

The Norfolk Ancestor



DECEMBER 2018



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

The Norfolk 'Bountymen'

I was recently doing some research into British Naval history, writes Roger Morgan, when I came upon the story of His Majesty's Armed Vessel (HMAV) *Bounty* and the infamous mutiny of 1789. The front cover picture shows a reconstruction of *Bounty* made for the 1962 film 'Mutiny on the *Bounty*'. I was surprised to discover that two Norfolk men were part of the crew and played an important role in the affair.

John FRYER was born on August 15th, 1753, in the Norfolk shipping port of Wells-next-the-Sea. His father was David Fryer (1729-1800) and his mother was Mary Fryer née BELL (1727-96). His siblings were Matthew (1754-72), Alice (1757-59), David (1759-85), Alice (b1762), Elizabeth (b1767) and Hugh Bell Fryer (1769-81).



In May 1780, John married his first wife Ann SPORNE but he was to suffer a double tragedy in 1784. His daughter Sarah Ann died in infancy in February and his wife Ann died in May. Three years later, in August 1787, John married for a second time, this time to Mary TINKLER the daughter of William and Mary Tinkler. In the same year he was appointed by the admiralty as the sailing master of the *Bounty*. It's not clear whether he knew about this

before he got married or not. What is clear, however, is that Mary was pregnant before the *Bounty* set sail because the couple's first child, Harrison, was born on 23rd April, 1788, while John was overseas.



The *Bounty*'s mission was promoted by the Royal Society and was organised by its president Sir Joseph BANKS. The ship was placed under the command of Lieutenant William BLIGH and was dispatched to Otaheite now called Tahiti in order to collect breadfruit plants. To find more about the expedition and the subsequent mutiny turn to page 26.

Norfolk Family History Society

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

Headquarters and Library

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Telephone No. (01603) 763718

NFHS Web site: <http://www.norfolkfhs.org.uk>

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

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Roger Morgan	Assistant Editor
Rob Reeve	Proof Reader

Welcome to your December Edition



Welcome to the December edition of Norfolk Ancestor which completes another year of this magazine. I would like to sincerely thank everyone for the kind comments about both the magazine and our Facebook page over the past 12 months.

It is obvious that the magazine is well received and also a valuable tool in research. The society celebrates its 50th birthday this month and we hope you enjoyed a brief look at its history with our special publication which was sent out with the September Ancestor.

Please let us know about anything you would like to see in the magazine and we will do our best to oblige. It only remains for me and the entire team at NFHS to wish everyone a happy Christmas and New Year and good luck with your family searching in 2019.



Remembering The Fallen

TWO new books will be of great interest to historians and family history researchers in the Ashwellthorpe and Tilney All Saints areas of Norfolk.

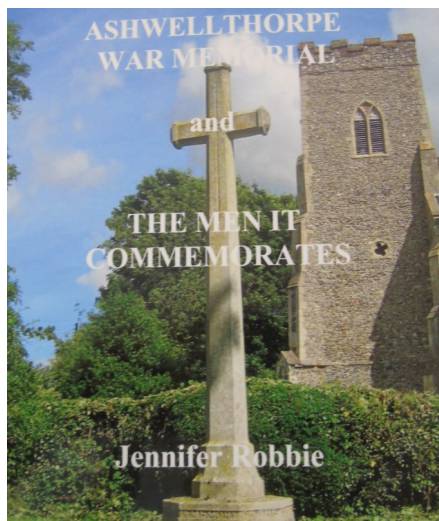
A NEW book by Jennifer Robbie looks at the Ashwellthorpe War Memorial and the men it commemorates.

Jennifer is no stranger to Kirby Hall and the Norfolk Family History Society, having been a volunteer on the help desk back in the 1990s and 2000s.

The Ashwellthorpe book runs to 73 pages with a chapter on the village as it was in 1914 on the eve of the First World War along with photographs. It then has a chapter on each of the men commemorated on the war memorial and chapters on the memorial itself and village remembrance events.

Family names featured on the memorial are: BATEMAN, COPEMAN, GEORGE, GOOSE, GRIMMER, HUNT, SQUIRES AND TUBBY from the First World War and BROWNE AND GOODRUM from the Second World War.

The book costs £9 plus postage and package. It is available from Ketts Books in Wymondham or direct from



Jennifer Robbie who can be contacted via e-mail at the address at the bottom of this page. There is also a copy donated by the author on the shelves of Kirby Hall for research purposes.

The book is both well researched and written and of particular interest is the opening chapter on the village as it was in 1914 which sets a scene that many of those who went to war would never return to.

Jennifer's introduction beautifully sums the book up:

"It is now one hundred years since the Great War started in 1914 - three generations ago. The men commemorated on Ashwellthorpe's War Memorial were the sons, husbands, fathers, brothers, cousins, grandchildren or friends of everyone who then lived in the village. Now, with the passage of so much time there are few here who have such a direct relationship to the names inscribed on the Memorial."

In 1914 there were only 350 people living in Ashwellthorpe.

"The Ashwellthorpe War Memorial and the Men It Commemorates" is published by JMR Publications of Ashwellthorpe - ISBN- 10:0954089405.

Jennifer Robbie can be contacted at jennro.01@googlemail.com.

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Our second book is “Tilney All Saints Remembers” by June Mitchell MBE which is written in conjunction with the Tilney All Saints Local History Group

ISBN 978-0-9560028-9-1. 58 pages with illustrations. £5

Review by Ellen Carr

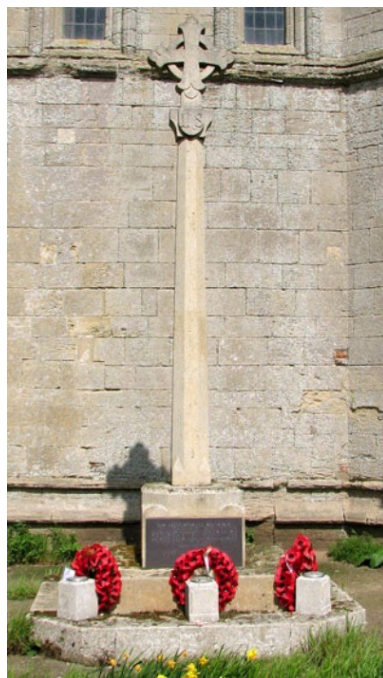
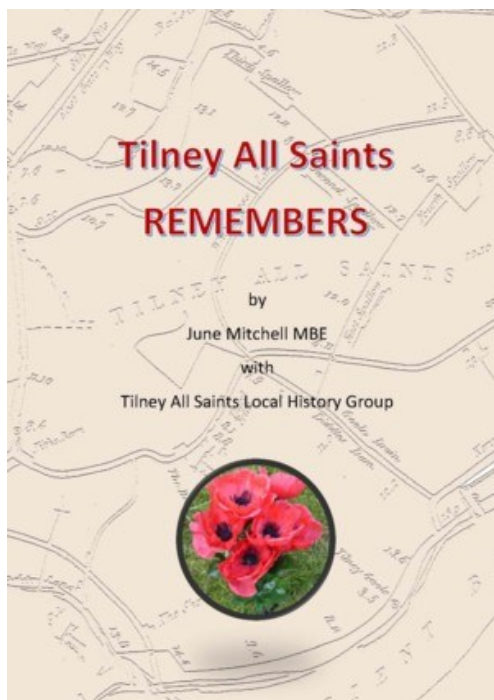
THIS spiral-bound book tells the stories of 13 men listed on the Tilney All Saints War Memorial and six who lived and returned to the village.

The men who died were aged between 18 and 25. It has several photos of the village as well as personal photographs of the soldiers and their families, along with cemetery pictures.

It is an interesting read written in a good narrative style and the book also provides links to other sources of information. It is a great example of what can be achieved by the diligent research of local people to remember ordinary men from a small village who fought in the First World War.

Names featured include BART, BROWNE, CONSTABLE, FAILES, KELTON, NEWTON, REEVE, ROBINSON, RUSH, TURNER, WICKS, ENGLISH, FLATMAN, STALLARD, RUSSELL, ROSE, PETHENGAL and GOTSELL.

The cover of the book is featured in our top photograph and opposite is the Tilney All Saints War Memorial.



David Soman - Norwich Shoe Pioneer and Remarkable Man

Alan Churchyard tells the story of his family and Royal connections.

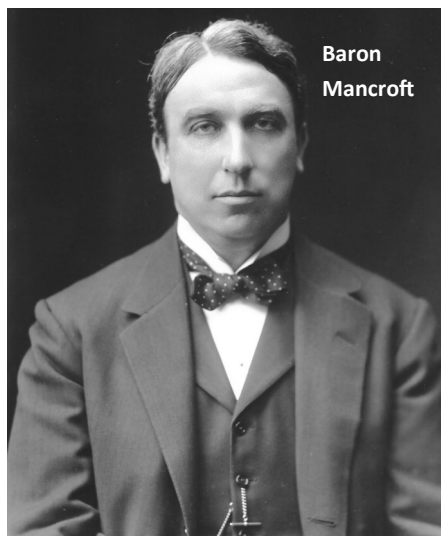
MY great great grandfather was David SOMAN who was born at Epinal, France, in 1793. His parents moved when David was in his infancy to Luneville, Alsace, a small French town close to the German border. Tragically, his parents died of a malignant fever when David was only ten years of age and, after their death, David commenced a tour through several European countries.

David arrived in London in 1813, aged 20. He married his cousin Rosetta, daughter of Daniel SOLOMON, a master weaver carrying on a lucrative business in the East End. The couple moved to Norwich in 1815 where he started in business originally as a cap maker in the premises fronting Bedford Street and Bridewell Alley – later to be sold to the HOVELL family. David then formed a boot and shoe company, a trade almost unknown in Norwich at that time. His business increased to such an extent that others found it worth their while to follow and shoes became the staple trade of Norwich.

David and Rosetta had six sons and three daughters. His son Philip was a publisher and founder of the newspaper 'The Norwich Argus'.

David and Rosetta's daughter, Rachel (1827 – 1894), my great great aunt, married a Prussian Jew, Philip HALDENSTEIN in Norwich in 1846. He had been a cap maker in Lissa, Prussia, and became a naturalised British subject. David Soman welcomed his son-in-law into his shoemaking company.

David retired from the business in 1867 and Philip took over, re-naming the company 'Philip Haldenstein & Sons'. It became a great shoemaking factory with branches in Norwich, London, Leicester, Kettering and Wymondham. By

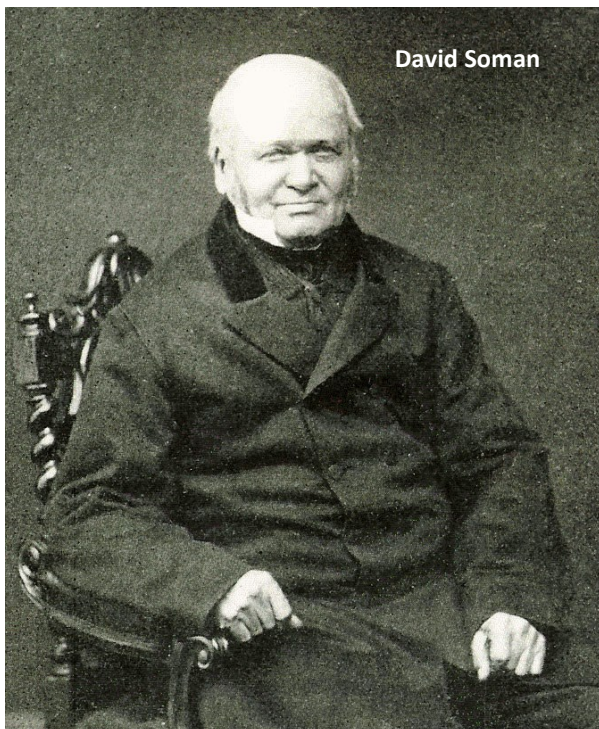


Baron
Mancroft

1904, the firm employed around 2000 people producing boots and shoes of all kinds from ladies' and girls' lightest evening dress shoes to men's heavy boots. By then, the company occupied extensive premises in Norwich comprising seven blocks of buildings which ran between Queen Street, Princes Street, Redwell Street and Tombland.

The firm had the honour of making shoes for Mary, Princess Royal, daughter of King George V and Queen Mary, when she married Henry LASCELLES, 6th Earl of Harewood, in 1922.

The firm was sold to Bally of Switzerland in 1933.

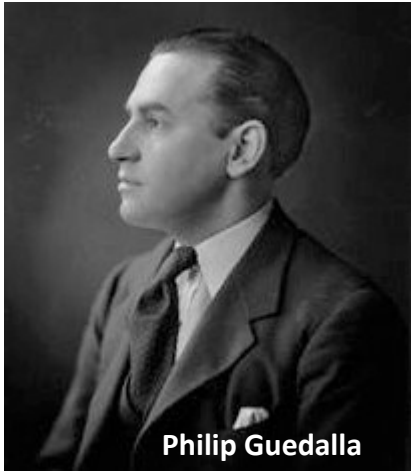


David Soman

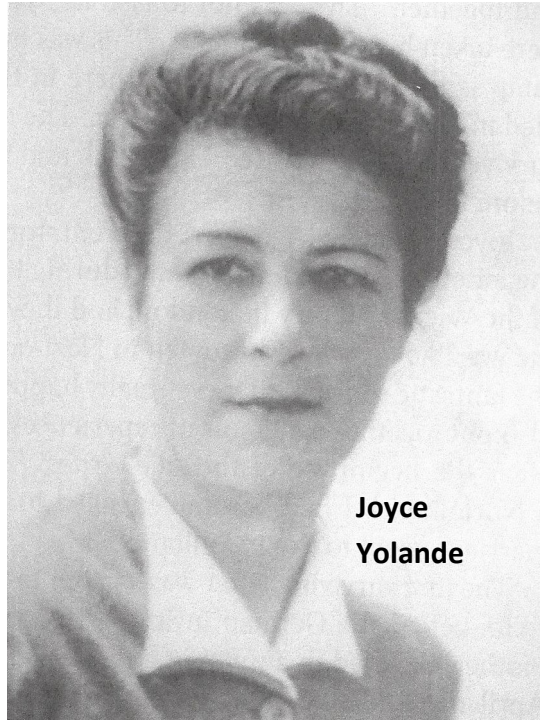
David Soman's great grandson was the politician, Sir Arthur Michael SAMUEL, who became the 1st Baron MANCROFT – Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of Trade (1924-27), Financial Secretary to HM Treasury (1927-29) and Lord Mayor of Norwich (1912-13) – its first Jewish Mayor. He was a generous benefactor of Norwich and he presented George Borrow's house to the city for use as a museum. He ensured that the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital was freed from debt (paying off half of it himself) and paid for 30 families made destitute by the 1912 floods to emigrate to Canada. He was awarded the Freedom of the City in 1928. He was a polymath who wrote essays on a wide variety of topics. Art was one of his life-long passions and he became an art critic. Baron Mancroft's granddaughter, The Honorable Victoria Mancroft, married Prince Frederick of Prussia, whose father was Kaiser Wilhelm. If the latter had not abdicated, Victoria would have been the wife of the German Emperor!

