gravenhage, Holland and had one
daughter, Antoinette. Antoinette married Carel Pieter Goffin VAN DER STAR in 1889. The photograph above shows the group at the wedding. One can identify BOULTs that travelled from Great Yarmouth for this event. Signatures of the Dutch family on the cloth show that there were ongoing visits in both directions. It would be interesting to establish the route and transport used for these visits. Did they use the train and ferry between Harwich and Holland or was there a ferry direct from Great Yarmouth to Holland at that time?

Antoinette and her husband had six children - one son and five daughters. The son and the second youngest daughter, Caroline Eliza Goffin VAN DER STAR emigrated to the San Francisco area and married. Caroline married Derk de RUiter ZYLKER (he was associated with Shell oil in the company’s early days) in Oakland in 1923 and they had two sons and one daughter, Margaretha Elise, who grew up in San Francisco and married a Scotsman, Ian CAMPBELL. Later in life, Margaretha moved to a retirement community in Sacramento.

Margaretha presently has the tablecloth and the photograph was taken at her home. It is clear that the journey of the cloth was from Yarmouth to ‘s-Gravenhage in Holland and then to San Francisco and finally to Sacramento but there are still some unanswered questions. Why was the Table Cloth given to Emily in Holland after Louisa died in 1904 rather than the eldest sister still living at her mother's house in Great Yarmouth, and what route did the visitor between ‘s-Gravenhage and Great Yarmouth use? I am hoping that a Norfolk Museum may be interested in having the table cloth as an exhibit. It is in good condition but does need treatment to remove the creases left from being folded in storage.

Jim Bilham-Boult MN 6122
Little Bill The Postcard King

THE March 2013 edition of the Norfolk Ancestor published two photographs taken on Great Yarmouth Beach that were submitted by Lionel Jones with a request for further information. One of the photographs showed two women and a child posing on an old motorcycle combination. My reply was published in the June 2013 edition. I concluded that these photographs were the work of one of the many beach photographers who traded on Yarmouth sands. I had conjectured that these photographs may have been taken by "Little Bill the Postcard King" because a beach photograph in my own collection had the contact details below printed on the back of the card "4 South Market Road" and the location of his alfresco studio of "South side of Britannia Pier on beach." Lionel Jones' photograph was definitely taken on the south side of the Britannia Pier.

Most of the Great Yarmouth beach photographers did not give contact information on the back of their prints but one who did was Bill FIDDY. Was it possible that Little Bill and Bill FIDDY were the same person? An answer came in the 2013 edition of the annual journal of the Great Yarmouth Local History and Archaeological Society in a transcript by the society's chairman, Paul P. DAVIS, of "Yarmouth Beach and Promenade Committee's Beach Arrangements for the Ensuing Season" dated 19th April, 1920. This wonderful document gives the names and addresses of the many and varied traders who rented pitches on the beach for the 1920 season, along with the rent required and what the charge had been for the previous season.

These traders ranged from refreshment stalls to donkey stands, bathing huts to fruit stalls and of course there were photographers. There were to be ten photographers’ standings on the beach for the 1920 season. Mr FIDDY of number 12 Row 45, Great Yarmouth was to occupy a photographer's pitch opposite Trafalgar Road near the Singers Ring that was rented to Mr Frank GEE. Some of Bill FIDDY’s photographs in my collection have "near The Troubadour's Ring" printed on them. Mr FIDDY had paid 10/- per week for standing in 1919, this was increased to 11/- per week for the 1920 season. Another photographer's pitch under the Britannia Pier was rented at 12/6d per week and increased to 13/6d per
week in 1920 to a Mr MARTIN of 4 South Market Road, Great Yarmouth. At last Little Bill was unmasked and identified, or was he? A look at the census of 1911 that was taken in the April of that year certainly had a Mr Frederick MARTIN aged 65 and a Mrs Mary Ann MARTIN aged 67 residing at 4 South Market Road. Both were born in Birmingham. However Frederick's occupation is "General dealer in baby carriages and repairing." No sign of the "Postcard King." Did the MARTIN'S have a son called William or Bill? William MARTIN could not be found on the 1911 Census. Attention was turned to the 1901 Census, again no suitable William MARTIN could be found. So a search for Frederick was undertaken. Frederick was found on the 1901 Census residing in Great Yarmouth as an "Inn Keeper" at the Canterbury Inn, 5a Middle Market Road, along with Mary and son Willie age 17, a "photographic artist" born in Birmingham. This certainly looks like Little Bill.

So where was Little Bill in 1911? One possibility comes from the 1911 Census for Wales. In the household of Sarah BILLINGTON of 41 Holt Street, Wrexham, there were two boarders, William MARTIN age 27, born in Birmingham, and Mary MARTIN age 29, born in Great Yarmouth. Occupations for both were recorded as "fair people." That has been crossed out and altered to "showmen". Itinerant photographers were often to be found on fairgrounds but again this is conjecture. I hope the 1921 Census, when made available, will reveal a bit more about Yarmouth's "Postcard King."

The photograph on this page depicts a woman in a deck chair with a child, taken by Little Bill. It was taken sometime after 1911

Paul Godfrey MN13998

The March 2013 edition of the Norfolk Ancestor containing the photographs on Great Yarmouth beach mentioned in Paul’s article is available to members online via the Norfolk Family History Society web site at www.norfolkfhs.org.uk. Over the page Paul continues his memories of the historic Great Yarmouth photographers.
A POSTCARD-size studio photograph in my collection has the following photographer’s contact information: "BE Barns The Lady Photographer Hippodrome Studio Great Yarmouth." A studio in the name of BE BARNS does not seem to be listed in any Norfolk trade directories. However, the 1911 Census has an entry for a Frank BARNS aged 46, a "photographer" born in Ashford, Kent, residing at 186, Northgate Street, Great Yarmouth, along with his wife Bertha aged 43, with no stated occupation, born in Faversham, Kent and their son Max, aged eight, also born in Faversham. There is also a visitor in the household, Ann HISTED, aged 76, born in Goring, Kent.

Despite Frank BARNS being listed in the 1911 census as a photographer, it seems that a photographic studio was being run in Bertha's name as several postcard prints in various collections have her name on them. It is possible that the BARNES studio was a small single storey shop on the south side of George Gilbert's Hippodrome Circus forecourt on Marine Parade. The Hippodrome forecourt was meant to provide a view of the magnificent circus building from Marine Parade. A colour-tinted postcard in a local collection shows on the left side of the forecourt that there was a cigar store, a palmist/phrenologist and a photographer offering "Perfect Portraits. 12 for 1/-, including frames." The signage also says "Day or Night, Wet or Fine" and that prints can be "posted to any address." This gives the impression that the studio was using artificial lighting, possibly powered by electricity, and that customers could be photographed whatever the weather or the light conditions, unlike the beach photographer whose business was at the mercy of the weather and light levels.

My research has revealed that the BARNES family were a photographic dynasty from Kent. Frank was the son of Thomas and Charlotte BARNES. Thomas was a cabinet maker who later diversified and became a photographer. The census for 1861 shows him living in Ashford, Kent as a "cabinet maker employing one man and three boys". By the 1871 Census his occupation is "photographer" residing at number 1 Limes Place, Preston Street, Faversham, Kent. Thomas had two brothers who were also cabinet makers turned photographers, John and Samuel, who along with Thomas, are listed in the Ashford Trades Directory of 1886 trading as the BARNES Brothers, Photographic Artists, Hempstead Street, Ashford, Kent. James BARNES their father was also a cabinet maker and ran another business as a glass and china dealer in Ashford from 1838 until 1855. Samuel West BARNES was a "Photographic Artist" trading from 100, High Street, Ashford, Kent. He died in 1889 but the business continued, according to the 1891 Census, with Samuel's wife Mary Ann in charge assisted by daughter Nelly, a retoucher, and Arthur KIRK aged 73, a photographer and operator who was a boarder in the household. Samuel's son Percival also became a photographer and was living in Milton, Gravesend, Kent. According to the 1901 Census, his sister Coralie, aged 18, was
also in the household with the occupation of "photographer" and was probably assisting Percival in his business. Percival was again listed as a "photographer" in the 1911 census and was residing and trading from 93 High Street, Whitstable. Percival BARNES died of typhoid fever in Australia in 1913.

John BARNES traded, according to the 1881 Census, as a "photographer and tobacconist" from Ivy Court, High Street, Tenderden, Kent and the earlier 1861 Census describes him as a "photographic artist" residing with his father at Drum Lane, Ashford, Kent. Thomas and Charlotte BARNES had ten children of which three took up professional photography. Herbert was assisting his father according to the 1891 census and had moved on to Swansea by 1901 and was a "photographic manager," but the 1911 Census shows he had turned his back on the world of photography and was a "clothing dealer."

Sidney, according to the 1901 census, was working as a "photographer" in Bournemouth. By 1911 he was a photographer "on his own account" living with his wife Elizabeth and daughter Doris at 221 Capstone Road, Bournemouth.

Frank George BARNES 1865 - 1944 was listed in the 1881 census as a "photographer's assistant" residing with his parents at 1 Limes Place, Faversham. The 1891 census shows he was living as a boarder in the home of Mary Ann LEAK at 51 Brimley Street, Nottingham, occupation "photographer". Also in 1891 he married Bertha Elizabeth HISTED in Faversham. The Whitstable Times and Herne Bay Herald of Saturday, 9th January 1892 carried the following marriage announcement:

BARNS-HISTED.

On the 29th Dec, at Faversham Church, the Rev. C. E. Donne M.A Vicar, Frank Barns, of West Bridgford, Nottingham, second son of Mr. Thos. Barns, of Faversham, to Bertie, eldest daughter of Mr. Walter Histed, of Faversham.

