

The Norfolk Ancestor



MARCH 2017



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

Hathor - The Colman Connection

THE picture on the front cover shows the Norfolk pleasure wherry Hathor (pronounced har - tor) in full sail on the Broad. I visited the Hathor while it was berthed at Pulls Ferry during Heritage Week in September and I was fascinated by the story of its history. The Hathor has strong connections with the Colmans and Ludham and has been sailing the Broad and rivers for over 100 years.



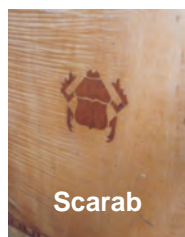
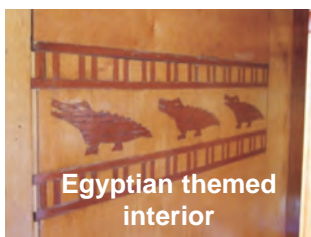
It was built in 1905 by Daniel Hall of Reedham for Ethel and Helen COLMAN, daughters of Jeremiah James Colman, and was launched by the young Joan BOARDMAN. Joan, born in 1902, was only three and a half at the time and released a basket of white doves at the launch.



Hathor is 56 ft. long with a beam of 14ft 3in and a draught of 4ft. With a gross tonnage of just over 23 tonnes it has two double fore-cabins and two spacious port-side double cabins as well as the saloon which converts to two double berths. The inside accommodation is completed with a toilet, a main galley fitted with gas cooker, fridge and sink and a butler's pantry. The crew's quarters are at the stern and

are entirely self-contained. Most wherries would have a crew of two, a skipper and a younger mate. It has no motor and it took three days to reach Norwich from Wroxham. The counter-balanced mast is quick to lower for low bridges and at times it has to be punted along using long poles or quants.

The most striking thing about the Hathor is the magnificent interior panelling of light sycamore wood with exquisite teak and stained sycamore marquetry inlay with an Egyptian artefact theme. Why is the boat named after an Egyptian goddess and why the Egyptian themed interior? What is the connection to the Colman/Boardman family? Find out the answers to these questions on page 48.



Norfolk Family History Society

A private company limited by guarantee
Registered in England - Company No. 3194731
Registered as a Charity - Registration No. 1055410

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	Single	Joint	Single 10 Year	Joint 10 Year	Single Life	Joint Life
UK	£10	£15	£75	£112	£165	£250
Overseas Airmail	£15	£21	£115	£170	£250	£375

ISBN 0141 4505

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The Norfolk Ancestor

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

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

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Welcome to your March Edition



WELCOME to the first Ancestor of 2017. Hopefully by the time you receive your copy we will have seen the worst of the winter weather and spring will be just around the corner. So we are celebrating the coming of better conditions with a couple of articles centred on the Norfolk Broads written by assistant editor Roger Morgan.

We hope you continue to enjoy our mix of historic and genealogical-based articles.

In January, I was delighted to talk about Ancestor to the Diss/South Norfolk branch of the Norfolk Family History Society. Myself and Roger Morgan “did a double act” with a few tales of research we have carried out for Ancestor. As usual I managed to bring in my twin passions of music and sport.

We were encouraged by the kind comments made about Ancestor and our Facebook page. The latter now has over 1,300 members. When we launched I was hopeful that we would hit 300 -so it has far and away exceeded our expectations.

One of the great joys of research is coming across unusual off-the-wall people. Before going to Diss, I Googled “famous Diss people” and came up with a motley crew of names that included an England footballer, the mistress of murderer Dr Crippen and, most intriguing of all, a poet laureate from the 16th century. John Skelton was rector of St Mary's Church, Diss, from 1504 to 1529. Diss is featured in his rather strange poem entitled “Ware the Hawk,” a part of which I leave you with this time around. Happy reading

**I shall you make relation,
By way of apostrophation,
Under supportation
Of your patient toleration,
How I, Skelton Laureate,
Deviséd and also wrate
Upon a lewd curâte,
A parson beneficiéd,
But nothing well adviséd.
He shall be as now nameless,
But he shall not be blameless,
Nor he shall not be shameless;
For sure he wrought amiss
To hawk in my church of Diss.**

Peter Steward MN 14801

From Belarus to the Norfolk Broads

Assistant Editor Roger Morgan looks at the history behind Norwich's one remaining shoe factory.

IN its heyday, the Norwich boot and shoe industry employed about 15% of the local workforce involving over 10,000 people. However, by the end of the 20th century most of the companies had either failed or moved their production overseas in order to take advantage of the abundant cheap labour. The exception to this is The Florida Group, which manufactures the Van Dal range of shoes. They still operate a factory in Dibden Road, Norwich, which is responsible for around 15% of the company's total output.



Dibden Road Works 2016



Adelman Goodman

The story begins in a small village near Minsk, Belarus, where in 1873 Adelman GOODMAN was born. He arrived in London in 1889 and got a job as a clicker in an East End shoe factory. A clicker is the person who cuts out the leather for the upper part of a shoe. In 1896 he married Rebecca IRELAND, the daughter of a Hackney publican, and became a naturalised British subject in 1897. He was very successful and in 1910, together with two colleagues, CAIDEN and KISSIN, he opened his first shoe factory. This association did not last and by 1915 Adelman was running his own company from a factory in Hackney. The business thrived during World War One as it manufactured boots for the British Army. After the war it was sold and in 1920 Adelman was joined by his son David and the pair opened a retail shop called Goodfit Shoes in Ealing. However, Adelman's real skill lay in manufacturing and by 1925 he was producing high end ladies' shoes primarily for Thomas LILLEY who went on to form Lilley and Skinners.

By the 1930s Lionel, Adelman's other son, had joined the retail side of the business and it needed to expand. In 1936, the company bought the almost bankrupt Florida Shoe Factory Ltd in Norwich, taking on its 85 workers in the

process. This was a former aircraft hangar situated on Salhouse Road. The Goodmans gradually rebuilt the factory but sadly Adelman died in 1938 at the age of 65. His two sons, David and Lionel, carried on the rebuilding process. In World War Two, production was moved to the W H Clarke factory in Northumberland Street allowing aircraft manufacture to resume at Salhouse. This was then destroyed by German bombers and the factory had to move back.

After the war, the company made two very important decisions. Firstly, they decided to make shoes which had the brand name of Van Dal rather than allowing retailers to add their own brand names to them. According to Simon Goodman, Lionel's son, the two boys chose the name after a rather heavy night out. They called themselves 'The Vandals' and this was then split to form the brand name Van Dal. In the 1950s the second decision was to make narrow-fitting shoes to be called 'Norfolk Narrows'. However, according to Simon, a designer called Billy WALLER made a small mistake and the lasts came in as wide fitting rather than narrow. This error turned out to be a stroke of genius as at last women with wider feet could get the more fashionable 'Italian Look' shoes and they proved to be extremely popular. The name had to be changed of course and they were imaginatively renamed 'Norfolk Broads'. But this name didn't last long, as in some parts of the world like South Africa the word 'broads' had a far more sleazy connotation. This gave the Florida group a unique place in the market place and the firm went from strength to strength.

In 1959, the company bought the long established Norwich firm of Chittock and Sons and its Eagle Shoe Works in Dibden Road. During the following two years all production was moved from Salhouse Road to Dibden Road giving Van Dal an additional 15,000 square feet of production space, allowing them to double their



production to over 8,000 pairs of shoes a week. They had to set up smaller works in Holt and Gorleston where the sewing of the shoe uppers took place. The Goodman's were extremely good employers and were well loved by much of the workforce. They regularly joined the staff on outings and at dinners. Their flexible approach paid off and workers would always be willing to help out when needed. In the 1970s the Norwich shoe industry faced stiff competition from cheaper foreign made shoes and many factories were forced to close. Van Dal was the exception. It was determined to remain competitive and invested in

modern plant and equipment, concentrating on making quality footwear and expanding the range of its shoes. David died in 1972, leaving Lionel to take over as chairman and, in the same year, his son Simon, who was a qualified accountant, joined the company. The business continued to flourish as it had cornered a niche market, making wider fitting shoes look stylish. They designed lasts which made the shoes appear narrower than they actually were. In 1983 they invested £700,000 in new machines and extended their product range. When Lionel passed away in 1984 he was succeeded by Simon who is still involved with the firm today.



Throughout the 1990s, Van Dal continued making its shoes in Norwich and, although the workforce had dropped to around 300, the company was turning out over 600,000 pairs each year. But it found itself forced to consider manufacturing overseas. Labour costs were significantly less in India and China and the decline of the UK shoe industry had been accompanied by the disappearance of many of the suppliers who provided raw materials such as leather and fittings. In 2001, Van Dal reluctantly began making shoes in India and four years later in China.

Recent years have seen a management buy out and Van Dal invest in new technology ensuring that they stay competitive. Wherever they are made, all of the company's shoes are designed at the Norwich offices using the latest computer



aided design techniques. All overseas factories are visited regularly by Norwich based operatives to ensure high standards. The company makes extensive use of new materials such as plastics, and new techniques such as the screen printing of intricate patterns on the goat skin used for the shoes. One of the most innovative developments has been the Ion Mask water repellent treatment which attaches a thin polymer layer to the shoe. This repels water and assists in keeping the surface clean but allows the foot to breathe. It continues to make shoes in

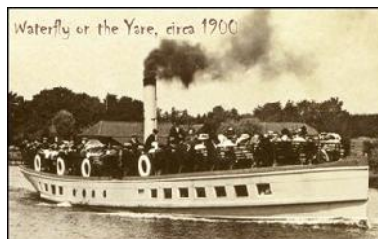
Norwich and the 'Made in Britain' label has become increasingly popular. Their shoes can be purchased in many retail outlets all over the country, online and from the well stocked factory shop at Dibden Road.

Regular free tours of the factory still take place and these can be arranged by visiting www.vandalshoes.com/vandal-tour

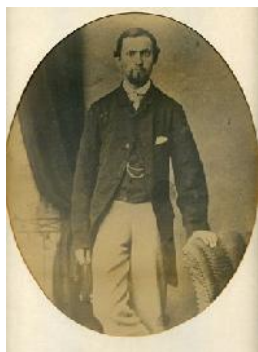
John Long and his steamer the Waterfly

This is a story of the Waterfly, a passenger steamship working on the Norfolk Broads between 1894 and 1914.

Her owner was John LONG, farmer and founder of Long's Dairies, who supplied milk to the Great Yarmouth area throughout the 20th Century.



A Difficult Start



John Frederick Long was born in a small house in Row 17, in Great Yarmouth on 21st May, 1846. His father James died of cholera when John was only three years old and his mother Mary Ann was left to raise five children (Harriet, James, John, Ellen and Phoebe) on the small amount provided by parish relief, supplemented by her wage as a charwoman and the money brought in by her oldest son James, who was working as an errand boy by the age of 14.

His sisters Ellen and Phoebe later emigrated to America, which is another story.

Building a Business

By January 1872, John, now 26 years old, a large strong man as he was remembered, is described as a cab proprietor when he took out a mortgage of £40 on a piece of freehold land in Cobholm, Great Yarmouth. Further mortgages followed quickly in March and June 1872 and by 1879 his success had enabled him to borrow £500 to buy more land. Those were the first steps to a lifetime's work that saw John and his wife Rosetta first build a farm, then, with their children and grandchildren, the most successful dairy and milk delivery business in the area. But that again is another story.



As an aside, it was John's young children who taught him to write, as they went to school following the 1870 Education Act and he was able to sign his name on the 1879 mortgage, which he could not do in 1872. The farm he started in

1872, the same year that his sisters Ellen and Phoebe went to America, became known as Humberstone Farm. Situated on marshland by the edge of the estuary of Breydon Water, it was natural that boats and water played a part in his life, as it did with most Yarmouth people.

Originally the farm had no road to it and John's wife Rosetta would row a small boat across Breydon to deliver the milk to the town. Later John built a road, which is still in use today.



Farm and Railway

When the Midland and Great Northern Railway needed to build a swing bridge over Breydon during the 1890s to bring their railway into Yarmouth, it was some of John's land they needed for the approach to the bridge on the south side of Breydon. It was the money from this sale that paid for the Waterfly. The bridge was opened in 1901.



The Waterfly

John Long's Waterfly was both a pleasure and a business. She was one of a small number of passenger steamers that carried holiday makers and locals on pleasure cruises on the inland water-

ways of the Norfolk Broads in the golden years before the outbreak of the First World War in 1914. Built in Yarmouth by Fellows Shipyard, she was launched with a bottle of milk broken across her bows and registered in Great Yarmouth as YH7 on 23rd May, 1894, with a Board of Trade number 104064. She was built of "120lb" steel, with a 25nhp steam engine from Crabtree of Yarmouth and a boiler from Farrar of Newark. The engine had two vertical cylinders of eight inch diameter, with a stroke of nine and 14 inches. Her gross weight was 48.79 tons, net 23 tons. Her overall length was 72 feet 5 inches, with a 14 feet 6 inches beam and 6 feet 3 inches of hold depth. The engine room was 18 feet long. (Details from the Yarmouth Port & Haven Commissioners' registry records held at the Norfolk Archive Centre).

Summer Excursions

During the summer months, Waterfly would be moored on the North Quay in the centre of Yarmouth, alongside the three boats, Queen of the Broads, Pride of the Yare and Yarmouth Belle, owned by the Yarmouth and Gorleston Steamboat Company. In an agreement dated 5th June, 1897, John Long and the steamboat company agreed to share ticket bookings and other operating costs for that summer season, with Waterfly covering the Yarmouth to Norwich trips, which became a popular weekend excursion. Waterfly's Sunday afternoon return trips to the riverside village of St Olaves for only 6d (2½p) became a speciality. The Yare River Commissioners charged tolls on passenger numbers carried at 1d (one old penny) per passenger and returns for the summer season of 1897 show 576 passengers carried in June, 1,843 in July, 3,935 in August and 1,406 in September.



Popular Outings

Waterfly's popularity can be seen by the large number of passengers shown in photographs taken on those excursions. The Board of Trade Passenger Certificate dated 25th November, 1909, licensed Waterfly to carry 274 passengers and five crew, though she was only required to carry 15 lifebuoys. This was before the sinking of the Titanic, after which passenger number and lifesaving equipment rules were improved.

Breydon Moorings

In 1900, plans were made to moor Waterfly in a wet dock on the edge of Breydon when not in use and an agreement was drawn up with the Midland and Great Northern Railway to rent a new dock from them. But it was only used once as it silted up as soon as it was dredged out, causing difficulties getting Waterfly out of the dock.



Waterfly in Colour

The Broads' steamers were generally painted a cream or yellow colour and all but one of the pho-

tographs of the Waterfly in the family archives give that impression. Photographs of Waterfly are black and white or sepia toned, as practical colour photography was rare at the time, but we can guess that at one time Waterfly's hull was painted red. There is one photograph showing the hull a dark colour, compared to the rest of her and there is a coloured drawing of Waterfly made by one of John's young daughters, probably Nora, that is coloured red. The rest of the drawing is quite accurate, apart from the number of portholes, and we can assume Nora portrayed it in the correct colour. The drawing on the previous page shows Waterfly on Breydon with Humberstone Farm in the background.