Another of the Soman's great grandsons was Philip GUEDALLA who was born in 1889 into a secular Jewish family of Spanish origin. Having been called to the Bar by the Inner Temple, Guedalla practised as a barrister from 1913 to 1923. During the First World War, he served as legal adviser to the War Office. Philip Guedalla was a renowned historian, travel writer and biographer.

Sir Philip HALDIN was another great grandson. He changed his name from



Philip Guedalla



**Joyce
Yolande**

HALDENSTEIN during the Nazi persecutions of the Jews in World War Two. Sir Philip founded The Court Line in 1905 and was President of the Chamber of Shipping of the United Kingdom from 1940-41. He became a shipping magnate and a great collector of art and

antiques. He died in 1953 and his art collection was sold by auction in 2015. Sir Philip was described as a man of great charm and a loyal friend.

Constance Haldenstein was a great granddaughter of David Soman, who was born and raised in Norwich. She married Saloman ELIAS, a doctor from Rotterdam in the Netherlands where they lived with their children. This Jewish family was persecuted by the Nazis in the Holocaust. Constance died, either on her way to or at Sobibor Concentration Camp. Her husband was gassed at Sobibor in May, 1943, and their son Alfred died in Auschwitz the following year on 28th January, 1944. Constance's sister Joyce Yolande was also living in occupied Holland but managed to have a dramatic escape and wrote letters of her experiences. (See the book 'Ordinary Women – Extraordinary Lives' by Frank Meer-es).

A great great grandson of David Soman was Sir Anthony CARO. After serving in the Royal Navy, he studied sculpture at the Regent Street Polytechnic before pursuing further studies at the Royal Academy. Caro found international success in the late 1950s and his works are shown in museums and galleries worldwide. He was made a CBE (Commander of the British Empire) in 1969 and received a Knighthood in 1987. He died on 23rd October, 2013, aged 89.

Closer to home, David Soman's son Lewis (1826–1910) lived in Norwich and

was a shoe cutter and clicker – possibly in the family business. He married Charlotte LEGGETT at Blofield in September, 1853, and they had three sons and three daughters – all in the shoe trade except Alice, my grandmother (1869–1912). She married my grandfather Charles CHURCHYARD on 8th May, 1890. She was a milliner working from home. She gave birth to 10 children, the only survivors being four sons and a daughter, Margery. My father, Lewis Churchyard was her third son (1905–1974). The stress of life brought Alice



to seek solace in drink. She became an alcoholic and died of cirrhosis of the liver, dropsy and exhaustion on Christmas Day, 1912, aged only 43. My father was seven years old when his mother passed away.

The following is an extract from the obituary of David Soman, published on 28th December, 1875.

“Last Friday, at the age of four score, Mr D. Soman of Norwich was called to his rest. For many years, until last Festivals, he officiated voluntarily as assistant chazan, and died respected by Jews as well as Christians. Mr Soman was a man of genial temperament, and delighted in society of well read men, taking great interest in continental affairs. His house was open to poor refugees from Poland, Hungary, etc., many of whom owe their position to his hand. The deceased retired from business about eight years ago. On Sunday he was buried in the Jewish portion of the cemetery.”

I gave a copy of my full family tree to the Norfolk Family History Society and this can be inspected at the Headquarters, Kirby Hall, 70 St. Giles Street, Norwich. In addition to further links with the Soman and Haldenstein families it contains details of many other families including:

CARO, CHURCHYARD, COHEN, EBBAGE, MIDDLETON, PYE and WARREN

Alan Churchyard MN 12523

News From Kirby Hall

From A Cellar To The 21st Century

The 22nd Annual General Meeting of the society took place at Kirby Hall on 20th October with over 30 members, volunteers and trustees in attendance.

Acting chairman Ellen Carr reported on the 50th anniversary year of the society in the absence through illness of chairman Jean Stangroom. She told those present that the society "has come a long way since the days in 1968 when it met in the cellar of the founder Patrick Palgrave-Moore." Patrick was present at the agm.

The society currently has over 3,800 members, a slight drop on previous years but still a very healthy number compared to many other societies which have been struggling with membership.

Ellen thanked all the trustees and volunteers for their efforts during the year and appealed for more people to help: "We would love to open Kirby Hall seven days a week but we are limited by the number of volunteers we have," she said.

"We want to grow the society by organising events and talks and by providing information for our members that is not available elsewhere," she said.

"With an active social media set-up and over four million pieces of data on our web site, we are strongly placed to continue our development in the 21st century," Ellen added.

The following trustees were re-appointed unanimously - Jean Stangroom (chairman and membership secretary), Carol Reeve (volunteer co-ordinator), Peter Steward (Ancestor Editor), Ellen Carr (Librarian), Richard Ashberry (Minutes' Secretary), Roger Morgan (Publicity Officer) and Phil Whiscombe (Company Secretary).

Open Day Success

KIRBY Hall was open for four days as part of the Norfolk Heritage Open Day Scheme (HODS) in September.

During that time the centre welcomed 131 visitors.

"At times it was a bit manic but some lovely comments were left by the visitors and we will hopefully get quite a few new members," said trustee Ellen Carr who is in charge of the library.

Many praised the society as being "friendly," "welcoming," "useful," "informative" and "excellent."

Kirby Hall will again be open as part of the heritage events in 2019. Dates to follow.

News From Kirby Hall

Membership at £10 is a Steal

WHAT can £10 buy you these days? Very little it seems. But it can give you a year's membership of the Norfolk Family History Society. If you are reading this article it is likely you will already be a member, but we are continually looking at ways of increasing membership to make our facilities and archives available to as many people as possible.

In the coming months and years it is likely that we will be using social media more and we already have a very successful Facebook page with almost 2,000 members and some stunning results in helping to break down walls and research barriers. Facebook is free and available to non members, although we hope that those using this facility will consider joining the society.

We recently put a piece on Facebook giving some of the advantages of becoming a member of the society. The message was as follows: "If you have enjoyed our Facebook pages why not consider joining the Norfolk Family History Society. Membership costs from £10 for UK residents (only slightly more for overseas). For that you get four magazines a year delivered to your door, access to millions of records on our web site and much more. We are very much a forward looking family history society - so why not become part of it? We are also looking for volunteers who can help with transcriptions, our web site and much more."

We were almost overwhelmed by the messages of support from those who have already found that spending £10 on membership is a very worthwhile investment. Some of the comments were:

"It really is worth £10! For us at Diss it means we get reductions on monthly meetings, outings and courses and of course those four magazines have such interesting and informative articles in them."

"I don't live in Norfolk so can't get to meetings unfortunately. One big bonus for me was breaking through a brick wall when an American researcher contacted me about a message I posted on the help board. "

"It's the best £10 I have spent for a year's research, online information has been brilliant and staff in Kirby Hall are so helpful and it is full of great information. I would recommend it to anyone researching Norfolk ancestry."

"Worth every penny of the ridiculously inexpensive annual fee. A must for anyone researching Norfolk ancestors."

"I too have found membership brilliant. I originally joined because I discovered

online that they had a pedigree for a Harbord family of Scottow, Hull and Liverpool and wondered if it was my family - it was, and for that alone it was invaluable. I was also able to help a very distant relative from the UK locate her much closer cousins here in New Zealand using that pedigree. The magazines are fascinating and informative. I cannot recommend membership highly enough."

"It's brilliant, so worth the money on joining. Unfortunately I am overseas so cannot get to Norfolk I will one day though. I have just received the latest magazine with the special edition, a really good read you learn so much about the areas that our ancestors lived in. Thank you to everyone who is involved with the society and all the hard work put in."

"A big thank you from all the trustees and volunteers to everyone who is involved in the running of the society and also to all its members, guests and anyone researching their Norfolk ancestors."

Full details of our membership rates are at the front of this edition of the Norfolk Ancestor.

Full Colour Experience

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A Step Into The Past

Norfolk Family History Society transcriber Melvyn Saunders found a visit to Waxham Parish Church a fascinating experience as he explains here.

SOME months ago I volunteered as a transcriber of parish records and have recently completed transcribing the marriage records (1848-1988) from Waxham Parish Church.

All my ancestors came from other parts of Norfolk, so this quiet corner of the county was unknown to me. So I was especially keen to visit Waxham on a recent holiday in Norfolk.

Having spent a fair amount of time poring over 56-years worth of handwritten records by the Rev Henry READY, I was delighted to be greeted at the church by the very same man – or rather by his memorial. He is buried in a prominent position almost immediately outside the church door with a suitably impressive grave stone. It is in excellent condition and is engraved "In loving remembrance of the Revd Henry Ready who died July 17th 1897, for 56 years rector of Waxham-cum-Palling". The memorial is pictured opposite.

Although the church is fairly simple inside, it is well worth a visit. It has a 14th century font and a 19th century organ – which to my inexperienced eye looks quite impressive for a small country church. Built into one wall is the late



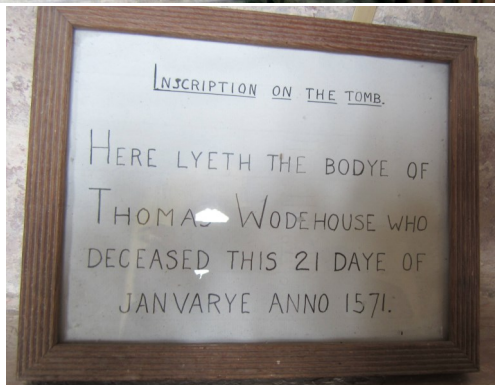


16th century tomb of Thomas WODEHOUSE who died on 21st January, 1571. Thomas built Waxham Great Barn - the largest barn in Norfolk - as well as Waxham Hall. Waxham Great Barn was acquired, repaired and fully restored by Norfolk County Council in the 1990s.

Entrance is free and also houses a cafeteria. Waxham Hall was originally built as a manorial hall and home to the Wodehouse family. It has apparently been much altered over the years and is now a farmhouse.

From the church it is a short walk over the dunes to the beach.

In nearby Horsey, the Horsey Wind Pump is being restored by the National Trust – new sails were installed in February, 2018. Currently access is only to the ground floor and to the tea room as restoration work continues. Between Waxham and Horsey you will pass the 1940s themed Poppylands Tea Room. The owner has an enormous collection of memorabilia and artefacts related to



the 1940s, World War Two and “Dads Army” which he started collecting in his mid-teens. Whilst much of this is on display at the tea room, his total collection is considerably larger and has to be stored elsewhere!

Although a quiet corner of Norfolk, there is more than enough here to make a great day out for anyone living in or visiting the county.

If I've encouraged you to visit Waxham Church, the Norwich Diocese website tells us the church is open daily from 10 am to 4 pm during summer and at weekends during winter. The web site address is:

www.dioceseofnorwich.org/church/waxham-st-john.

Melvyn Saunders MN 8160



An 18th Century Life in Letters

Margaret Murgatroyd and Ruth Morice relate the tale of an 18th century Presbyterian Minister

E DWARD CRANE was born in Preston, Lancashire, in 1721. His father, Roger Crane, was an ironmonger as was his grandfather Thomas Crane and his younger brothers, Thomas and Samuel. Roger Crane was a Presbyterian and the family hosted itinerant preachers.

Edward was educated for the ministry at the Academy of Caleb Rotherham DD. After his studies he preached at Ormskirk. In the summer of 1744, aged 23, he preached in Norwich in the absence of Rev John TAYLOR. In March 1745, he was appointed joint assistant with Rev John Taylor to the Presbyterian Church in Norwich for which the ageing Rev Peter FINCH was the nominal chief pastor. Edward was now preaching in the Octagon Meeting House.

As soon as he arrived in Norwich, Edward started writing letters to his father with enquiries about family and friends and news of his travels and home life and comments on chapel matters, politics and elections. These letters are preserved in the Norfolk Archives and, together with other family letters, were summarised in the Preston Guardian 1877 with the title of "Memorials of an Old Preston Family".

Writing from Yarmouth in August 1744, Edward's first preserved letter to his father starts "Hon'd Father" and finishes "Service to all friends, love to brothers and sisters etc. & duty to mother and yourself, from your dutiful Son E. Crane" "I came hither yesterday and am (excepting a slight head cold) pretty well." "The gentleman



of Norwich have shewn me extraordinary civilities." "I cannot, as yet tell when I shall be at home, as it depends on Mr Taylor's returning, but I am afraid it will be near Michaelmas."

