

The Norfolk Ancestor



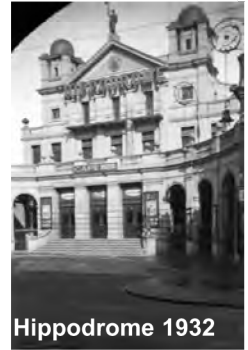
JUNE 2019



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

The Norwich Hippodrome

I AM often fascinated by the blue plaques situated in and around Norwich. After watching the recent hit film Stan and Ollie I was surprised by the one pictured on the front cover which shows that the famous comedy duo appeared in Norwich as part of their British tour in the 1950s. It can be found on the wall of the car park in St Giles which was built on the site of the former Norwich Hippodrome. The Hippodrome was built on St Giles Street where the former Norfolk Hotel once stood. The theatre opened in July, 1903, and was known as The Grand Opera House. It was built for Fred MORGAN who was a former leaseholder of the Norwich Theatre Royal. It was designed by the renowned theatre architect William R. G. SPRAGUE who is credited with around 40 theatres, eight of which still exist in London's West End. It was built as an opera house and playhouse with a seating capacity of 1,836. The following year, however, the Opera House was bought by Bostock and Fitt and renamed the New Hippodrome for a new life, staging variety shows. Fred Morgan returned to being a leaseholder of the Theatre Royal. It became a lively place attracting some of the biggest names in show business including a young Charlie Chaplin, Marie Lloyd and Gracie Fields. In the 1930s it became a cinema and famously screened the controversial banned film "Morgenrot" about naval warfare in the Great War. The theatre later went back to featuring live acts but Hippodrome 1932 during the Blitz it received a direct hit. The manager, his wife and the trainer of a group of sea lions were killed. The Hippodrome was rebuilt after the war and went from strength to strength – apart from Laurel and Hardy, The Goons, Max Miller, Morecambe and Wise, Billy Cotton and many more appeared there. The last variety shows were staged in 1958. The Hippodrome became the home of The Norfolk Playhouse Repertory Company for a couple of years but then the old building was allowed to rot and decay. It was closed on 27th April, 1960. The



theatre then stood derelict for a number of years until it was June 1960 eventually demolished in 1964 and the site was used for the building of a multi-storey car park in 1966. Sadly Oliver Hardy was taken ill on the British tour and was forced to return home, never to perform again. **Roger Morgan MN17267**

Norfolk Family History Society

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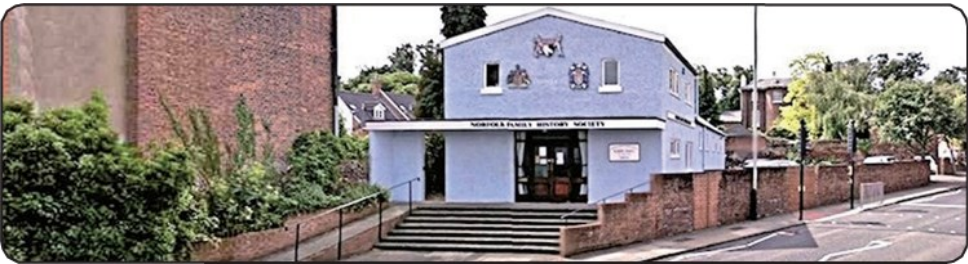
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The Norfolk Ancestor

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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Kirby Hall Library Opening Times

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

Group Meeting Venues

DISS

Diss Methodist Church, Victoria Road, Diss (AI066)
SOUTH NORFOLK (2nd Tuesday of each month at 7.00 pm)
£2 per member - £4 for non-members

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Welcome to your June Edition



WELCOME to the June edition of Norfolk Ancestor. We hope you find it entertaining, enjoyable and informative.

You will see that we have included more information from Kirby Hall in this issue and we will be looking to continue this in the future to help give you an insight into the workings of the Norfolk Family History Society.

In the next edition we will be taking you on a walk round Kirby Hall to explain what we have on our shelves and what help you can receive from our ever-willing army of volunteers. Over the next few issues we will also be featuring articles on some of the volunteers that make our society one of the most successful in the country.

Volunteers are the lifeblood of our society, giving up hundreds of hours every year to do everything from staffing the desk at Kirby Hall to transcribing new records and even making tea! There really are a myriad of jobs and positions available to anyone who would like to help the society.

If you fancy helping us in any way just drop us a line. We are always happy to hear from potential volunteers and the beauty is that some of the tasks can be done remotely from anywhere in the world.

Once again this year Kirby Hall will be open to the public during Norfolk Heritage Open Days. The library will be open to the public on Saturday, September 14th, Tuesday September 17th, Wednesday 18th and Sunday 22nd from 10 am until 4 pm.

Peter Steward MN 14801

Norfolk Ancestor Editorial Team

Peter Steward	Joint Editor
Roger Morgan	Joint Editor
Rob Reeve	Proof Reader

Coming Events Calendar

Buckinghamshire Family History Society Open Day

Saturday 27th July, 10 am to 4 pm

The Grange School, Wendover Way, Aylesbury, HP21 7NH.