The End of the Story

With the outbreak of the First World War during the summer season of 1914, the holiday trade abruptly ended. Millions of young men went to the battlefields of Europe and Waterfly's passenger carrying days were over. She was eventually



stripped of her fittings and used as a barge to tow boxes between Yarmouth and Lowestoft by Messrs WENN, Yarmouth boxmakers. Her original port registration was cancelled on 29th April, 1919, when she was con-

verted to a "Lighter". Waterfly ended her days in the mud on Breydon where her remains lie today.

More on the Waterfly with additional pictures can be found on Waterfly's Website <http://waterfly.greatyarmouthphotographic.co.uk/index.htm>

R.M

Using Members' Interests

By Society Treasurer Carole Taylor

THE Members' Interests facility on our website appears to be an underused, but nevertheless important source of information for our members. I am always surprised to see members on Facebook, or members contacting the Society for any

information on a surname when they could easily go on the website and find contacts immediately. All members can register their surnames of interest on the website. Login to the website and select “Membership” from the dropdown menu. Surnames are limited to Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire, Lincolnshire and Essex. Norfolk Interests can be sub-divided by the ‘Chapman Code’. See the Members’ Interest page for more details.

If you have registered any interests they will be displayed on screen and can be

Your Interests :

COUNTY	AREA CODE	PERIOD OF INTEREST	SURNAME BEING RESEARCHED	
NFK	ALL	ALL	DREWERY	delete
NFK	ALL	ALL	HINDRY	delete

deleted at any time by selecting the delete button.

New entries can be added at any time subject to a maximum of 12. Simply select your areas/dates, enter your surname and click “Add.” Whenever you enter a new interest that interest will be included in the Members Interests section of the next Norfolk Ancestor.

New Interest :

* - Mandatory fields are marked with an asterisk.

County :	<div>NFK</div>	*
Area Code :	<div>ALL</div>	*
Period of interest :	<div>ALL</div>	*
Surname being researched :	<div></div>	*
Contact Agreement :	<div><input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes</div>	
	<div><input type="radio"/> No</div>	
	<div>Add</div>	

To contact another member enter the Surname into the dropdown list and click on Search. All members who have registered that surname will be listed. Click on contact. An email will be sent to you detailing the member’s name, membership number and email address (or postal address if no email is registered with us). Why not give it a try and let us know of any successes.

Camping in Norfolk

Roger Morgan learns about the ancient East Anglian game of camping

CAMPING in Norfolk sounds like an idyllic way to spend a week or two, but in Medieval Times it was far from this. Camping was a game which appears to be a cross between football, boxing, American football and rugby, played by opposing villages in Suffolk and Norfolk. The name camping may derive from the Saxon word '*camp*' meaning 'to strive' or from the Latin '*Campus*' meaning a field.

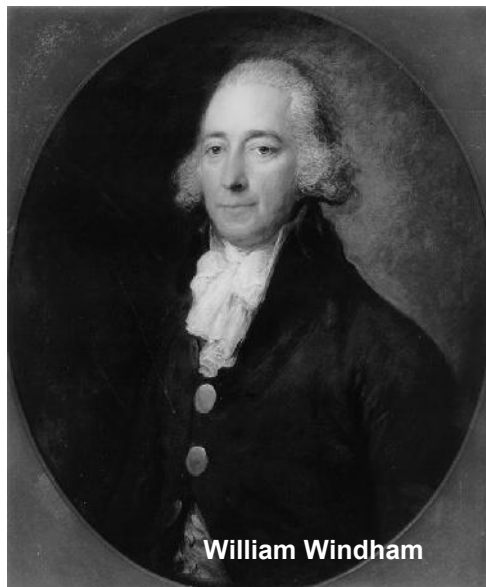
Camping was a ball game which was originally played in the middle of towns where the object of the game was to carry the ball to the opposing side of the town. In Medieval times it became the custom to play after church on Sundays and the camping fields or pightles were often near the church. In Swaffham, the rector donated a piece of land behind the market place to be used for camping. The camping land is now used for public ground, you may not camp on it but you are allowed to play ball games there!

Camping was played between two teams consisting of between 10 to 15 players per side on a field which was about 120 yards long. At the ends of the field there were two goals. The teams had to carry or throw a ball through the opponent's goal in order to score a '*notch*' or '*snotch*' which sounds a bit like Harry Potter's Quidditch. The first team to score seven or sometimes nine snotches would win the game.

At the start of a game, the two teams would line up facing each other about 10 yards apart in the middle of the field. An 'indifferent' spectator would stand in the middle of the field and hurl a ball about the size of a cricket ball into the air before beating a very hasty retreat. The two teams would then hurtle towards each other in an effort to grab hold of the ball. Whoever caught it would then try to run with it towards the opposing team's goal while his teammates tried to block or wrestle would be tacklers from the other team out of the way. If a player was



caught with the ball in his hand a snotch was awarded to the other team so ball carriers would throw the ball away before they were tackled. The ball would be moved up and down the field until one player managed to run with it or throw it into the goal to score the snotch. Games would usually last for about three hours but some were recorded as lasting up to 14 hours. There were many injuries in the games and bloody noses, black eyes and bruises were common. An early record in Sir John CULLUM's History of Hawstead claims the camping was beneficial to both the players and the meadow it was played on.



Camping reached the height of its popularity in the early 19th century. The eminent statesman William WINDHAM, who was MP for Norwich and Secretary of State for War, encouraged the game and had many matches at his Felbrigg seat. He said: "It combined all athletic excellence; that to excel in it, a man must be a good boxer, runner, and wrestler; in short, a sort of pancratiast. Certainly, no kind of manly exercise can display to so much advantage the powers, proportions, and attitudes of a fine muscular frame."

Other versions of the game developed and sometimes a large football was used; the game was then called 'kicking camp'; and, if played with shoes on, 'savage camp'. The more genteel 'civil camp' did not allow boxing.

In the middle of the 19th century, a county game of 'fighting camp' was arranged between Norfolk and Suffolk which took place on Diss Common. There were around 300 players per side and the game lasted for 14 hours. The Norfolk players taunted the Suffolk team by asking them if they had brought their coffins with them. Suffolk won the game but within a fortnight nine of the players had died from the injuries sustained during the match. The Norfolk – Suffolk rivalry continues to this day with the Norwich – Ipswich Derby football games but, thankfully, none of the players have been killed in these. It was probably this level of violence that finally led to the decline in the popularity of camping.

JOHN PEARSON, WHO ARE YOU?

Helen Pearson finds original documents more reliable than the Internet as she tries to establish the history of John Pearson

I WAS recently able to spend some time in Norfolk and took the opportunity to confirm information from a transcript of our family Bible and to check my own and other internet research. What I found doubly underlines the need to research from original documents and not to make assumptions. The internet is a great resource but it is just one implement in the family historian's tool box and should never be regarded as infallible.

The good news for me was that the family Bible transcript appears to be accurate regarding names, although some of the dates are a little out. This is not unexpected when a Bible is written from memory some time after the events. The earliest entry in our family Bible refers to "John PEARSON of Aylsham" but there is no indication of where or when John was born nor of his parentage nor his death.

An online family tree indicated that John was the illegitimate son of Agnes Pearson, baptised in Aylsham in 1795. Agnes was to later marry Richard MOORE and have other children. The online tree also stated that John died in 1840, giving the GRO reference as the source.

John Pearson married Priscilla DOUGHTY in Blickling on 25th October, 1821. So far I have identified seven children born to John and Priscilla, although I suspect that there may be other children who died in infancy, possibly baptised elsewhere. Four of John and Priscilla's children were baptised at Aylsham between 1826 and 1831 and a further three children were baptised at Blickling between 1834 and 1837. John was consistently described as "farmer" in the baptism registers of both Aylsham and Blickling.

A local newspaper, the Norwich Chronicle, dated 13th August, 1831, has an advertisement for the sale by auction of various properties, including a number of agricultural lots that were occupied by John Pearson as a yearly tenant. Other local newspapers have the same notice and the date is con-



sistent with John leaving Aylsham and moving to Blickling.

My visit to Blickling was well worthwhile as I found a memorial stone to John and Priscilla in the churchyard. This stone (pictured opposite) gave John's date of death as May 17th, 1838, aged 44 years. Priscilla died in 1881. Looking at the GRO



index there is no obvious entry for John's death, indicating he either did not die in the Aylsham registration district or the date on the memorial is incorrect. If the date on the memorial is correct, John would have been born about 1794 which could fit with the 1795 baptism.

The next stop was to the library in Aylsham where an hour was spent leafing through the local history books. William and Maggie Vaughan-Lewis's book *"Aylsham: Hungate 1622-1840, a Norfolk Streetscape"* has a reference to George MOORE leaving property to his brother John Moore alias Pearson, master and commander of the *Juliana*, engaged in the East Indies trade. Now this gave pause for thought. George Moore (who died in early 1838) was the son of Agnes and Richard and the half-brother of John, but, in the parish records, John had always been described as a farmer. This was obviously an issue that had to be resolved.

My next trip to Norfolk included a day in Norwich where I had an evening in the Heritage Centre at The Forum. A search of the probate indices and then a copy of the deed of administration showed John PEASON's (sic) widow Priscilla was granted administration on 16th July, 1838. John was said to have died on or about 5th May, 1838. Joint administrators of the estate were John MAYSTON and John CHAPMAN. So far I have not traced any other connection (apart from the estate administration) between these gentlemen and the Pearson family.

With a more positive date for John's death, I was able to go back to the Blickling Parish Records and find John's burial record. The online records for Blickling, taken from a transcription, cease when civil registration starts so the only way to find this burial is to look at the parish register. Unless one is aware of this cut off date, it is easy to make the incorrect assumption that John was not buried in Blickling. It is also as well to remember that death and burial dates and places can be some distance apart and a memorial stone does not mean a person was buried nearby. Memorial stones are erected some time after the events they commemorate and dates can and do become muddled. The parish register stated that John died 12th May, 1838, at Norwich in the district of Mancroft. This

information was only available in the parish register and the online version does not cover this date. Priscilla was widowed in 1838 and not 1840 so the online tree is incorrect. For completeness, I ordered a copy of John's death certificate which gives his name as John James Pearson and his date of death as 3rd May, 1838 (registered 8th May). Cause of death was a diseased bladder and place of death was given as Bethel Hospital, Norwich. It confirms John's age at death as 44. The memorial stone has John's burial date as his death date. John's hospital notes (should they have survived) will possibly make interesting reading.

I now needed to prove whether the John buried at Blickling was the same man who inherited George Moore's property. The Heritage Centre did not have a copy of George's will so I paid a visit to County Hall the following week. George died on 23rd February, 1838. His executors were John Moore otherwise Pearson and John Pearson, bricklayer of Colby. George's will was proven on 11th August, 1838, and both the executors were present at that time. Since the John buried in Blickling died in May, I now have conclusive proof that the John buried in Blickling is not the child baptised in 1795. The online tree is not correct regarding John's baptism or death.

Without the visits to Blickling, Aylsham and Norwich, I would not have been able to prove there were two John Pearsons in Aylsham at the same time but may have made the same assumptions as the person who compiled the incorrect online tree.

Helen Pearson MN 16213 helenmpearson@yahoo.com

Shake a family tree, and stand clear

By Anne Young MN 3436

George John CLARK was born in 1848 in Bishop's Stortford, the son of a railway station master, a job causing the family to move quite frequently. By 1871, George had left home to begin his own career on the railways.

In 1874, having now become a shipping clerk on the Lynn docks, he married Hannah Lavinia WRIGHT at the Primitive Methodist Chapel, King's Lynn. Her father Robert was a photographer with a studio on the London Road.

Sadly, Hannah died in 1880 in North Everard Street from haemoptysis (TB). They had no children. Nine months later, George married Rosanna Leeder ALLMAN at All Saints, Lynn. Almost nine months to that day, in 1881, they produced Joseph Allman CLARK. In 1883, George John jnr. arrived, only to die after a four day struggle for life, and be followed to the grave in 1885, by his mother Rosanna, who also died from TB.

Susanna Eliza Smith COULSON was born in 1849 in Terrington St Clement. Her father was a farmer from Gedney, Lincolnshire. Somehow, she travelled to

London where she met Alfred BAYLISS and they married in Oxford in 1875 where their daughter was born. After moving to King's Lynn, in 1877 they produced a son, but, the following year, Alfred too succumbed to TB, dying in 1878.

In 1881, George John CLARK was living at 17, Checker Street, King's Lynn and Susanna Eliza BAYLISS at number 27; the two families undoubtedly knew each other. So, no surprise when, just five months after Rosanna, his second wife's death in 1885, George and Susanna married, and nine months later, in April 1886, my grandfather, Frederick Charles Victor CLARK, put in an appearance, in Church Lane, where they now lived.

After only another 12 months, in 1887, Susanna was widowed for the second time, when George John died from the family curse of TB. Susanna was left with two children from her first marriage, a stepson from her late husband's second marriage, and a new baby from her recently deceased second husband.

Trying to support her family was difficult and, only two months after his father's death, her stepson, Joe, aged six, was surrendered to the Muller orphanage in Bristol. He spent eight years at the orphanage, followed by five years apprenticed to a farmer in Cheshire, before returning, probably for the first time, to King's Lynn, in time for the 1901 census, now a man of nearly 20.

Joe joined the Norfolk Regiment, serving in South Africa, where he met and married a South African Dutch lass and returned to England. Despite losing the use of his left hand to a bullet wound in France during World War One, he had a successful life, buying a house in Thornton Heath and enjoying a devoted and loving marriage for 40 years. He had no children.

My grandfather, Frederick CV Clark joined the merchant navy, met and married Mary Elizabeth RICHES from Hilgay in 1906, and very quickly became a father to Joseph Reginald Victor Clark in early 1907.

The following year, Mary emigrated to America with her widowed father and her siblings, leaving her son, Joseph, with Susanna Eliza, her mother-in-law and paternal grandmother to the baby.

We cannot suppose that Susanna was overly thrilled at this, but have no idea what actually transpired at the time. With my grandfather at sea, unable to care for his son, poor Susanna became a new mother at nearly 60 years of age! Not only did she have a toddler to care for, neither of her Bayliss children married, staying home with mother until the end!

After moving from Dyes Buildings in Saddlebow Road, Susanna lived in Keppel Street, where she died in 1923 from paralysis agitans (Parkinson's Disease) and we can only imagine, that without modern medication, how difficult her days must have been.

Two months later, aged 16, her grandson Joseph sailed to America to reunite with his mother, who had paid for his ticket. Over the intervening years, she must

have stayed in touch with her son, and perhaps had sent money to contribute to his upbringing. For a girl from Mile Bank, Hilgay, Mary had done very well. She divorced Frederick CV Clark, in Nevada, without telling him, then married three more times.

Husbands two and three were reputed to be wealthy, and, on their demise, left her very comfortably off. She married number four when she was 82, and he a toy-boy of 68. They enjoyed ten years of domestic bliss.

Her son Joseph, whilst clever and intelligent, chose to use his gifts not for good, but for nefarious purpose. He studied hypnotism and developed a burgeoning career as a 'con-man', his specialty being young women. He would sweet-talk them with promises of love and marriage and 'gratefully accept' their providing him with money, clothes and anything else he desired.

He spent four years in America, returning to England in 1927. In Liverpool in 1928, he met Mary FONTAINE and, by successfully plying his amorous trade, he took lodging with her and her mother and, in a short time, he and Mary were planning to wed.