In June 1745, having been appointed assistant, Edward tells his father about his living arrangements. Initially it was arranged for him to live a quarter of the year in one house and then a quarter at another etc. He expressed himself as "unsatisfied" with this. Eventually he lived at Mr. Thos MOTTRAM's in St. George's of Colegate, where he paid £16 per annum for his lodgings and "ordinaries", £2 extra would cover fire, candles, wine etc. He describes an ordination at the Old Meeting House at which a Dr DODDRIDGE preached but he was "very much disappointed in him."

In 1746, after a visit to his family in Lancashire, he wrote to report his safe return to Norwich and complained that he had only been able to sell the horse he bought for the return journey for £2.15s.

Norwich May 13, 1747: "Some of the gentlemen in the Congregation express'd a great desire to see me settled, which they thought could not be done any way more effectually as by matrimony." They agreed to raise his income to £80 per annum. "So that I am now inclin'd to venture on Matrimony. You know the object of my affections, Miss Molly PARK of Ormskirk; and I shall be extremely glad of your approbation and consent to the scheme."

"Marriage August 4 1747 Edward Crane of Norwich, in the county of Norfolk, Mary Park, of Ormskirk, in the county of Lancr., by Lyc. (license)."

Three days later he writes telling his father that he was married the previous Tuesday "to our great satisfaction, as our hearts had long been united." He then writes that they intend to go to Preston on Saturday the 15th, and that his father is not to trouble to send for Polly but that "he will procure a double horse and bring her myself." (This "double horse" refers to a horse to carry two people, the gentleman on the saddle in front and the lady on pillion behind).

In March 1748, Edward describes his house. It is 10 yards from the street with a large parlour with two windows to the east giving a view of the country over the roofs of the houses. It has a garden and is near the centre of the city. He tells his father that his wife is due to "ly in in the middle of May and is busy preparing for it."

Edward and Mary's daughter was baptised May 25th, 1748 at the Octagon Chapel. The record states "Mary daughter of Edwd and Mary his wife of the parish of St George of Tombland .Baptized by me Edwd Crane."

The Dutch Presbyterian Church in Norwich did not have a pastor in 1748 and Edward, as the junior of three ministers at the Octagon Meeting House, was invited to preach. He was then appointed minister of the Dutch Congregation. This church was attached to the Presbyterian Synod in Holland, so Edward

sailed to Holland in August, 1748. His next letter to his father was written when he arrived in Rotterdam on August 16th. He hoped that his father had by now heard from his wife that he had set out for Holland. He then describes his voyage to Holland, sailing from Yarmouth on Thursday at three in the afternoon on a Coal-ship with seven Norwich gentlemen. The wind was not “favourable” but they had a “tolerable passage”. They landed in Holland at seven in the evening of Saturday. They intended to visit Amsterdam and other cities of Holland.

His letter of December 12th, 1748 was written on his return from Holland. In it he said that he was learning Dutch but his eyes had been sore and he could not work in the evenings by candlelight. (The Dutch would almost certainly understand and speak English but would prefer to hear their sermons in Dutch.) He was now much better and could study for two hours each evening. He had lessons in Dutch two or three times a week and spent Wednesday evenings speaking only Dutch with eight or ten gentlemen. He then describes at length to his father the details of his refusal to subscribe to the Heilidelberg Catechism which was imposed as a test of orthodoxy and the condition of admission into the Dutch Presbyterian Classes in Amsterdam. The long letter of January 23rd, 1749, continued his account of his journeys through Holland. He also says again that he “could not get admitted to the Class at Amsterdam without complying with what was contrary to my conscience” but that he had enrolled at the University of Leyden to study divinity.

In April he preached twice to the Dutch Church “to the satisfaction, and I hope, to the edification of the congregation”. He writes that he is obliged to prepare “four sermons every fortnight and this takes up a great deal of time.” “My Wife sends her duty to you, and Mother, etc, and is very well; she suckles little Polly still, who, thank God is a very fine child”.

In June, little Polly has been weaned, she has no teeth and she can say “dad dad”. “Everybody is fond of her and she will play with anyone.” “Thus much for the Daughter. The Mother is sometimes sick and sometimes well, which we expect will be the case till near Christmas.” (Presumably his wife is pregnant again and due in December).

This letter is the last of the letters from Edward Crane to his father Roger in Preston to be preserved.

Rev Edward Crane, Minister of the Dutch Presbyterian Church died of a “malignant fever” in August, 1749, aged 28. He was buried in the Dutch Church which at the time was meeting in what is now known as Blackfriars Hall. His “elegantly carved” black marble tombstone, now beneath the wooden floor, describes him as a serious and elegant preacher with talent, acumen, judgement, piety and moral probity who was loved by all. As his conscience would not let him subscribe to some of the articles of the Dutch Presbyterian Church he was not eligible from some of their privileges. One of these meant that his widow Mary was not eligible to have the £30 per annum annuity after his death.

His second child christened Edward was baptised on November 28th, 1749, after the death of his father. It was performed by Rev John Taylor in the Octagon Chapel.

Mary continued to write regularly to her father in law Roger Crane in Preston. She wrote to him regarding the possibility of starting a business selling “scissors, knives, buckles, buttons etc.” and she told him news of the children Mary (Polly) and Edward (Ted or Teddy). There are also letters from Mary to her brother in law Thomas and later from her children to their uncle Thomas.

Mary Crane died aged 62 having been a widow for more than 30 years. She never remarried. She was buried with her husband in the Dutch Church.

Edward became an upholsterer, auctioneer, Freemason, freeman of Norwich, Councillor and Coroner in Norwich.

Sources

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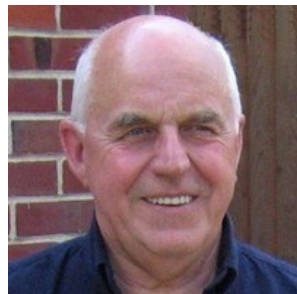
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Norfolk Archaeology Vol XXII 1926. Norfolk and Norwich Archaeological Society

Margaret Murgatroyd MN 10400 and Ruth Morice

Mike Steps Down

Webmaster and the man who has turned the Norfolk Online Record Search (NORS) into one of the best genealogical resources in the country, Mike Dack (pictured opposite), has retired as a trustee of the Norfolk Family History Society.



Mike's final meeting was the society's AGM in October at which tribute was paid by the stand-in chairman Ellen Carr: "Mike has made an outstanding contribution to the society and thanks to him we have an outstanding web site and set of records on NORS," Ellen said.

Wacton Parish Registers Update

IN the September, 2017, Norfolk Ancestor, Mary Ollett under the heading of 'Poor Mary Follow Up' said that she had found some mistakes in the Wacton registers.

As I am researching about Wacton in general and the families that lived there, I was interested in Mary's claim. I have looked into one situation relating to Edmund and Benjamin ALDERTON and I detail below the information I have been able to find.

In July 1848, Sarah Osborn (aged 18), spinster, gave birth to Emma at Ketteringham.

The census records in 1851 show that Benjamin was living at East Carleton and Sarah living at Mulbarton, adjoining parishes some five miles from Wacton. Edmund was living in Hapton nearer to Wacton.

By about October 1851, Sarah had become pregnant again on the basis of the birth registration for William in the quarter ending June, 1852.

I have checked the microfiche copies of the Banns Register and have found the entry for Edmund Alderton and Sarah OSBORNE. The banns were read on 11th, 18th, 25th January, 1852.

The lines in the printed banns register for the date of readings are bracketed together and one signature, of Charles GRAIN, the Rector, appears there. So it looks like he wrote it up later or at least signed it after the third reading. Charles Grain was at that time 35 years old having been in the parish for five years since his installation at Wacton in 1846.

Again the microfilm copy of the record of the marriage is on the pre-printed form clearly showing Edmund Alderton marrying Sarah Osborne on 15th February 1852. Edmund signs by 'his mark' but Sarah signs for herself and the witnesses are Eliza Osborne who signs and James Osborne 'his mark'.

The writing and rector's signature is the same or very similar in both the banns and marriage documents. It is conceivable that the rector got confused with all of the Aldertons in Wacton but I doubt that at the wedding he could have referred in the service to Benjamin, then wrote Edmund in the register.

In the quarter ending June, 1852, the birth of William Alderton is registered in Depwade District but it was not until the 26th September that William Alderton, son of Benjamin and Sarah, was baptised at Wacton. The priest was recorded as C H BAGLEY, Officiating Minister, presumably the local rector was unable to take the service that day.

The births of two further children, James and Harriet, were registered in 1854

and 1857 respectively. Neither of these children were baptised in Wacton, nor can I find baptism records on any online site, although they appear in the 1861 census with Benjamin and Sarah.

In the December quarter of 1857, Edmund marries Elizabeth A TILL in Tendring district, Suffolk. By the 1861 census, Benjamin and Sarah with Emma, William, James and Harriet, had moved to Cramlington, Yorkshire (children born in Wacton) and the other of Benjamin's siblings had ended up around Newcastle, all that is except Edmund who moved south to Ipswich.

Given these facts I think it is likely that Benjamin brought his fiancée back to Wacton and, over Christmas, they had a tiff, whereupon Edmund sided with Sarah and she said she would rather marry Edmund. Benjamin's response was along the lines of 'OK with me, do it then', so Edmund and Sarah asked for the banns to be read and they got married whether due to a bluff that went wrong or stubbornness one will never know.

A short while later either Sarah came to her senses and returned to Benjamin or Edmund discovered she already had a child and was pregnant again. Edmund was left feeling an idiot and moved away to the south.

Although Benjamin and Sarah remained in Wacton, it would appear they were avoiding Rev. Grain, who knew they were not the couple he married in 1852, when William was baptised and again by not baptising their next two children. Then they went north more or less with the other brothers. It could show that the family sympathies were with Benjamin.

Once out of Norfolk both brothers could make any claim on their marital status they liked. One had no accompanying wife and said he was 'single', the other lived with Sarah Alderton and no one would question if it was his or his brother's wife. Even within the local population in Wacton the feeling could have been that once a marriage had broken down the parties were free to marry again, bigamy was keeping two wives.

Robert Maidstone MN 11556

Christmas and New Year Closures

PLEASE note that Kirby Hall will be closed over Christmas and the New Year from Friday December 14th until January 8th inclusive. There will be no Sunday opening in December and January

The Norfolk 'Bounty' men

Roger Morgan continues his story of the Norfolk men involved in the infamous Mutiny on the Bounty.

AFTER collecting the plants it was the Bounty's task to transport the seedlings to the British colonies in the West Indies to provide cheap food for the slaves.

It was specially modified with the great cabin or captain's quarters being converted into a greenhouse for over a thousand potted plants. It had glazed windows and skylights with a lead-lined deck and freshwater drainage system.

The plan was for the Bounty to sail around Cape Horn and on to Tahiti. However, there were delays in issuing orders from the Admiralty and it did not sail until November 28th, 1787. Bad weather caused further delays and it did not clear Spithead until December 23rd.

On board was a crew of 44 Royal Naval seamen and two civilian botanists. Most of the crew were chosen by Bligh but this did not include John Fryer. Also on board was a second Norfolk man, Robert TINKLER aged 12, the brother-in-law of John Fryer. Fryer took his wife's brother with him to allow him to gain experience of navy life, as he was entitled to do. Robert is listed as an 'honorary midshipman' in the crew list.

The journey south was not an easy one and Bligh introduced strict discipline regarding hygiene and diet. The crowded conditions on board made life difficult for the crew but Bligh did his best to keep them content and tried to avoid corporal punishment. He established a good relationship with the master's mate Fletcher CHRISTIAN and, in March, promoted him to Acting Lieutenant, effectively making him second in command.

John Fryer showed no obvious signs of resentment over his junior's promotion but his relationship with Bligh quickly got worse. He insisted that crew member Matthew QUINTAL be flogged for 'insolence and mutinous behaviour' destroying Bligh's hope of avoiding the use of physical punishment.

When they reached Cape Horn they were beaten back by severe gales and, de-



spite repeated attempts, they were forced to head back eastwards to the Cape of Good Hope. After spending a month repairing and taking on fresh provisions in False Bay they eventually reached the Indian Ocean in July, 1788.

Fryer and Bligh continued to argue which culminated in Fryer refusing to sign the ship's accounts until Bligh gave him a certificate of complete competence throughout the voyage. Bligh refused and assembled the crew to read the Articles of War at which point Fryer backed down and signed.

There were further problems caused by the incompetent and drunken ship's surgeon Thomas HUGGAN. They eventually reached Tahiti on the 26th October, 1788, after a journey of 27,000 nautical miles.

The crew of the Bounty spent five months on Tahiti propagating breadfruit plants and living a relatively idyllic life. They spent time ashore mixing with the beautiful native women. Bligh gradually began to lose control of them and things began to get stolen from the ship for which Fryer got much of the blame. More floggings took place and some men deserted. When more than 1000 plants were potted and taken on-board the Bounty, it was time to set sail again.

It left Tahiti on the 5th April but the crew found the tough life at sea difficult to



settle down to again. They became increasingly disorderly and disobedient. Over the next three weeks Bligh became more and more enraged which started to lead to paranoia.

He directed much of his anger at Fletcher Christian and John Fryer. Christian became depressed particularly when Bligh accused him of theft. Matters came to a head in the early hours of 28th April when Christian had had enough and decided to lead a mutiny.



Bligh was dragged from his cabin onto the deck where he started shouting, demanding to be set free. Christian ordered that he should be set adrift in the ship's jolly boat, together with his clerk and two loyal midshipmen.

However, he overestimated the extent of the mutiny because over half of the crew wanted to leave with the captain including John Fryer who, despite his many disagreements with Bligh, remained loyal to him. Fryer also begged Christian to allow Robert Tinkler to go with him. Christian was forced to use the ship's launch instead.

Only 19 men could fit in the launch so some loyalists were forced to stay on board. Bligh and his party were given basic rations and cast adrift while the *Bounty* set sail and headed towards Pitcairn.