The 1901 Census shows Frank's family living at 1 Limes Place, Faversham with Bertha and son Walter, aged eight. Also in 1901, his parents, Thomas and Charlotte, had retired and were living in Ramsgate with their daughter Minnie and her husband Percy MORLEY. Frank and Bertha's eldest son Walter's absence in Great Yarmouth is explained in the 1911 Census, as at the age of 19 he was an "apprentice merchant seaman" on board SS King Frederick. Ann HISTED is Bertha's widowed mother age 76 listed as a "visitor." Frank's death was recorded in Lewisham in 1944 and Bertha's in March 1955 in Wandsworth.
It is not known how long Frank and Bertha traded in Great Yarmouth from their Hippodrome Studio. Being on Marine Parade suggests their main trade was during the summer season. At the time there were several portrait photographers trading in Yarmouth from town centre locations. Competition among them must have been fierce and a photographer's studio on the seafront must have struggled for trade during the winter months. It's possible that the Hippodrome Studio was a summer season only enterprise.

The photograph above shows three gentlemen posing at the BARNS' Hippodrome studio. They are pictured against a painted background. The previous page shows a couple posing against the same background.

Paul Godfrey MN13998

The Numbers of War 93442 by Clare Marsh

CHARLES NOBLE, my great uncle, inspired this poem. He was born 25th November 1894 in Thorpe St Andrew, one of ten children of Frederick Waller NOBLE (Postman) and his wife Jane Matilda (nee HART) who ran the Post Office. The family later moved into Norwich and Charles worked for Jarrold's. He enlisted at the beginning of the war and was a stretcher bearer in the Royal Army Medical Corps throughout. I used information from Charles' war records on Ancestry to convey his passage from new recruit to his death heartbreakingly close to the end of the war. I hope it might inspire others to sometimes use family history records creatively. I was extremely proud that the poem won a competition to read it at a WW1 commemorative concert last August so others could hear Charles’ story.
From the records I was struck by the vast bureaucracy of the war machine; there were numbered forms for everything and Charles at his death was reduced to his number 93442. The 'numbers' also refer to the quirk of fate that Charles' last leave started on 12th August, he was killed on 12th September and his mother signed for his possessions on 12th December. They also graphically show the huge amount of 'clearing stations' that were set up to remove and process the wounded from the battlefields. The most chilling line is: 93442 became ‘non-effective by death’ as though Charles had ‘let the side down’ by being killed! Like so many he was a hero and my grandfather, Henry, cried for his younger brother until his own death at 100. I can picture Jane Matilda NOBLE waving her beloved young son off to war and imagine how she felt when all that returned were his few personal effects.

**The Numbers of War – 93442**

3rd August 1914, Norwich
Army Form E. 501:
Charles Noble, Apprentice Compositor Jarrolds, 'makes oath to be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King George the Fifth'.

Medical Inspection Report (applicable to all ranks)
Apparent age: 19 years and 8 months
Height: 5’ 9 ½” Chest girth: 37”
Vision: good Physical development: good
'I consider him fit for the Territorial Force.'

Stretcher Bearer, Royal Army Medical Corps, 6th Field Ambulance.
Leave ration allowance:
12th August 1918 (14 days)

12th September 1918, France
Army Form B. 178:
Wounds received in action.
93442 became ‘non-effective by death’ at 46 Casualty Clearing Station, Bac-Du-Sud.

12th December 1918, Waldeck Road, Norwich
Army Form B. 104-126:
Jane Matilda Noble, mother, acknowledges receipt of the following items: Letters, Photos, Wallet, Metal Ring, Handkerchief.

Clare Marsh MN 11342
Early on the morning of 1st August 1994, a caretaker switched on the lights causing a gas explosion which ripped through Norwich Central Library destroying more than 100,000 books in the space of twelve hours.

The Library had recently undergone a £380,000 refurbishment including upgrading fire protection but a sprinkler system was ruled out because water would cause unacceptable damage in the event of a small fire. Attempts to extinguish the blaze led to 3 million items being drenched. Sadly the American Air Division Memorial Library, a unique record of the activities of US servicemen stationed in Norfolk during WWII, was destroyed. In the basement of the building was the Norfolk Record Office, the home of a thousand years of priceless documents, including the 800 year-old Norwich City Charter and manuscripts dating back as far as 1090. Thankfully these original documents were rescued albeit many being water-damaged. The old building had to be demolished but in November 2001 a new £63.5m state of the art information centre called the Forum was opened on the site. Thousands of people donated old books and pictures about Norfolk to replace the lost records. This Millennium Library is now one of the most well-used in the country. A splendid Archives Centre, the Norfolk Record Office, was built next to the County Council Offices and now contains over 13 million records including the East Anglian Film and the Norfolk Sound Archives. Due to the dedicated work of archivist staff, in drying, reshaping and mending parchment documents, it has become an international centre of excellence in preservation. These events are chronicled by the author who interviewed many of those involved in this compelling story.

Although surrounded by a large rural hinterland, Norwich has been the hub of commerce and industry throughout the centuries. This well-illustrated book focuses on some of the major industries. It delves into the remarkable stories behind some of the most well-known companies, their founders, premises and workforce. It examines the social history and philanthropy of these firms, the memories and legacies which remain even though much of the production and employment has suffered due to economic changes in the twentieth century. As such it offers a major contribution towards understanding Norwich’s fascinating industrial heritage.

Edmund Perry MN3181

MUSTARD, BOOTS & BEER by Christopher Armstrong. Larks Press, 2014. 180 pages. £10

For those unfamiliar with the business grandees of Norwich this is a most informative and enjoyable read. Eight lively biographical cameos concern the inside stories of important and interesting characters who also assumed local and national civic responsibilities. Few can claim Norfolk ancestry but most were self-made entrepreneurs, who exhibited a pattern of work and self-improvement as real life examples of the virtues preached in Samuel SMILE’s Self Help (1859). Although three were of dubious probity, several were committed non-conformists, philanthropists and paternalist employers. All of them made significant contributions to Norwich’s economic revival and modest prosperity in the second half of the nineteenth century.

Edmund Perry MN3181

Bookshelf reviews in the next edition of Norfolk Ancestor will include “Cobbold and Kin - Life Stories From An East Anglian Family by Clive Hodges and “Social Relations and Urban Space: Norwich 1600-1700” by Fiona Williamson. Editor.
No Nonsense Guide to Writing Family History

BEING a good family researcher is not just a matter of searching through thousands of records, spending hours with dusty and musty tomes and gazing into a crystal ball. Today many thousands of people are putting their research into context and to do that you have to be something of a writer and/or journalist.

In these days of self-publishing we can all be authors. The problem is of course that we often need help and guidance.

Well known and leading Norfolk genealogist Gill Blanchard is keen to help people bring their ancestors’ stories to life and also to find their own writing styles.

To this end, Gill has just written a step by step guide to developing a written family history. “Writing Your Family History - A Guide For Family Historians” is published by Pen and Sword Books Ltd at £12.99.

Of course the book doesn’t do the writing for you. There will still be hour after hour of sweat and tears, but it does give extremely good tips on how to sort and represent information. Gill gives plenty of examples and there are exercises to follow and much of her advice is of a practical nature.

This is a valuable guide for those who are confused by the wealth of material they have gathered and also those just starting out on what can be a rocky road.

Peter Steward MN14801

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Editor’s Corner

From the Swinging Sixties

EVERYONE has heard of the Beatles, but how many people know that the lead singer on their breakthrough single came from Norwich? For while most people will be familiar with the names of George HARRISON, Paul McCARTNEY, John LENNON and Ringo STARR, few people will be aware of Tony SHERIDAN. A few years ago I had the pleasure of editing a book written by a friend, Alan MANN. Alan is incidentally the son of renowned Norfolk artist John MANN.

Alan’s book entitled “The Teacher - The Tony Sheridan Story” is loosely a biography of Tony SHERIDAN who was born Anthony Esmond Sheridan McGINNITY in Norwich on 21st May, 1940. The book took the form of a question and answer session between Alan and his personal friend and schoolmate, McGINNITY.

SHERIDAN/McGINNITY was born at 38, Glenmore Gardens, Norwich to Alphonsus McGINNITY and Audrey MANN. Alphonsus’ mother’s maiden name was SHERIDAN, the name he was later to adopt. SHERIDAN was educated at Bignold Infants and Primary School and then at the City of Norwich School (CNS). Alan’s book goes into considerable detail about their shared schoolboy experiences. To cut a long story short, Tony SHERIDAN became intensely interested in music, having formed his first band in 1956. On moving to London, he appeared regularly at the legendary Two Is club. He also has the distinction of being the first artist to play an electric guitar on the TV rock show “Oh Boy.”

SHERIDAN soon carved out a career for himself as a top-notch guitarist, backing top artists such as Conway TWITTY and Gene VINCENT. Unfortunately he got a reputation for being unreliable and this was partly the reason for his moving to Hamburg in Germany, where fate took a hand and saw him as a seasoned professional guitarist come across five fresh-faced young men with the names of HARRISON, LENNON, McCARTNEY, Pete BEST and Stu SUTCLIFFE (this was
in pre-Ringo days). HARRISON in particular would practice for hours with SHERIDAN who was given the nickname The Master (hence the title of Alan MANN’S book). SHERIDAN often backed the Beatles and the Beatles in return backed him. Various sessions saw a number of tracks being recorded and these are now available on CD. One of these was a rock version of the old standard “My Bonnie.” “My Bonnie” came out under the name of Tony SHERIDAN and the Beat Brothers as it was thought the word Beatles was too indigestible for German audiences. Later the name of the group was changed back to Tony SHERIDAN and the Beatles. The Beatles returned to Liverpool where “My Bonnie” had become a cult single. As far as they were concerned the rest, as they say, was history.