There is much that occurred during the few months he was with the Fontaines, but it came cataclysmically to a head at the end of October that year. He attacked Mary's Mother Alice, strangling her, and then tried to inflict the same fate on Mary, who, fortunately, escaped. Joseph calmly waited for the police to arrive, was duly arrested, tried and convicted of the murder of Alice Fontaine.

His trial lasted just four and a half minutes, one of the shortest trials on record. In 1929, just four and a half months after committing the crime, by courtesy of Thomas, of the famous/infamous Pierrepont family, he went to meet his maker from Liverpool's Walton Prison.

A post-script to this saga is that four months after Joseph's ignominious demise, Mary Fontaine gave birth to a son whose middle names were Reginald Joseph, so although no father's name is on the certificate, there is no doubting his parentage. Thereby hangs (pardon the pun) another interesting tale!

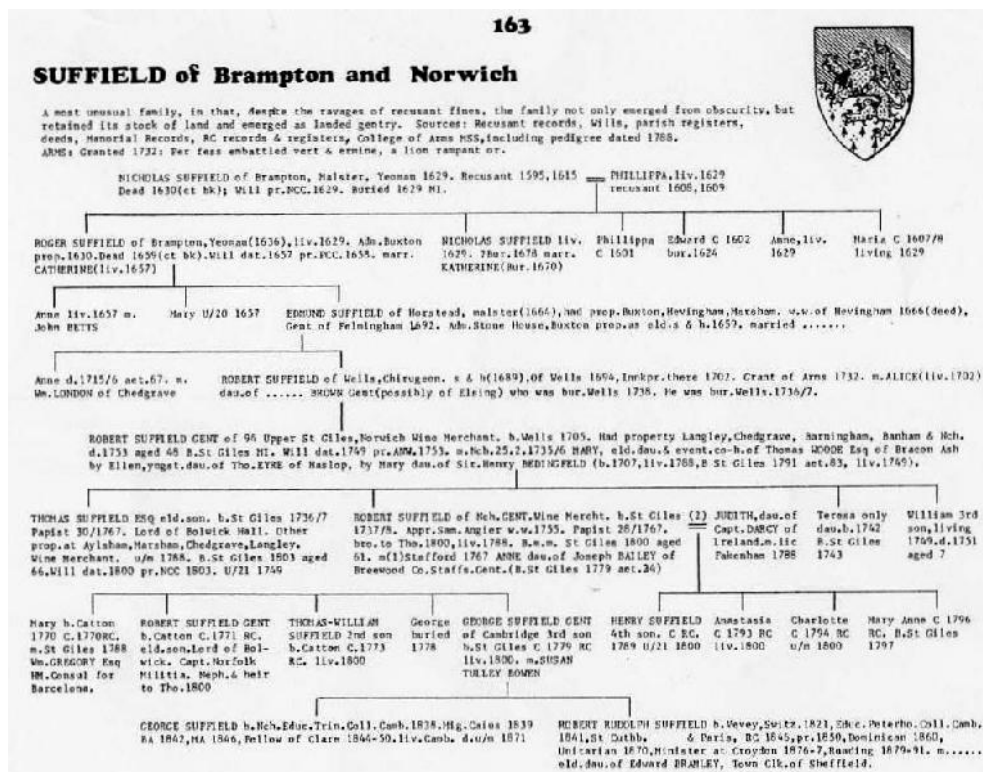
My grandfather took this family secret to his grave, and I suspect he did not know he had a grandson from this ill-fated liaison. The children from his later family had no idea they even had a half-brother, much less the circumstances of his life and death.

It was not until 1994 that the first clue to his existence loomed large, and twenty-odd years later, snippets are still being discovered.

Neither did we know much about my grandfather's half-brother, 'Joe the orphan'. We vaguely knew of his birth, but not that he had spent most of his young life in an orphanage; it was very sad to learn this, but all grist to a fascinating family mill and proof that if you shake a family tree hard enough you need to stand well clear.

Robert Suffield and the Irish Dillons

By David and Diana Hope MN 16268



WHILST researching Diana's mother's family the DILLONS of Dublin, we became interested in Catherine SUFFIELD (Kate) who married Charles Dillon, Diana's great grandfather. This led to many excursions to Dublin, Clifden, Abbeyleix, London, the British Library, the Metropolitan Archives, London Archives, the NRO at Kew, Norfolk Records' Office, Kirby Hall in Norwich and Staffordshire.

The first link was with Kate's father Henry D'Arcy Suffield, and her brother William Henry Suffield, who was a medical doctor for Clifden, Galway. This information has been transformed into two very large family trees. The one we are concentrating on here is the Suffields. The first recorded evidence of the Suffields with the right lineage was from a family tree we found at The Norfolk Family History Society accredited to Patrick Palgrave-Moore. As you can see the tree starts at Nicholas Suffield of Brampton Malster, Yeoman 1629. We were told that there is a possibility that the lineage could go further back to a Walter de Suffield, medieval Bishop of Norwich who founded St Giles Hospital in Norwich in 1249 and who died 19th May, 1257.

Our research, however, started with Robert Suffield, wine merchant, St Giles Norwich born 1737 or 1738, who married firstly Ann (Bailey) BAYLEY from Staffordshire. They had five children:-

Mary Anne - married William GREGORY, British Consul in Barcelona Spain.

Robert - married Mary EARLE. He died in Mauritius during a hurricane in 1818.

Thomas.

George died young.

George - married Susan Tully BROWN.

Robert Suffield's second wife was Judith D'ARCY. It is thought she came from Ireland (not confirmed). It says on the tree that her father was a Captain D'Arcy from Ireland. They had four children:-

Henry D'Arcy – married Maria Augusta CRAMER.

Anastasia D'Arcy - married Stephen READ.

Charlotte married Michael ADKINS.

Mary Anne

Henry D'Arcy Suffield and Maria Augusta Cramer had eight children:-

Henrietta Poppae Georgina Judith Jones married James Lorenzo HICKEY.

William Henry MD who married Ellen MAGUIRE.

Augusta Maria Julia married John FORREST in Victoria Australia, (no date of birth, believed born London).

Henry Daniel died young.

Julia Jane died young.

Mary Anne married Edward Fox.

Robert died young.

Catherine (Kate) married Charles Dillon of Dublin.

William Henry Suffield MD and Ellen Maguire had eight children:-

Julia Augusta – married John PIGGOTT from Staffordshire.

William Henry died young.

Henry Wyndham – married May Ann WHEATCROFT.

Henrietta – married Matthew L EATON.

Katherine never married.

Eleanor Augusta- married Garrett Wellesley PARKINSON R.M.

Robert Henry – married Elizabeth Rebecca GARLAND.

Constantine Henry – married Julia Ann HAYES in Montreal Canada.

Eleanor Augusta and Garrett Wellesley Parkinson R.M. had two children - Kathleen Edith and Henrietta Florence.

Details for Lieutenant Henry D'Arcy Suffield, 69th South Lincolnshire Regiment of Foot - Ensign 1805- Lieutenant 1809.

He was born 29th May, 1789, in Norwich Died 12th June 1824 Abbeyleix, Laois, Ireland. Buried at The old Church on the DeVesci Estate .Married Maria Augusta Cramer at St Martin in the Field, London, on 2nd July, 1810. Maria was born 31st July, 1772, Marylebone, London - her father was Wilhelm Cramer Leader of the King's Music (George III), Died 4th October 1871 Rathmines Dublin Ireland. Three children were born in London:

Augusta Maria Julia born between 1810-1815, no records found on birth or baptism.

Henrietta Poppae Georgina Judith Jones.

William Henry born 7th April 1815 Baptised at The Old Church St Pancras London.

Henry and Maria and their three children Augusta Maria Julia, Henrietta ,William Henry arrived in Dublin sometime between 1815 – 1817 then onto Galway College where Henry D'Arcy had obtained a teaching position (Usher). Their fourth child Henry Daniel was born 15th May, 1817, in Galway and baptised at St Nicholas Church, died Abbeyleix 20th April 1821.

How long Henry D'Arcy was at The College is unknown but their fifth child Julia Jane was born 9th April, 1819, in Abbeyleix, died 19th May, 1821. We know that Lord De Vesci was opening a new school in Abbeyleix about this time and wondered if the move was connected to this.

Their sixth child Maryanne was born 25th February, 1820, Abbeyleix, and married an Edward FOX. Their seventh child Robert was born 28th April, 1821, Abbeyleix and died 13th May, 1823, Abbeyleix. Their eighth child Catherine (Kate) was born 8th September ,1823, Abbeyleix and died 12th August, 1896, at St Albans Road Dublin, she was married to Charles Dillon on the 30th August, 1850, at St Mark's Dublin.

Details for William Henry Suffield M.D.

Born 7th April 1815 died Letterfrack Galway. Tully Church of Ireland graveyard contains church ruins, possibly demolished after 1945. There is an inscription which reads:

To the memory of W H Suffield M.D.

For 27 years medical Officer of Clifden who died June 25th 1872, the monument is erected by his sorrowing widow.

Also Ellen beloved wife of above who fell asleep March 30th 1899.

Details for Ellen (Eleanor) Suffield nee Maguire

Born 1819 in Kilmainham Prison, The following is taken from the book entitled "Captain Cohonny Constantine Maguire of Tempo 1777-1834" by W.A.Maguire.

"During the seven and half years he spent in prison, (Constantine Maguire) Eleanor Gaven (his wife not sure if they ever married) lived with him. According to the evidence of the midwife who attended on these occasions, Constantine's first child by Eleanor (not counting the pregnancy in 1814). This child, named after the mother, was the eldest of five born, all were baptised at St. Catherine, where the Marshalsea was located. Ellen died 2nd April 1899 at 103 Marlborough Road Dublin this date probably means the date of burial or the date it was recorded.

Ellen's father was Constantine Maguire (Captain Cohonny of Tempo 1777-1834).

This is a work still in progress, please feel free to contact the researcher on

tandy42@btinternet.com

A Tree of Historic Importance

AN historic Norfolk tree is featured by the Woodland Trust in its UK-wide 'Very Important Trees Campaign', which calls for formal recognition for nationally valuable trees. That means trees which have (and often still) play a role in our history or culture.

Kett's Oak on the main B1172 road between Hethersett and Wymondham is a significant tree in the history of the UK due to its association with Robert KETT and Kett's Rebellion. The tree was formerly named as one of the 50 Great British Trees.

A plaque placed on the tree by Hethersett Society in 2006 reads as follows: "Kett's Oak, although it stands just inside the Hethersett parish boundary, is named after Robert and William Kett of Wymondham, who assembled their men at this point in 1549, before marching on Norwich "

Their grievances were mainly to do with enclosing the common lands and the rising cost of living. Various enclosure hedges were thrown down by their respective followers, and the revolt was underway. The rebellion failed and Robert Kett was hanged at Norwich Castle. His brother William was hanged from the tower of Wymondham Abbey."



More Background

In 1549, John FLOWERDEW, a landowner, enclosed his land and was partly responsible for causing Kett's Rebellion. Men from Wymondham and probably Hethersett marched on Norwich after mustering under the shade of the old oak tree just inside the Hethersett boundary and as depicted in the drawing on the next page.

Over the page are pictures illustrating the tree over the last 200 years from the earliest to the one which was taken during the 1967 restoration by Norfolk County Council. You can read more about the Woodland Trust's campaign by going to: <http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/getinvolved/campaign-with-us/our-campaigns/vi-trees/england/> The final word goes to the Woodland Trust's Lead

campaigner for Policy and Advocacy Kaye Brennan: “You may recall that Kett's Oak was nominated for 'Tree of The Year' in 2014. It's a wonderful representation of the kind of very important tree the Trust is striving to see recognised, and celebrated.

“As it happens, my family is from East Anglia, based in and around West Suffolk and Norfolk, including Hethersett, and so as you might imagine I also feel a personal connection.”

The picture below shows the 1967 restoration work and next to it is a copy of the plaque which was formally unveiled by Dr John Alban, on 30th November 2016. Among those present were Vic Redington whose father John Plumstead wrote his Cambridge University dissertation on the rebellion and Adrian Hoare who analysed the rebellion in his book "An Unlikely Rebel." Vic, who was Head of Hethersett Old Hall School before her retirement, still lives locally.



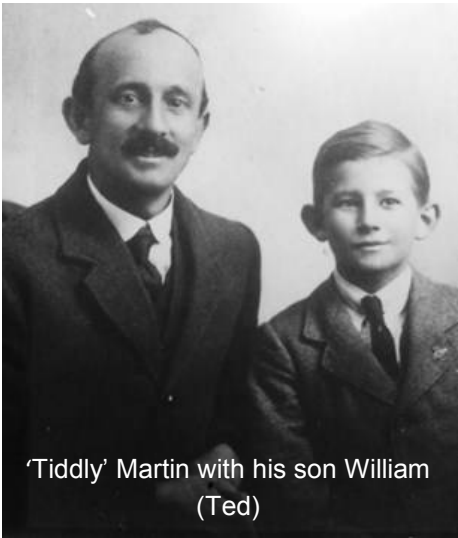
Tiddly The Athlete

Roger Morgan tells the tale of ‘Tiddly’ Martin and his grandson’s walk to Yarmouth.

My wife’s grandfather, Edward William MARTIN was born in Norwich in 1881. He worked as a warehouse assistant and, for some reason, which the family is not aware of, he gained the nickname of ‘Tiddly’. He lived in the College Road area of Norwich and had two sons, William and Geoffrey, with his wife Nellie nee SAWYER.

Tiddly turned out to be a very good athlete and regularly competed in the Norwich to Yarmouth walking races which were so popular at the start of the 20th century. In 1903 he won the 18 mile race in the fantastic time of 2 hours 52 minutes, roughly 6.25 miles per hour. Unfortunately he died at the relatively young age of 57 after suffering a heart attack while at his club in St Giles.

Some of his athletic prowess clearly passed down to his sons. William Edward Martin or 'Ted' as he was better known, my wife's father, attended the City of Norwich School in the 1920s and consistently performed well at the summer sports days usually winning the 100 yards dash. His achievements peaked in 1925 when he not only won the 100 yards but also the 440 yards as well as coming second in the 220 yards, the half mile and the long jump. His brother Geoffrey was a very good hockey player and both boys played for teams at a reasonably high level. They also participated in many rowing events in and around Norwich.



In 1990, Tiddly's grandson Ian Martin discovered a newspaper cutting about his grandfather's exploits and decided to try to retrace his footsteps by attempting the 18 mile walk to Yarmouth. Ian was a pupil at The Royal Grammar School in Newcastle upon Tyne and was a very good gymnast. After completing his degree course in Hull he joined Norwich Union for a short time. He quickly realised that this was not for him and took a teacher training course, eventually taking a post as an English teacher at Diss High School.

After some months of training, on the 21st of August at 4.30 am Ian and his close friend Chris RACE set

CITY OF NORWICH SCHOOL MAGAZINE

TABLE OF RESULTS.