Research facilities will include our names database (over five million entries) and libraries. Parish Register transcripts and other research aids will be on sale. Expert advice; guest societies from around the country; local history and heritage groups; suppliers of data CDs, maps, software, archival materials, talks and much more. Admission is free with free parking at the venue. Refreshments available. Further information at www.bucksfhs.org.uk

South Norfolk Branch Meetings

June 4th	The Suffolk Gypsy - John Heigham Steggles	Pip Wright **
June 11th	Bread, Gruel and Sweet Dump-lings	Ian Waller
July 9th	Massacre at Le Paradis	John Head and Dennis O'Callaghan
July 16th	A Little Learning - Educating the People	Rosemary Steer **
August 13th	War and Peace - Tracing a Marine Family	Simon Pawley
September 10th	TBA	
September 17th	Rich Man, Poor Man, Oddballs and Rascals	Sheila Wright **
October 8th	A Jolly Good Chap - Pt Frank Smith of the East Kents	Steve Smith
November 12th	Norfolk Signs	Andrew Tullett
December 10th	Members' Evening	

All meetings at Diss Methodist Church 7 pm. except those marked ** which are at Lopham Village Hall, Church Road, North Lopham, IP22 2LP, at 1.30 pm. You will find reports of recent meetings later in this magazine.

News From Kirby Hall

Change In Opening Hours

THERE has been a slight change in opening hours at Kirby Hall.

We have extended our hours on Tuesdays to 4 pm - giving family history enthusiasts an additional three hours. The building will now be open from 10 am until 4 pm every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

We will now be closed on the last Sunday of the month but will continue to open on the first Sunday from 10 am until 1 pm.

New to Kirby Hall Library

Taking a look at new books and material added to the Kirby Hall Library with Librarian Ellen Carr.

IT is not often we get a donation to the library that is so generous as the recent one from Mr Barnes, of 16 reprinted copies of The Gentleman's Magazine 1731-1745. These beautifully bound books are in pristine condition and now on our library shelves. We already had some original books dating from 1818 and are pleased to add these to them.

Although they contain only limited information about Norfolk and named Norfolk people, they give a fascinating insight into the lives of reasonably wealthy people of their time. Looking through the Index I have come across articles on Murder Trials (Vol XII page 386) , an alligator (Vol VIII page 321) , an Army Deserter Shot (Vol XIV page 281) , the effects of arsenic (Vol IX page 162) , a Lady burnt by internal fire (Vol I page 263) , The Petticoat Government (Vol VI page 36) , a receipt for teeth (Vol V page 561) and my personal favourite - The Fiddle Faddle Club (Vol III page 234).

We are grateful for any such donations that we can add to our library for the benefit of our members. Also recently added are the following that have been kindly donated for our Pedigree collection:

Roots of a CROZIER Family - donated by John Crozier

My Life Story Part 4 1979-1989 - donated by Frank Muirhead.

Tripp Family - donated by Rosalind Tripp from the archive of her late father John Tripp.

The descendants of Christopher Carver - donated by Belford E Carver.

A Vicar in Victorian Norfolk – Life and Times of Benjamin Armstrong, written and donated by Susanna Wade-Martins.

Our Pedigree collection contains hundreds of pieces of research that give a lot more detail about Norfolk families than can be found in a Family Tree. If the Tree is the skeleton, then pedigrees are the flesh!

If you are in Norwich and have time to spare, come along to our library and either research your own family history or browse what we have on the shelves. The kettle is usually on and there are always biscuits!

Monumental Inscriptions (MIs) Report

with Mary Mitchell

NOW that we are into June the weather should be warmer and an ideal time to get out and record a churchyard or burial ground. At Kirby Hall, the Norfolk Family History Society has many MI surveys which have been carried out over the years and many of them are now available on our website in NORS. However, there are still many that have never been recorded or were recorded so many years ago that they need updating and added to. At the society's AGM it was suggested that it would help if people were aware which churches and churchyards have not been surveyed in Norfolk so at the end of this article is a list of them.



As you can see, there are still plenty of churches in Norfolk that still have no MI survey. If anyone would like to photograph and/or record the gravestones in any of these churches and churchyards and then send them to the Society, I would be very grateful. Of course, if you would like to photograph and/or record the gravestones at a church not on the list let me know and I can let you know if we

have a survey and when it was carried out. If you are unsure about carrying out a survey do let me know by emailing me at minscriptions@nfhs.co.uk or ringing Kirby Hall and leaving a message. It is great fun and very exciting when you find a memorial which hasn't been recorded before and is covered in vegetation. The photographs show a memorial in Eaton Burial Ground which Valerie Parsons and I were able to record once I had scrambled underneath the vegetation. The inscription reads as follows:

[Single stone surround with cross on three steps at west end, deeply covered with ivy under yew tree] [west side] [top step] In / ever loving memory / of / [middle step] Florence Mary / dearly beloved wife of / Herbert Thomas CHAPMAN [rest too deeply buried under yew tree leaves except for] 26th Jan 1927 [buried 31.1.1927 aged 43] / [north side] [top step] also of / [middle step] a very dear father / Herbert Thomas / CHAPMAN / [bottom step] 23rd January 1950 [buried 27.1.1950 aged 72]

I hope this may encourage you to carry out a survey as eventually these memorials will be hard to read and lost to the descendants forever. Finally, I would like to thank all the people who have done a survey in the past or sent in photographs to be transcribed as well as the transcribers who get the surveys ready for NORS. Without these people there would be less information for researchers to find on their families.