Tony SHERIDAN continued to work as a musician for the remainder of his life and died in Germany in 2013. He is pictured above with author Alan MANN. Photographs reproduced thanks to Alan. “The Teacher - The Tony Sheridan Story” is available from City Books of Norwich or direct from Alan Mann, at 11 Gibbs Close, Little Melton, priced at £10 including postage and package. Alan can also be contacted via e-mail at:

alanmann@madasafish.com

Row Upon Row Upon Row

ONE of the many joys of family history research is learning about places where ancestors lived and finding out about their lifestyles.

I learnt very early on in my research that many of my ancestors came from Great Yarmouth. Not only that but various
branches of the family lived in The Rows. The more I delved into Great Yarmouth history the more intriguing these unique alleyways have become.

The bottom photograph opposite shows Greyfriars Row No 91 and a half and is from the George Plunkett collection and reproduced with the kind permission of Jonathan Plunkett. The image was captured on August 1st, 1936.

**Peter Steward** MN 14801

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Celebrating The Battle of Waterloo

Martin Clarke puts forward the argument for celebrating the famous battle from 200 years ago.

HAVING read many stories regarding the celebrations of the anniversary of the First World War (from which I have researched over nine members of my own family who died), should we now celebrate another anniversary - the 200th year of The Battle of Waterloo on 18th June 1815? In the words of an English officer, this battle was "a terrible fight fought for a terrible stake: freedom or slavery to Europe."

My Great Great Great Uncle, Gordon CLARKE was born in 1790 in Gooderstone, Norfolk, to Henry CLARKE and Mary GORDON. The seventh child of 12, he enlisted in the Coldstream Regiment of Foot Guards as a Private on the 6th June 1812, aged 21, for unlimited service.

It has been written that joining the army was another way of earning a living for the unemployed and The Duke of Wellington said that the English army was recruited from "the scum of the earth." Was this the case for Gordon? We will probably never know.

Gordon was present at the Battle of Waterloo and was awarded the Waterloo Medal which was the first medal issued by the British Government to all soldiers present at an action. Gordon then married Charlotte GORDON in Westminster, London on the 24th October 1824.

He was discharged from the Coldstream Guards on 4th June, 1825, after 13 years and 113 days service, with an additional allowance of two years for the Battle of Waterloo.

On his discharge papers, Gordon, aged 34, is 5 foot 6 and a half inches tall, has brown hair, grey eyes and fair complexion. Gordon's general conduct as a solider is shown as 'good' but he was discharged in consequence of 'very weak health.'

Gordon and Charlotte returned to Gooderstone and together had 14 children (no mention of his weak health).

In the 1861 census, Gordon is listed as a Chelsea Pensioner and he died aged 81 in 1871. He was buried on the 18th September, 1871, in Gooderstone.

Martin Clarke MN 14819 jennyandharry@aol.com
Welcome to the March edition of the *Norfolk Ancestor*.

It’s that time of year when we require you to send in your renewal form for 2015/2016. The form can be found on page ii in the centre of this Journal. If you already have a banker’s order in place a “bo” will have been printed on the label that accompanies this Journal and you will not need to fill in a new one.

I receive lots of queries regarding payment especially at this time of year as we seem to be the only Society that renews in April and not January. We do not mind these questions but it would help us tremendously if you could let us have your membership number. This goes for any enquiry by letter, phone call, email etc. It will make our job a lot easier.

If you need to contact us regarding a change of address, email or telephone, you can do this on our website [www.norfolkfhs.org.uk](http://www.norfolkfhs.org.uk), you must log in at the top right hand corner, go to the “Membership” menu and select “Amend Details”.

### Members Interests Search Area Codes

#### KEY
- CN = Central
- NC = Norwich & District
- NE = North East
- NW = North West
- SE = South East
- SW = South West
- YM = Gt Yarmouth

**Other areas are identified by Chapman codes. A copy of these can be obtained from Kirby Hall.**
New Members to 31st December 2014

The Society welcomes the following new members

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The Norfolk Ancestor Journal of the NFHS  March 2015
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Historic Norfolk Oak Comes Seventh

A NORFOLK oak has narrowly missed out on the title of Tree of the Year in a competition organised by the Woodland Trust.

The award for 2014 went to The Major Oak in Sherwood Forest. The Sherwood Forest tree polled 18% of almost 13,000 public votes cast, leaving KETT’S Oak, at Wymondham, trailing in seventh spot with 8% of the vote. KETT’S Oak, which stands by the side of the B1172 near Hethersett, was one of 10 trees shortlisted and garnered 1,060 votes, well behind the 2,317 for The Major Oak - said to have been the hideout for Robin Hood and his Merry Men.

KETT’S Oak’s fame is down to the role it was said to have played in the Norfolk Rebellion of 1549. The rebels led by Robert KETT are thought to have mustered there on July 9th, on their way towards Norwich, as part of their campaign against the enclosure of land by landowners.
Recommended Web Sites

In the first of a new series we look at web sites that can either help with family genealogy or which are important from an historical point of view. If you have a particular favourite you would like to share with other members, just contact the editor via e-mail at ancestor@nfhs.co.uk

No 1-East Anglian Film Archive - www.eafa.org.uk

Putting family details into a time context is both a vital and rewarding part of family history research and the Norfolk Film Archive gives you the opportunity to experience the sights and sounds of bygone days.

Be warned, this site is highly addictive. It takes discipline to keep to a specific subject without going off at a tangent and viewing random footage.

The East Anglian Film Archive was the first regional archive in England. A not-for-profit research and public access resource, it was established in 1976 and since 1984 has been owned and operated by the University of East Anglia.

The whole archive features 12,000 hours of film and 30,000 hours of videotape and since 2003 has been part of the archive centre at County Hall in Norwich.

Currently the web site includes over 200 hours of footage that is available free of charge and searches can be made under a number of subject headings including dates (the first footage goes back to 1895), places (164 places are listed), genres (39 headings from agriculture to wartime), people (31 subject headings) and subjects (well over 40).

Primarily the collection covers Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire, Bedfordshire, Essex and Hertfordshire, but it also includes footage of national and international importance. Work on digitising the collection began in 2011 and is an ongoing project.

The archive is a brilliant example of how the Internet has made the world such a small place. I can’t help wondering whether the hundreds of people in Norwich streets in the 1902 film depicting a tram ride through the city could ever have envisaged the grainy footage being made available to a world audience on a strange box called a computer!

Peter Steward MN 14801
The majority of us are not descendants of the aristocracy, landed gentry or famous people but find our roots in the mass of people who left only the barest official records and little in the way of diaries, letters, possessions or even a marked grave – the “Common People” of Alison Light’s book. This remarkable work traces not only the bare bones of her family tree but follows her forebears over two centuries as they travelled the country and the world looking for work, driven by economic forces, political decisions and social policies. The influence of extreme poverty, the workhouse, physical and mental illness, sea-going and the Baptist chapel is explored in illuminating and often heart-rending detail. Part family memoir and part social history, it shows lives of hardship, tragedy and occasional modest success leaving one with a feeling that one now knows and understands these very English people. Unfortunately the photographs and illustrations are of poor quality, making them difficult to see, but the beautiful writing makes “Common People” an example and inspiration for family historians attempting to write their own story.

Margaret Murgatroyd MN 10400

Aylsham: A Nest of Norfolk Lawyers by William Vaughan-Lewis and Maggie Vaughan-Lewis.

Paperback A4 size 322 pages. Published by Itteringham History 2014. £25.

THIS impressive work deals with the large number of lawyer families working in Aylsham during the years 1680-1840 with short biographies of individuals, their work and social networks, the houses they owned and streets named after them. A wide range of primary and secondary sources were consulted. The majority of legal documents used came from the Norfolk Record Office, the National Archives at Kew and the Public Record Office. Court rolls and court books helped to establish ownership of copyhold properties and
show family relationships with occupations. Some sections have quite detailed legal information.

It is an important addition to the local history of Aylsham and an excellent source of family history, fully illustrated with numerous Family Tree diagrams, maps, pictures, photographs plus source lists for each chapter and an excellent index to find people and places.

By the same authors: **Aylsham: Hungate 1622-1840, A Norfolk Streetscape £10.** Both books are available from Jarrolds in Cromer, Barnwells in Aylsham and Itteringham Community Association Shop, and Waterstones Norwich.

Edmund Perry MN 3181

‘They Are Not Dead’ - A Norwich Parish in the First World War Remembering a Lost Generation by Stuart John McLaren

Paperback 300 pages. Published by Larks Press 2014. £11.50.

METICULOUS research makes this book an absolute delight and a superb memorial to a lost generation. It took 15 years of research to produce biographies of over 100 men from the St Augustine’s parish in Norwich who died in the First World War. There are also pieces on some of the survivors. The book is written with great authority and it brings home the tragedy that was the First World War. It seems unbelievable that so many men from such a small part of England could have died fighting for a cause that many of them would not have understood. The author has acted both as an historian for the individual lives and as an historian for the wider picture. Through their eyes we come to understand a little more about the course of the war, the campaigns, their personal lives and how they died. The St Augustine’s parish was relatively poor but also a closely knit community with shoemaking the main industry. I am in absolute awe at the way in which Stuart McLaren has brought to life the individual lives of so many men. Each has his own section and there are numerous photographs in what has obviously been a labour of love. Bringing the First World War down to such a parochial level strangely helps us to understand the wider implications of the conflict through families left behind and soldiers lost forever.

Particularly poignant is the section on Private John ABIGAIL who was shot for desertion from the British Army. Private ABIGAIL was officially pardoned in 2006 and this is the first time his sad story has been told in full.