EVENT.	FIRST.	SECOND.	THIRD.	FOURTH.	TIME, ETC.
100 yards, open	Martin ... W.	Stevens ... P.	Bacon ... B.	Fidley ... Co.	11 2-50
100 yards, under 15	Nickalls ... Co.	Francis ... P.	Gilly ... Co.	Brooks ... Co.	11 1-50
100 yards, under 14	Robinson ... Co.	Thomas ... N.	Barton ... N.	Cotton ... E.	12 3-50
100 yards, under 13	Coney ... P.	Isley ... P.	Rush ... P.	Ling ... B.	13
120 yards, hurdles open	Ransom ... E.	Sisters ... P.	Painter ... B.	Bala ... Co.	18
120 yards, hurdles	Gilly ... Co.	Sisters ... P.	Painter ... B.	Hassant ... N.	18
220 yards, open	Francis ... P.	Martin ... W.	Bacon ... B.	Crick ... Co.	25 2-50
220 yards, under 15	Sisters ... P.	Head ... E.	Francis ... P.	Painter ... B.	27 4-50
220 yards, under 14	Nickalls ... Co.	Cushing ... N.	Francis ... P.	Francis ... P.	28 2-50
440 yards, open	Martin ... W.	Painter ... B.	Spencer ... W.	Brooks ... Co.	53 2-50
440 yards, under 15	Nickalls ... Co.	Francis ... P.	Spencer ... W.	Brooks ... Co.	53 2-50
Half mile, open	Painter ... B.	Martin ... W.	Lincoln ... N.	Perrett ... Co.	2 21 3-50
Half mile, under 15	Francis ... P.	Gilly ... Co.	Head ... E.	Brown ... W.	2 20 1-50
Mile, open	Lincoln ... N.	Rackham ... P.	Harrison ... B.	Douglas ... Co.	3 9 2-50
Mile, relay	Come ...	Smith ... E.	Brooks ...	Eppingham ...	4 5 2-50
Obstacle, open	Ransom ... E.	Moore ... B.	Moore ... B.	Hady ... E.	—
Forward race, under 18	Pye ... B.	Norton ... N.	Hazell ... E.	Hady ... E.	—
High jump, open	Martin ... W.	Roney ... E.	Fidley ... Co.	—	4 1 1/2
High jump, under 15	Gilly ... Co.	Bunley ... B.	Hazell ... E.	—	4 7
Long jump, open	Painter ... B.	Martin ... W.	Lincoln ... N.	—	18 1
Cricket ball, open	Ward ... E.	Painter ... B.	Lincoln ... N.	—	77 yds.
Cricket ball, under 15	Francis ... P.	Thatcher ... W.	Shaw ... Co.	—	68 4 yds.
Tug-of-War	Nelson	Coke	—	—	—

off on the walk hoping to be in Yarmouth for breakfast. The infamous Acle Straight proved to be quite a trial for the pair as the traffic was I suspect, a lot heavier than it was in Tiddly's day. They did, however, make it for breakfast as they completed the walk in 3 hours 22 minutes, some 30 minutes slower than Tiddly. Ian said "My grandfather set a fantastic time but then he was 22 when he did it and I'm nearly 40."



Ian Martin (right) and Chris Race
preparing to set off

As well as trying to emulate his grandfather's achievement, Ian completed the walk in order to raise money for The British Heart Foundation in memory of his mother Phyllis who died from a heart condition in February, 1990. Sadly, Ian tragically died after a climbing accident in Scotland in July, 2004.

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Of Cavaliers and Roundheads

In 2002 NFHS member Alf Cobb wrote an article entitled “The Fall and Fall of the House of Cobb.” At the time Alf only had some bare facts regarding the tragic end of the Cobbs of Sandringham. Here Alf gives the story behind those bare facts. Members can read the original article on our web site.

IN 1643, during the Civil War, William COBB was lord of the manor of Sandringham and a colonel in the Royalist army. He was 30 years old, having inherited the estate when he was 10 and had married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Henry Bedingfield of Oxburgh in 1638.

When the town of Lynn declared for King Charles I and Sir Hamon Le STRANGE was appointed governor to organise the defence, the colonel was charged to see that sufficient supplies were received.

He was now confident that his task was completed and that the town was capable of resisting Parliamentary forces under the command of Edward MONTAGU, the Earl of Manchester, backed by Oliver CROMWELL.

On 17th September, a Royalist messenger arrived at Sandringham Hall to inform the colonel, that, in the face of the Earl of Manchester's army being within musket shot of the town and advice to send women and children away before an assault, Sir Hamon Le Strange had surrendered. It was shocking news.

The very next day a troop of Roundhead soldiers, headed by Captain William POE thundered down the approach to Sandringham Hall. In the hall's lobby the colonel and his wife with their two children, Geoffrey aged five and William aged two, together with servants, anxiously awaited the armed force. When the soldiers hammered on the closed door, the colonel ordered his headman "Let them in John." Resistance was futile.

The soldiers roughly entered, carefully looking around the hall's lobby. The captain addressed the colonel, reading out the charges of treason against him including "providing arms and ammunition to the Lynn Town Bands" and proceeded to make his arrest.

Behind the captain, there were mutterings of "delinquents" and "malignants" to which the captain said: "Quiet men, the colonel's friends have proved to be cowardly cavaliers." These Parliamentarians knew that the Cobbs clung to the old

faith, along with other gentlemen's families in Norfolk, and labelled "Popish Recusants," deserving to be dealt with harshly.

The colonel's father-in-law, Sir Henry BEDINGFIELD, was eventually arrested and sent to the Tower. He was imprisoned for some years. It is likely that the colonel suffered a similar fate.

The colonel's wife Elizabeth managed the estate whilst he was away, aided by servants and tenants. When he was released from gaol and returned home, there was such jubilation but it was shortlived.

It had been decided by Parliament that the sequestration of the estates of Catholic Royalists should be one of the principal sources upon which the Commonwealth depended.

From now on, the Colonel and his family dreaded the regular arrival of the commissioners to collect their dues. During the years that followed, the Colonel and his wife tried to live normal lives. More children were born: Henry who died young, Edward who was to die unmarried and several girls.

The news in 1649 that the King had been executed further depressed the colonel. No relief to his financial problems in the foreseeable future could be seen and he knew that he had to make some difficult decisions.

He had gradually let his servants go and he now had to sell parts of his estate. Dersingham, Wolferton and Babbingley had to be sold but the colonel still maintained his duties for them such as presenting new vicars to the congregations.

An effect on the people of these villages was to cause some anxiety. The Cobbs had always managed their estates responsibly and some remembered that the colonel's ancestors had risked all in joining the rebels in the 1381 Peasants' Revolt. The long term achievement of the people, had been that the hated Poll Tax was abolished and taxation went back to the old system.

The news in 1658 that Oliver Cromwell had died brought some hope to the colonel though his petitions to the judges had so far failed (Cromwell v Cobb in the Court of Chancery).

Eighteen months later, with the republic collapsed, Charles II was recalled to the throne in 1660. Again, the colonel hoped for some compensation. The Bedingfields put a calculation of their sufferings before the King amounting to over £47,000. No doubt the colonel did the same. They were told that it was too great to recompense.

However, the King conferred a baronetcy upon the Bedingfields which eventually enabled them to regain status. The Cobbs continued to put their faith in the Justices. The colonel soon realised that the family was heading towards poverty and he was forced to “sell the living” of the rest of the estate by 1664.

By this time, second son William had married and lived quietly in Norwich, having no children. The surviving daughters chose to go into religious houses “beyond the sea” young nuns committed to lives of severity and oblivion. Lots of tears when they left but the family had lost its wealth/status and there was no possibility of dowries.

Geoffrey remained with his father and sister, Anne who was a companion to her mother and died a spinster. The selling of the rest of the estate, including Sandringham Hall, was too much for the colonel to bear. In 1665, aged 52, worn out and disillusioned, Colonel William Cobb died. No doubt he had realised “Put not your trust in princes, nor in man, in whom there is no hope (Psalm 146:3).

He was buried in the church of St Mary Magdalen beside his ancestors in his beloved Sandringham. His wife Elizabeth went to live in the parish of St Giles, Norwich, and died in 1698.

Geoffrey, married twice, had a surviving daughter Elizabeth who had an ambition to become a nun. He sold the Lordship of Sandringham (which his father would never had done) in 1686 and moved into his old Cobbs’ house, much in disrepair, in the parish of St Clement Danes in London. He died in 1707 in poor circumstances and in obscurity.

This ended a family that had been lords of Sandringham since the time of Edward III. No picture has survived of the original Cobbs’ Sandringham Hall (rebuilt again and again) and the only gravestone to survive is that of William Cobb of Sandringham (died 1547), the colonel’s great great grandfather, bereft of brass plates and with shields of related families. It was originally near the font, then mounted behind then mounted behind the pulpit. The Royal Family pass it every time they go to a service.

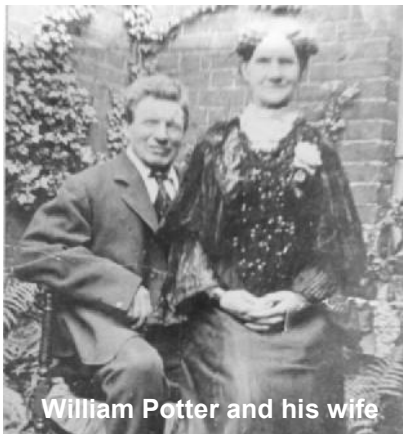
The article is dedicated to my friend the Late Brigadier Peter Young, DSO, MC, MA, FSA and founder of the Sealed Knot.

Alfred Cobb MN 3623 alf.cobb@cobbnut.plus.com

Who was Sugar-my-Sop?

Roger Morgan finds out about a famous Norwich character

When we first moved to Norwich some 30 years ago my wife's aunt used to tell us about some of the old Norwich characters. One of these was an odd gentleman known locally as 'Sugar-my-Sop'. Unfortunately she knew very little about him other than that he was around in the early 1900's. Sugar's real name was William Potter and he lived with his wife in Whalebone Square opposite New Catton Church for most of his life. It is believed that he came from a middle class family and had a very good education. He apparently had two main sources of income.



William Potter and his wife

The first was hawking bedding plants. He would push round a flat-barrow mounted on a penny-farthing loaded with plants while his wife ran ahead banging on peoples' doors. This made them a prime target for the street urchins who would tease them. They frequently had to stop and chase them off.

She would use her parasol to hit them and the unfortunate Sugar.

Sugar-my-Sop and his wife in Magdalen Road on their wedding day



Their second income came from busking. He would dress in a cutaway or tailcoat and a tall green hat or bowler and play the accordion. His wife would dress from head to toe in funereal black and pirouette in a kind of Irish jig in front of him, always with a solemn expression on her face.

Nobody is too sure where the strange name came from but some said he would shout to his wife to "sugar-my-sop" while he was getting dressed in the mornings. The name seems to have stuck. We would love to learn more about Sugar and his wife.

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NORFOLK FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

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REGISTERED COMPANY NO 3194731

Renewal of Membership 2017-2018

Please insert your membership number here

Please renew my/our membership of the NFHS for the year ending 31st March 2018 for which the under-mentioned subscription is enclosed (circle as appropriate)

	Single	Joint	Single 10 Year	Joint 10 Year	Single Life	Joint Life
UK	£10	£15	£75	£112	£165	£250
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Forenames

Address

.....

..... Post Code.....

Telephone Number (STD Code)

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I want the Norfolk Family History Society to treat all the subscriptions and donations I have made in the last four years, and all subscriptions and donations I make from the date of this declaration as Gift Aid Donations, until I notify you otherwise.

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GIFT AID NOTES

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- If you pay tax at the higher rate, you can claim further tax relief in your Self-Assessment tax return.
- If you are unsure whether your donations qualify for Gift Aid tax relief, ask us or refer to help sheet IR65 on the HMRC website (www.hmrc.gov.uk).
- Please notify the charity if you change your name or address.
- The paperwork for the claim is undertaken by the Society.

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Registered Company No. 3194731, Registered Charity No. 1055410

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

THE Society is making changes to its overseas membership categories. Rising postage cost has forced us into making modest increases for those members wishing to continue to receive the Norfolk Ancestor magazine through the post.

At the same time we have introduced a new category for overseas' members happy to receive their Ancestor magazine via the web site in an electronic format.

UK membership costs remain the same. All members will have access to the members' only section of the web site. A full list of overseas membership categories and costs is as follows:

Overseas Single E-Ancestor	£12
Overseas Joint E-Ancestor	£18
Overseas Single - Ancestor By Post	£15
Overseas Joint - Ancestor By Post	£21
Overseas Single 10 Year E-Ancestor Due fo Renewal 01/04/2027	£90
Overseas Joint 10 Year E-Ancestor Due for Renewal 01/04/2027	£135
Overseas Single 10 Year Ancestor by post. Due for renew 01/04/27	£115
Overseas Joint 10 Year Ancestor by post. Due for renew 01/04/27	£170
Overseas Single Life Ancestor by post	£250
Overseas Joint Life Ancestor by post	£375
Overseas Single Life E-Ancestor	£200
Overseas Joint Life E-Ancestor	£300

For those wishing to set up a new Bankers Order, please download the form from our website at:-

http://www.norfolkfhs.org.uk/files/pdfs/NFHS_Bankers_Order_Issue_12.7.pdf

New Members and Members Interests to January 17th, 2017

Compiled by Jean Stangroom
Membership Secretary
email:membership@nfhs.co.uk



Welcome to the March edition of the Norfolk Ancestor.

We are coming to the end of our year, and membership is still growing, albeit slowly. I hope you enjoy another brilliant Journal.

Thanks to those of you who have added their interests to the website and hopefully they are included in the list inside this issue. To add your interests, go to the website, login as a member in the top right hand corner, go to the membership drop down menu where you will find members' interests, and enter your names one at a time. Variants must have a separate box. Please keep to the format .

To contact other members with the same interest that are not on the website, please send a letter with a sae to the membership secretary at Kirby Hall and it will be forwarded to the respective member.