Remarkably, Bligh, who was a brilliant navigator having learnt about the area whilst travelling with James COOK, was able to guide the overladen boat the 3500 nautical miles to East Timor, taking 41 days. Six of the loyalists died shortly afterwards but Bligh and the rest, including Fryer and Tinkler, made it safely back to England by 1790.

In October 1790, Bligh faced a court martial where he vilified Fryer and, despite evidence given by Fryer in support of Christian, he was honourably acquitted. Bligh called Fryer an incompetent trouble maker but many historians believe that he was a highly competent loyal officer who refused to be Bligh's 'yes' man. A frigate was dispatched to capture the mutineers. It collected 14 of them in Tahiti but on the journey home it ran aground on the Great Barrier Reef, only 10 prisoners survived.

They made it to East Timor in an open boat before being returned to England. Fletcher Christian had sailed to Pitcairn with the other mutineers. He settled down with Isabella and had a son called Thursday October Christian. However, tensions gradually rose and the mutineers fought amongst themselves and with the natives. In September, 1793, five of them, including Christian, were killed and butchered. His last words were "Oh, dear!"

John Fryer never received promotion to captain but he had a long and distinguished career in the Royal Navy until 1812. John and Mary had another six children between 1791 and 1804, all of them daughters. Mary Fryer died in January 1807, John died in May 1817 aged 63 and is buried in St Nicholas Churchyard, Wells-next-the-Sea. William Bligh died the same year after attaining the



rank of Vice-Admiral of the Blue. John Fryer's original gravestone was taken into the main body of the church in 2000 where it can be found today. It was replaced by a plaque.

Robert Tinkler also had a long naval career serving with honour under a number of captains. He rose to the rank of First Lieutenant and fought under Nelson at the Battle of Copenhagen in 1801 on board HMS Isis. He was badly injured and was transferred to HMS London where John Fryer was in the position of Master. After the battle he was promoted to the rank of Commander. He was given command of HMS Ranger 1804 but his many injuries led to his retirement in 1806.

When he left the navy he joined His Majesty's Customs and Excise Service. However, it appears that at some time he fell upon hard times. There is a record of him being imprisoned in Norwich Castle as a debtor. He was released from gaol in February, 1815, but it is not known how long he had been imprisoned or how big his debts were.

His death in August, 1820, in Norwich at the age of 46 was widely reported in the national papers who praised his bravery and claimed that he had received 21 wounds in various naval battles. Robert was also buried in St Nicholas Churchyard.

Roger Morgan MN17267

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 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.

Norman Conquest

Chris Smith looks at the life of Norwich philanthropist John Norman who left his mark on education in the city.

JOHN Norman, a notable citizen of Norwich in the early years of the 18th century, is remembered now mainly for the educational trust that still bears his name.

He was born in 1657 in Norwich, in the bustling parish of St Peter Parmentegate. A brewer like his father, he prospered and bought property. By the end of his life, he owned land and buildings in Norwich, not only in Parmentergate and the adjoining parish of St John Timberhill, but also in the nearby villages of Catton, Sprowston, Spixworth, Bramerton, Greta and Little Witchingham and, rather more surprisingly, in Kent.

His public service reflects his prosperity and his standing in Norwich. Still generally referred to as Alderman Norman, he became sheriff in 1705 and, after voting Whig in the 1712 Parliamentary elections, held the mayoralty two years later. He has his place among the formal civic portraits on the north wall of Blackfriars Hall and his name appears in the long list of former mayors in the foyer of Norwich City Hall.

It is uncertain when Norman married Ann MACE, a widow who was the daughter of a Norwich worsted weaver. She must have died some time before 1720 for, by that time, rather late in life, Norman was married for a second time, to Catherine, widow of William BRERETON, a brewer of Trowse.

John Norman died in 1724, but had set his affairs in order with a will dated 19th February, 1720. Drafted in repetitive legal language, this long document is perhaps more revealing than the testator even realised. After commending his soul



to God and declaring that he was of sound mind, Norman gave directions for his funeral and for a gravestone and a monument in St Margaret's, Catton, at a cost of no more than £20. He also directed that sermons should be preached alternately in St Margaret's and St Peter Parmentergate every year on the anniversary of his death or, if weekday congregations were small, on the Sunday following.

Norman next made quite small bequests to a number of his close relations, for he had no children of his own, and to his "dear and loving widow" Catherine. He made further financial provision for her in a codicil of 26th June, 1723.

The will next turns to Norman's plans for a charitable trust for the education of members of his more extended family. His proposals convey the impression of a man of business who had thought long and hard about what he wanted. On the other hand, there is something of a pipe-dream in the amount of detail about every particular and the blithe assumption that everything would work out over a long period just as he expected.

Under the first phase of Norman's plans, the trustees of his estate were to provide for the education and maintenance of boys who were related to him or his first wife. When they were 15 the costs of their apprenticeships were to be met. When they had served their seven years, £10 more would help them set up in trade. Further grants were available for gifted boys to continue studying after the age of 15 and even proceed to Cambridge.

Sixty years after Norman's death the number of trustees was to be increased so that they could oversee a great expansion of his scheme. He dreamt of founding a school in Catton for no fewer than 120 pupils, his own and Ann Mace's descendants and, if there was room for them, boys from nearby. The schoolmaster, with an assistant when numbers warranted his appointment, was to instil to his charge the doctrines of the Church of England and teach the three Rs. Instruction in Greek and Latin was to be given to those who could benefit from it. Not content with describing the school building he had in mind and how the boys were to be clothed, Norman detailed what food should be served and even exactly what price should be paid for the various ingredients.

Generous and grandiose, Norman's scheme never came to fruition. Though the trustees safeguarded Norman's legacy, they just handed out small educational grants to qualified applicants. In 1839, early in Victoria's time when reform was in the air, some 150 of the descendants of Norman and Ann Mace met and founded Alderman Norman's Claimants Union. Concerned to maintain their rights, they arranged for his will to be printed for general circulation. To ensure that only qualified applicants received benefits, they also undertook to establish a genealogical register that has been maintained to the present day.

In a similar spirit of reform, the trustees also opened Norman's School in Cowgate in 1839. Some 30 of the places were reserved for founder's kin. Despite

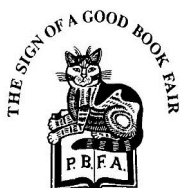
attempts to sequester its funds to promote girls' education, it continued as a Higher Grade elementary school until 1934, when the name was transferred to a new school in the Mile Cross area and later to a community centre.

In 1935, the Board of Education set up the Educational Foundation of Alderman John Norman. Its income, then about £1200, was to be applied to the "social and physical education and the advancement in life" of the founder's descendants, including girls as well as boys under more recent legislation. Maintaining good relations with the trustees, the Claimants Unity helps parents to apply for cash grants for their children while at school or university. With an annual service and social events as well as an AGM and a newsletter, the Claimants Unity promotes a sense of togetherness within what is now the large Norman family. While many members still live in Norwich or nearby, others are scattered across the world. All are proud of their pedigree as it is termed, a personal document showing their connection with Norman or his first wife over a dozen generations. Many of them also treasure the Bible that they received as children in accord with the spirit of the Alderman's will.

More information on the Norman Foundations is available on the web site <http://wp.normanfoundation.org.uk>.

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17422	Mr	T.	Money	UK
17423	Mr	P.	Marin-Guzman	AU
17424	Dr	J.	Goswell	AU
17425	Mr	M.	Edgar	UK
17426	Mrs.	T.	Knighton	UK

Members Interests

MN	Name	Area	County	Period	MN	Name	Area	County	Period
14434	ABEL	NC	NFK	ALL	10303	GREENGRASS	ALL	NFK	ALL
16351	ARMES	ALL	NFK	18C	6682	GUYMER/GYMER	ALL	NFK	ALL
9467	ASHLEY	NW	NFK	18C	17381	HART	ALL	NFK	ALL
6820	BATCHELDOR	ALL	NFK	15-19C	16433	HORNIGOLD	ALL	NFK	19C
17397	BENSLEY	ALL	NFK	ALL	16889	HORNIGOLD	CN	NFK	ALL
17397	BINNINGTON	ALL	NFK	ALL	16421	HOVELL	ALL	NFK	18-19C
17293	BLYTH	NE	NFK	16-19C	17310	HOWES	SW	NFK	16-19C
16879	BOYCE	ALLJ	NFK	18-19C	17310	HUMPHRY	SW	NFK	16-19C
17248	BROWN	SW	NFK	16-19C	17362	HUNT	SE	NFK	17-19C
16433	BRUNDISH	ALL	NFK	16-18C	16825	ISBELL	ALL	NFK	ALL
16879	BUCKLES	ALL	SFK	18-19C	17212	JECKELL	ALL	NFK	18-20C
6682	BULTITUDE	ALL	NFK	ALL	17310	KING	ALL	SFK	ALL
16421	BUTCHER	ALL	NFK	18-19C	17302	LACCOHEE	NC	NFK	16-18C
16879	CARTER	SW	NFK	18-19C	17318	LAWRENCE	NE	NFK	ALL
17352	CARVER	ALL	NFK	17-20C	17302	LECOHIE	NC	NFK	16-18C
9669	CATTERMOLE	ALL	NFK	ALL	16421	LING	ALL	NFK	18-19C
573	COBB	ALL	NFK	ALL	17319	MARSHALL	NC	NFK	19C
17392	COPLAND	ALL	NFK	ALL	17293	MENDALL	ALL	NFK	ALL
3681	DYBALL	NE	NFK	18-19C	16907	MILAM/MILOM	ALL	NFK	LL
17381	EASTGATE	CN	NFK	16-19C	16907	MILUM	ALL	NFK	ALL
17381	EASTGATE	NC	NFK	ALL	17005	MISTER	ALL	NFK	ALL
4148	EDMONDS	NW	NFK	18C	16458	MITCHELL(S)	ALL	NFK	18-19C
16879	ELLIS	ALL	NFK	16-19C	17226	MUSKETT	ALL	NFK	17-19C
17226	FOSTER	ALL	NFK	16-19C	16907	MYLAM	ALL	NFK	ALL
16879	FRANKLAND	ALL	NFK	ALL	3681	NAVE	NE	NFK	ALL
17226	FROST	ALL	SFK	18-19C	17212	NEWMAN	ALL	NFK	ALL
16879	GARNHAM	ALL	NFK	16-18C	6682	PAINE	ALL	NFK	ALL
17310	GLANFIELD	ALL	SFK	ALL	3681	PALLANT	SE	NFK	18-20C
17310	GOLDSMITH	ALL	NFK	16-18C	17328	PATRICK	ALL	NFK	ALL
16879	GOOSE	CN	NFK	17-20C	16995	PHILIPS	ALL	NFK	15-19C
16879	GOOSE	NC	NFK	17-19C	17416	PICHON	ALL	NFK	ALL

MN	Name	Area	County	Period	MN	Name	Area	County	Period
17226	PIERCE	ALL	NFK	ALL	17310	STEAD	ALL	SFK	ALL
17416	PISHORN	ALL	NFK	ALL	16879	STURLEY	NE	NFK	18-19C
17416	PYSHORN	ALL	NFK	ALL	10748	SUMMERS	ALL	NFK	ALL
14693	READER	ALL	NFK	ALL	17369	TEMPLE	ALL	NFK	ALL
16879	RIDGWELL	ALL	ESS	ALL	16879	TODD	SE	NFK	18-19C
16879	ROBINS	NE	NFK	17-18C	17397	TUBBY	ALL	NFK	ALL
17363	ROPER	ALL	NFK	ALL	17310	UPCRAFT	SW	NFK	16-18C
17392	RUSSELL	ALL	NFK	16-18C	17381	WALKER	CN	NFK	ALL
4107	SAMPSON	CN	NFK	15-19C	17328	WOOD	ALL	NFK	ALL
17392	STARLING	ALL	NFK	ALL	3681	WOODS	NE	MFK	17-19C
17310	STEAD	ALL	SFK	ALL	3681	WORMAN	SE	NFK	18-20C
17392	STEBBINGS	ALL	NFK	ALL	16458	WRIGHT	ALL	NFK	18-19C

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.

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

Rob's Round Up

with Robert Parker

Rob Parker gives us the latest rundown of genealogy and research tools that may be of help in searching your family history.

Aberdeenshire Electoral Registers (1832-1976) on Ancestry.

Berkshire Registers and Records on Findmypast.

BillionGraves Index has added over 600,000 records and images.

BMD Indexes: GRO has extended the pdf pilot to continue to assess longer term demand. There is no planned end date.

Buckinghamshire Registers and Records on Findmypast.

Canadian World War One service records online and complete: <http://ow.ly/DYhE30IF0e0>.

Cambridgeshire Electoral Registers, Burgess Rolls and Poll Books (1722-1966) and Cambridgeshire Juror Books (1828-1883) on Ancestry.

Cambridgeshire Registers and Records on Findmypast.

Chatsworth staff records online: <http://ow.ly/4y1N30IEZ9k>.

Court and Criminal Records, 160,000 records of prisoners at the bar and their victims from The National Archives on TheGenealogist.

Danish Census Records (1834 and 1840) on myheritage.

Directories (1921) for Nottingham, Glasgow, Leicestershire and Rutland, Derbyshire, Shropshire, and Kent on The Genealogist.

Denmark, Sweden and Finland has 135 million new records on FamilySearch: <http://ow.ly/79Qk30IEZjK>.

Durham Registers and Records on Findmypast.

Ireland British Army Officers (1914-1918) on Findmypast.

Ireland National School Registers on Findmypast.

Kent, Lydd Midwife's Birth Register (1757-1815) on Findmypast.

London (Greater) Burial Index on Findmypast.

Lloyd George Domesday Survey, 1910 for Barnet, Edgware, Finchley, Friern Barnet, Hendon and Totteridge on TheGenealogist.