Peter Steward MN 14801
Notes and Queries

This is the area given over to society members. If you have a query or a nugget of interest please send it to us along with your membership number and e-mail details so that other members can contact you. Non-members can also raise a query for a small payment. Details of this can be found on page 59.

Debt or No Debt?

THE Norfolk News of 17th September, 1870 included the item opposite in the miscellaneous column. Jedidiah NICHOLS (1816-1884) is my 3x great-grandfather. Esther is his second wife whom he married on 1st February 1857 at St Bartholomew, Heigham, Norwich. Jedidiah appears to have had a number of occupations, from woolcomber and overlooker to warehouseman and boiler cleaner. But there is no indication from censuses or other records that he was ever engaged in business on his own account, and therefore it appears unlikely that the reference to debts is connected directly to any involvement Esther may have had in his employment. Esther (nee HOWARD, born 1838) was, in turn, a yarn factory worker and starch packer. However, in the 1871 census the two of them are not living together. Jedidiah resides in the household of his daughter Sarah and son-in-law Henry NEWMAN at Norwich, St John de Sepulchre. Esther I cannot locate. This hints at a separation although apparently not a divorce. By the 1881 census they are back together again but I lose track of Esther once more after this. Would any reader have any suggestions as to why Jedidiah thought it necessary to publicise a reference to any debts which his wife might incur or where Esther was in 1871 or after 1891?

Source: The Norfolk News, 17th September 1870 sourced from findmypast.co.uk

Alan Harper  MN 13133 mail@agharper.plus.com

Calling All Male Pigots

AS a professional researcher of Norfolk family and local history for more than 30 years, I have undertaken a wide variety of commissions, but this is the first time I have received a request to help trace descendants for DNA testing! I have been asked to track down any male PIGOTS descended from the PIGOT family of Stradsett, with a view to having a Y-DNA test done at the cost of my client.

He tells me that the PIGOT family acquired the manor of Stradsett by marriage c1430, but their line goes back to Reinard PICOT, knighted c1195, of Framingham Pigot. In the C17th, Francis PIGOT (born at Stradsett in 1642) left
for Virginia c1663, his father Ralph having sold the manor of Stradsett and moved
to London c1660. If you believe you can trace your ancestry back to the PIGOTs
of Stradsett, in an uninterrupted male line, and are interested/willing to undergo a
Y-DNA test, or would like more information, please contact me.

Diana Spelman MN 794 dianaspelman@waitrose.com

Maherchalalhashbaz: A Name Explained

In the December edition of Ancestor we featured the intriguing name
Maherchalalhashbaz TUCK and asked for its meaning. It didn’t stump our
keen members for very long as we received a number of explanations. We
are grateful to everyone who responded. Just a handful of the answers are
printed below.

I mentioned Mr TUCK’s first name to my wife and she immediately replied “Old
Testament”. After a moment’s thought she added that it was a Hebrew name
which means “Hurry to the Spoils.” You can imagine how useful it is to have a
partner in life who has such crucial information as this at her finger tips. A Google
search reveals that the name M etc occurs in Isaiah 8:3.

Andrew Bacon MN 11242

I thought it would be something obscurely Biblical. I have a Cornish ancestor who
was baptised Zapenath-Panaeab. This was in the late 1700s. I would have
thought that by the 19th century people had grown out of combing the Bible for
the most obscure names possible. But is it really any worse than Petal Blossom
Rainbow (Jamie Oliver), Fifi Trixibelle (Bob Geldof) or Moon Unit (Frank Zappa)?

Mike Whitaker MN 2589

The name is also the title of a short Montague Egg story by Dorothy L. Sayers, in
which Maher-chalal-hash-baz (shortened to Mash!) is a cat.

Barbara Roberts MN 3283

June Curtis (MN 10532) suggested the name may have been given by a zealous
preacher, someone with a sense of humour, someone who just liked long names
or maybe someone who just wanted to challenge the census taker.

Sue Brown (MN 148090) felt the name implied that the family were staunch
nonconformists with a love of obscure Biblical names.

Dr Rosemary Arthur (MN 14047) said it was popular in the 19th century to give
children Biblical names even if the parents did not know what it meant: “My
husband has an ancestor named Selah.” This name is found in Psalms and is
probably a musical direction of some kind. Not surprisingly she preferred to be
called Celia.
Calling All Fulchers

From a gravestone in Hingham Churchyard I saw that my Great Great Grandfather, Thomas FULCHER, was born in 1784, but I have not been able to find out where, although I have looked at all the available information in the Norfolk Records Office. I am hoping that someone who is researching the same name can help.

George Fulcher MN 14880 - fulchersinuk@hotmail.com

George White Information Needed

Kate Royall from the Eastern Daily Press has contacted us with a plea for information to help one of her readers. Kate takes up the story: “We are helping a Norwich resident in the search for a photograph of his little sister who was tragically killed, aged eight, in 1949 whilst cycling near to the family home in the city. She attended Mousehold Infants and then George White Middle School in the 1940s.

Her brother, who is now 74, was so traumatised by the events of 1949 that he can no longer remember what his sister looked like and doesn’t have a photograph of her. We are helping him in his search for a photograph. George White Middle School no longer has any archives as they were all lost in a flood at the school in 2010.

I have also contacted the Archive Centre at the County Council but they hold no records from the school for that period. If any of your members can help us in the search for any photos from the George White School from the period 1941 to August 1949 I would be very grateful. Anyone with information can contact Kate direct on the e-mail address below.

Kate Royall Kate.Royall@archant.co.uk

Searching For Sheehan

Ronald Mervyn SHEEHAN number 323519 Lieutenant 4th/7th Royal Dragoon Guards, was killed in action, aged 20 years, on 30th March, 1945, close to the Dutch/German border. He is buried in the Jonkerbos War Cemetery. His sacrifice is commemorated by a wall plaque in Hoxne Church, Suffolk, the village in which the family home was “The Firs.”

In 1934, when aged nine years, Ronald accompanied his family to England from Northern Rhodesia. In that same year his father, Dr William Joseph SHEEHAN (1881-1955), set up a medical practice in Hoxne. The family was comprised of his mother, Mary Bridget SHEEHAN (nee O’BRIEN) (1896/7-1983) and his elder brother Desmond (1922-1963). I am seeking details of Ronald’s education. This could have been at a Catholic school because his parents were married in 1920.
at St. Joseph’s Roman Catholic Church, Limerick, Ireland.

I have learnt recently from a service web site that he is described as coming from “Norfolk”. It makes me wonder if he was at boarding school in the county at the age of 17+ when he would have been required to register at the local Labour Exchange prior to conscription at the age of 18. The fact that within two years of being called up he was commissioned suggests he might have attended a school that had a branch of the Officer Training Corps, as opposed to the run-of-the-mill Army Cadet Corps, giving him a fast track to a commission. Wherever he went to school I am hoping that his name appears on its role of honour. A photograph of him at any age would be particularly welcome. An approach to his regiment for a picture was unsuccessful.

Norman Hurst MN 15261 25 Byron Avenue, Coulsdon, Surrey, CR5 2JS. Norman.hurst@talktalk.net

Home For Waifs and Strays

My enquiry concerns a Miss Alexandra MacTAGGERT who lived at The Springs, Spring House, Spring Walk, Thetford in the early decades of the last century. The friend I am helping with research understands that her mother was taken in by Miss MacTAGGERT when very young and was taught by her along with one or two others.

It appears that the lady ran a sort of home for a few waifs and strays as well as teaching a small number of pupils who came in daily. My friend’s mother was there from around 1914/15 until the 1920s. Any information about this establishment would be gratefully received.

Mary Gill MN 15169 maryjane@blueyonder.co.uk

Research Help Needed

I have been trying to trace an ancestor, Jeremiah HUSON, born in 1766, possibly in North Walsham (where he was married in 1789 we think), but he does not appear in any of your records apart from the register of baptism of his twin children (one being my GGG grandfather Edward HUSON) where he is listed as father. There are no other entries for him.

So, it looks as though I have to come up to Norfolk to search the records offices but where do I start please? Would a copy of his marriage certificate identify where he came from, who he married (we think it was a Mary BEAN) and who his parents were? Would birth certificates of that period (1766) have much information on? I would be grateful for any help NFHS members can give me.

Terry Huson MN 15116 terryandcarol@orange.fr
Group Reports

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

**South Norfolk:** Mrs Betty Morley, ‘Thwaites’, Fersfield, Diss, Norfolk IP22 2BP

**Norwich:** Mr and Mrs Roger Peck, c/o Kirby Hall

**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 Reports by Betty Morley**

OUR guest speaker at the meeting in Diss on Tuesday, 11th November, was Beverley COOPER whose talk entitled “In The Steps of Our Fathers” was a tribute to the father she adored and a testament to a friendship forged in 2006 when she met Melanie from Australia, the daughter of Lt. Col. John HARE of the 1st. Battalion of the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry, at a veterans reunion.

Beverley’s father, Clifford TURNER, served with the 1st. Battalion Highland Light Infantry, part of the 53rd. Welsh Division. A natural raconteur, he loved to recount his exploits in World War Two and the young tomboy Beverley was captivated with his story that began with the landing at Juno Beach amid the shelling and destruction and then the advance northwards, a journey of some 2,500 miles through France, Flanders, Holland and finally Germany. He was wounded twice and recalled that the winter in The Ardennes was so bitter that the German shells on hitting the frozen impenetrable ground would turn into high speed missiles which were just as dangerous. Against this background of hardship, battle and tragedy, many friendships were formed along the way with local people, as the English soldiers were often billeted in family homes and in many cases these friendships flourished for the rest of their lives.