Mary Mitchell MI Co-ordinator MN 3328

List of unrecorded churches/churchyards in Norfolk:

Ashwicken, Baconsthorpe, Babingley, Belton, Billingford (near Diss), Bowthorpe, Brancaster, Burgh Parva (new and old), Burgh St Margaret, Burnham Deepdale, Burston, Caister on Sea, Caister on Sea (cemetery), Castle Rising, Congham, Crownthorpe (private house), Didlington, Ditchingham, Docking, Fersfield, Field Dalling, Flitcham, Fornsett St Mary, Frenze, Fring, Fundenhall, Gayton Thorpe, Great Hautbois (Holy Trinity), Great Yarmouth (various churches and cemeteries), Grimston, Hackford (All Saints), Hackford (St Mary), Halvergate, Harleston, Heacham, Hempton, Hemsby, Hillington, Holme-next-the-Sea, Houghton on the Hill, King's Lynn (Catholic Church, St John, St Margaret, Hardwick Road Cemetery and London Road Methodist Chapel), Little Barningham (St Andrew), Little Cressingham, Marshland St James (private house), Mautby, Middleton, Morley St Botolph, Morley St Peter, Narford, Needham, North Lynn (St Edmund), North Runcton, North Wootton, Oxwick-cum-Pattlesley, Redenhall, Reedham, Repps-cum-Bastwick, Riddlesworth, Ringstead (St Andrew), Rockland All Saints, Roydon (near Diss), Roydon (near King's Lynn), Runham, Rushall, Scole, Scottow, Sculthorpe, Sedgford, Shelton, Snettisham, Southwood (church a ruin), Stokesby, Stow Bridge, Stratton St Michael, Tasburgh, Terrington St Clement, Thorpe Abbots, Thrigby, Titchwell, West Beckham, West Newton, Wheatacre, Wighton, Wolferton, Wormegay, Wortwell (URC Chapel), Wymondham Cemetery.

Reflections On a Death Return Transcription

One of our transcribers Dr David Lightwing looks at the people of Norwich, their doctors and the disease prevalence of 1926.

The addition of Norwich city death returns to the NORs site provides a valuable resource for those researching family members. I spent some of the last year helping to transcribe some of these records and thought it might be interesting to reflect on this as it struck me what a contrast this was with my own experience as a GP over the last 30 years.

Indeed, my recollection of my very first death certificate left me feeling a burden of responsibility to do my best for the patient after their sad demise. This was possibly fuelled by my interest in genealogy and awareness of the source material I was creating for the benefit of future family historians! Later in my career it has become apparent to me that my medical colleagues exhibit a wide variation of record keeping after death, some more detailed than others. Not surprisingly I found 1926 to have its own similar variation which I shall expand on.

A total of 1498 deaths were recorded in Norwich in the year 1926 and these show a number of interesting patterns. The war was still taking its toll as illustrated by the following entry:

28th November 1926. John Frederick WHITE. 27 Yr Of Old Mill Road, Acle. Farm Labourer. Traumatic Epilepsy caused by shrapnel wound of the skull received in the Great War.

I had thought that one effect of the Great War would result in a big difference between the male and female deaths recorded. However, surprisingly there were 748 male and 750 female deaths in 1926 in total. The prevalence of some diseases that we no longer see brings home the advances in medical care over the last 90 years, particularly with regard to infectious disease.

Tuberculosis is highlighted as a cause of death in 105 individuals, approximately 1 in 14 of the total. Today we very rarely see this condition due to the combination of improved living conditions and vaccination. Indeed, I cannot ever recall completing a certificate with this as a cause of death. The isolation hospital in Norwich was certainly kept busy with this condition, which invariably took its toll on the younger population, even young children.

Other infectious diseases had their impact as follows:

Meningitis - 35 cases, Cellulitis and Erysipelas (skin infections) - 21 cases, Appendicitis - 20 cases, Enteritis - 15 cases, Cystitis - 14 cases, Mastoiditis - 6

cases. Today, most of these conditions would be treated effectively by fluid replacement, antibiotics and surgery. Once again many of the above individuals were in the younger age group. The understanding of food-borne illness was limited in 1926, whereas today microbiologists would endeavour to ascertain the contaminated food source and causative micro-organism. Mr Ladell, the coroner at that time, could only conclude the following for this unfortunate gentleman:

'28th October 1926. Thomas Henry BELL. Male. 77 Yr. Retired Bank Clerk. Shock from accidental gastric disturbance upsetting a weak heart after eating pork pie.'