Naples, Italy 85,000 new records on FamilySearch.org.

Newspaper collections from Connecticut, Maine, New Hampshire, Delaware, and Rhode Island on myheritage. Newspaper collections on British Newspaper Archive: Norwood News (1868-1962), Westmorland Advertiser and Kendal Chronicle (1812-1833), Hyde and Glossop Weekly News (1860-1874), North Cheshire Herald (1860-1874), Henley and South Oxford Standard (1885-1911), Henley Advertiser (1884-1906), Cumberland and Westmorland Herald (1892-1901) and Workington Star (1888-1910).

Newspapers: Witney Express, Oxfordshire and Midland Counties Herald (1869-1887), Evening Herald, Dublin (1897-1996), Irish Independent (1913, 1915), Sligo Champion (1983-1995), Liverpool Echo (1973-1980), Music Hall and Theatre Review (1910-1911) on Findmypast.

New York naturalisation records, 700,000 on FamilySearch.org.

Norfolk Bishops' Transcripts (1600-1935) on Ancestry.

MyHeritage (myheritage.com) increases security on user accounts.

Pennsylvania, Philadelphia Case Files Of Chinese Immigrants (1900-1923) on Findmypast.

Poll Books (1705-1830) online at TheGenealogist (116,000).

Railway Employee Injuries and Deaths (1911-1915) on Ancestry.

Scotland, Fife Death Index (1549-1877) on Findmypast.

Scotland, Jacobite Histories (1715-1745) on Findmypast.

Scotland Monumental Inscriptions Index on Findmypast.

South Lancashire Regiment, Prisoners Of War (1914-1918) on Findmypast.

Thames and Medway BMD on Findmypast.

Tithe Maps (in colour) for the North Riding and East Riding of Yorkshire on The Genealogist.

Wiltshire Social and Institutional Records (1123-1968) on Findmypast.

Wiltshire Quaker BMD on Findmypast.

Suffrage Petition 1866 on Findmypast.

Recommended twitter account to follow @HistFestUK. If you love history you will love HistFest, a new kind of history festival. Register for more information and you could also win free tickets.

Remember to check with your local library. They may have Ancestry, Findmypast and even the British Newspaper Archive available for you to access for free. You just need to join your local library.

I can be e-mailed at: rparker@myfamilygenealogy.co.uk

TRANSCRIBING SUCCESS

There has been an impressive response to the request for volunteers in the September Ancestor, writes trustee and transcript organiser Steve Tarttlin.

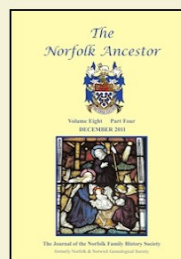
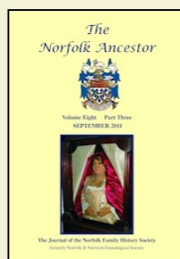
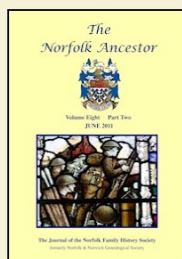
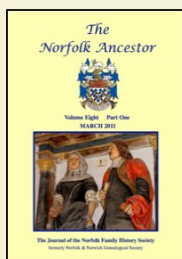
“Fifteen replies were received requesting further information and, by the time you read this, many of them will already be busy transcribing. The number of replies was such that it put a certain amount of pressure on those of us in the office to respond as quickly as we would have liked. If you were kept waiting to get started, then please accept my apologies.

“Thanks again to all of those who responded and I hope that you enjoy your transcribing,” Steve said.

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.

Scanned Ancestor Copies



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

Editor's Travels

IT has often been said that travel broadens the horizons. Whenever I go somewhere I always look for Norfolk connections and often you come across them in the most unexpected places.

In this edition of Norfolk Ancestor we travel to Southern Ireland and East Sussex.

We start in the historic county town of East Sussex - Lewes - where I found a connection with a true revolutionary son of Norfolk. Thomas PAIN(E) was born in Thetford on February 9th, 1737. He emigrated to the British American colonies in 1774 and was instrumental in the American War of Independence. He later moved to France and was also involved in the French Revolution.

Thomas was the son of Joseph and Frances (nee Cocke) Pain. He was educated at Thetford Grammar School from 1744 until 1749. After that he assisted his father in making rope stays used in sailing ships.

For a while he left Norfolk but returned to Thetford in 1761 to act as a supernumerary before moving to Lincolnshire and then to Lewes in 1768 where he found plenty of opposition to the monarchy and pro-republican sentiments.

It was in Lewes that he first became involved in civic matters and today he is celebrated there as very much a man of the people. It was whilst in Lewes that he added an "e" to his name.

Today Lewes marks his time in the town with murals, plaques and even a walking tour. We would love to hear from any NFHS member who is a descendant of Thomas Paine.



On this page is a plaque on the side of the White Hart Hotel in Lewes where Paine stayed for a while.

Previous to the visit to Lewes I was poking around Cork in Southern Ireland (finding it to be a somewhat mundane city, although I know that many people will disagree with my assessment). We were coming to the end of our visit and decided to visit the Crawford Art Gallery in Cork. It was a fairly aimless thing to do until I chanced on a Mezzotint print from 1789 that caught my attention.

It was entitled "The Perilous Situation of Major Money" and the artist was listed as J. Murphy after P. Reinagle. The description of the print was as follows:

"A pioneering aeronaut (balloonist) takes a fall in this classic print of a true event. On 22 July 1785 an improper current carried Major John Money (1752-1817) outward from Norwich until

THOMAS PAINE 1737-1809
HERE EXPOUNDED HIS
REVOLUTIONARY POLITICS.
THIS INN IS REGARDED AS
A CRADLE OF AMERICAN
INDEPENDENCE WHICH HE
HELPED TO FOUND WITH
PEN AND SWORD.



rapidly cooling his hot air balloon crashed into the North Sea. After seven hours in the cold waters he was rescued and later published a book on the merits of balloons for military purposes."

The balloon came down just off Great Yarmouth. Money fell into the sea with his balloon and was "most providentially discovered and taken up by the Argus Sloop after having remained in the water for five hours."

Philip REINAGLE (1749-1833) was an English animal, landscape and botanical painter. He mainly painted animals before turning his attention to landscapes and In 1787 showed a "View taken from Brackendale Hill, Norfolk," at the Royal Academy and from then on exhibited mostly landscapes. He also copied the style of many of the Dutch masters.

A photograph of the Mezzotint is shown below. There is some discrepancy about whether the Major's surname was Money or Mony. Apparently 40,000 spectators turned up to see the Major take off in his balloon.

This was a big deal back in the day, with the first manned balloon flight taking place in France just two years before and accidents, some fatal, were not uncommon.

Money's problem was caused by a faulty valve which prevented him from making a controlled landing

John MURPHY (1748-1820?), the engraver, specialised in night subjects and used the velvety qualities of mezzotint to enhance the drama of the scene.

In the print, the Major skilfully keeps himself afloat with his partially inflated balloon, while a small rowboat approaches in the background.

The balloon lines crossing the picture plane accentuate the impression that the viewer is in the water alongside the protagonist.

NOTE: In such an etching, the artist inscribed or etched the image on the



original copper plate. The phrase “after” Picasso (or “after” any other artist) means that a skilled artisan created the image on the original plate based on some original work that was created by the artist.



LONDON BRANCH

2019 London Branch dates

March 9th: Members' Day

October 19th: programme to be announced

A report on the October 2018 meeting which saw Gill Blanchard talk on “*Tracing a House History.*” will appear in the next edition of Norfolk Ancestor.

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GILL BLANCHARD

AUTHOR: PUBLICATIONS INCLUDE: “TRACING YOUR EAST ANGLIAN ANCESTORS: A GUIDE FOR FAMILY HISTORIANS”, “TRACING YOUR HOUSE HISTORY” AND “WRITING YOUR FAMILY HISTORY”

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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.

WE start this issue with a conundrum that had member Mike DODMAN in a spin as he explains: "I was trawling through Dodman entries in old trade directories on FindMyPast and came across one Susannah Dodman in an 1856 Craven's Commercial Directory for Norfolk listed as a "Heavil Maker."

Initially Mike tried searching Google to find out just what this occupation was without any success. He also checked a number of websites listing odd occupations again without any success and he began to think it might be something "peculiar to Norfolk."

Mike continued to research the occupation and found another entry describing Susannah as a "heald and shuttle maker" with the word heald being a variant of the word havel and being associated with the weaving industry which obviously ties in with the making of shuttles. That made him believe that the word heavil could be a Norfolk dialect variation.

If you have any information on the occupation of heavil (heald or havel) and shuttle maker please let us know. Also if any other member has come across an unusual occupation please let us know so we can feature them in coming editions.

Mike Dodman MN 12513 can be contacted on mfdodman@gmail.com

92

NORWICH.

Daynes Samuel, printer and bookbinder, St. Stephen's street
Daynes Sheridan, wood carver, Red Lion street, h., St. Stephen's
Dead Charlotte, milliner, Swan lane
Dean George, blacksmith, St. Martin's-at-Oak
Dean James, boot and shoemaker, St. George's Bridge street
Dearie George, dentist, Brunswick road, Heigham
Death John, cooper, Bishopsgate street
Debbage James, cooper, Barn road
Debbage James, victualler, "Fountain" inn, St. Benedict's
Debeney Richard, victualler, "Grapes" tavern, and currier, Red Lion street
DeCarle Charles, stonemason, Duke's palace, Freeman's villas, h., Unthank's road
Deearle Henry, stone and marble mason, Chapelfield road
Decaux William, victualler, "Grapes" tap, St. Giles's road
DeEarle William, commercial traveller, Victoria street, St. Stephen's
Deeks John, victualler, "George the Fourth" tavern, Ber street

Diggers George, draper, Market place, h., Bridge street, St. George's
Dimthor John, beer retailer, Magpie road, St. Augustine's
Ding James, baker, Pottergate street
Diver Isaac, beer retailer, Gildengate street
Diver Owen Albert, wholesale grocer and provision merchant, Upper walk
Dix Charlotte, boarding school, Chapelfield
Dixon Benjamin, chemist and druggist, King street
Dixon Thomas, watch and clockmaker, jeweller and optician, Bridewell alley
Dobson Richard, hat blocker, St. Benedict's
Dobson Robert, boot and shoemaker, Unthank's road
Dodd Edward James, master at Bethel Hospital, Bethel street
Dodd Elizabeth, matron at Bethel Hospital, Bethel street
Dodman Susannah, heavil maker, St. Benedict's road
Dodman Thomas, boot and shoemaker, Farrow's buildings, Union place
Dodson William Robert, watchmaker and jeweller, London street

***Havel and Shuttle Makers.—Barstead Ann
and Esther, Alms lane
Dodman Susannah, Benedict's road***

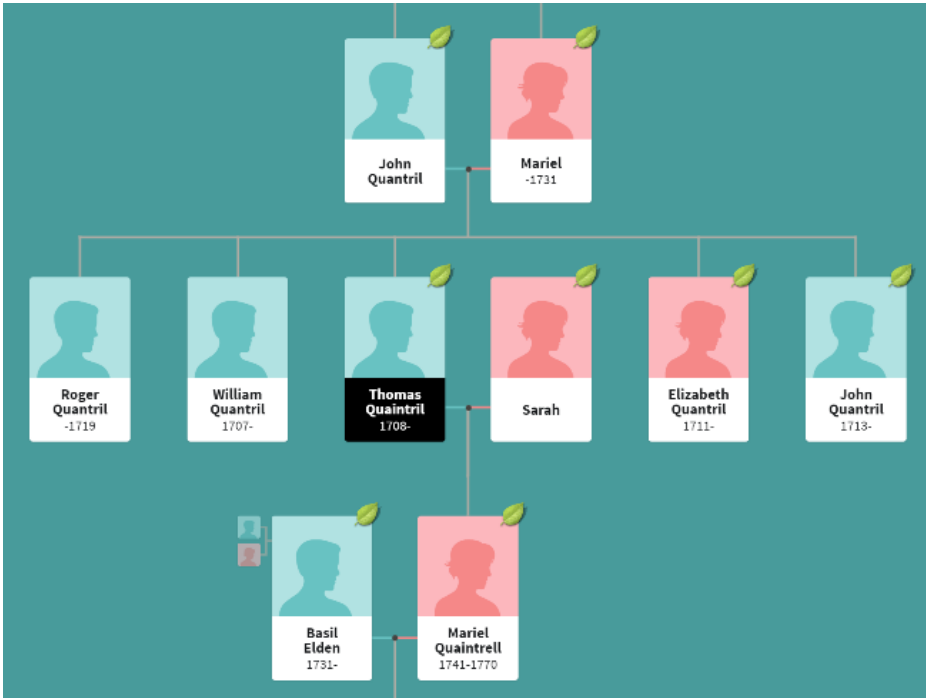
Information Needed

I would be grateful for any information about the birth/parentage of my ancestor Thomas KEDGE/CAGE/CADGE/SKEDGE. He was from Horningtoft and married Mary RICHES of East Raynham on 3rd July, 1780 (surname Cage in register). Both signed with their marks. Their son, Thomas, was baptised on 2nd October, 1785, at Horningtoft. Father's surname was given as Cadge in the register. A sister, Susanna, was baptised on 21st June, 1789 (surname Cadge in register). Thomas (senior) died in Walsingham Union Workhouse on 12th March, 1844, aged 89, making his date of birth 1754-5. The death certificate gave his surname as Skedge while the workhouse register of death gave it as Kedge, of the parish of Stibbard.

Douglas Kedge MN 12872. Email: yvon.d@tiscali.co.uk

Quantrill Family

I read the report from the Diss Group about their May lecture in the latest edition of The Norfolk Ancestor with great interest, as it mentions that Sarah BRYANT had been married to a Prettyman QUANTRILL.