Meanwhile John HARE had landed at Beny-sur-Mer with the Oxford and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry, and survived to take part in the capture of Pegasus Bridge under Major John HOWARD and, as Beverley’s and Mel’s fathers’ battalions were part of the 71st Infantry Brigade, they followed a similar route. Sadly Lt. Colonel John HARE was killed in Holland. The COOPER family holidays were also an adventure when every year Beverley, her parents and brothers would set off in their 5 cwt Thames van to visit the places her father had travelled through in less tranquil times, and she witnessed at close hand not only the joy of meeting old friends and hearing about some of the things the young Clifford got up to but became aware of the gratitude that was held for those who had helped liberate their countries. She remains in contact with many of the children of those people until this day.
Meanwhile the strong bond Mel and Beverley shared remained as strong as ever and during one of their frequent conversations Beverley, now a widow, mentioned that she would love to retrace her father's route. So she said “Why not” and the project was conceived.

Finally the two set off on a journey of a lifetime. Of course, as Beverley said, some of it was very poignant for Mel because her father had not survived and touchingly in one village someone turned up with a cap badge of the Oxford and Buckingham Light Infantry.

As well as the story of the journey, Beverley told us about some of the wonderful characters she has met over the years, including Jack GRIFFITHS, aged 92, who lives near her. Jack was a glider pilot at Arnhem. Ultimately taken prisoner, he escaped and made his way to where he knew the Russians and Americans were meeting for discussion. Amazingly he still flies from a local airfield.

Also we learned that while the Americans had always tried to repatriate the bodies of their dead soldiers, the British had not, until a doughty lady named Edna WALLACE, whose son had died in Aden in 1965, campaigned for the return of his body. She was successful and since then all bodies of British soldiers killed abroad are brought home.

It was a very interesting, varied and informative talk and the meeting was well attended. Bernard Thorndyke gave the vote of thanks and led much applause.

On the 9th December 2014, the Diss Group held their last meeting of the year at the Methodist Hall. Our speaker was Don JOHNSON whose topic was “My Life.” Don, now retired, was born in Pixey Green in Suffolk, the son of an agricultural labourer. He explained that a farm worker was a highly skilled man in those days and initially on leaving school he had followed in his father’s footsteps although ultimately he was to become an engineer.

We were puzzled when we entered the hall to see Don standing behind a row of almost 20 bulging plastic carrier bags but all became clear when he began. This was his mobile museum of agricultural, domestic and general artefacts from the Victorian period up to the 1960s which he has built up over many years and during his talk he produced them, one by one, for us to view and discuss. Many items were correctly identified by knowledgeable members but some were an absolute mystery such as a skirt lifter from the 1800s, a time when women needed to raise their long skirts to avoid the mud. Also a mystery was an implement for collecting moorhens’ eggs.

There were far too many items to mention here but included were domestic irons which were heated by meths, paraffin, coals, calor gas and, in the case of a tiny boudoir iron, minuscule bricks. Then there were babies’ bottles, flintnapper’s goggles, laundry items, dairy and kitchen equipment, implements used in animal husbandry, engineering components manufactured by local industries, memorabilia from the War and much more.

Don ended his talk by bringing us up to date with his life in the present time. He
has remained close to his roots and has certainly not sat back to let the grass grow under his feet in retirement as, apart from growing prize vegetables and flowers, he has been a judge himself for 10 years and now judges at the Sandringham show where he has met some notable people. Of course he is still busy adding to his collection.

It was an interesting, light-hearted talk and, after the applause and vote of thanks to Don, Kerry Hutton opened a discussion about the ‘Blood-Swept Seas and Lands of Red’ display of ceramic poppies at the Tower of London marking the centenary of the beginning of World War One, which some of us had visited and she brought her own poppy to show.

**An important date for your Diary.** On 14th July we will be having a talk entitled *Titanic Talks*, by Nigel Hampson, Curator of the Titanic Museum in Lancashire. We are extremely pleased to be able to present this talk as it has never been presented in Norfolk before and is unlikely ever to come this way again.

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Betty Morley MN 2797

Norwich Group Report by Roy Scott

**Norfolk Victoria Cross Winners**

With Steve Snelling 14th - November 2014

STRANGE as it may seem none of the six Norfolk men who won the VC during World War One were actually serving with the Norfolk Regiment. In fact no VCs were awarded to the Norfolks during that period. However during World War Two more soldiers serving with the Royal Norfolk Regiment were awarded the VC than any other infantry regiment in the British Army.

Harry DANIELS, who was born at Wymondham in 1884, won his Victoria Cross, whilst serving with the 2nd Battalion of The Rifle Brigade during the battle of Neuve Chapelle, for conspicuous bravery on 12th March 1915. Company Sergeant Major DANIELS, along with Corporal Cecil NOBLE, volunteered to use wire cutters to cut through barbed wire under heavy machine-gun fire and both men received injuries. Corporal NOBLE unfortunately died of his wounds but Harry survived the war, enjoying some celebratory status, eventually dying in Leeds in 1953. There is a road named after him in his home town of Wymondham.

Gordon Muriel FLOWERDEW was born at Billingsford in 1885, educated at Framlingham College in Suffolk and emigrated to Canada in 1903. At the outbreak of World War One, he enlisted in the Canadian Cavalry. For most of the war the Canadian Cavalry Corps were held in reserve due to the static nature of warfare, but in March 1918, following a rapid advance by the German army towards Amiens, the cavalry were called into action. Lieutenant FLOWERDEW commanding C Squadron of Lord STRATHCONA’S Horse ordered a charge on
the enemy in Moreuil Wood. More than half the squadron was killed but the German advance was turned into retreat. Gordon FLOWERDEW died of his wounds the following day and is buried at Namps au Val Cemetery.

Harry CATER was born at Drayton in 1894, married on the 2nd September 1914 and enlisted in the army the next day. He eventually became a Sergeant serving with the 7th Battalion of the East Surrey Regiment who were fighting at Hangest Trench near Arras in April 1917. For rescuing wounded soldiers on the 9th April 1917 he was awarded the Military Medal. He was severely wounded by shrapnel in the face three days later. After his recovery, he was awarded the Croix de Guerre before being presented with the Victoria Cross by the King outside Buckingham Palace on the 21st July 1917. Commissioned during World War Two, he served as a Captain in the 6th Norfolk Home Guard. He died in Norwich on 7th April 1966 and is buried in Sprowston Churchyard.

Sidney DAY was born in Norwich in 1891, and was awarded the Victoria Cross for bravery on August 26th, 1917. Sidney originally enlisted in the 9th Sussex Regiment and was seriously injured at the Battle of the Somme. After several months in hospital, he returned to duty as a Corporal in the 11th Battalion of the Suffolk Regiment. Information taken from his citation reads:

Cpl DAY was in command of a bombing section detailed to clear a maze of trenches still held by the enemy; this he did, killing two machine gunners and taking four prisoners. On reaching a point where the trench had been levelled, he went alone and bombed his way through to the left, in order to gain touch with the neighbouring troops. Immediately on his return to his section a stick bomb fell into a trench occupied by two officers (one badly wounded) and three other ranks. Cpl DAY seized the bomb and threw it over the trench, where it immediately exploded. This prompt action undoubtedly saved the lives of those in the trench. He afterwards completed the clearing of the trench, and, establishing himself in an advanced position, remained for sixty-six hours at his post, which came under intense hostile shell and rifle grenade fire. Through the whole operation his conduct was an inspiration to all.

He died in Portsmouth in 1959.

Arthur Henry CROSS was born at Shipdham in 1875. He was working in the London Docks when he enlisted in the First Surrey Rifles on the 30th May 1916. From 1917, he was serving as a Lance Corporal in the 40th Battalion, Machine Gun Corps and on the 25th March, 1918 at Ervillers, operating alone in total darkness, armed only with a service revolver, he captured seven German machine gunners together with their weapons and marched them back to the British lines. In June 1918 he was also awarded the Military Medal for another act of bravery.

He died on 23 December 1965 and is buried in Streatham Vale Cemetery. His second wife and two children killed during the London Blitz in 1941 are also buried there.
Ernest SEAMAN was born in Heigham, Norwich, in 1893. His mother remarried on the death of his father and the family moved to Scole when Ernie was a young boy. On leaving school he left home to work as a hotel porter in Felixstowe. When he first enlisted in the army, Ernie was classified as unfit for front line duties and he became a baker in the Army Service Corps. It was only later in the war as manpower became ever more depleted that he was deemed suitable for more active service.

On 29th September 1918 at Terhand in Belgium, whilst serving as a Lance Corporal with the Royal Inniskillin Fusileers, he rushed forward, under heavy fire, with his Lewis gun to capture, single-handed, two enemy machine gun positions. Later that same day he again captured a German machine gun position but was unfortunately killed soon after.

His citation reads: *His courage and dash were beyond all praise and it was entirely due to his very gallant conduct that his company was enabled to push forward to its objective and capture many prisoners.*

Ernest SEAMAN was awarded a posthumous Victoria Cross for bravery just six weeks before the armistice and is commemorated at Tyne Cot Cemetery, The Ulster Tower at Thiepval, on Felixstowe War Memorial and on Scole War Memorial.

Roy Scott MN 475

London Branch Meeting By Mary Seeley

OUR meeting on the 18th October continued our World War 1 theme from our Members’ Day in March. There was a slight delay in the arrival of our guest speaker, Simon Fowler, but some of the other members present filled in.

Colin STEVENSON drew the group’s attention to a commemorative event that takes place each year on November 10th at Victoria Station. This is Colin’s account of the history behind the commemoration and a connection to his wife’s family.