Valvular heart disease also takes its toll with more than 40 cases, again often in younger people. Much of this I suspect will have been the consequence of rheumatic heart disease which was a serious complication of certain upper respiratory infections. Most of these would be treated effectively by antibiotics today, thereby preventing the late onset of rheumatic heart disease.

Premature births invariably resulted in the death of infants. One set of triplets were born in Norwich on 9th November 1926; sadly Leonard Cocks died on that day, brother Clifford the next day and Elsie five days later.

Coroners' inquests are surprisingly common, being necessary in more than 10% of cases. I believe the same rules broadly applied in 1926 as we use today. As doctors we are obliged to refer unexplained accidental and early post-operative deaths (among many others) to the coroner. Amongst these are a number of road accidents. I note cyclists being particularly vulnerable to head injury, having fractured their skull after collision with motor vehicles. Would today's helmets have prevented these deaths?

Among the coroners' cases are 10 instances of young children dying from asphyxia as a consequence of 'suffocating under the bed clothes'. The prevalence of this seems unusually high. Today's label of 'cot death' would only be applied after a thorough array of investigations carried out post-mortem to exclude infections or other elusive diagnoses. Sadly we will never know how many of these infant deaths in 1926 could have been prevented.

Another interesting set of records refer to the diagnosis of 'status lymphaticus'. Having never come across this in my own career, I was triggered to read about it and it became apparent that at that time there was a significant body of medical opinion believing that large tonsils, adenoids and lymph glands in children represented an over active immune system and that surgery was required. Sometimes children were then subjected to unnecessary surgery to remove this tissue; sadly in some of these cases children died as a complication either of the surgery itself or from the anaesthetic administered.

On reflection, given that these were the early days of anaesthetic practice, there were a number of cases in adults as well who died from heart failure secondary to the anaesthetic.

Despite the terrible consequences of infection, surgery and accidents as outlined above, some Norwich residents still achieved a ripe old age including the following:

1st June 1926. John Charles JEFFRIES. 100 Yr. Acute Bronchitis

In the older population, heart failure, bronchopneumonia and bronchitis were common causes of death. However, some of the doctors in Norwich in 1926 chose the term 'senile decay' on a regular basis (117 occasions). I am quite confident that no doctor would use such terminology today, however a similarly vague diagnosis of 'old-age' remains in common use and seems to be much more dignified!. Finally, I would like to highlight the variation in doctors' record keeping. As I worked through the handwritten details taken by the registrars, it became apparent that there were a number of recurring patterns, as seen below. I would prefer to retain the anonymity of the doctors concerned; hence the replacement of the surname by an appropriate nickname referring to their characteristics when writing death certificates.

Dr Detail!

Suppuration in sphenoid and post ethmoid left. Cavernous sinus thrombosis. Pyaemia. Heart Failure

Dr Timescale!

Whooping cough 19 days. Bronchopneumonia 14 days. Convulsions 4 days

Dr Brief!

'Senility' & 'Myocarditis' & 'Bronchitis'.

This particular doctor appeared to look after The Lodge on Bowthorpe Road and as a consequence appears to have had the challenging task of filling in many death certificates, sometimes three or more in a single day.

Dr Latin!

'Phthisis pulmonalis'

All other doctors wrote the above diagnosis as Pulmonary Tuberculosis!

Having said all this, the death returns provide a lot of information over and above the cause of the patient's death. Within the registrar's record there is considerable detail about the home address and occupation and usually some details of the spouse's or father's occupation. This is potentially a great resource and on behalf of all members I feel that I should say a big thank you to Paul Harman who coordinates and supports voluntary transcribers in this important piece of work. I would encourage anybody with spare time to consider offering to help as a voluntary transcriber.

Dr David Lightwing MN 6164

Focus on Volunteers

IN the first of a new series we meet some of the volunteers who give their time and energy to make the Norfolk Family History Society one of the top genealogical resources available for people researching their family history.

Roger Morgan - Trustee, Public Relations Officer and Ancestor Joint Editor

"I was born and brought up in East Sussex where my parents were both greengrocers. I graduated from university in the early 1970s with a science degree and then did a one year Post Graduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) in combined science.

I started teaching in Havering, Essex, before moving to Norfolk with my family in the early 1990s. I taught at a Norwich high school for 23 years as Head of Science.

I, like many others, got interested in my family history later in life. Since I started researching my family I have had many 'if only' moments. If only I'd asked my parents more, if only I knew who those people are in those old photographs etc.

My parents started their family later in life, as my father was 50 and my mother 42 when I was born. They both had many brothers and sisters, so I have numerous cousins, many of whom are much older than me.

I believe that I am descended from an 18th century Welsh soldier who was convalescing in Battle, East Sussex. My great-great grandfather James worked at a gunpowder mill delivering wagon-loads of powder to supply the army during the Crimean War. In the 19th century several members of the family emigrated to America, Canada and Australia and I have discovered a whole branch living in and around Eagle River in Wisconsin who I am now in contact with through Facebook.