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, 2016

The Society welcomes the following new members

16284	Mr I. Everitt	UK	16309	Mrs S. McClean	UK
16285	Mr W. Wyatt	UK	16310	Ms D. O'Connor	UK
16286	Mrs J. Collins	UK	16311	Ms L. Martin	CA
16287	Ms H. Parker-Drabble	UK	16312	Ms A. Eagles	AU
16288	Mr J. G. Ashby	UK	16313	Mr K. J. Anthony	AU
16289	Mrs J. McCormack	UK	16314	Mr S. Present	USA
16290	Mrs A. Park	UK	16315	Mr P. E. Barton	UK
16291	Mr S. Boardman	UK	16316	Ms P. Ward	UK
16292	Mrs P. Aspland	UK	16317	Mr B. Webb	UK
16293	Mr P. Scott	UK	16318	Mr I. Fryer	UK
16294	Mr T.C. Futter	UK	16319	Mrs A. Hardy	UK
16295	Mr J. Furner	USA	16320	Ms L. Hudson	AU
16296	Mr J. Russell	AU	16321	Mrs D. Mulligan	USA
16297	Ms C. Proudlove	UK	16322	Mr A. Watson	UK
16298	Mrs G. Walton	UK	16323	Mr B. Sargeant	UK
16299	Mrs J. Hart	AU	16324	Mr D. W. Smith	UK
16300	Mr D. Eisey	UK	16325	Mrs J. Kimball	USA
16301	Mr D. Fox	UK	16326	Mr D. Bunn	UK
16302	Ms J. Ilett	UK	16327	Mrs F. A. Martin	UK
16303	Mrs B. Gare	UK	16328	Mr and Mrs S and S. J Hewitt	UK
16304	Mr D. Tomlinson	CA	16329	Mr J. Rant	UK
16305	Mrs A. Brinkhurst	UK	16330	Mrs S. Hooton	UK
16306	Mrs S. McClure	UK	16331	Mr J. Mathews	UK
16307	Dr A. Shankland	UK	16332	Mrs J. Fell	UK
16308	Mr A. Jordan	UK			

Members Interests to 17th January 2017

15845	ALDERTON	ALL	SFK	ALL	16038	BONE	ALL	NFK	ALL
16300	AMES	ALL	ALL	18C-19C	15901	BROWNE	SE	NFK	18C
15941	AUFREERE	ALL	NFK	ALL	16279	BULTITUDE	ALL	NFK	19C
16314	BACON	NC	NFK	15C-19C	15863	BUNN	NW	NFK	16-20C
15845	BAKER	ALL	SFK	ALL	15913	BUNN	NW	NFK	ALL
15845	BARBER	ALL	SFK	ALL	16358	BUNN	ALL	NFK	18-19C
15984	BARTEL	ALL	NFK	ALL	16345	BURGESS	NO	NFK	ALL
16010	BEZANT	ALL	NFK	ALL	16358	BUSHELL	ALL	NFK	ALL
15974	BLAKELY	ALL	NFK	ALL	15827	CANHAM	ALL	SFK	ALL
15974	BLAKELY	ALL	NFK	ALL	16059	CAREY	ALL	NFK	18-19C
16358	BLYTH	ALL	SFK	18C-19C	16077	CAREY	NO	NFK	16-19C

Members Interests to 17th January 2017

MN	Name	Area	County	Period	MN	Name	Area	County	Period
15920	CARPENTER	ALL	NFK	18C-19C	15874	GRINT	ALL	NFK	17C
16009	CATTON	ALL	NFK	15C-20C	15948	HALL	YM	NFK	ALL
15887	CLARKE	ALL	NFK	ALL	16293	HARRISON	NW	NFK	ALL
15825	COE	SW	NFK	19C	15845	HAWES	ALL	NFK	ALL
15911	COLBY	ALL	NFK	18C-20C	16288	HAWES	NW	NFK	18C-19C
15980	COOPER	ALL	NFK	ALL	16010	HOUGHEN	ALL	NFK	ALL
15887	COULSON	ALL	NFK	16C-18C	15869	HOWARD	ALL	NFK	ALL
16300	CUTTING	ALL	ALL	17C-19C	15966	HOWLETT	SW	NFK	ALL
16293	DAVISON	NE	NFK	ALL	16009	HOWSE	ALL	NFK	15C-20C
15921	DEARN	ALL	NFK	ALL	15966	HUBBARD	SW	NFK	18C
16293	DISDEL	SW	NFK	ALL	15845	HUDSON	ALL	NFK	ALL
16304	DUCKER	ALL	NFK	15C-20C	15987	HUNT	NO	NFK	ALL
16014	EASTGATE	ALL	NFK	18C	15987	HUNT	SE	NFK	17C-19C
15921	DEARN	ALL	NFK	ALL	15874	HUTCHINS	ALL	NFK	18C-20C
15930	EKE	CN	NFK	ALL	15845	JARVIS	ALL	NFK	ALL
15827	ELDEN	ALL	NFK	ALL	16071	KEMPE	ALL	NFK	15C-19C
16300	ELSEY	ALL	ALL	18C	15948	LAYTON	YM	NFK	ALL
15901	FINCHAM	SE	NFK	ALL	16076	LILL(E)Y	ALL	NFK	15C-20C
16009	FITT	ALL	NFK	ALL	15965	LINCOLN	ALL	NFK	17C-19C
16304	FRIER	ALL	NFK	15C-20C	16308	LITTLEWOOD	ALL	NFK	ALL
15948	FROSDICK	YM	NFK	ALL	15869	LOVEDAY	ALL	NFK	ALL
15973	FULLER	SE	NFK	ALL	15921	MANN	ALL	NFK	ALL
15943	FUTURE	NW	NFK	ALL	16320	MANN	ALL	NFK	ALL
15826	GALL	ALL	NFK	19C	16248	MARTIN	ALL	NFK	ALL
16009	GARWOOD	ALL	NFK	15C-20C	16293	MATTHEWS	SW	NFK	18C-19C
16293	GILBERT	SW	NFK	ALL	16288	MILES	NW	NFK	ALL
16358	GOLDSKIN	ALL	NFK	ALL	16350	MILK	ALL	NFK	ALL
15887	GOODING	ALL	NFK	ALL	16059	MOORE	ALL	NFK	16C-19C
15966	GORE	SW	NFK	17C-18C	16077	MOORE	NW	NFK	16C-19C
15966	GOTTS	SW	NFK	19C	16304	MOY	ALL	NFK	15C-20C
15974	GREY	ALL	SFK	ALL	16205	MULLINGER	SW	NFK	18C
16001	GRIMES	NW	NFK	17C-19C	16358	MUSK	ALL	LIN	18C-19C

To contact other members researching the same surname.

First login to the NFHS Website (success indicated by 'Logout' top right), then under the 'Membership' / 'Members Interests' menu select the required Surname from the drop-down list and click on "Contact".

An e-mail address or postal address will then be forwarded to you.

If an e-mail is not received soon, please check e-mail spam folder. When corresponding by post please remember to include a stamped self addressed envelope.

MN	Name	Area	County	Period	MN	Name	Area	County	Period
16358	MUSK	ALL	NFK	18-19C	15984	TOLADAY	ALL	NFK	ALL
15860	NEAVE	YM	NFK	ALL	16320	TOWNSEND	ALL	NFK	ALL
16074	NEWMAN	NE	NFK	15C-19C	16320	TOWNSHEND	ALL	NFK	ALL
15845	NORMAN	ALL	SFK	ALL	15984	TUFTS	ALL	NFK	ALL
15941	NORRIS	ALL	NFK	ALL	15984	TUFFS	ALL	NFK	ALL
15941	NOTLEY	ALL	NFK	ALL	16359	VARNEY	ALL	NFK	ALL
15860	OLDFIELD	NW	NFK	ALL	16248	WALLER	ALL	NFK	ALL
15959	OLDFIELD	ALL	NFK	ALL	15969	WARREN	ALL	NFK	15C-19C
16358	OSWICK	ALL	NFK	ALL	16359	WATSON	ALL	NFK	ALL
15974	OUGHTON	NW	NFK	ALL	16014	WATTS	ALL	SFK	18C
15907	PAYNE	NE	NFK	19C	15943	WEALTHY	ALL	NFK	19C-20C
15921	PECK	NW	NFK	ALL	15943	WEALTHY	ALL	CAM	ALL
15907	PINDER	NW	NFK	ALL	15943	WEALTHY	ALL	ALL	ALL
16009	PYE	CN	NFK	ALL	16076	WILD (E)	ALL	NFK	15C-20C
16293	RICHES	ALL	NFK	18C-19C	15844	WILLIAMS	ALL	NFK	ALL
16293	RIX	ALL	SFK	ALL	16278	WILSON	ALL	NFK	ALL
16293	RUMBOLD	SW	NFK	16C-19C	16059	WINDSOR	ALL	NFK	18C-19C
16076	SADD	ALL	NFK	ALL	15833	WINTER	ALL	NFK	18C-19C
16076	SALES	ALL	NFK	16C-19C	16010	WORTS	ALL	NFK	ALL
15948	SCOTT	ALL	NFK	15C-20C	16018	WRIGHT	ALL	SFK	17C
15828	SCOTT	CN	NFK	16C-20C	16018	WRIGHT	SE	NFK	ALL
15984	SCOTT	SW	NFK	18C	16009	WYER	ALL	NFK	17C-19C
16018	SCOTT	SW	NFK	ALL	15949	YALLOP	ALL	NFK	19C-20C
16018	SCOTTER	ALL	NFK	ALL					
16009	SCOTTO(W)	ALL	NFK	18C					
16288	SCULPHER	NW	NFK	ALL					
15949	SHER(R)INGHAM	ALL	NFK	ALL					
16009	SMITH	ALL	NFK	ALL					
16288	SMITH	SE	NFK	17C-18C					
15949	SMITH	NC	NFK	17C-18C					
16009	SNASDELL	ALL	NFK	15C-20C					
15966	SOFTLEY	NW	NFK	18C-20C					
15966	SPINKS	ALL	NFK	ALL					
16009	STARLING	ALL	NFK	15C-20C					
15966	STEBBINGS	ALL	NFK	18C-19C					
15966	STEBBINGS	SW	NFK	18C-19C					
16085	SWATMAN	NC	NFK	16C-19C					
16085	SWATMAN	NW	NFK	16C-18C					
16288	SYLIS	NW	NFK	16C-19C					
15943	TENNANT	NW	NFK	ALL					
16300	THIRKETTLE	ALL	ALL	16C-19C					
16308	THOMPSON	ALL	NFK	16C-19C					
15943	THORPE	NW	NFK	ALL					
16293	THURSTON	SW	NFK	18C-20C					
15982	TICE	ALL	NFK	ALL					
15981	TICE	ALL	NFK	ALL					

We wish all our members happy hunting with their genealogy. Don't forget we now have a very active Facebook presence where members have met with considerable success in not only tracing ancestors but in swapping family stories and historical information. We currently have well over 1,000 active subscribers and it's all free.

Robs Round Up *with Robert Parker*

Australian ancestors? Check out this new website which holds records of the Sydney Benevolent Asylum for the period 1857-1900 :-

www.sydneybenevolentasylum.com

Bexley World War One registration cards are now online with Ancestry

The British Newspaper Archive has digitised 15 million pages. Check for their latest additions if you haven't visited for a while, or sign up for their newsletter for regular updates.

FamilySearch digitise 1,000 books a week; every week.

Irish Wills online. Findmypast has added registers from 1858 – 1920 which includes 181,000 wills.

Irish merchant navy crew lists 1863 – 1921 on Findmypast.

Lincolnshire Parish Records have been updated by Findmypast, half of the 15 million pages are baptism records.

London Post Office directories for 1842, 1851 and 1861 are now online with Findmypast. 1.5 million names to search.

Early Military records uploaded to The Genealogist (1758-1922).

Northamptonshire Archives have added further Northampton parishes to their online collections.

Nuneaton and North Warwickshire ancestors? The Genealogist has added thousands of parish records.

Over 1.6 million historic nursing records on Ancestry.

Oxfordshire Parish Registers online with Ancestry, Baptism, Marriage and Burials 1538-1965.

Staffordshire parish records 1538-1900 added to Findmypast.

Surrey electoral records; Ancestry add 22 million new records.

Fantastic travel records at Findmypast from 1573. Around 27,000 licences to 'Pass beyond the Seas' are available and include persons travelling to Ireland, continental Europe, New England, Barbados and Bermuda.

Warwickshire baptism, marriage and burials on The Genealogist with 454,000 searchable records.

Yorkshire Baptisms 1538-1914 online with Findmypast.

Recommended twitter account to follow @NatRecordsScot The National Rec-

ords of Scotland. Rob has more information available on his web site at www.myfamilygenealogy.co.uk

Kirby Hall has free access available for Ancestry, Findmypast and the British Newspaper Archive.

Enthusiasts at Barroway Drove near Downham Market are researching names to provide a war memorial in the village. They have identified 14 names for inclusion and would like to hear from anyone who is related to them. A group has been set up to create a biography for each name and they would also love to get hold of photographs The names are as follows.

George Brown, Private 28849, 3rd Bn., Grenadier Guards, died 27th November, 1917.

William Cave, Gunner 74012, 353rd Siege Bn., Royal Garrison Artillery, died 11th April, 1918.

Jesse Crofts, Private 202611, 2nd/7th Bn., Worcestershire Regiment, died 3rd June, 1917.

Herbert John Croxford, Private 30457, 2nd Bn., Bedfordshire Regiment, died 28th July, 1917.

George William Fisher, Private 16586, "A" company. 2nd Bn., Suffolk Regiment, died 30th August, 1918.

Simon Hubbard, Private 24458, 1st Bn., The Queen's (Royal West Surrey Regiment), died 1st May, 1918.

Herbert John Hudson, Private G/8091, 3rd Bn., The Queen's (Royal West Surrey Regiment), died 17th September, 1918.

Charles Nicholls, Private 35217, 5th Bn., Yorkshire Regiment, died 11th April, 1918.

John Thomas Smith, Private 8418, 1st Bn., Lincolnshire Regiment, died 14th September, 1914.

Ralph Edward Smith, Private 40105, 9th Bn., Norfolk Regiment, died 24th May, 1917.

Thomas William Sutton, Ordinary Seaman VR/3527, H.M. Trawler.

Sapper Herbert Bennett, Royal Naval Canadian Volunteer Reserve, died 29th December, 1917.

Frederick William Towson, Lance Corporal 52205, 9th Bn., Royal Fusiliers, died 8th August, 1918.

Robert Turner, Private 36280, 9th Bn., Welsh Regiment, died 10th June, 1917.

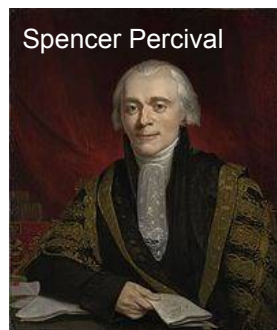
William Whybrow, Private G/81054, 2nd Bn., Royal Fusiliers, died 13th April, 1918

Anyone with information should contact Janice Thompson via email at janice.thomson@hotmail.co.uk

Editor's Corner

YOU could call me something of a voracious reader - devouring magazine articles, books and virtually anything else that will help enhance my knowledge. And that's particularly the case with anything to do with history.

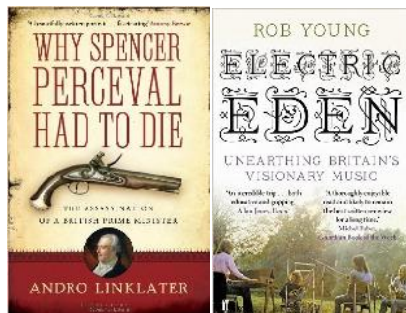
I recently read two books (both side by side as it happens) that seemed to have very little in common and in fact to be poles apart. The first was entitled "Why Spencer Percival Had To Die - The Assassination of a British Prime Minister" by Andro Linklater and the second was "Electric Eden: Unearthing Britain's Visionary Music" by Rob Young.



So what connection do these books have with Norfolk? Well it's all a matter of my semi obsession for seeking out connections with our county in as many books as possible. Both mention Norfolk characters early on and that sent me scurrying to find out more about these characters with some interesting results.

As Prime Minister, Spencer PERCIVAL was against the slave trade and was a contemporary of William Wilberforce. A man of impeccable character, Percival had nevertheless antagonised many people by imposing a blockade against Napoleon and the French which was having an adverse affect on trading. Liverpool was particularly badly hit because of its association with the slave trade. Liverpool trader John BELLINGHAM, who also had a number of alleged personal grievances against the Government, decided to take action and shot Percival at point blank range in the lobby of the House of Commons. It has never been established whether Bellingham was acting alone or had support from others in what is the only assassination of a British Prime Minister. That is one of the questions discussed in the book

One of the key witnesses at Bellingham's trial and also the inquest into Percival's death was William SMITH, a fellow abolitionist who was also Member of Parliament for Norwich at the time. Smith gave evidence at the inquest which was held at the Rose and Crown Tavern in Downing Street. He heard the pistol shot that killed Percival and was quickly on the scene as Percival staggered forward:



"He took two or three steps towards me, as he approached he rather reeled by me, and almost instantly fell upon the floor, with his face downward. When he first fell I thought he

might be slightly wounded, and expected to see him make an effort to rise, but gazing at him for a few moments, I observed that he did not stir at all. I therefore immediately stooped down to raise him from the ground, requesting the assistance of a gentleman who stood close by me for that purpose. As soon as we had turned his face towards us, I perceived it was Mr Percival."