The grandfather of Colin's wife was an employee of the London, Dover and South Coast Railway at Victoria Station, London. He was born in Wandsworth, London, in 1899. After schooling he found a job as an 'office boy'. He told a 'fib' and enlisted in the 13th Battalion (City of London) Royal Fusiliers. He was killed at Polygon Wood on 1st October, 1917, just 18 years old, leaving a wife (another fib about his age) and two children. He has no known grave and is commemorated on the walls of Tyne Cot BMC.

What is the connection then? On November 10th, 1920 the body of our 'unknown warrior' was selected. It was sealed in a specially prepared coffin and with great ceremony taken to Boulogne. Here it was placed on the R.N. Destroyer, HMS
Verdun, and carried over the English Channel to Folkestone. With great ceremony it was removed to a waiting railway wagon. This was the same wagon as used to convey the body of Nurse Edith CAVELL to London. The Wagon was placed between the passenger carriages and the Continental Mail Van. The 18.30 'Mail train' (no escort) could then commence its daily journey to London, Victoria. We do not know who was responsible but, because its journey would have been in darkness, the carriage roof was painted white so that people looking out for the train would know which carriage to salute. Press reports state that there were thousands present and every bridge, however remote, was crowded.

The train arrived at 8.32 p.m. at Platform Eight. There was a short service and a Military Guard from the Household Division remained with the wagon until the body was removed the following day for burial at Westminster Abbey (Armistice Day). A wooden plaque is mounted at the ticket barrier end of Platform Eight.

On the 'Eve of Armistice Day' (not Remembrance Day) November 10th every year since that date and all through World War Two, on Platform Eight, there has been a small commemorative service starting at 8 p.m. and concluding at 8.35 p.m. to mark this event. Colin and his wife attend this service and place an extra cross beside the Station War Memorial. The event is organised by the Western Front Association and attended by a small military contingent (in 2013 The Royal Fusiliers) whose HQ and Museum are at The Tower of London. The carriage is preserved at Tenterden, Kent in a Railway Preservation Centre.

Colin also brought along a treasured piece of family memorabilia - a wooden shield-shaped plaque, made by his grandfather after the cessation of hostilities. It is made from brass shell casings and bullets, with the areas he fought in from 1915 to 1918. Colin’s grandfather started his war in 1915 just south of Mons and was only five kms. away at a town called Hercies on cessation of hostilities, having visited much of the Western Front and Palestine in between.

In a break with tradition, we then adjourned for tea. Shortly afterwards, our guest speaker arrived and we moved on to the second part of our programme.

Simon FOWLER then spoke to the group about tracing ancestors who had served in the armed forces and related services during World War One. Simon first presented some statistics relating to the conflict.

It was the first war in which more British soldiers died of wounds than of illness, and the last war when more men served on the front line than in support services. Five million men (22% of the population) joined up. A total of 702,410 servicemen and women were killed and 1.7 million wounded and 304 soldiers were “shot at dawn.”

Simon went on to explain (for the non-military historians among us) that battalions were made up of regulars, reservists and territorials, and how the forces were structured into sections, platoons, companies, battalions and regiments. Inevitably the closer an ancestor was to the fighting, the more evidence will remain in the records, and, tragically of course, more records are available for men killed.
Details can come from familiar sources such as the National Archives, the Imperial War Museum, the National Army Museum, the RAF and Naval Museums and individual regimental museums.

Online, Ancestry and Find My Past have a huge amount of World War One records (but are, of course, subscription services) – but bear in mind that two out of three of all army records were lost in the Blitz. 85% of officers’ records survive (although heavily weeded) and the London Gazette gives details of casualties.

The First World War has engendered a number of myths – Simon explained that troops were not really in the frontline trenches for long periods – about 48 hours was the average and the fighting was not continuous.

We next looked at records for medals awarded. Medals could be immediate – for heroism in the field – or non-immediate (for exceptional conduct). For these you will need to look at citations in the London Gazette, medal rolls and war diaries (which are online at the National Archives throughout 2014).

For records of casualties, you can use the Commonwealth War Graves Commission and the Soldiers Died in the Great War plus local Rolls of Honour, and the National Roll (once again on Ancestry and FMP). Only a few places including London, Bedford and Leeds, actually published the rolls. Most of the records detailing the casualties were destroyed after the War.

Men “honourably discharged” after 1916 could apply for a “silver war badge” to wear to prove they had served. Few pension records survive – there are selected files in the National Archives and held by the Western Front Association (WTA). The National Archives also holds the remaining hospital records.

Women also played an important role in support services, nursing and on the home front. Some records of women in service from 1917 remain in the National Archives, but more survive for those who worked as nurses or in the Voluntary Aid Detachment. Newspapers, of course, remain a vital source of information for the family historian. Information can also be found in the Absent Voters List (soldiers listed with their regiment in 1918) and in the records of Military Service Tribunals. The Peace Pledge Union holds records of claims against conscription (although little survives outside London).

Simon’s talk, illustrated by his own family photographs and memorabilia, gave a comprehensive overview of the resources available to the family historian tracing their ancestors’ experience during World War One, and also illustrated the tragic human cost of the conflict in lives lost or changed forever.

**Dates for your Diary:**

The London Branch’s 2015 meetings are scheduled for 14th March and 17th October – The March meeting will be a Members’ Day (theme on marital felicities or infelicities, as the case may be!).

**Mary Seeley MN 3806**
PARISH REGISTER TRANSCRIPTS

Welcome to the new volunteers who have joined the transcribing team after my report in the last Ancestor. We are delighted to have your help and our NORS coverage will benefit from your efforts.

I must not forget to thank the other transcribers who have been active during 2014; there are too many to mention individually but I appreciate your input and have mostly been able to keep up with you on the checking/uploading-to-NORS front. Some of the very large transcripts and those from early years or in Latin do take longer to both transcribe and check so the throughput is slower for these.

While checking a Guist transcript, I discovered, included in the register, several pages of copies of the parish terriers. Terriers list the lands owned by the church and often mention the names of adjacent land-owners and sometimes tenants. With a good map one can often identify the fields and property mentioned.

The other property of the church from bells to biers, communion cups to cloths is also listed. It makes fascinating reading. Mark LAMBERT has transcribed these records which cover the period 1753 to 1865 and prepared an index of names included in them. Copies will be added to our Manors collection shortly.

The digitisation of the Manors collection is proceeding slowly so the records will not be found on the website for some time but anyone with connections in Guist can apply to Look-ups to see if a family name is mentioned. We have no other material on Guist so this is a welcome addition. I shall keep an eye open for anything similar in the registers from now on.

Margaret Murgatroyd MN 10400

Scanned Ancestor Copies

Copies of the Norfolk Ancestor from 1992 onwards are now available to NFHS members on the Society’s web site.
NORS (Norfolk Online Record Search)

Transcriptions of Norfolk parish records and monumental inscriptions continue to be uploaded to NORS and, as predicted in the last issue, a further 8,000 records for Norwich Earlham Cemetery have since been added, with many more yet to do. Whilst a user guide for NORS is available online, the question is sometimes asked “Why can I not see all names associated with a marriage?” In fact, following a ‘Person search’ all information IS available provided of course it was included in the parish register. This may be shown for example as Role - B (bride), BF - (bride’s father), and W - (witness) or Legal consent - B (banns). In order to view this additional information, simply click the small ‘magnifying glass icon’ immediately to the left of the date. Then by hovering the mouse pointer over any of the small ‘page icons’ above the ‘view’ link on the resulting list, a preview of individual’s details in the marriage will be displayed. Alternatively click ‘view’ to open details.

Another useful feature that may be overlooked is the use of a wildcard (%) to overcome possible variation in name spelling - An extreme example: y%l%p% entered as a surname would display Yallop, Yallopp, Yallopppe, Yallup, Yellop, Yalop, etc. The wildcard can also be used for variation of first names, for example Ann% will display Ann, Anne., Anna, Annie, etc.

There are also three options on the surname dropdown menu. - A ‘Default search’ displays all surnames starting with the search term of minimum three characters. Therefore, entering "tho" (upper or lower case) in the surname field will display Thomas, Thompson, Thorn, Thorpe, etc., while using ‘Exact matches only’ will display only those surnames of "Tho" in the database. The ‘Include variants’ option would display Todd, Tata, Twyte, etc.

Further advice is available in the user guide on the NFHS website (NORS drop down menu on www.norfolkfhs.org.uk ).

NB. Forgotten NORS passwords can be replaced by clicking ‘Forgotten password?’ next to the login box and entering user name. An auto-generated password will be emailed within minutes, providing of course that the registered email address is up-to-date.