I also have many relations in Ontario in Canada. My mother's family came from Newhaven in Sussex and several of them worked in the chalk quarries in the area. I am only just starting my research into their history.



When I was asked to get involved in editing the Norfolk Ancestor I had little or no experience of journalism and didn't know what the role entailed. I have had to learn as I go along. I assist the editor in preparing the magazine every quarter, helping with the content and layout. It has given me a great deal of pleasure and has inspired a genuine interest in local and family history.

I thoroughly enjoy reading the articles submitted and doing the research involved in writing ones of my own. When I joined the board of Trustees I also took on part of the role of promoting the society to the wider community. This involves social media like Facebook and Twitter, publicity leaflets and articles in other publications. “

Norfolk Family History Society is looking for a treasurer to join its board of trustees. We also have a vacancy for an assistant to the membership secretary. Details of these volunteer posts are on page 42 of this edition of Norfolk Ancestor

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Bizarre Norfolk Characters



Editor's Corner

TO many people the small North Norfolk coastal village of Stiffkey provides one of those “blink and you miss it” moments as they drive along the coast to the larger towns of Wells, Cromer or Sheringham.

Stiffkey is all too often just a name on a map, somewhere to pass through without really noticing it.

But Stiffkey is famous for at least two things, although the word infamous would be better to describe one of them.

Firstly we have Stewkey Blues, or cockles to the uninitiated. These seafood delicacies are much celebrated throughout Norfolk. But of course we won't be looking at the ancestors of cockles even if it was possible to trace their lineage.

Much more interesting is a certain infamous Rector, the Rev Harold DAVIDSON

who made Stiffkey famous throughout the land and who I find to be one of the most fascinating characters in the whole of Norfolk's history.

Musicals and plays have been written about the man who divided a community and became immortalised as the Prostitutes' Padre" and who was mauled to death by a lion in a seaside side-show.



Davidson suffered the ignominy of being defrocked by the Church of England, but today there is something of a re-appraisal of his character.

I recently read one of many books about Davidson - "The Troublesome Priest" by Jonathan Tucker - which suggested that Davidson may have been the victim of a miscarriage of justice and wasn't given a fair trial.



So was Harold Davidson a saint or sinner? Certainly throughout his life he divided opinion and even years after his death there are different sides to the argument.

So just who was Harold Davidson? Davidson was born in Hampshire in 1875. He was ordained in 1903 after a brief career as an entertainer in London. Indeed he was known for a number of charitable works amongst London's poor. In 1906 he was appointed Rector of Stiffkey. In the First World War he served as a naval chaplain.

After the war Davidson spent much of his time away from his Norfolk parish, working on behalf of "fallen women" in London. Styling himself the "Prostitutes' Padre", his declared mission was the rescue of young girls he considered in danger of falling into vice. In this role he approached and befriended hundreds of girls and, although there was little direct evidence of improper behaviour, Davidson was frequently found in compromising situations.

This led to accusations that he was neglecting his duties in Norfolk. On more than one occasion he arrived late to conduct services in Stiffkey after arriving on the Sunday morning train from London. On another occasion he rode his bike down the nave of the church - again when he was late.

A number of parishioners accused him of a dereliction of his duties and he was reported to the then Bishop of Norwich. Disciplinary proceedings were taken against him and the evidence, along with Davidson's eccentric behaviour at the hearing, sealed his fate.

Throughout his time at Stiffkey, Davidson found himself in financial difficulties, often due to the cost of his regular London visits which often went on for days. A number of photographs allegedly showed Davidson in compromising situations and he was defrocked in 1932 and expelled from the church.

Many of his parishioners believed in him, however, supporting his London work and thinking nothing about the many times that he brought girls back to the rectory, despite the fact that he was married with children of his own.

That's enough of a story to be interesting in its own right, but it wasn't until he was expelled from the church that the story of Harold Davidson becomes even more bizarre.

Always the showman, Davidson used his notoriety and national fame to set himself up as a sideshow entertainment at Blackpool where he often sat in a barrel or a freezing refrigerated chamber or was depicted being roasted in a glass oven while a mechanised devil prodded him with a pitchfork. People actually paid to see this weird sideshow.

Worse was to follow when Davidson joined an animal-themed show at Skegness. He fearlessly entered a cage containing two lions. On 28th July, 1937, Davidson was allegedly mauled to death by a Lion called Freddie who became agitated and attacked Davidson and dragged him round the cage. Davidson died in hospital two days later. The public then paid to see Freddie - the Lion who had killed the famous defrocked Rector of Stiffkey.

A different version of his death says that he stepped on a Lion's tail and was mauled but not severely and his death was actually caused by a doctor who, diagnosing Davidson as a diabetic, injected him with insulin which killed him.

Davidson still had many supporters even after his death. They had a genuine love of the man and his work both in London and Norfolk.