So who was William Smith?

Smith was born in Clapham, London, in 1756 and was the maternal grandfather of Florence NIGHTINGALE. He married Frances COAPE in 1781 and three years later was elected MP for Sudbury and subsequently Camelford and then Sudbury again. He eventually became an outspoken and radical MP for Norwich at a time when the city was known as a place for dissenters and radicals.

And so to the second, and completely unconnected book, "Electric Eden" which looks at the development over the centuries of folk music in Britain.

The early chapters refer to a British pastoral composer by the name of Ernest J (Jack) MOERAN. The son of an Irish father and East Anglian mother, Moeran was brought up in Bacton on the Norfolk coast.

It was in the local pubs that Moeren discovered the songs of the local fishermen. He collected over 150 songs from the area and also discovered one of the most prolific sources of folk tunes in the shape of Harry COX of Great Yarmouth.

Moeren went on to feature Norfolk folk songs in a number of his works. Moeran suffered from depression and black moods probably caused by a shrapnel wound in the head sustained during the First World War.

In 1938, he moved to Ireland but not before he had composed "Lonely Waters" in 1920 which is based around a song from the Norfolk Broads.

Peter Steward MN 14801

NORFOLK RESEARCH

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CERTIFICATES**

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W. Hepburn

11 Preston Avenue, Wymondham, Norfolk, NR18 9JE

Email: willie.h.1945@virgin.net

Coming Event

We have been contacted by the Buckinghamshire Family History Society who will be holding an open day on Saturday, 29th July from 10 am to 4 pm at The Grange School, Wendover Way, Aylesbury, HP21 7NH.

Research facilities, including a names' database with over five million entries along with parish registers and people and places libraries will be available and parish register transcripts and other research aids will be on sale. There will also be expert advice; 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

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www.writingyourfamilyhistory.co.uk

Letters, 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 email details so that other members can contact you. Don't forget that you can also use our Facebook site to request and receive help.

Memorial Inscription Help

WE have been contacted by Colin Ashworth who wanted to tell us about a very useful web site that he has put together. Colin writes:

My site at <https://findthatmi.wordpress.com/> is a collection of links to enable researchers to find memorial inscriptions. The important page for me is the list of churches (on the places page) whose memorials have been surveyed but the results are published either only online or locally as a hard copy and they may not have been published under the auspices of an area or county society.

The background to the website is explained on the 'about' page and you are free to quote from that should you wish to do so. I am hoping that family historians, who may know of churchyard surveys up and down the country, will let me know about them, using the contact page, so that I can add details to the site. I am also keen to receive comments and feedback via the blog or by email.

Christopher Christmas

While researching Scottow parish registers, I noticed an entry for Christopher CHRISTMAS. I was intrigued as I had not noticed many Christophers baptised at that time nor the surname Christmas. He was baptised on the 11th August, 1799, the son of William and Amy. He went on to marry Mary Ann ALLEN on 2nd January, 1826, in Worstead. The census shows their children were born in Scottow but they were not baptised there. Further research showed they were baptised in the Wesleyan Chapel in North Walsham. Christopher was buried, aged 76, on 11th February, 1875, in Skepton Parish Church.

John Dyball MN 3257

Medal Offer

I have recently acquired three World War One medals issued to Private 12970 George Patrick RANDALL, and have, I believe managed to trace him. He was born on 17th March, 1895, at Shotesham and was the son of Jesse and Alice Randall. He enlisted in September 1914 and served in the Second Battalion, Norfolk Regiment. He survived the war and moved to Cambridgeshire, marrying Cecily Sabina BANHAM at Cambridge St Paul, afterwards appearing to spend his life in Cambridgeshire until dying in 1974.

I would like to help any descendent who may want to reclaim the medals. The family may have no interest in their past of course and this may be a waste of

time but I feel I have to try. I am a member of both the Lincolnshire and Norfolk Family History Societies with a special interest in the regiments and war memorials of those two counties..

Michael Peck - Michael.peck3@btopenworld.com



Norwich Training College

While helping at a church jumble sale in Gloucester I came across the postcard above which fell out of a book.

As I am an active member of the Gloucestershire Family History Society I know that people like pictures of the places where their ancestors lived, worked or went to school.

I am sending you the postcard so that you can appeal in your journal for anyone who would like the postcard for free.

Sue Woodward

(anyone who would like the postcard which is undated can contact the editor at ancestor@nfhs.co.uk. We will send it to the first request received.)

An Intriguing Postcard

A few years ago I was advised by Ebay that there was an item of MARGETSON interest. I was quite astounded to see that it was a postcard depicting a grave-

stone (pictured opposite). You can imagine my surprise when I realised that this was not just any old Robert Margetson, but the date proves it was my great great great grandfather born Hevingham 1781, died Aylsham 1864.

Why or who would have had such a photo taken and then make a postcard out of it.? I thought I would never know the answer unfortunately.

Naturally I was keen to buy the item but unfortunately so was somebody else. I started with a bid of £10, then had to go to £15, then £20 and still higher to £24.

That was my limit sad to say. The buyer paid £25. That led me to wondering who would pay that if not a family member? The burial register for Aylsham shows 8th March, 1864 at the age of 82 years.

I have not yet found/seen the gravestone. The dark mark at the base looks like the photo was taken after a period of time in the soil. The photo of the headstone was taken by: "R. Green, Photographer of Bank Street, Norwich."



Brian Margetson MN 5434

Search For a Portrait

I would welcome help in trying to trace a portrait of my great-great-grandfather Henry BLYTH (1762-1831) of Burnham Market.

The portrait was painted in 1809 by Thomas WEAVER (1774-1843) who, in the same year, painted a portrait of Thomas COKE, 1st Earl of Leicester of Holkham. The portrait of Henry Blyth was sold at an auction by Phillips on 17th December ,1985.

I have succeeded in tracing the dealer who bought the portrait at the auction. Unfortunately his records do not go back that far and he is unable to tell me to whom he subsequently sold it.

A black-and-white print of Henry Blyth by the lithographer C.J. HULMANDEL (1789-1850), which I believe is a copy of the Weaver portrait, accompanies this note. I should be very grateful to hear from anyone who has information about the present whereabouts of the portrait, or can suggest ways of pursuing the search.



Kenneth Blyth MN15140. kenblyth@blueyonder.co.uk.

Answers to a Photo

In the December edition of 'The Norfolk Ancestor', Mike Lord posed some questions about the photo he submitted.

I've checked the quadrangle contained within the grounds of the Norwich University of the Arts buildings, and do believe that is where the photo was taken.

The arches shown in the photo appear to match up with those on the north side of St Andrew's Hall.

Bob Heath MN 16067

Confirmation Needed

I hope you can use this photo in Ancestor, and that someone can confirm its source.

It was taken at Wembley, but am not sure of the event. It could have been the 'Festival of Youth' held in 1937 during the coronation celebrations of George VI. This would appear to be the Norwich contingent of a keep fit/

dance club to which my mother and her sister belonged. At the time, they were living in Lady Lane, in the heart of Norwich. Mum, May Gertrude CLARK (Pinny/ b1916) is on the right hand side of the centre row, and her sister, Renee Constance CLARK (b1923) is on the left hand side of the centre row. They are both wearing peasant costumes. Presumably those in these costumes were dancers, and the others were gymnasts.



Anne Young MN3436

Family Connections

ALTHOUGH I have read The Norfolk Ancestor for many years, I have rarely come across a mention of anyone connected to my family. So I was delighted to see on the cover of the December issue an advertising poster designed by Alfred MUNNINGS. Alfred's great grandfather Daniel DENNY was a brother of my 3xgreat grandfather William.

A few pages further on was an article on Boulton and Paul, which said the company's origins dated from 1797, when William MOORE opened an ironmonger's shop in Cockey Lane, Norwich. William Moore was born in Warham on December 11th, 1774, the son of William and Sarah Moore (nee TUTTELL). Sarah was

the daughter of Samuel Tuttell of Barnham Broom and later Colton. Samuel wrote his will in 1780 and very kindly listed not only his children but also their children. I wish everyone would be that helpful. He himself was born 1st October, 1699, and baptised at East Tuddenham. He was the younger brother of Benjamin Tuttell (1685/6-1710) of Ketteringham. Benjamin was the 2xgreat grandfather of Daniel Denny.

The Ancestor Bookshelf reviewed The Revolt and Taming of the "Ignorant", by David Adams. This a study of the Bircham Riots of 1835. At the time Daniel was farming at Heath House Farm, Great Bircham, and the book contains information about him.

Daniel was born about 1797, possibly in Gillingham, as his parents, William Denny and his wife Ruth (nee Tuttell), had baptised one son there and they were living in Bungay by 1800. He married Bridget Eleanor CLARKE at Bergh Apton on 13th September, 1826. He was living in Stockton, which is where the couple baptised their first three children, the youngest in 1830. They then moved to Great Bircham where a son was born 29th March, 1836. The family had moved to Stanford by February 1838, when a second son was baptised there. Daniel died in October, 1841, and is buried in Stanford.

I always enjoy reading The Ancestor, but to find three connections to my family was wonderful.

Linda Johnson MN 495

More on the Holler

I WAS delighted to read Peter Steward's article in the December Norfolk Ancestor about the Washington State community of Ocean Shores as my wife and I stayed there some years ago whilst on a fly-drive holiday in that part of the USA. I still have a bookmark from Sea Dream Books, a shop in Nantucket Square, 676 Ocean Shores Boulevard, selling an amazing selection of second-hand books.

Whilst browsing the well-filled shelves, I bumped (literally) into an American gentleman from Spokane who regularly drove 100 miles each way to search the Sea Dream shelves for specific books relating to World War II.

It happened that I had one of the books that he was looking for so was able to send it to him when I returned home. In return, he had his secretary look out for a book that I wanted which she found in a shop on Vancouver Island.

The mention of King's Lynn Vancouver Round Table and their "Grand Holler" with the inhabitants of Ocean Shores also brought back many happy memories of my years in Round Table. So, whilst I cannot claim a connection to Captain George Vancouver, Peter Steward's article made the December edition of the Norfolk Ancestor even more readable than usual.

Tony Rudrum MN 9505

Poor Elizabeth

Whilst researching my LUDKIN ancestors in the Wacton area of Norfolk I came across a sad situation concerning Elizabeth Ludkin who was born on 13th December, 1800, in Wacton and who was baptised there on 23rd December, 1800. Elizabeth had a daughter who was baptised 7th March, 1819, and named Lucy Batley Ludkin. She married Shadrack BATLEY on 5th February, 1821, but I did not find any further children born to Elizabeth. Shadrack died in Wacton and was buried on 7th June, 1833.

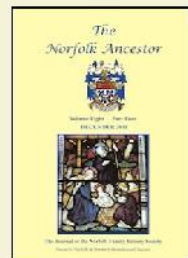
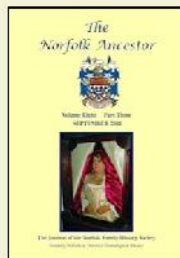
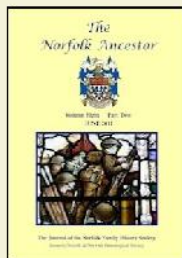
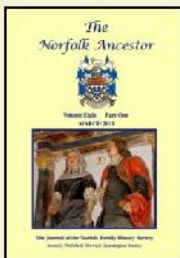
There the problems started for on 22nd March, 1835, Banns were read for her marriage to Charles Frances Batley, the late Shadrack's younger brother. A note on the parish record states "the Banns were not published anymore as Elizabeth Batley was the widow of Charles Batley's brother."

However, Rebecca Probert, in her book "Marriage Law for Genealogists the Definitive Guide" states that a marriage with a spouse's sibling was valid prior to 31st August, 1835. After that date the marriage would have been void. As the marriage would have taken place in April, 1835, it appears that someone jumped the gun in objecting to this union. As the curate had obviously agreed to the publishing of the Banns prior to the proposed marriage, it must have been a third party who objected. This could have been anyone, including a churchwarden or a family member or maybe a jealous suitor!

I did not find any subsequent marriage for this couple anywhere else but, according to census records, they lived together as man and wife in Wacton until Elizabeth's death in October, 1866.

Brenda Leedell MN4102

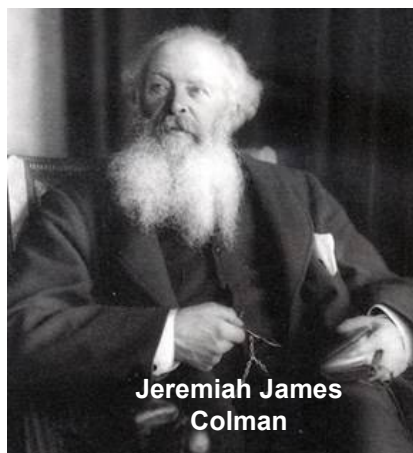
Scanned Ancestor Copies



Copies of the Norfolk Ancestor from 1992 onwards are now available to NFHS members on the Society's web site.

Hathor—the Colman Connection

Jeremiah James COLMAN was the grand-nephew of Jeremiah Colman senior, the founder of the Colman's Mustard business at Stoke Holy Cross in 1814. Jeremiah Snr. had no children, so his nephew James was made a partner of the company in 1823. In 1851 James' son J.J. Colman joined the firm and by 1856 he had expanded it and moved it to a larger works site at Carrow. By 1874, the massive expansion gave steady employment to around 1,500 workers and J.J. Colman lived in Carrow House at the heart of the works.



Public Life

J.J. Colman was a philanthropist and dedicated his life to the firm and to public interests. He served as a Norwich councillor from 1859 to 1871, becoming Sheriff in 1862 and Mayor in 1867. He was leader of the Liberals in the City, and was elected as MP for Norwich in 1871. He was a city and county magistrate, Deputy Lieutenant in 1880 and an Alderman in 1896. In 1866, he was appointed mustard maker to Queen Victoria. He championed non-conformity, and urged religious freedom. His generosity, kindness and courtesy gained him the respect of business colleagues and workers alike. He was very highly regarded in the city of Norwich.

Private Life

In 1856 he married Caroline COZENS-HARDY from Letheringsett Hall. Between 1859 and 1869 they had six children, Russell, Laura, Alan, Florence, Helen and Ethel. After Russell James had recovered from a serious illness in 1863, Caroline became heavily involved with the work of the Jenny Lind Hospital for children. She was a major figure regarding the welfare of the company's workers. A new school was opened in King Street as well as the Carrow Works Dispensary with a doctor and the first industrial nurse in the country. They also bought Lakenham Cricket Ground for workers to use.

The Egyptian Connection

Sadly, on July 5th, 1895, Caroline passed away aged 64 and was laid to rest in the Rosary Cemetery five days later. His wife's death had a big impact on J. J. as he had come to rely greatly on her judgement and support. Just before the anniversary of Caroline's death his youngest son Alan was taken ill with a serious lung disease, probably TB. By October, 1896, his health was worse and doctors advised the family that he needed a warmer climate and fresher air to

recover, so they decided to take him to Egypt. On November 20th, 1896, Alan Cozens-Hardy Colman left England on board the P&O steamship “Simla” bound for Egypt. He was accompanied by his eldest sister with her husband F.S.WORTHINGTON (his medical attendant) and his other sister Helen. They stayed at the Mena House Hotel close to the pyramids. A few weeks later they were joined by J. J. Colman and his two other daughters Ethel and Florence.