My 6x great-grandmother was Mariel QUAINIRELL and, as you can see from the screenshot on the previous page, there are variations in the spelling of her surname.

I was wondering if the aforementioned rogue might be related and would appreciate any further information members may have.

With many thanks and kind regards,

Susie Shaw MN 15714 - Susie.shaw@sky.com

Bastard Family

I am seeking any help in relation to the above named family. I have been re-searching this ancient French family from Normandy for well over 30 years. My early efforts took me to Devon and to Rodney Bastard, from Kirton, who has documentation etc. relating this family to the Norman conquest. Along with help from his brother Robert, William conquered England in 1066, and for his help William gave land to Robert and he owned nine manors etc.

From that time the Bastards spread throughout the counties and many of them became notables, many in the Military profession. One member refused a Baronetcy from King George. Through the years, two brothers were involved in re-building Blandford, (Dorset) following a great fire.

Further research brought members of this family to Norfolk, where several became Manorial Lords, (Whitwell and Mileham). Others sailed to Australia, and South Africa. My association to this name came from the Norfolk link and from one of the family members who came to Bermondsey, London, and lived close to the leather market, being a leather journeyman.

Further research led to links with the Devon members (sisters) who have stayed here in Norfolk. I have been trying to gain access to the French MSSS, held by Rodney, down in Devon with no success so far. This family has several Coats of Arms according to the Burkes History.

With several families with this name having links to Norfolk, I would welcome any information or help to link these members together or to pass on my research to possibly help others. I took the middle name of my Grandfather shortly after leaving school.

Mike Russell

Cattermole Mystery

Over the years I have done a bit of researching on the ancestry of my great grandmother, Caroline CATTERMOLLE who was born in Pakefield in 1836.

The surname has always puzzled me and, although I have seen various suggestions for its derivation, I've never felt quite at home with them. Anyway one

day in the Forum Library when browsing through “The Jews of Medieval Norwich” by V. Lipman I came across a reference to Ricardus de Cadamo who had taken out a loan in 1273 through the Jew, Jacob the son of Jacob.

Now Cadamo and Cattermole have a certain similarity. Could the Cattermoles be descended from the Cadamos? If one does a spot of Googling one can find quite a few medieval Cadamos: a castellation request in York, some pilgrims from Horsham St Faith. But there is the huge problem of the gap between 1273 and 1789 which is as far back as I can go.

Incidentally Cadamo seems to mean a person whose original home was in Caen (Ca and domus).

Is there anyone out there who can confirm this and join up the dots. I'd be most interested to hear from them.

The End of an Era

I was saddened to read in August, 2018, that the last remaining shoe factory in Norwich was closing its doors.

The Van Dal factory in Dibden Road, Norwich, which we featured in the March, 2017, edition of the Norfolk Ancestor, announced that it was bringing an end to its shoe making in the UK. Van Dal had been operating in the city since 1936.

Around 85% of the company's production came from factories in India and Italy, leaving only 15% from the Norwich factory for the 'Made in Britain' range. In the future all manufacturing will take place overseas.

Managing director Tony Linford blamed the fall in the value of the pound following the EU referendum for pushing production costs up by 20%.

This coupled with a reduction in the number of small independent retailers has 'pushed the company over the edge'.

The company will not be leaving Norwich entirely however. It intends to relocate to offices and a warehouse in the area where it will have a distribution centre to service its expanding online business and many of the current staff will be relocated. The design team will also still be based in Norwich.

It is a great shame that the shoe making skills will be lost for ever and that people will no longer be able to take a tour of the working factory. Van Dal shoes will still be available to buy in both large retail outlets and online. The company has also opened its first shop in Cardiff.

Roger Morgan MN 17267



Facebook Forum

WE are delighted to report that our Facebook site goes from strength to strength and at the time of going to press we had 1,926 members and confidently predict that our 2,000th member will be signing up before the end of the year.

The page has allowed many amateur researchers to break down walls and help other members with queries both about their families and the areas they come from.

Some of the stories have been intriguing as well. Paul West sent us a cutting from the Scarborough Evening News about the success in tracing a cousin through a DNA test and finding that despite coming from Yorkshire and North Carolina they have roots in Norfolk. The cutting is reproduced below.

Why not join our Facebook family. It is free and we would love to hear from you. It can be accessed from: www.facebook.com/groups/familyhistorynorfolk/

www.scarborougheveningnews.co.uk Scarborough Evening News, Friday, October 1, 2010

Family reunited after 300 years

TWO cousins have defied the odds and met for the first time in Scarborough after retracing their family footsteps to the 17th century.

Scarborough resident Paul West contacted Professor George Page West, of Salem, North Carolina, through an ancestry website.

The pair took a DNA test and it was confirmed that they are distant cousins.

Paul says the their great, great, great, great, great grandfathers were brothers, born in Norfolk in the 1680s.

The pair began to exchange emails and when George, who is a business lecturer, came to Britain for a conference, he paid an overnight visit to Scarborough to visit his relative.

"He was really impressed with the town," said Paul. "We went to the Byways for fish and chips, he had a pint of IPA and we went to a traditional cafe for a fry up."

"We took him on the seafront and for a visit to the Lifeboat House, then to the Rotunda Museum."

"I drove him to see my dad in Staxton, who lives in the oldest cottage in the village. I then introduced him to my son, and we talked family history."



IT'S BEEN A WHILE... George Page West, left, and Paul West meet in Scarborough, reuniting their families after 300 years 103911

"It's amazing to join our families together after 300 years. My wife said that we walk just like each other and have the same mannerisms."

"We're going to stay in touch. We loved having him here and he said it'd be the first visit of many."

George's family emigrated en masse to Pennsylvania in the 1830s.

Paul's great grandfather moved to Scarborough to work on the construction of Marine Drive in the early 1900s.

Group News

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

The South Norfolk Group meets in Diss Methodist Church and will be rounding off its 2018 programme with a talk entitled "A Christmas Carol" by regular contributor Mike Wabe on 11th December.

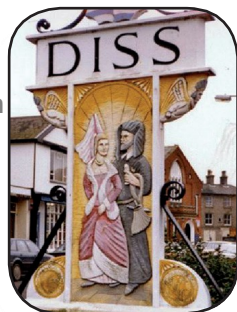
The latest reports from Jenny Jenkins are featured on the next few pages.

Country House Development

On 10th July the Diss Group welcomed John Vigar to speak to us on Banquets, Bedrooms and Balls - The History and development of the English Country House. The title of the talk gave us a clue that it was definitely not going to be a dry academic lecture. John is an Architectural and Ecclesiastical Historian as well as an author so it was a very informative presentation, not only about the properties themselves but embellished with amusing anecdotes about their residents.

He began with a 15th Century painting of a couple with a baby. He asked us to consider the background and to pick out what feature was indicative of wealth. Rooms were very basic at this time and usually contained only two or three items of furniture. We noted that there were hangings on the wall and a table had been set with a white cloth, probably in anticipation of a social or family occasion. Both of those things point out that this family was well off but the real giveaway was the small carpet on the floor - very rare for the period. It is fortunate for historians that even all those centuries ago some people were so anxious to impress others that they left a permanent record.

The early country houses began their life as a great hall, a multifunctional space with a high ceiling and a large fireplace. Here everybody ate and servants slept while the Lord and Lady of the manor and their family would have a bedroom upstairs known as the solar. A peculiar tradition existed up until the 1500s whereby the Lord and Lady of one manor would send their children to another manor to be brought up and educated while they reciprocated the favour. The system had its disadvantages because returning children would frequently bring back a spouse, together with additional servants, creating the problem of



overcrowding so the upper parts of the house would be adapted to create more bedrooms, inevitably leaving a large empty space which became the Long Gallery. Penshurst Place in Kent, built in the 14th century by the Sidney family, is a typical example of a house that evolved by expanding upwards and outwards over the centuries until it became the magnificent building that is standing now.

Even the Royal Household was feeling the pressure on space and resources so Henry VIII commissioned Cardinal Wolsey to organise the court and cut out the dead wood among other things. In 1526, Wolsey convened a meeting known as The Eltham Ordinances and a set of rules and regulations were drawn up. One of the new rules was that chefs should wear white. Until then they carried out their duties naked as it was considered more hygienic. John was even able to produce a photo of a woodcarving depicting a naked chef.

The Elizabethan period saw the building of much larger manor houses of which Doddington Hall in Lincolnshire is typical. Built in 1600 by a lawyer who engaged one of the foremost architects of the era, it was based on the medieval concept of a central hall, flanked by wings and is symmetrical on the outside although not on the inside. John pointed out the three turrets which adorned the upper storey and explained that two of them were 'banquets' so named because dessert would be eaten there following the main meal in the hall. Some houses even had a room built in the gardens for this purpose - an alternative interpretation of a moveable feast.

The Continent was way ahead of us in fashion and style and John credits the much travelled Lady Alethea Talbot for beginning the English passion of collecting and displaying works of art. She was married to Thomas Howard, Earl of Arundel, and accompanied him on his numerous diplomatic journeys across Europe and observed that in Italy people seemed very interested in looking at the statues that appeared everywhere. She purchased a number and had them installed in her long gallery at home. It started a trend. Where the galleries had previously served as places to meet and walk, now they became more or less art galleries, vehicles to flaunt one's financial status and culture and it would seem that nobody embraced this concept more enthusiastically than Bess of Hardwick.

The next picture John showed was extraordinary. An oil painting of The Somerset House Conference of 1604, it showed 11 men all wearing ruffs and black clothing, seated around a long table in a richly tapestried room with leaded windows. However, the most luxurious article is the oriental carpet covering the table. The meeting was being held in an attempt to bring about a peace treaty between Spain, England and The Spanish Netherlands with delegates representing all three. It was a success. Catholic Spain recognised the Protestant monarchy of England and England ended its support for the Dutch Rebellion. Ironically though this treaty gave rise to the seeds of discontent which eventually erupted with the Gunpowder Plot.

When John presented his next picture of Queen Henrietta Maria painted by Van Dyke we assumed, as John knew we would, that the small figure beside the Queen, holding a monkey, was one of her sons. But no, it was her dwarf, the must-have 'pet' for royal households across Europe. To the modern mind this seems appalling but they were used as a talking point and to break social barriers and in many ways were pampered. Sir Geoffrey Hudson, also known as Lord Minimus, had jumped out of a pie at a banquet and was presented to Henrietta Maria as a gift. Incredibly, such was the demand that people in need of a dwarf would go to a dwarf fair.

During the English Civil War the draconian hand of government influenced the style of building. Out went elaborate features like ornate staircases. All was plain and functional. Apparently it was even forbidden to make Christmas puddings which was an offence warranting a spell in prison. Even after the Restoration, building styles were still somewhat restrained until the Queen Anne period. Now they became more impressive with large porticos and startling interiors with optical illusions created by the art of Trompe L'oeil

As more wealthy people took the Grand Tour and brought new ideas home with them furnishings became more ornate throughout the house. The bedroom became a place to meet with friends as shown in a painting by Hogarth. Lady Caroline, the bride of Sir Henry Harpur in 1734 was given a magnificent bed which was never unpacked until it was discovered in the loft at Calke Abbey still in its original box about 20 years ago. The fabric of the hangings were just as fresh and vibrant as the day it was made.

By the early 19th century it was all about carpets, curtains and colour. Bedrooms became more private. The Prince of Wales completed his Indian style Brighton Pavilion where he hosted his extravagant house parties and entertained his mistresses. It was designed to impress. One of John's anecdotes concerned the prince, his mistress Lady Conyngham and a giraffe which was given to George by the Shah of Persia. The poor creature was injured on the journey and never recovered. Lady Conyngham took it upon herself to nurse it back to health but sadly, despite her efforts or because of them because it wasn't fed a proper diet, it died. A satirical cartoon, now in a museum, depicts the giraffe supported in a sling on a frame while George and Lady Conyngham look on. It is rumoured that after George's death, when she had to depart with all her possessions, she took the giraffe's skeleton with her.

The oddest of the characters was Henry Cyril Paget, Fifth Earl of Anglesey. He was born in 1875 and educated at Eton but, as he grew into a young man, it became apparent that he was definitely eccentric and effeminate. He loved dressing in women's clothes, wearing make-up and spending on a massive scale. In 1898, his family arranged a marriage with his cousin Lily who was a beauty by all accounts. In fact she represented what he wanted to be. Not surprisingly the marriage was annulled two years later. When Henry inherited his father's fortune he was able to indulge all his fantasies. He loved acting and

converted a Welsh Chapel into a theatre he named The Gaiety. Naturally as well as paying the professional actors he adored being on stage himself. No expense was spared on costumes which were encrusted with jewels. Admission was free. No wonder he went bankrupt. He died of TB in France at the age of 29. The title went to his cousin who turned the Gaiety back into a chapel.

By the 19th century, The Gothic Revival period became a very influential style in building and furnishings which harked back to the medieval period, considered rather romantic and chivalrous. The Marquis of Bute was bitten by the bug and employed architect Wm Burgess to transform Cardiff Castle - a project which took years.

The final picture was of the Royal Family at Windsor by Scottish artist James Gunn. Painted in 1950 it shows King George VI, his wife Elizabeth and Princess Margaret seated around a table set for tea. Princess Elizabeth, our future Queen, is standing beside Margaret and beside the King's chair lies a corgi.

It was a pleasure to be introduced to these houses and the people who lived in them.

Dissent and Non Conformity

On 14th August, The Diss Group welcomed our regular August speaker, Simon Pawley, whose topic this year was "Dissent and Non-Conformity." Most families have a non-conformist ancestor somewhere in their family tree. It was not uncommon in the early 20th century and not unusual for families to dip in and out so it is useful to know something about the records available. Simon began with a chart showing a timeline of the path of religion from 1530 when Henry VIII proclaimed himself head of the Church of England. This was a dangerous time to be a Catholic. They were forced to keep quiet and worship in secret as they would be regarded as allies of the Pope and Spain.