Today Davidson's grave still attracts more than a passing interest. Possibly he is summed up by historian and writer A.N. Wilson who referred to him as a "tragic buffoon cum Christian martyr."

Peter Steward MN 14801

Norwich Remembered

By Roger Morgan

IN March 2019, we received an email from one of our American members living in Pasadena, California, Cheryl KANE (MN 17587)

She had read the article about the Norfolk survivors of the Titanic disaster from the March 2018 Norfolk Ancestor and realised that she is related to two of the survivors, Ethel and Edward BEANE.

Cheryl's maternal grandfather was Reginald CLARKE who was Ethel Beane's brother. Strangely, nobody in the family ever spoke about the Beanes and their part in the disaster.

As she looks back, her grandparents hardly spoke of their parents and siblings and her mother never spoke about her grandparents or aunts, uncles and cousins.

Cheryl has fond memories of Norwich and regularly advises people to pay the city a visit. Here she takes up the story:

"My mother was a Norwich girl, my father in the US Army Air Corp. They met at the Samson and Hercules and were married in 1944 at St George's Chapel which was near St Edmund's Church, Fishergate.

As a wedding present, my parents received two watercolours that were painted by one of my father's fellow officers in the Air Corp. One is of the chapel with its then partially bombed roof. The chapel was demolished sometime after 1976.



The other is a view from the side of St George's Church, Tombland, looking towards Augustine STEWARD'S house. My mother didn't think a painting of the Samson and Hercules was appropriate for the occasion.

According to her, the paintings were done on brown paper as art supplies were in short supply during the war. If so, the paper has held up remarkably well; the paintings are hanging in my dining room and haven't deteriorated with age.

A few years ago, my sister and I donated a book, "Tettley's Tenants," to the 2nd Air Division Memorial Library. The book was written by a journalist turned airman and privately published in 1944.

It provides a sometimes humorous account of the 4th Fighter Group at Debden, which was located on land confiscated from the fictitious farmer Tettley.

My father remained in what became the USAF after the war and, when he was assigned from Edwards Air Force Base in the California desert to a base in the Bering Straits in 1954, my mother, sister and I returned to Norwich to live with my grandparents.

On my first day of school, the teacher asked if any of my classmates had questions for me. The one that I've never forgotten, it seemed fanciful at the time and tragically salient today, was "do men in America wear guns like they do in cowboy movies?"

From the Bering Straits, my father was assigned to Chicksands. We lived in Bedford for four years and then returned to California where my father retired from the Air Force."

Cheryl always tries to make a trip to Norwich when she visits England and hopes to visit Kirby Hall in July.



Elizabeth Pulley's Norfolk Roots

In our March edition we featured an article by Annegret Hall about First Fleeter Anthony Rope, taken from her new book "In for the Long Haul" which relates the history of this period through the eyes of the convicts. In her second article Annegret turns her attention to the story of Elizabeth Pulley and her Norfolk roots. Elizabeth's story became inextricably linked with that of Anthony Rope. Annegret's book is reviewed on page 64.

ELIZABETH was born to Tobias and Alice PULLEY of Felthorpe, Norfolk, and baptised on 21st February, 1762, in St Margaret's Church. Tobias was the son of George and Dorothy (née BENSLY) Pulley from Horsford, where Pulley families had lived for centuries as tenant farmers, weavers and rural workers. Their surname is variously recorded as PULLY, PULLEY, POWLEY and PULLEY.



The dungeon in Wymondham Bridewell Museum showing an effigy of Elizabeth Pulley

At age 15, Tobias was apprenticed as a weaver to Thomas BROWN in Drayton for a seven-year term at a premium of £2. On 18th December, 1756, he married Alice BRIGHTON at Haveringland St Peter's Church and their first child William was born in Costessey. Tobias finished his apprenticeship in 1758 and moved his family to Felthorpe. On 26th August, 1759, a second son, Tobias, was baptised at St Margaret's Church. Three years later, their daughter Elizabeth, the central character in this story, was born and the family moved back to Haveringland.

In February 1764, tragedy struck. Both Tobias senior and junior died of a contagious illness and were buried in St Peter's churchyard aged 27 and five. Alice was now a young widow with two small children and a third expected. Without

income or property they faced a bleak future. There were few job opportunities for females with children, especially when pregnant. Alice would have sought out the most menial jobs in the village such as laundering clothes. Their existence probably depended on the parish church, or on a Brighton or Pulley family who could feed extra mouths. They may have

been sent to the poor house, but there is no record of this. Later in the year Alice gave birth to a boy, baptised as Tobias on 29th March, 1765, at St Peter's Church.



An even greater calamity lay ahead. In April 1768, Alice died and was buried in Haverlingland. The young Pulley children, Elizabeth six, William 11 and Tobias three, were orphaned. Nothing is known of their immediate fate but it is likely they were adopted by relatives or sent to an orphanage. Some local parishes paid relatives to care for orphans. The St Faith Parish had a small workhouse close to Horsford and, if sent there, they would have immediately been put out to work. Pauper children were often indentured into bonded service so that the parish did not have to maintain them.