Early in January 1897 the entire party headed for Luxor. They set sail in a *dabaheah* – a luxury boat commonly hired by well-to-do travellers. It was named **Hathor**, and it came with a local crew of about 20.

They embarked on a Nile cruise. Florence took her camera along to record the event. Despite their age, over 300 of her photographs have survived very well. Some of



Alan Cozens-Hardy Colman

them are reprinted here with the kind permission of Nigel Pope at the Ludham Archive. Whilst in Egypt, the Colman family acquired many important ancient artefacts which can now be viewed in Norwich Castle Museum.



The Hathor



The Hathor

Alan's Death

As the Colmans travelled up the Nile, Alan's health unfortunately deteriorated. There were days when he was well enough to be carried up on deck but he was gradually becoming more and more exhausted. Helen Colman wrote *“On the morning of Sunday 7th—a cloudless morning following a sunset of radiant beauty, and a night of utter peacefulness—the close came to my brother's life on earth.”* His father was devastated by Alan's death and he quickly wrote to his one remaining son Russell with these words:



J.J. Colman in Egypt



J.J. Colman riding a donkey with two of his daughters

“My Dear Russell At last the long impending blow has fallen, and our dear Alan has left us for another world and has left us, too, a bright example of how to spend a life which seems to us who survive all too short.”

The Colmans, now in mourning and with no wish to remain in Egypt, turned back and headed to Cairo. Jeremiah wrote home to say:

"[w]e are making our way slowly down the river towards Cairo. . . Even apart from the sad associations of our trip, Egypt is not a place which fascinates me. The utter squalor, misery and dirt of the great part of the population is to me most depressing.g

They returned via Venice and Florence and Alan's remains were finally laid to rest in the Rosary Cemetery. J. J. Colman bravely tried to get back to work with the business but he was soon to be plagued with failing health. In May, 1998, he attended the funeral of his great friend, prime minister William GLADSTONE in London. He returned to his home in Corton where his health continued to decline over the next three months. On September 9th, 1898, his youngest daughter Florence married the architect Edward BOARDMAN. Colman was unable to attend the wedding but did manage to greet the guests afterwards. On September 15th his mother passed away after a day's illness a few weeks after her 93rd birthday. There was a marked change in J. J. Colman's condition and he gradually sank into unconsciousness, dying at three o'clock on Sunday afternoon, September 18th, 1898, aged 68.



The Wherry Hathor

In 1905, Helen and Ethel Colman (pictured opposite) commissioned the building of the Hathor as a memorial to their brother. The Egyptian themed interior marquetry was designed by Florence's husband Edward Boardman, the Norwich architect who built and lived in How Hill House in Ludham. Hathor was used as a holiday home on the Broads by the Colman/Boardman family for many years before passing to Claude HAMILTON. In 1985 she underwent a two year restoration and was transferred to the Wherry Yacht Charter Trust. After being laid up in 2009 and another complete restoration, she was finally relaunched at How Hill in May, 2015, to become the flagship of the wherry fleet.



Frequent trips aboard the Hathor seem to have encouraged the Boardman children's love of boats and water. One son, Humphrey, was an expert rower and represented Great Britain in the 1928 Olympics in Amsterdam. In 1934, Chris Boardman crewed on the J class yacht Endeavour in the America's Cup along with skipper Tommy SOPWITH, the aviation pioneer. He went on to win gold for Britain in the six metre class at the 1936 Olympic Games. You can read more about the Boardman family and see many more lovely photographs by visiting the Ludham Archive at ludhamarchive.org.uk I am very grateful for their help in producing this article.

Roger Morgan MN16248

Group Reports

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

South Norfolk: Betty Morley, 'Thwaites', Fersfield, Diss, Norfolk IP22 2BP

London: Mary Fisk, 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

Programme 2017

14th March 2017 "Murder Most Foul" – East Anglian Murders Including Rose Harsent, Emma Rolfe and many more with **Mike Wabe**

11th April 2017 "The Norfolk Regiment on the Somme" with **Steve Smith**

9th May 2017 "Crime & Punishment" with **Ian Waller**

13th June 2017 "Crippen – a really good murder!" with **Mark Mitchels**

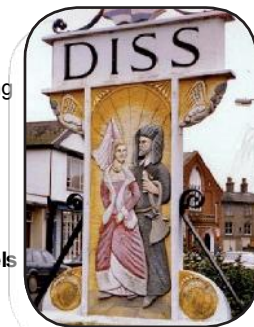
11th July 2017 "Lucky is the name" with **Pip Wright**

8th August 2017 **Simon Pawley**

12 September 2017 Five and Twenty Ponies Trotting Through the Dark - Was Your Ancestor a smuggler? **With Ron Strutt**

10 October 2017 The care and conservation of photographs with **Tom Doig**

14 November 2017 "Some Ghost Stories with Charles Dickens" with **Mike Wabe**



The Norfolk Regiment at Gallipoli

The story of the disappearance of the 5th Battalion Norfolk Regiment on the 12th August 1915 at Gallipoli has become embedded in the British consciousness but it was totally untrue. Steve Smith, author, historian, researcher and battlefield guide was our speaker at the Diss Group on 11th September to present us with the facts and explode the myth with his talk 'The Norfolk Regiment at Gallipoli.'

Firstly, the 5th Norfolks were not called the Sandringham Battalion because they had been recruited from all over North Norfolk. In fact what was known as E Company (The Sandringham Co.) had ceased to exist on February 8th, 1915, when they converted to a four company battalion, merging with C. Company to become King's Company.

A number of claims appeared following the event. General Sir Ian Hamilton, the commander of The Mediterranean Expeditionary Force reported in a dispatch: "They charged into a forest and were lost to sight or sound. None of them ever came back". In 1965 three New Zealand veterans reported to have seen a British

regiment marching up a sunken road to be swallowed up in a cloud. Even a few years ago an inaccurate television adaptation came up with a new solution and inferred that they had all been executed by the Turks. The decision to attack the Gallipoli Peninsular was an initiative conceived by Churchill, the theory being that if the Turks came under heavy attack, the German lines elsewhere would be weakened when they had to deploy troops to assist the Turks. Unfortunately the intelligence regarding the capacity of the Turks was fatally flawed.

On 30th July, 1915, over 3,000 men and officers including the 5th Battalion set sail on the Aquitania and landed at Suvla Bay on 10th August. They were ordered to push inland, the objective being to move up to Point 28, clearing the area of Turkish snipers.

The terrain was scrubby and inhospitable and the climate was extremely hot during the day and bitterly cold at night. It is known that the men had insufficient water to sustain them in those high temperatures. The Commanding Officer, Colonel Proctor-Beauchamp, a veteran of the Boer War, was nearly 60 and had no experience of commanding infantry as he had been a cavalry officer.

On 12th August, a number of the Norfolks commanded by 2nd Lt. Fawkes managed to advance about 1400 yards to a sunken road before stopping to await the rest of the battalion, but Fawkes was ordered to press on by Proctor-Beauchamp.

They walked into an ambush and many were taken down by machine gun. However, a small number of them managed to reach a vineyard and took shelter in a cluster of cottages. Beauchamp was last seen by Private Smith shouting out orders and it was the last time he was seen alive. The survivors were led back to friendly lines by Major Barton and Lt. Evelyn Beck when darkness fell.

Local papers including The Yarmouth Mercury and The Lynn News, published on 27th and 28th August an account by men who were there and a list of the missing. Sir Ian Hamilton's dispatch didn't appear until 6th January, 1916, and the next day The EDP reported directly from his account under the heading "Sandringham Men Disappear" thus compounding the erroneous theory. At the same time the newspapers were occupied with the arrest and execution of Edith Cavell so news about the 5th Battalion was no longer making headlines.

On 15th February, however, The Lynn News reported that a postcard had been received by the mother of Captain Cedric Coxon who was officially reported missing from his regiment the 5th Norfolks. It stated that he was a prisoner of war and recovering from wounds in hospital at Constantinople.

He had been captured on 13th August while trying to make his way back to the British lines. In the same newspaper an article reported the survival of Pt. Sidney Pooley who disputed the theory of the wood and the disappearance.

As was common in World War One, the bodies of the fallen were just left to

decompose where they lay, as did the Norfolks until 1919 when they were found by the Battalions chaplain, The Reverend Pierrepont Edwards. He reported that he had found the 5th Norfolks. 'There were 180 in all; 122 Norfolk and a few Hants and Suffolks with 2/4 Cheshires.'

Only two could be identified – Privates Barnaby and Carter. Examination of the bodies ruled out execution by the Turkish Army. They had not been shot in the back of the head. An account by Wm. Fawkes states that he was found by the Turks who gave him water. The War Diary records the loss of 22 Officers and 350 men.

It is easy in hindsight to judge Churchill harshly for this catastrophic exercise and it does seem that it weighed heavily upon him for we learned that from the end of December 1915 he served as a soldier on the Western Front. He must have seen this as a penance and is reported as having worn a French Helmet.

To those of us who had ancestors involved in the Gallipoli campaign, Steve was extremely helpful but his talk was a poignant reminder of the bravery of these young men who went to do their duty, whatever theatre of war our ancestors were in. We look forward to a further visit when we can learn more about the Norfolks in World War One. He received many thanks and applause from a very appreciative audience.

The Diss group continues to be very active and we will have more reports in the June edition of Ancestor including an evening featuring four men of the cloth with Mark Mitchels, an evening with Ray Hubbard and a discussion on the Norfolk Ancestor and Norfolk Family History Society's Facebook page.

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, please include your membership number.

We are particularly in need of people to staff Kirby Hall on Tuesday mornings, although any help at any time will be very welcome.

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

London Group

Coming Dates

THE London group has set dates for its 2017 meetings. The first will take place on March 11th and the second on October 21st, both at the Society of Genealogists between 2 and 4.30 pm.

Our March meeting will be a members' day. We have not got a particular theme at present, so come along to share your own research and discoveries and have a chat over tea and biscuits.



Mary Fisk

Digging Deeper into Ancestry

Les Crome reports on a presentation given by Gill Blanchard to the London Branch on "*Digging deeper into East Anglian Ancestry.*"

Gill Blanchard gave the branch a wide-ranging and informative talk entitled "Digging Deeper into East Anglian Ancestry". Gill, who is based in Norwich and worked for a number of years at the Norfolk Record Office, drew upon her more than 20 years' experience as a professional researcher specialising in family history (and other historical fields) in the East Anglian counties of Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex and Cambridgeshire, as well as her experiences in tutoring classes in family history research.

Gill emphasised the importance of developing good research techniques, such as looking at a wide range of sources, to give as full a picture as possible of an ancestor's life: being clear as to what a particular record can tell you and what it cannot. She explained the importance of browsing catalogues and indexes at record offices; identifying the siblings, or other close relatives, of an ancestor and what happened to them, as this might throw light on an ancestor's life. She also covered researching background information – the time and place in which an ancestor lived and worked as a basis for 'informed speculation' as to the reasons for their actions. She urged members to review earlier research to resolve outstanding queries, correct errors, and complete the picture.

Gill ran through a wide range of sources and record holders and provided information on each, covering such matters as location of records, coverage of material, and access restrictions. The sources covered included parish register transcripts and indexes; genealogy websites, both commercial and non-commercial; original parish registers; other parish records such as churchwardens' accounts, and Poor Law accounts and adjudication records; later Poor Law Union regis-

ters; non-conformist registers of births/baptisms, and burials; local and national taxation records, both national and local; wills, administrations and probate inventories; deeds and estate records; manorial records; apprenticeship records; city and borough enrolments of freemen; military service records; hospital and asylum registers; records of assize court trials; prison registers; school records; business records; newspapers; diaries and journals; and local historians and antiquarians' notebooks and collections of documents, now often found in record offices.

In addition to the well-known genealogy websites (Ancestry, FindMyPast, and The Genealogist), Gill recommended looking at non-commercial sites, such as FreeReg, Genuki, Online Parish Clerks and Norfolk Transcriptions. The websites and libraries of family history societies are another useful source of transcripts and indexes: Cambridgeshire FHS website had extensive coverage of parish registers for their county; and Norfolk FHS held transcripts and indexes not available at the Norfolk Record Office.

When planning a visit to a record office to view original parish registers and other records, it is important to establish the correct record office for a particular parish or record, in view of the boundary changes in East Anglia, and ecclesiastical jurisdictions extending over more than one county. Some record offices impose restrictions on access to original, un-filmed registers, making it difficult to verify a transcription against the original documents.

In the case of non-conformist registers, Gill pointed out that there is no certainty that all such registers were handed in to the Registrar General in 1837: the registers now held at the National Archives (indexed and, available as images, on The Genealogist site) may be incomplete. Some record offices hold non-conformist records not in the National Archives, including later, better copies of old registers, and this public source should be checked.

In the cases of wills and administrations, Gill emphasised that it should not be assumed that an ancestor had not made a will, because he lacked an estate of sufficient value: wills (and administrations) sometimes related to quite modest estates. For wills and administrations made before 1858, it was important to identify the relevant ecclesiastical jurisdiction for a particular parish.

Deeds were also made by persons of modest means. Some record offices have good catalogues of deeds and estate papers, and card indexes to individual deeds, but others have much uncatalogued material.

Manorial records can be a useful source as to the economic activity and status of an ancestor up to the early 20th century, as well as providing reasons for a place of abode or movement. Surviving records and their location are listed in the Manorial Documents Register (now part of the National Archives): those for Norfolk, Essex and Suffolk are now online. The records themselves are generally held at record offices (not necessarily the office for the county in which a manor was located), but some are at the National Archives and others in Cambridge

University archives (the University having been a major holder of manors).

In the case of military records, Gill pointed out that, by looking at the movements of a military unit in which an ancestor was serving, it might be possible to trace where the ancestor got married or had his children baptised, if not in his home locality. A further point was that many military personnel died in hospitals (some being temporary, wartime, hospitals) in the UK, rather than overseas: Their death is therefore recorded in a place different from both the theatre of war and their home locality.

Among the business records which Gill considered potentially useful sources were marriage settlement agreements (sometimes found among business papers); property sale particulars (these sometimes identify neighbours, as well as the owner of the property and the date of ownership); rental records (which may show continuity in occupation); and plans which canal and railway developers were obliged to prepare of their proposed route (identifying land-owners, and sometimes occupiers, along the route).

Gill's talk covered much ground, the above being only an outline summary, and raised many questions and comments from the members present.

Norfolk Record Office Events

Norfolk Record Office is free to use. Our opening times are: Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9am-5pm; Tuesday 9.30am-5pm; and Thursday 9am-7pm.

Expert help and advice is available during these hours, appointments are not necessary.

Behind the Scenes Tours

This popular monthly event, allows you backstage access to our Strongrooms and Conservation Studio, as well as a chance to view some of our more unusual, colourful and interesting documents. Coming dates:

Thursday 30th March 17.00-19.00

Friday 28th April 14.00-16.00

Tuesday 30th May 10.00-12.00

Monday 26th June 14.00-16.00

Booking required on 01603 222599 or www.archives.norfolk.gov.uk/events. Tours cost £5 per person, please pay on arrival. Gift vouchers are available.