The Acts of Uniformity prompted many of those who disagreed with the ethos of the established church to split and form various groups which developed into separate religious institutions with different names and different views over the years. Infant baptism was a great bone of contention among non-conformists. "A baby could not understand the ceremony" was the argument put forward. The Presbyterians loathed church government and disagreed with the fact that vicars were appointed by the bishops. Nonconformists wanted to make that decision themselves. They opposed state interference in religious matters. However there was no issue with The Church of England in respect of marriages which often took place within a church, so evidence of a church marriage does not rule out nonconformity.

Most Nonconformists didn't have a problem with burials either but of course in any aspect of life there are nit pickers and it has been known for a vicar to deny

a non-conformist burial if there was no proof of registration of baptism. Things got even more confusing during the Civil War and the Interregnum as proper records were not kept. Vicars came and went and new Protestant radical groups like The Levellers and The Diggers sprang up. After the Restoration it was clear that people didn't want to turn the clock back after 18 years of reform. Another Act of Uniformity was introduced whereby clergy were required to sign an oath in which they swore to obey the King. Many refused and were ejected from their livings. The Five Mile Act forbade any clergy to live within five miles of the parish from which they had been expelled. In 1689, The Toleration Act allowed Nonconformists to worship and preach in their own chapels and churches but there were no hard rules in relation to registration. Travelling ministers carried registers with them on their circuits but often entries were inconsistent and registers got lost. Irregular marriages were still taking place and to combat this Lord Hardwick introduced his Marriage Act in 1754. This stated that no marriage was legal unless it was registered and performed by a Minister of The Church of England in an approved place. Jews and Quakers were exempt as their marriages were considered legal. The act also required parental consent for people under the age of 21.

Just because your ancestors lived in a place it didn't mean that they worshipped there. A good preacher could draw a crowd so it was not uncommon to attend a service at an Anglican church in the morning and then go to a nonconformist church or chapel in the evening. They might have their children baptised in the Anglican Church but not sign up to be a member of the congregation. One must be aware that a missing baptism could be evidence of nonconformity, likewise an entry stating born instead of baptised.

In conclusion Simon told us about some of the records available for research although many of these are patchy regarding areas and incomplete. Doctor Williams Library has collections relating to pre-19th century nonconformity. The Recusant Rolls are available online at The National Archives and relate to the fines and confiscation of goods of Roman Catholics during the 16th to 18th century. Look for Meeting House registers as premises where five or more people worshipped had to be registered. The Huguenots have their own library containing records after 1550. Again the Quakers, who were an extremely radical sect, were greatly persecuted. Indeed they thought that it was good for them to suffer for their beliefs. They set themselves apart by their use of Biblical language and their refusal to take their hat off when facing a judge or magistrate and they did not marry outside. It was usual to have multi witnesses to a wedding, which can be very useful to a family historian. Simon showed us a slide of a wedding witnessed by over thirty people. The Jewish Historical Society may be useful if you have Sephardic or Ashkenazi ancestors. There was a lot to think about in this talk but whether your ancestor was Roman Catholic, Baptist, Jewish, Quaker, Congregationalist, Unitarian, Methodist, Presbyterian, Huguenot, Wesleyan or something more obscure, there may just be a record out there somewhere.

A Vice Admiral and the Thames

“Lawson Lies Still In The Thames” was the title of the talk given to the Diss Group on 11th September by Gill Blanchard and I’m sure that I was only one among many who had absolutely no idea what it was going to be about. It was in fact an account of the life of Vice-Admiral Sir John Lawson, a man, who despite being a staunch republican, played a pivotal role in the restoration of Charles II. Gill began with an entry from the first page of Pepys Diary in 1660 where he notes that ‘Lawson lies still in the river.’ Those few words bore witness to an event that would help change the course of England’s history. So who was Lawson?

Although he was a prominent figure of the 17th Century, he has slipped out of history and been largely forgotten, although fortunately for Gill, not by some local historians and researchers. It would have remained that way until, in the course of her research of a house in Essex, Gill opened up a bundle of deeds and came across his will together with other legal documents. She had never heard of him but the documents gave some information about his family and when she realised that he was born in Yorkshire as she was, her interest was piqued.

The discovery that he had received a medal from Oliver Cromwell and a pension from Charles II added to the mystery. She was hooked and realised that there was a much bigger story to be uncovered. And so began a quest which took her to archives across the country and lasted several years to discover everything she could about this man. His birth record has not survived but Gill found his marriage entry and estimates that he was born in Scarborough about 1615. Most paintings of him are posthumous but she has put flesh on the bones of his character by researching his known relatives and seeking out references to him in diaries and papers of his contemporaries, apprentice and probate records, deeds, duties paid to the port and more. Naval records were extremely helpful and Gill said the help she received from those local history experts was invaluable.

John Lawson certainly did not come from a privileged background and began his marine life as a lowly merchant sailor, commonly known as a tarpaulin at the time. He served his apprenticeship on ships transporting coal up and down the east coast of England and prospered because later records show that he was a captain, he owned property and was part owner of a vessel. A staunch supporter of the Parliamentary cause and a devout puritan, he was never afraid to speak out in condemnation of the press gangs and campaign for better rights for sailors. He believed in free trade and that the deserving poor, the sick and elderly should be cared for. It became clear during Gill’s research that he was a man devoted to his wife and six daughters but also he was a man of great courage because he lived in dangerous times. Piracy was rife on the high seas and one of John’s tasks was to protect the convoys of merchant ships against this scourge which involved him in some amazing escapades.

He believed in freedom of worship and would later join the Fifth Monarchists and give his support to the Levellers. Those who did not stick to their principles and changed sides he despised. The country was undergoing the turmoil of the Civil War and in 1642 he joined the Parliamentary cause and asked Sir Henry Vane to get him a position in the Navy. His generosity to his sailors was remarkable. He always ensured that they received their share of prize money and had been known to pay them from his own pocket when money for pay had been delayed, without seeking repayment. Throughout his career he was known for the respect and affection he inspired in those under him, almost rivalling Nelson. MP Edward Ludlow described him as 'A



man of probity.' Despite his role in the Navy he also engaged in operations with the Army. When Scarborough Castle was occupied by the Royalists he was among those who battled successfully to oust them and take control .

During the Anglo Dutch War when he was commander of the "Fairfax," the records show how many Dutch men-of-war vessels he pursued and captured or sunk which was why he was awarded the gold medal by Cromwell. But he was mixing with some dangerous groups of people with extremist views like the Fifth Monarchists who were turning against Cromwell. John was accused of being involved in a plot to assassinate him following the discovery of a quantity of gunpowder secreted in the chapel at Whitehall Palace. He was arrested and imprisoned in The Tower of London. It is presumed that his wife Isabelle and his six daughters probably took refuge in Scarborough.

At some time near the end of 1657, John was released and seems to have faded into the background but things were about to change. A year later Oliver Cromwell died and his son Richard was proclaimed as the next protector. The proclamation was greeted with anger by many as it mirrored the succession of an heir by the royal family, which was one of the reasons for getting rid of the monarchy. Apart from that Richard was an ineffectual leader. Discontent was brewing and Lawson could hardly have known then that the gathering storm would throw him back into action and bring about a complete change in his convictions.

By 1659 things had deteriorated further. England fell into chaos. The army

staged a military coup and marched to Westminster - an act which Lawson bitterly opposed. The Guilds ganged up to protest and the country was at the mercy of a rabble of hotheads. Protesters were killed and the prisons filled up. Something had to be done. Lawson devised a plan and led 22 warships to the mouth of the Thames to create a blockade which would bring the city to its knees when it was deprived of transport and the goods that flooded into its port, particularly coal which had overtaken wood as a method of heating homes. It was December and bitterly cold so the blockade would be very effective. It was at this point that Pepys began his famous diaries, much of which was written in code. He always meant them to be published notwithstanding the accounts of his numerous dalliances and affairs as well as the political content. It was the publisher's whim that changed the word river to Thames.

Lawson sent a message to General Monck asking him to march his men south to support him but the army capitulated before he arrived and the Rump government was restored although Lawson maintained the blockade for several more weeks as there was still a lot of unrest. Finally peace of a kind was restored but the population were hungry for stability. Eventually the main players in the drama came to the decision to restore the monarchy. Lawson obviously believed that it was the only way to stabilise the country and changed sides which must have torn at his conscience but he recognised that it was the only way forward and gave his support. He had relinquished his principles for the good of England.

In May, 1660, when negotiations were complete, Vice-Admiral John Lawson, accompanied by Samuel Pepys and his uncle Edward Montagu, set sail in the "Fairfax," later renamed the "London," to bring Charles and his brother James home from exile in Holland. John was knighted for his part in the restoration of the monarchy. Altogether Charles was fairly lenient with those who had supported parliament against his father Charles 1st. But for the regicides who had signed his death warrant there would be no reprieve. Those that fled to Europe and America were hunted down and executed. Edmund Ludlow found his way to Switzerland and managed to survive. He spent the rest of his life in exile.

When Charles married Catherine of Braganza her dowry included Tangier, England's first African colony. John was sent with Edward Montagu to command a fleet of ships to deal with the ever increasing threat imposed to British ships and merchants by pirates from Morocco and Turkey. It had been decided that the harbour at Tangier would be fortified with a mole, a high protective bank that would provide a safe and secure anchorage. When John was en-route tragedy struck. His eldest daughter died of a fever, probably typhus, and was quickly followed by two of her sisters. When Isabelle wrote to tell John the dreadful news she asked that it would be sent to Montagu first so he could prepare John as to what it contained. John remained in Tangier several years protecting merchant ships and even engineered a peace treaty between England and Algiers and, in recognition of his services, he was even granted a pension in respect of

his services to the crown. He purchased a house in Essex for his family and arranged a dowry for his eldest surviving daughter, putting himself into debt, but new threats were looming on the horizon and in 1665 the second Anglo Dutch war broke out. John was in command of a fleet of warships and very early in the war at the battle of Lowestoft he was injured in the knee by a musket ball. Within little more than three weeks John Lawson would be dead.

The wound became infected and he was taken to Greenwich for treatment where Pepys visited him. Gangrene set in and when Pepys went to visit him a second time he was told that John had died that day. He was buried with his three daughters in St. Dunstan in the East with no witnesses, as requested by him.

None of his family attended. No doubt they remained at home because the plague was still raging in London. In his will, apart from making provision for his family, he left money for the poor of Scarborough.

The Earl of Clarendon who was and always had been a Royalist said, in a fitting tribute:

“He was indeed of all men at that time, and of that extraction and education, incomparably the modestest and the wisest man.”

Digging Deeper With Your Research

“Sharpening Your Family History Research Skills - Digging Deeper” is the title of a six week family history course being hosted by the Diss Group of the Norfolk Family History Society.

The course will be held on Tuesday afternoons from 1.30 until 4.30 pm in the Lophams Village Hall in Church Road, North Lopham, IP22 2LP, on the following dates - March 19th, March 26th, April 2nd, April 16th, April 23rd and April 30th.

The course will be led by qualified tutor and professional genealogist Gill Blanchard. Gill is author of a number of genealogy books including “Tracing Your Ancestors: Cambridgeshire, Essex, Norfolk and Suffolk,” “Tracing Your House History” and “Writing Your Family History.”

Topics covered will be: 1. Other Parish Chest Records, 2. School and other Educational Records, 3. Apprentices, Freemen and other Work and Business-related Records, 4. Land and Property Records (not including Manorial), 5. Manorial Records, 6. Discovering how our Ancestors Lived through Contemporary Accounts.

The course costs £48 for NFHS members and £60 for non members

The Frustration of Research

DO other members share my frustration when it comes to trying to find a link between themselves and a famous, well known or even notorious person?

Editor's Corner

My stumbling block is a three-way one - Oliver Cromwell, Augustine Steward and Steward and Patteson Brewery.

When it comes to family history research I am very much an amateur, often struggling with the weight of information that I have no idea how to put into a proper order. So, as a writer, I often prefer to build up stories about ancestors and put them into their own time, writing a short essay on each.

But then something in the back of my brain sends me back to family trees and trying to piece together evidence. I'm a firm believer that if somebody from the past has the same surname as you and comes from the same area, then surely you must be related? Please put me right on this as it may be a misconception and I would love to print some guidance in a future edition of Ancestor.

I was very happy a few weeks ago to receive an e-mail from society member Elizabeth Donnelly whose maiden name was Steward. Elizabeth is as perplexed as myself, Elizabeth wrote:

"My name before marriage was Elizabeth Ann Steward, my father being Samuel Robert Steward from Feltwell in Norfolk. I have been tracing his Steward line now for the past 15 years with the tantalising family knowledge passed down from my great grandfather that we are related to Elizabeth Ann Steward the mother of Oliver Cromwell.

I have always wanted to find out if this was just myth and have made contact with several other branches all dating back to my 3x great grandfather Samuel Steward, who was born in Boughton in 1785.

Samuel was illegitimate, but through his grandfather William Steward (1738-1808) I have the family firmly in Boughton and Barton Bendish. Tracing on back from William through wills, administrations and parish records that have been transcribed for Boughton and Barton Bendish I have a Richard Steward (1708-1762) and his father Richard Steward (1679-1734). If correct, after trying to trace all the Steward families in the Boughton and Barton Bendish area, I believe the earliest Richard Steward to be the son of Samuel Steward of Pentney.

I then came to a dead stop so tried to make up trees for all the progeny that I could find of my three times great grandfather Samuel Steward, his son James Wilson Steward (1818-1892) and my great grandfather Samuel Steward (1849-1939), with some very interesting results. These included a granddaughter of

Samuel who married a Mormon and became a pioneer, and my great great uncle Henry Benjamin (1844-1901) whose wife Lavinia endowed the Steward Observatory in Arizona in his name and whose son Frederick became the President of the Southern Arizona Bank and Trust Company in Tucson Arizona. My aunt remembered him visiting them in Feltwell although I don't believe she knew any of his and his fathers history. However, still no connections to Oliver Cromwell's mother!