It is unknown how Elizabeth or her brothers fared in this system. The rural economy was severely depressed at the time, so the prospect of payment from the parish attracted households to take children. In such arrangements, many orphans were treated no better than farm animals.

The first record of Elizabeth as a youth appears when she was 17. In mid 1779, she was imprisoned in Norwich Castle to await trial for stealing. On July 14th she appeared before the Quarter Sessions charged with stealing 'one cheese, one woman's bonnet, one short gown, two gowns, two aprons, one shift, one silk handkerchief and two caps, the property of Stephen COULSON'. She was found 'not guilty' and acquitted. The circumstances of the charge are unknown. She may have been working as a domestic servant when these goods went missing.

In 1780, Elizabeth moved to Hethersett where she was probably in service to

one of the large residences. On 19th February, 1780, she was sent to the work-house for being disorderly. No details of the charge survive, other than Elizabeth being released the same day. At that time anyone unemployed with no fixed address could be prosecuted as a vagrant. She was probably released after someone vouched for her respectability.



A month later, Elizabeth announced by banns in Wymondham Abbey her impending marriage to Thomas HOWES. If she were in service at the time, approval would have been needed from her employer. The marriage never took place and her life was about to take a more serious turn.

On 26th June, 1780, Elizabeth was again imprisoned in Norwich Castle for stealing goods from the father of John Coulsey in Drayton. Court documents show she had left Hethersett and returned to the village where her father had worked. On Thursday July 13th, 1780, the 18 year-old Elizabeth was arraigned before the Norfolk Quarter Sessions and sentenced: 'To be conveyed to Wymondham Bridewell, there to be confined 3 Weeks, then whipt, afterwards examined. Elizabeth Pulley of Drayton. Felony.' In Wymondham she was taken to the market place and publicly whipped. Male felons were regularly flogged but not females, and it suggests that her punishment was intended as a warning to others. The magistrate had estates in Drayton, and her accuser, John Coulsey, was a local landholder.

After the whipping, Elizabeth was returned to the Bridewell and shackled in a small damp dungeon. Paradoxically, today, the Wymondham Bridewell Museum refers to Elizabeth as a prisoner 'who had helped found Australia' and it offers a dungeon audio tour in which an effigy of Elizabeth delivers a speech about her transportation. But future "celebrity status" was of little use to Elizabeth in 1780 – she was confined to a damp dungeon tending to her flesh wounds, an existential threat in those times. It is unclear what aspect of her crime led to this treatment, but the 'stolen wearing apparel' cited in the charge was probably the servants' uniform she had worn when leaving without permission. This was her first real

taste of judicial punishment, and it had been brutal and humiliating. She was released from the Bridewell in mid-August 1780.

All three of Elizabeth's court charges thus far were of a similar nature; the loss of goods at her workplace or departure from service without leave. Indications are that Elizabeth had grown into a determined outspoken young woman. Most households did not tolerate such independence in a servant, especially at a time when sexual harassment of female servants was seen as a male prerogative in larger houses. Servants received low wages, with clothing provided as part of their board. If they quit of their own accord, they left empty-handed and a master may have them arrested as vagrants.

For the next year, Elizabeth abided by the law. But in mid-1781 she was again arrested for stealing from a Hethersett weaver Samuel PIGHTLING 'a Hat, an old Cloth Cloak, a silk Handkerchief, an Apron, 3 Breads, and 3½d'. Because of prior convictions the trial was assigned to the next Assizes. On 6 August 1781 she was found Guilty and sentenced to 12 months in the Aylsham Bridewell. Again, the background to this theft is unknown, and it remains a puzzling episode in Elizabeth's early life. If she stole for monetary gain, why would she take such paltry items?

Elizabeth served out her one-year sentence. To pay her food allowance in the Bridewell, she did handicrafts for sale. Bridewell turnkeys often appealed to magistrates for food allowances, but were instructed to 'Let them work or starve'. Most prisoners lived in rags and were permanently sick.

In August 1782, Elizabeth, aged 20, was released. Getting employment was difficult with a criminal record, and soon she was in trouble again. On Christmas Eve, 1782, she was taken to Norwich Castle prison for breaking into the Hethersett shop of Mrs MINNS and stealing two cheeses, four bacons, butter, raisons, flour and two rolls of Worstead cloth. One may surmise, with the record low temperatures leading up to the 1782 Christmas, Elizabeth, hungry and freezing in her prison rags and surrounded with the Christmas festivities of others more fortunate, decided it was high time she had a share!

Elizabeth was transferred to a Thetford dungeon for the next Quarter Sessions. On 17th March, 1783, the Judges Baron James EYRE and Fleetwood BURY and a jury of 20 men, found her 'guilty, to be hanged by the neck until she be dead'. Fortunately a Royal reprieve later commuted the sentence to seven years' transportation and she was sent back to the Norwich Castle 'lower gaol', where the poorer prisoners were held.