Mike Dack MN 11670 NORS Administrator

From The Burial Registers

Two interesting names that were found during transcription of the Gorleston with Southtown Burial Register

02.01.1880 Salmon FISH aged 36 years
31.01.1881 John Pilot FISH aged 41 years
## FAMILY TREES added to the Library

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Surname</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BANTOFT</td>
<td>Brettenham and Ipswich (early)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BARRETT</td>
<td>Ingoldisthorpe, Stanford, Beachamwell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BECKHAM</td>
<td>Westacre, Walcott, Narford, Wymondham, Norwich (early)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUCK</td>
<td>Hardwick, Shelton (early)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CALVER</td>
<td>Beetley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CASE</td>
<td>Great Fransham (early)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CASE</td>
<td>Tuttington Hall (see our special article on pages 8-15)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLAYDON</td>
<td>Norwich (early)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COBB</td>
<td>Sandringham, Baconsthorpe (early)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COBB</td>
<td>Rollesby, Great. Yarmouth (early)</td>
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<tr>
<td>COCKERELL</td>
<td>Saxlingham Nethergate (early)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COCKERILL</td>
<td>Norwich</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COLDHAM</td>
<td>Swanton (Abbott, Morley or Novers?) Briston, Norwich</td>
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<tr>
<td>COOK</td>
<td>Beetley</td>
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<tr>
<td>CUBITT</td>
<td>Smallburgh (early)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>De SUFFIELD</td>
<td>Burnham Priory, Seething (early)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Du BOIS</td>
<td>Fersfield (early)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DUNHAM</td>
<td>Hackford, Whissonsett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GANNING</td>
<td>Barnham Broom, Norwich (early)</td>
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<tr>
<td>GOTTTS</td>
<td>North Walsham, Norwich</td>
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<tr>
<td>GREEN/DAVY</td>
<td>King’s Lynn (early)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEVERINGTON</td>
<td>Cawston, Mattishall, Norwich (early)</td>
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<tr>
<td>LINSTED</td>
<td>Edingthorpe, Foxley, Burlingham (early)</td>
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<td>LUNN</td>
<td>King’s Lynn, Wereham</td>
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<td>MEDLOCK</td>
<td>King’s Lynn, Swaffham</td>
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<td>POTTER</td>
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<td>REDEHAM</td>
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<td>REYMES</td>
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<td>RUST</td>
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<td>SALTER</td>
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<td>SCOTT</td>
<td>Horsham St. Faiths, Felthorpe</td>
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<tr>
<td>SEAMAN</td>
<td>Melton (early)</td>
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<tr>
<td>SHAWL</td>
<td>Somerleyton to South Creake, West Winch, Middleton</td>
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<tr>
<td>SHELTON</td>
<td>Shelton (early)</td>
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<tr>
<td>SNELLING</td>
<td>Great Fransham, Wendling (early)</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOUTHWELL</td>
<td>Woodrising (early)</td>
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<tr>
<td>SPELLEER/TUBBING</td>
<td>Caston, Holkham (early)</td>
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<tr>
<td>SPELMAN (SPILEMAN)</td>
<td>Stow Bedon, Norwich (early)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWANTON</td>
<td>Wells (early)</td>
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<tr>
<td>TRACY</td>
<td>Great Yarmouth and USA</td>
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</tbody>
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**Pam Bridge**, Family Tree Co-ordinator MN3291
New Parish Register Accessions, September-December 2014

Brandon Parva  Marriages  1844-2010
West Dereham  Marriages  1990-2006
Halvergate  Marriages  1837-2011
Lenwade, St Faith's Mission Church  Marriages  1993-2014
Wickhampton  Marriages  1838-2012

Local Registrars’ Records of Births, Marriages and Deaths

Records from all the Norfolk registration offices have been transferred to the NRO. The NRO holds birth and death registers, 1st July 1837-31st March 1969, and marriage registers, 1st July 1837-31st December 2012, along with indexes. Please note, however, that coverage of marriage registers will be incomplete, since some may still be held by churches and chapels, whilst the registrars’ registers will only be transferred once volumes are full. You can order certificates for births, marriages and deaths registered in Norfolk by contacting the NRO by telephone, post or in person. We will search for entries for the year requested, and for two years on either side, for a fee of £11 (including postage). Payment must be made in advance (by debit/credit card, cheque, postal order or cash) but will be refunded if no entry is found.

Please note that we cannot provide public access to the registers themselves, since this is not permitted by law. However, we hope that by 1st March 2015, members of the public will be able to access the local indexes to the registers in our search room (please check in advance that they will be available if you are making a special journey to see them). The local indexes are often said to be more accurate than the central GRO index (which was created from copies of entries) so if you are having trouble finding an ancestor in the online GRO indexes, why not try the local indexes?

Archive Accreditation

We are delighted to announce that the Norfolk Record Office has been awarded Accredited Status by the National Archives. Archive Service Accreditation is a new UK-wide standards scheme which supports improvement and development for archive services, and replaces the former self-assessment system. By awarding Accredited status, The National Archives recognises that an archive service provides a high level of service to its stakeholders, preserves its collections in line with national standards and is a robust, sustainable service which plans and delivers ongoing improvement.

Archive Box-Making Machine

Do you have a treasured item that needs storing safely? Our professional box-making machine uses computer design technology to make a box appropriate for your item. It can be made to order using the exact measurements of your item, or
you can pick from a selection of sizes, styles and shapes. We use archival quality and acid-free card. You can see a video of the machine in action at http://norfolkrecordofficeblog.org/videos/box-making-service/. Please contact us for more information about this service and our prices.

**Exhibitions in the Long Gallery**
Our poster exhibition, Education and Outreach: Bringing Archives Alive, continues until 30th March. It is followed by Ballots and Bills: Exploring Norfolk’s Parliamentary Past, from 17 April until 31 July. Over the last 800 years in Norfolk there have been many different, often contentious, ways of selecting parliamentary representatives. This exhibition delves into this rich history, using many different examples from around the county to look at how parliamentary representation has worked in Norfolk over the centuries.

**Talks at the Norfolk Record Office**
All talks take place between 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. in the Green Room in the Norfolk Record Office. They are free and no booking is required.

**Thursday, 5th March**, ‘The Disorderly Lives of Tudor and Stuart Norwich’, by Colin Howey

**Thursday, 30th April**, ‘Eighteenth-century Political Satire’, by James Wood

**Wednesday, 20th May**, ‘Justice demands the Vote’, by Frank Meeres

**Friday, 12th June**, ‘The Great Blow: Riot and Urban Governance in Civil War Norwich’, by Andy Hopper

On Saturday, 30th May, we will be holding a conference to accompany the Ballots and Bills: Exploring Norfolk’s Parliamentary Past exhibition. Speakers will include staff from the Parliamentary Archives. Please book in advance. The conference costs £25 per person, and includes lunch.

**Course on Reading Tudor and Stuart Records**
‘The Recorded World of Tudor and Stuart Norwich: English Palaeography Explored’ runs on Wednesday lunchtimes, 1 p.m. - 2 p.m. at Norfolk Record Office, starting on 4th March, and finishing on 6th May. The course costs £50 for 10 weeks. Please book in advance. Tom Townsend, an archivist at the Norfolk Record Office, will use examples of documents held at the NRO to give you the confidence to read and interpret Tudor and Stuart records. Verbal feedback will be given throughout the course, and one piece of optional ‘homework’ will be set and marked between the eighth and ninth sessions.

**Thursday Evenings**
Join us for the evening to find out about some of the work carried out at the Norfolk Record Office. Each evening will include a chance to see original documents, as well as including refreshments. Evenings run from 5 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. Some of these are drop-in events. For these events, you can arrive at any point during the evening, but please book your place in advance.
Recording Norfolk’s Downton, 23rd April (Drop-in event)

A wealthy and talented woman born in 1869, Hilda ZIGMOLA lovingly recorded her life for almost three decades in 15 illustrated journals, including many happy visits to Norfolk. Her colourful journals document her world travels, attending balls and raising her son.

Text, Bugs and Sticky Tape – The Work of the Conservators in the Collection Care Team at NRO

This will take place on 21st May. Visitors will hear a talk in the Green Room about the work of the Collection Care team, before getting a chance to see our box-making machine and visiting the conservation studio to find out about some of the projects the team is working on. Spaces are limited and participants need to arrive by 5 p.m.

‘How a Pair of Socks led to an Accusation of Murder!’, 4th June (Drop-in event)

Your chance to find out about some of the crimes and punishments recorded in the archives. Discover the true stories of Norfolk crimes, like those of William Tuck an eight-year-old boy transported for stealing two bottles, the sad story of Jane Sellars, the Yarmouth body snatchers, and how a pair of socks led to an accusation of murder.

Behind-the Scenes Tours

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 6th March</td>
<td>10 a.m.-12 noon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, 9th April</td>
<td>5 p.m.-7 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, 18th May</td>
<td>2 p.m.-4 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 3rd June</td>
<td>2 p.m.-4 p.m.</td>
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Gain backstage access to our impressive strong rooms, which store over 12 million documents, see the conservation studio in action, and a display of some of our ‘gem’ documents. Tours start in the Green Room at The Archive Centre and cost £5 per person, which can be paid on arrival. Please book in advance.

Archival Ambulation

Walk 1 (Ber Street) Monday, 20th April and Monday, 1st June, 2 p.m.-4 p.m.
Walk 2 (King Street) Monday, 11th May 2 p.m.-4 p.m.

Take a stroll around Norwich with our guide to discover how some of the city’s landmarks – and stories associated with them – have been recorded for posterity in Norfolk’s archives. There are two walks to choose from, both ending at the Norfolk Record Office, where light refreshments will be provided. There will also be a chance to see the original documents highlighted during the walk. Both walks are around 1½ miles long and will include steps.

Please book in advance. Further details, including the starting point, will be provided on booking. The event costs £5 per person, which can be paid on arrival.
School Holiday Fun and Crafts
Held at 2 p.m.-3.30 p.m. in the Green Room at the Norfolk Record Office. Events are free, but please book in advance. Children under eight must be accompanied by an adult.

‘Making a Yorkie Lorry’, Tuesday, 31st March
Yorkie started making chocolate lorries at their Norwich factory in the 1980s. The chocolates were a popular Easter gift. This Easter make your own Yorkie lorry, based on the 1983 design.

‘Make Your own Seal’, Tuesday, 26th May
Seals were used to illustrate the creator of each document. Each monarch has their own great seal. Have a go at creating your own seal which shows your interests and personality. Will you include your favourite sport, television programme, band or something else?

‘Make your own Battling Board Game’, Wednesday, 27th May
Have a go at creating your own battling board game related to the Houses of Parliament. It could be snakes and ladders where landing on a snake takes you to the tower, or a detective game to uncover the gunpowder plot, or battleships with rebels versus Parliament.