I then started to try and trace the family from Nicholas Steward and his wife Cecily downwards. This is mired in people copying misinformation and conjecture and seems to be where the Steward family started to move out across Norfolk and Suffolk.

I was in correspondence with Jean Stangroom at some point and she suggested that I should get in touch with yourself and see if you could help me shed some light on the Stewards in any way. They do seem to be in several blocks across Norfolk descended from the children of Nicholas Steward who obviously had Court and Church connections and took different sides in the Civil War and it is this generation that holds the key in the 1600-1700 that is so elusive.

I wonder if your Steward ancestors hold any keys to help me in this quest. I am now in my 70s and would love to be able to get to the bottom of this family story, which obviously mattered to them since it is replicated across the generations of so many branches.

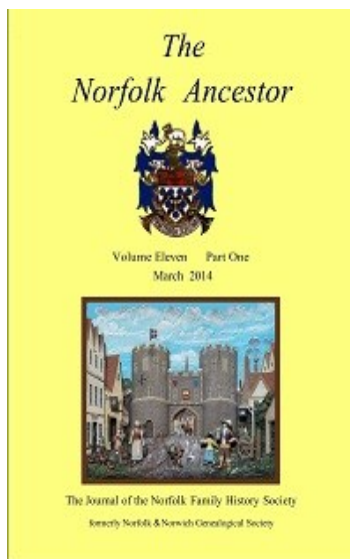
I have visited the Records Office on many occasions in the past and have managed to find some interesting ancient Estate Records for Boughton and Barton Bendish. I would love to find some Bastardy Bonds referring to my 3x great grandfather but there are none available for that time in Boughton. It would appear that the Stewards were pillars of the Church and farming community in the area and the Parish Entry for Samuel does not mention him as being illegitimate but just mentions his mother, which it seems is unusual since others at that time were branded as fatherless. There is a tomb near the church door in Boughton of a Samuel Steward, which is a crumbling edifice for a Samuel Steward who is another relative of my 3 x great grandfather and I think they obviously had some kind of position to maintain, to the point where in the census records a descendant of his mother's brother describes himself as a labourer and gentleman!"

Elizabeth and myself have swapped family trees as the hunt goes on. She was also very magnanimous about the Ancestor:

"I am very impressed with the Norfolk Ancestor since you have taken it over and really look forward to the stories and information you provide and the format you have introduced, particularly so since I now live near Edinburgh and am not in a position to get down to Norwich these days."

Many thanks for that Elizabeth and I truly hope that we are related in some way.

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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>

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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 **March 2019** issue should be sent to the Editor at Kirby Hall or e-mailed to him **NO LATER than 12th January 2019**. 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:-

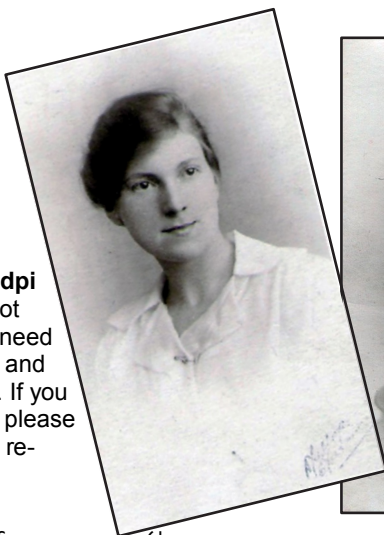
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Photographs

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.

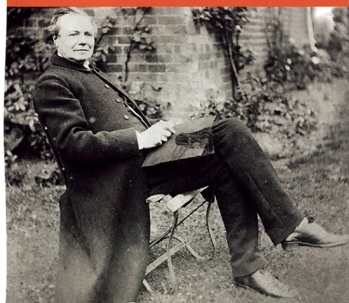


Ancestor Bookshelf with Peter Steward

A VICAR IN VICTORIAN NORFOLK

THE LIFE AND TIMES OF
BENJAMIN ARMSTRONG (1817-1890)

Susanna Wade Martins



A Vicar In Victorian Norfolk - The Life and Times of Benjamin Armstrong (1817-1890) by Susanna Wade Martins - Hardback 303 pages. Published by Boydell & Brewer: ISBN 978 1 78327 330 0. £25 (see below for a special offer).

The author is an honorary research fellow in the school of history at the University of East Anglia and has an excellently light writing style that helps to bring to life the world of a 19th century rural vicar.

Armstrong lived in turbulent times for the world and Christianity when rural vicars were often poor and depended on being provided with livings by the aristocracy. Often their world has as much to do with family handouts as to the church.

Susanna Wade Martins has been able to show Armstrong as an outstanding individual - looking at both his place in the Christian world as a whole and his place in Norfolk and in particular the market town of East Dereham (now usually known simply as Dereham).

The source for her writings is Armstrong's diaries which he wrote between 1850 and 1888, but this book is a biography rather than diaries. So it really acts as a companion volume to the diaries, showing the idiosyncracies of the vicar and describing his private as well as his public life. In many ways Armstrong was an innovator, setting up a literary institute, serving on local boards and moving amongst both the poor and the landed gentry.

Susanna Wade Martins has done an excellent job in bringing a colourful character to life and showing his frailties as well as his strengths.

This book is ideal for researchers wanting an insight into the church and Christian life of the 19th century and also those wanting to understand the atmosphere and life of a Norfolk market town.

Boydell and Brewer are offering Norfolk Family History Society members a 25% discount on the book, making the price £18.75. To redeem the discount, just quote BB646 when prompted at the checkout at www.boydellandbrewer.com or via telephone when calling 01243 843291 or emailing customer@wiley.com. The offer is open until the end of March, 2019.

Ancestor Bookshelf

Norwich In 50 Buildings by Pete Goodrum 96 pages. Published by Amberley Publishing. ISBN 978 1 4456 6402 6.£14.99.

IT is sometimes overlooked but decades ago Norwich was England's second city after London.

Somehow over the years as the city's national status seemed to diminish, it kept its importance as a major regional centre and one of the most historic cities in the country.

Norwich's unique identity is brought to the fore by historian Pete Goodrum who explores the city through 50 of its most iconic buildings.

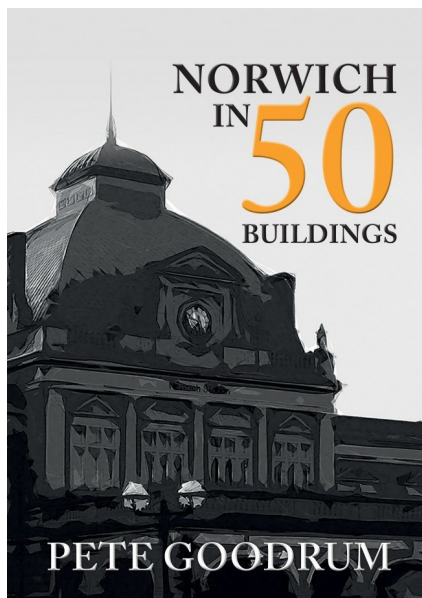
Pete is a Norwich man through and through and has written extensively about the city in both the 1950s and 1960s. His latest volume is what might be called "a spoonful of dipping cream." It acts as an appetiser for those wanting an overview of the architectural treasures that we have in Norwich. Hopefully it will prompt the reader to take a closer look at the buildings featured.

How many of us regularly wander past the Guildhall and the City Hall without giving a second thought to why they were built, what style they were built in and when they were built. This book has many of the answers and its wide sweep focuses on the ancient (the Castle, the Cathedral, Dragon Hall etc) through to the modernity of Westgate Tower and Prospect House.

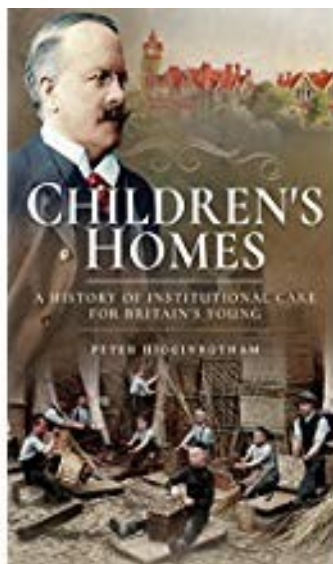
The book is divided into various sections including Civic and Government, Transport, Entertainment, Religious Buildings, Grand Houses, Commerce and more.

There is a mini essay on each of the 50 buildings featured and the book is full of beautifully taken colour photographs and a detailed map which will be of help for the handful of buildings outside the city centre such as the University of East Anglia and Eaton Park.

This is an excellent pot pourri of our wonderful city that is both colourful and informative.



Ancestor Bookshelf



Children's Homes - A History of Institutional Care for Britain's Young by Peter Higginbotham. 310 pages. Pen and Sword Books: ISBN 978 1 52670 135 0. £14.99.

A phenomenal amount of research has gone into a book that will act as an excellent tool for family history researchers wanting to put their ancestors into context.

Peter Higginbotham is an historian of workhouses whose previous publications include "The Workhouse Encyclopaedia," "A Grim Almanac of the Workhouse" and "A Workhouse Cookbook." He also researches for history-based television programmes such as "Who Do You Think You Are" and "Heir Hunters."

The author looks at the history of children's homes which includes not only orphanages but also a wide range of other establishments such as charities, religious groups, workhouse authorities, occupational groups, local councils etc. He has produced what may be the ultimate source in its sphere - conjuring up not only the sights and sounds of children's homes but a history of institutional care for Britain's young going back to the 16th century.

Norfolk is featured in the book with a section on the Quakers and various other institutions. The power of this book is the way it mixes all aspects of the institutions from funding and a look at the people running them to the social impact they had on society.

The author doesn't dodge difficult topics such as abuse in children's homes or the treatment of young people with disabilities and he covers the whole country. If you have ancestors who were brought up in children's homes, this book will give you a true insight about conditions, the problems and heartaches that they faced along with a considerable amount of information about the homes themselves.

It is a highly scholarly book, written in a manner that is both entertaining and informative.

Ancestor Bookshelf

Norwich's Military Legacy by Michael Chandler. 128 pages. Published by Pen and Sword Books. ISBN 978 1 52670 774 1. £14.99.

I found the title of this book rather misleading as it tends to be a hotch-potch dip into not only Norwich's but also East Anglia's past.

After a general introduction we have a chapter entitled "Potted Blog" which darts from the English Civil War to the Battle of Trafalgar to the Royal Norfolk's Veterans Society and the Friendly American Invasion.

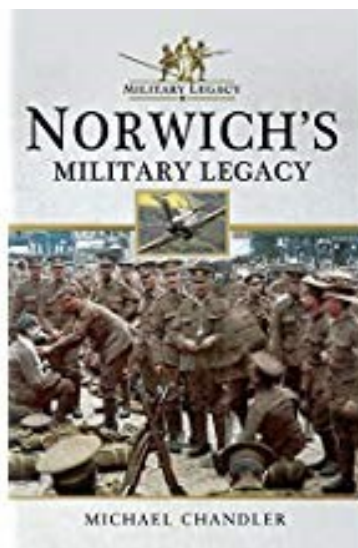
Then the next chapter goes back to the Saxons and Vikings and then onto a rebellion of 1075. It all leads to a rather haphazard and confusing narrative that finally does sort itself out and ends with a series of biographies of men with Norfolk (and not necessarily Norwich) connections.

There is a handy section on important historic Norwich buildings and memorials which is enjoyable to dip into but again is a tad confusing.

There are also a number of interesting photographs, although, once again, these are sometimes of a general nature rather than specific to Norwich.

I found this book interesting but rather confusing and lacking in direction which is a shame as it could have been an interesting companion to our city's military legacy.

Please note that we do not sell copies of the books reviewed in Norfolk Ancestor. They should be available from local bookshops, on internet sales sites or direct from the publishers.



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**Or by post to the appropriate person at
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The Royal Arcade - Norwich

THE Royal Arcade was deigned by the celebrated Norwich architect George SKIPPER in the Arts and Crafts style. It was built on the site of an old coaching inn and was unveiled to the public on 25th May, 1899.

In Georgian times, Norwich had become a fashionable shopping destination and there were at least four coaching inns along the side of the market, now called Gentleman's Walk. They had long yards which ran through to the Back of the Inns. The largest of these was the Angel which dated back to the 15th century. It was also a meeting venue and a place of entertainment as well as being the headquarters of the Whig party.



Arcade interior

In 1840, the Angel was sold and renamed the Royal Hotel to celebrate the marriage of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert. With the coming of the railways to the city, by 1846 all coaches between Norwich and London stopped running. The Royal had a new frontage which is still there today and carried on business until 1897. It then moved to Bank Plain to be nearer to the station. The arcade



opened just two years later. It is two stories high and is 247 feet (75m) long. It is tiled throughout in pastel shades of cream and green with a fully glazed roof supported by wooden arches. The shop fronts are bow fronted and project into the arcade. Above each one there are decorative

coloured tiles showing peacocks and flowers. They were made by DOULTON and were designed by the



Nearby tiles



The 'new' lights

ceramic sculptor William James NEATBY who is best known for the tiles in the Harrods food hall in London. The hanging lanterns and flooring are relatively new, dating from the late 1980s after a restoration. Langley's toy shop which was originally called Galpins, has been in the arcade since 1899.

Roger Morgan MN16248

Then and Now



These two photographs show the entrance to the Royal Arcade, Norwich, taken from the Back of the Inns.

The black and white picture on the left was taken by Norwich photographer George Plunkett in September 1955.

The picture on the right was taken 63 years later by assistant editor Roger Morgan in September 2018. Apart from the ladies' fashion, little appears to have changed.

To find out more about the history of the arcade turn to the inside back cover.