Free Lunchtime talk – “Charity, Church and Estate: The Great Hospital’s Historical Role in Norwich and its Hinterland.” This will take place on Wednesday, 29th



March 1-2pm. Archivist Tom Townsend will highlight the medieval records of the Great Hospital.

Free Lunchtime talk – "In the Mayor's Presence: Tales of Life, Loss and Desire in Norwich." On Tuesday, 16th May, Archivist Tom Townsend, explores more documents from the Norwich City Records.

Free Lunchtime talk – "Titanic: Honour and Glory." On Thursday 8th June. Alison Fisher, Exhibitions Coordinator, introduces Time and Tide's latest exhibition.

Free Exhibition - NORAH: Saving Norfolk's Archival Heritage from 20th February to 19th May - Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9am-5pm, Tuesday 9.30-5pm and Thursday 9am-7pm

This exhibition will display many of the documents purchased as a result of a recent public appeal by the Norfolk Record Office and its charitable partner, the newly established Norfolk Archives and Heritage Development Foundation (NORAH). The generosity of both individuals and organisations meant the NRO was able to purchase an eclectic collection of over 90 lots at the Morningthorpe Manor Sale.

Contact Details:

www.archives.norfolk.gov.uk/events

www.norfolkrecordofficeblog.org

www.twitter.com/NorfolkRO

www.facebook.com/norfolkrecordoffice

Karen Gaffney Education and Outreach Officer

Family Trees - A Copyright Update

THE Norfolk Family History Society is very grateful to all those who are willing to share details of their family trees.

As back-up, in case of loss owing to fire or other damage, the Society has scanned the smaller family trees in the library's collection and is looking to prepare digital copies of the larger trees in the near future. This will also enable us to provide copies more easily to members on request and opens the opportunity to put the trees onto NORS for members to access.

Our current Family Tress Copyright form covers the use of the trees in the Library and the making of copies for private research. No commercial use/reproduction is allowed under any circumstances by the Society.

The addition of the trees to NORS and their availability for members to download

is not covered by our present form which will be amended to include permission for this. **We propose that trees for which we already have copyright declarations be added to NORS unless the owner of the tree notifies us of his/her decision not to allow this.**

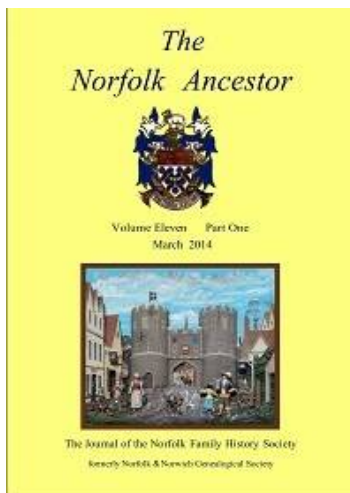
There are a number of trees whose owners failed to return a copyright form or which were donated anonymously. If anyone has donated one of these trees we would like to hear from you as, without permission, copies cannot be supplied or the tree viewed online. Please write to Pam Bridge at Kirby Hall or by email to familytrees@nfhs.co.uk

FAMILY TREE ADDITIONS with Pam Bridge

The following family trees have been added to the collection at Kirtby Hall.

CLINGO	Outwell, Ely, Downham Market
CULLEY	Norfolk parishes
PEARSON	Blickling, Aylsham, Great Yarmouth, Norwich
RANSOME	Great. Yarmouth, Rollesby, Potter Heigham, Norwich
SMITH	Wiveton
STANNARD	Norwich from Bury St. Edmunds

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Articles for future editions are always welcome . 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 2017** 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:-

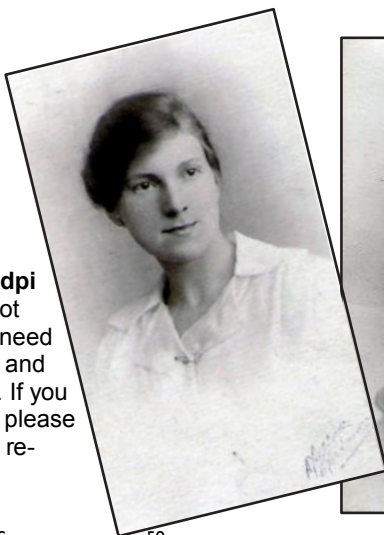
The Editor, c/o Kirby Hall, 70 St. Giles Street, Norwich, NR2 1LS.

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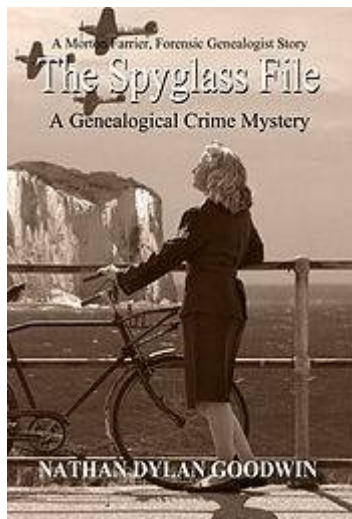
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Photographs

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.



Ancestor Bookshelf



The Spyglass File. A Genealogical Crime Mystery by Nathan Dylan Goodwin

FAMILY history often resembles a puzzle which turns us into amateur detectives and here we have an author who knows this and uses it to create an enjoyable and intriguing tale of the life of a young woman during the Second World War and the efforts of a genealogist to uncover the mystery of her past for her children.

Morton Farrier is no longer at the top of his game. His forensic genealogy career is faltering and he is refusing to accept any new cases, preferring instead to concentrate on locating his own elusive biological father. Yet, when a particular case presents itself, that of finding the family of a woman abandoned in the midst of the Battle of Britain,

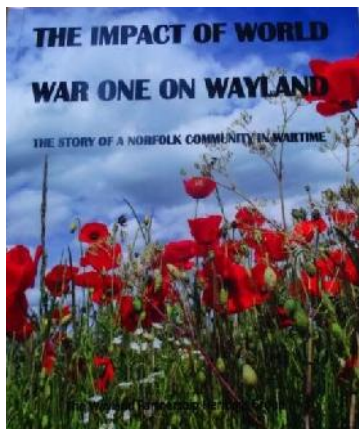
Morton is compelled to help her to unravel her past. Using all of his genealogical skills, he soon discovers that the case is connected to The Spyglass File—a secretive document which throws up links which threaten to disturb the wrongdoings of others, who would rather its contents, as well as their actions, remain hidden forever.

The wartime background is vividly depicted and it is interesting to follow the lines of research. Above all it is a good read.

Margaret Murgatroyd MN 10400

The Impact of World War One on Wayland. The Story of a Norfolk Community in Wartime by the Wayland Partnership Heritage Group. Hardback £18. Softback £12. 171pp 2016

TWO years' dedicated research by volunteers in Watton and Wayland's 15 villages, using Lottery funding, has resulted in a major work on understanding the impact of WWI on isolated yet close-knit villages in central Norfolk, looking beyond the men who lost their lives on the front line to survivors who returned and communities left behind. A number of categories were identified - local attitudes to the war, its impact on families,



women and children, its effect on everyday life, education, agriculture, trade and business and on the landed estates such as Threxton and Merton. Some parishes have very little in certain categories while others have parish magazines, letters home, family memories, etc. Most of this material was collected by the volunteers in each village and then had to be collated into a coherent whole.

It is lavishly illustrated with photos and copies of documents. The centre pages have lists of the fallen and some of those not included on the War Memorials but it omits to provide maps of the villages themselves and where the War Memorials are situated. However, the group has produced a series of three trails around the sites which include maps and a potted detail on each memorial and location, photos of memorials and churches. The leaflets are free and should be found in each church and other locations. An Index would have been most useful but Bronwen Tyler, one of the Group's trustees, acknowledged this was a demanding task beyond the group's time limit. There is a research CD linked to the book which contains valuable resources. A very interesting read and an important addition to our knowledge about the First World War's effects on Norfolk.

Edmund Perry MN3181

New to the Shelves of Kirby Hall

Books and pamphlets added to the shelves at Kirby Hall over the past few months include the following.

John Clarke (MN 5325) kindly sent us a pamphlet detailing his great grandfather's life and requesting that it be added to the library. The booklet highlights problems in family life in London in the 1800s, the sadness of the loss of young children after childbirth and his career in the Police. With John's permission we print below an extract from the Norfolk life of James Weales CLARKE.

"At 3.30 am on Sunday the 7th April, 1833, Mary Clarke nee PITCHER, wife of George Clarke, blacksmith, gave birth to a son James Weales Clarke, a brother for Martha, in the village of Castle Acre."

"I lived with my parents and my sisters Martha, Emily and Elizabeth. Our youngest sister Mary died from bronchitis seven months old and then to our surprise our mother had another girl - Mary Ann.

"So that is the family that lived in 4, Back Street, Castle Acre.

"Mother always insisted that we went to school as she had not had any schooling and could not read or write, although my sisters helped her to read, but the writing no.

"With our school friends we would have a great time after school and weekends.

In our village we had a ruined castle, therefore the village Castle Acre was named.. We also had a ruined priory and with the River Nar we had a wonderful playground.

“As time went on and we grew up my sisters helped mother in the cottage and I helped my father in his blacksmith’s work. I was only about 10 years old when he had me helping with some of the smaller jobs and attending the furnace and learning the trade. We repaired ploughs, carts and farried horses. Teaching me how to make a shoe and fit it, anything from a pony up to those great big Shires. Huge gentle giants he used to call them. He always said to me James, pointing to one of the shires one day, ‘treat them like you would a lady, gently and with tenderness. They will then do whatever you want.

“I learn my trade well and at 17 was a qualified blacksmith. We had all grown up and had now moved to a larger cottage in Lower Green Castle Acre, it was now 1851 and the census was being done. With the pony and trap we would travel to the local farms around Gayton and Sporle, when we went to Sporle that is where mother was born, her father John Pitcher was a farmer so mother would come with us to see her parents and brothers and sisters. While father and I did a few repairs, mother would be catching up with events and news and help with the baking in the kitchen.

“We always liked going to Sporle, after work we all would sit down at Grandma’s big kitchen table and have dinner, Norfolk dumplings, belly pork, turnips, swede, potatoes and onion gravy. A big jug of grandfather’s ale on the table and homemade bread and cheese. Mother always came home with that smile on her face. Father would lift her down from the trap and she would put her arms around his neck and kiss him. He would laugh and sweep her up in his arms and carry her up the path both laughing at the look on my face.

“It was 1851 and we all went over to Great Dunham to have Christmas with my grandfather and his children William and Esther. His wife Susanna had died in 1846. He was James Royal Clarke, a saddler and harness maker. I was named James after him. Mother and the girls had made presents for them. Handkerchiefs for William and a blouse for Esther. Father had made some harness hooks and fittings for him. They gave us little leather purses for the ladies and father had a new leather apron and I had a nice leather belt.

“We all sat down to Christmas dinner, it was a large goose with all vegetables and of course Norfolk dumplings with onion gravy. Mother had brought with us fresh bread and mincemeat and Martha had made a cake. After dinner we all sat and talked, the ladies chatting about clothes and what they had made, and recipes they had tried. We sat and had a mug of mulled ale apiece and talked about our work, father said it was getting a bit hard. James mentioned he found it slow coming in these days. Grandfather told us that he went to Lynn the other week to buy leather from his merchant there. The merchant told him the port was finding things hard and that he had heard that some were going to London to find work.

"One man he spoke to went to join the new police force there and said that it was good work and pay. He had to come home as they would not accept him as he could not write and he was only a labourer and had no trade. On the way home I said to my father "Dad what grandad said about the police, if work gets bad I think I would go there to London, it seems a good way of life.

"Yes son," he replied "but your trade is a good one. I would wait awhile if I was you and also I need you at present." For the next four years we worked hard. It is now spring in 1855 and I am getting into my 20s. One evening after our meal father and I were working in the garden.

"Dad," I said "I'm going to London. I want to be a policeman." "Yes son I know," he replied. He turned away from me and went to the pub.

"I knew he was upset. Mother had been standing in the doorway and must have heard. She came over to me, she was crying. She held me and kissed my cheek. "Bless you my boy You will come back home sometime I know it will happen."

The remainder of the booklet looks at James' life in London and his time as Metropolitan Police Constable 4361 stationed with W Division in Clapham. He joined the police on 7th April, 1855., and eventually returned to running a business in Norfolk. John Clarke's prose is based on his research from official documents, family papers and imagined conversations with his great grandfather with a bit of poetic licence added.

Situated in the centre of Norwich, we have a large selection of new, second-hand and antiquarian books on Norfolk, Suffolk and the Broads.



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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 66 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>

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.

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CHARLES FARROW RESEARCH

**Charles Farrow is retiring on
3rd April and would like to
take this opportunity of
thanking all his clients for their
support over many years.**

NFHS contacts and how to contact them

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

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Family Trees	Donations of family trees, pedigrees and BMD certificates	Pam Bridge	familytrees@nfhs.co.uk
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Wills	Donations and Indexing of Wills	Denagh Hacon	wills@nfhs.co.uk

**Or by post to the appropriate person at
Kirby Hall, 70 St. Giles Street, Norwich, NR2 1LS**

Sonny's Daring Dive

IN the early 1920s the young boys in Norwich were not too fussy where they swam and they would regularly dive into the rather polluted River Wensum for pleasure. They would also jump off the various bridges to earn a few pennies.

Some of the more daring lads would go further and dive from the tops of the cranes that were used to unload the barges on the river. Perhaps the most daring of these boys was a certain Sonny GOODSON.

Sonny lived in Baldwin's Yard off Oak Street and was the grandson of a famous Norwich poacher called Billy Goodson. Billy was a generally honest man but when he died aged 82 in 1948 he had more than 90 convictions for poaching to his name.

He was a dark, wiry, athletic man used to taking calculated risks. His grandson Sonny appears to have inherited many of these traits. He was not content with diving from cranes and would climb to the tops of the tall buildings that lined the river before plunging into it.



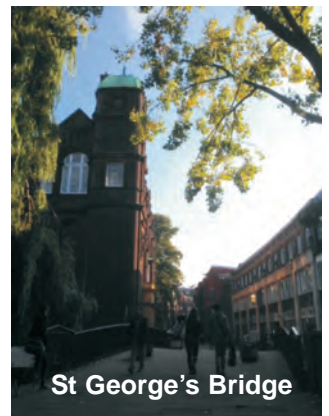
The River Wensum

One day in 1924, Sonny climbed to the top of the copper domed tower of the Technical Institute and leapt into around 12 feet of muddy water below. He didn't just jump vertically down the 69 feet tower into the river. He jumped upstream narrowly clearing the parapet of St George's Bridge, a distance of around 40 feet from the tower. Why on Earth would he do such a dangerous thing?

The story goes that two local tradesmen had a bet that nobody could make such a leap and paid the young Sonny one pound to

prove that it could be done and settle the bet.

He was about 15 at the time and duly earned his fee. He was watched by a small group of spectators who took up a small collection after the feat. With the two shillings and four pence collected plus the pound Sonny earned, he and all his pals went on a trip to Yarmouth for the day.



St George's Bridge

Then and Now



These two pictures show The Norwich Art School building formerly known as Norwich Technical Institute in St George's Street. In 1924 it was the site of one of the most dangerous daredevil feats ever to take place in Norwich. Find out more about this inside.