For further details about events organised by the NRO, please contact any of the following:
www.norfolkrecordoffice.eventbrite.co.uk
www.archives.norfolk.gov.uk/events
Telephone us on 01603 222599, or look out for posters at the Record Office. You can also join us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/norfolkrecordoffice or follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/NorfolkRO.

Jenny Watts NRO Senior Archivist (Collection Development)

VOLUNTEERS
The Norfolk Family History Society relies on the work of an army of volunteers and we are always looking for more.

If you can spare anything from a couple of hours a week, or even a month, to come into Kirby Hall on a Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday or require further information, please email volunteers@nfhs.co.uk, and include your membership number.

NB. It may be possible that some tasks could be undertaken at home. Any help you could offer would be greatly appreciated.
GILL BLANCHARD

AUTHOR OF “TRACING YOUR EAST ANGLIAN ANCESTORS: A GUIDE FOR FAMILY HISTORIANS” AND "TRACING YOUR HOUSE HISTORY"
BA (HONS) HISTORY AND SOCIOLOGY ● MA HISTORY AND POLITICS ● POST. GRAD. CERT. ED (ADULTS) ● CERT. ARCHITECTURE IN THEORY AND PRACTICE

Suite 14, Meadow View House, 191 Queens Road, Norwich, NR1 3PP
01603 610619

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All other areas considered
GUIDELINES FOR SUBMITTING ARTICLES

Articles for future editions are always required. 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. Please keep articles to 3 pages maximum - 1200 words approx. Electronic versions are most helpful.

All material from regular contributors for inclusion in the June 2015 issue should be sent to the Editor at Kirby Hall or e-mailed to him NO LATER than 7th April.

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

Notes and Queries
We welcome Notes and Queries, offers of help and items of information and general interest. Entries as brief as possible please, preferably less than 150 words. 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.

or by email to:
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.
Norfolk Family History Society

Let Us Know What You Think

WHAT articles do you enjoy reading in the Norfolk Ancestor and what would you like to see more of? We would like to hear from you.

With your help we can make the magazine more vibrant. We would welcome any comments (good or bad). They can be sent to the editor via e-mail at the contact address on page 62 of this edition or can be sent to him at Kirby Hall.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Don’t forget that there’s lots more information on our official web site.

http://www.norfolkfhs.org.uk

Coming in June

In the June 2015 edition we will have an article on the migration of members of the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints (Mormons) from Norwich and Norfolk after the Second World War.

Full Colour Experience

IF you want to see the Norfolk Ancestor at its best, just visit our web site where members can view this publication and many of its photographs in full colour mode.

NORFOLK FAMILY SEARCH

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Email: enquiries@norfolkfamilysearch.co.uk

Or write to: Norfolk Family Search
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DIANA SPELMAN BA
Norfolk Research Specialist
(since 1982)

Medieval to Modern
Family & Local History
Latin translation
Document transcription
Manorial records
Photography

AGRA
member

74 Park Lane
NORWICH NR2 3EF
Tel: 01603 664186
Email: dianaspelman@waitrose.com

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Christine Hood, BA
137a Nelson Street
Norwich
NR2 4DS
Tel: 01603 666638
Email: pinpoint1@btinternet.com
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& CAMBRIDGESHIRE
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Lincolnshire, London, Middlesex & Northamptonshire
********************************************************************
Family Histories Compiled
Parish Registers Transcribed
********************************************************************

Charles W. Farrow, FInstLEx
9, Drayton Hall Lane,
Scarning, Dereham NR19 2PY
Phone: (01362) 699398
e-mail: charlesfarrowresearch@btinternet.com
### NFHS Contacts and how to contact them

Please state the nature of your enquiry in the email subject box and quote your **Membership Number**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Responsibilities</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email Address</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Ancestor Editor</strong></td>
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<td>Peter Steward</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ancestor@nfhs.co.uk">ancestor@nfhs.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
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<td><strong>Bookstall</strong></td>
<td>Bookstall</td>
<td>Bookstall</td>
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<td>Judith Parks</td>
<td><a href="mailto:copyrequest@nfhs.co.uk">copyrequest@nfhs.co.uk</a></td>
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<td>Fairs</td>
<td><a href="mailto:fairs@nfhs.co.uk">fairs@nfhs.co.uk</a></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:familytrees@nfhs.co.uk">familytrees@nfhs.co.uk</a></td>
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<td>Look up queries</td>
<td>Alan Bullard</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lookups@nfhs.co.uk">lookups@nfhs.co.uk</a></td>
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<td>Members Interests</td>
<td>Peter Spurgeon</td>
<td><a href="mailto:membersinterests@nfhs.co.uk">membersinterests@nfhs.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
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<td>Membership</td>
<td>Jean Stangroom</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:minscriptions@nfhs.co.uk">minscriptions@nfhs.co.uk</a></td>
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<td>NORS Errors and Password assistance</td>
<td>Judith Parks</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nors@nfhs.co.uk">nors@nfhs.co.uk</a></td>
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<td>Projects Co-ordinator</td>
<td>Paul Harman</td>
<td><a href="mailto:projects@nfhs.co.uk">projects@nfhs.co.uk</a></td>
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<td>Edmund Perry</td>
<td><a href="mailto:secretary@nfhs.co.uk">secretary@nfhs.co.uk</a></td>
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<td>Transcript allocation and co-ordination</td>
<td>Margaret Murgatroyd</td>
<td><a href="mailto:transcripts@nfhs.co.uk">transcripts@nfhs.co.uk</a></td>
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<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Carole Taylor</td>
<td><a href="mailto:treasurer@nfhs.co.uk">treasurer@nfhs.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Village Boxes</strong></td>
<td>Village Boxes</td>
<td>Judith Kilborn</td>
<td><a href="mailto:villageboxes@nfhs.co.uk">villageboxes@nfhs.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
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<td>Carol Reeve</td>
<td><a href="mailto:volunteers@nfhs.co.uk">volunteers@nfhs.co.uk</a></td>
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<td>Webmaster</td>
<td><a href="mailto:webmaster@nfhs.co.uk">webmaster@nfhs.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
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<td>Donations and Indexing of Wills</td>
<td>Ellen Carr</td>
<td><a href="mailto:wills@nfhs.co.uk">wills@nfhs.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Enquiries</strong></td>
<td>For topics not covered in above list</td>
<td>Enquiries</td>
<td><a href="mailto:enquiries@nfhs.co.uk">enquiries@nfhs.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Or by post to the appropriate person at**

Kirby Hall, 70 St. Giles Street, Norwich, NR2 1LS
Remembering The Park Pagoda

ONCE again in this edition we are featuring the photographs of George Plunkett. On this page you can see a colour photograph of Chapel Field Gardens in Norwich taken on August 21st 1935. Today there are no seats around the bandstand and the pagoda has been removed. The gardens were opened in 1870 and the pagoda was built by Messrs BARNARD, BISHOP and BARNARD in 1876. It was designed by architect Thomas JECKYALL.

The pagoda was approximately 35ft long, stood 40ft high and weighed 40 tons. It was a flamboyant structure, the purchase of which was partly funded by a public appeal. Gradually it began to deteriorate and it was damaged by air raids in the Second World War. After the war it was decided that the pagoda was surplus to requirements and not worth re-building. As a result it was demolished in November 1949 and the materials sold for scrap for £98. Looking back, there is a feeling that it would have been a good idea to have repaired and renovated what after all was a piece of Norfolk history.

The front cover of this edition shows George's photo of numbers 6 to 9 Guildhall Hill, Norwich taken on April 16th 1939. No 9 was for many years ROSSI's gold and silversmith's shop, four generations of that family having carried on the business there. George ROSSI, the founder of the business, was born in Italy and came to Norwich after the Napoleonic Wars. The business closed in March 1936, when Theodore ROSSI, who had been associated with it for 54 years, retired.

George Plunkett’s Carrow Road

SOME places stay relatively the same over the years whilst others change almost beyond recognition. For the second in our series of Then and Now photographs we look at the changing face of Carrow Road—the home of Norwich City Football Club.

The top photograph on the back cover was taken by George Plunkett on September 14th, 1935. It is interesting both as an illustration of the changing face of Norwich and as part of the history of Norwich City, who moved to their new Carrow Road home for the start of the 1935/1936 season.

The new stadium could cram in almost 30,000 people and replaced The Nest in Rosary Road which was used by the club from 1907 until 1935. The Nest was built on a disused quarry and featured a concrete wall at one end of the ground which supported a cliff from where supporters watched matches. Thousands of tons of earth had to be moved before a pitch could be laid and structures on the Canaries’ old ground in Newmarket Road had to be moved.

Nevertheless Carrow Road took just 82 days to build. The move was made because of potential safety problems at The Nest, which became particularly noticeable when the pitch sank by 30 ft at one corner when the former chalk works gave way. The club also needed a larger and more modern home. Of course by today’s standards the original Carrow Road now looks very antiquated.

The first match at Carrow Road took place on August 31st 1935 and saw Norwich beat West Ham 4-3 in front of 29,779 people. Three sides of the ground were open and you can clearly see on George’s photograph that the stand known by many as The River End, and now officially the Norwich and Peterborough, consists of a banked area.

George’s photograph was taken on September 14th, 1935, when Norwich lost 2-1 to Leicester to sink to the bottom of Division Two in the middle of a run that saw them lose seven consecutive matches. A revival towards the end of the season saw them climb to 11th position. Floodlights weren’t added to the ground until 1956. The photo taken at the beginning of 2015 makes quite a comparison with the modern stand and new road which runs alongside blocks of modern flats. The club car park is now at the back of the Jarrold Stand and the ground is now all seater.
Then and Now ...Carrow Road

September 1935

January 2015