In August, 1786, the government announced that transportees were to be sent to New South Wales. After four years in prison, Elizabeth was told she would be taken to the hulk Dunkirk in Plymouth harbour in readiness to board the First Fleet ship Friendship. A gaoler escorted her and two other females, chained to seats on top of the coach on a three-day cold and miserable journey to Plymouth. It was probably a welcome change from prison, and, in any case, none had ever experienced the luxury of travelling inside a coach.

Elizabeth, aged 25, boarded the Dunkirk hulk on 5th November, 1786, and the Friendship on 11th March, 1787. She was about to begin a new and remarkable life on an unknown continent.

Annegret Hall MN 15919

A Tale of Fisher Folk

Dennis Buisson relates the story of his distant relatives the Rake Family of the Isle of Sheppey in Kent and King's Lynn, Norfolk.

The RAKE family, to whom I am distantly related through the daughter of one of my paternal grandmother's younger sisters were fisherfolk from Queenborough on the Isle of Sheppey, Kent.

Henry William Rake (1788-1866) and his wife Mary Ann FACKERELL (1800-1863) had at least 11 children including Stephen Thomas Rake who was baptised on 14th April, 1839, at Queenborough. He married Susannah WEBSTER in 1862 in Queenborough: she was born in 1843 in Chatham, Kent.

Stephen Thomas and Susannah Rake had eight children, four of whom - Stephen Thomas born 1863, Henry William born 1866, Susannah born 28th June, 1868 and Alfred born 25th June, 1870 - were born in Queenborough, Kent, and a further four - Peter born 1872, Mary Ann born 1878, William born 1880 and Elizabeth born 1883 - came into the world in King's Lynn, Norfolk. Stephen Thomas and Henry William both died in infancy, as did Peter, Mary Ann and William.

In the 1871 and 1881 censuses Stephen, Susannah and their surviving two children, Susannah and Alfred, are living in Austin Street, King's Lynn. As Alfred was born on 25th June, 1870, and the census was taken on 2nd April, 1871, between these two dates the family have moved from Queenborough to King's

Lynn. Stephen Rake died in 1898 and his wife, Susannah, in 1901, both in King's Lynn.

Susannah married Thomas William GAY, a farmer, of North Wootton, Norfolk on 30th December, 1885, in Queenborough. She was 17, although on the marriage certificate she claims to be 20 and Thomas William, who was born on 8th November, 1846, was more than 21 years her senior.

In the 1891 census, Susannah adds nine years to her age giving her birth year as 1859. Thomas William and Susannah had two children, Thomas Richard born 1887 and Louisa born 1888 and a further two children, Lily Maud and Robert Ward were born in 1895 and 1896 respectively. However, between the births of the daughters, Louisa and Lily Maud, the following incident was recorded in the Norwich Mercury of 7th September, 1892:

Under the heading "Attempted Suicide by Norfolk Farmer,." ran the following article:

"At Kettering Police Court on Friday, before Dr. J.J. ROUGHTON, Thomas William Gay of North Wootton, King's Lynn, farmer, and residing for the time being at Clipstone Rectory, near Market Harborough, was charged with attempting to take his life on the previous Wednesday. Mr. P.L. Rawlins, solicitor of Market Harborough, was for the defence.

The first witness was Walter BURNHAM, a labourer of Clipstone, who stated that on the previous Wednesday, at about a quarter to four in the afternoon, he was passing by an open hovel on the farm of Mr. Ashton, known as Burnham's Lodge, when he saw Gay suspended from a beam by a number of handkerchiefs securely knotted together. His feet were slightly touching the ground, and his face was black. Witness at once cut him down and sent for assistance.

The Rev. Edward REYNOLDS, Rector of Clipstone, said Gay had been staying with him for a week for the benefit of his health. He had been in a state of extreme despondency, and witness had done his best to amuse him, and thought he was improving. Gay had been playing tennis on Wednesday morning. After the said occurrence witness had at once had him removed to the rectory, and sent for medical assistance. In answer to a question, witness stated that Mr. Gay's father was subject to fits of extreme alternate depression and excitement. This was the first time Gay had attempted anything of the kind.

A telegram was here put in from the defendant's medical advisers in Norfolk showing that they were perfectly acquainted with his condition.

Dr. TINDALL of Market Harborough, said he was sent for on Wednesday evening and there saw Gay for the first time. He was suffering from great difficulty of breathing and articulation and had a red mark round his neck. He was of the opinion that he was of unsound mind.

PC WEBSTER having produced the five handkerchiefs firmly knotted together,

the magistrates signed an order for the removal of the defendant to St. Andrew's Hospital, a private asylum at Northampton."

On 5th August, 1895, Thomas William began divorce proceedings on the grounds of Susannah's adultery 'about the month of August 1894 with a man whose name is not at present known and at a place unknown and in consequence of which she was on the 9th day of May delivered of a female child (Lily Maud) whereof the Petitioner is not the father'. On 2nd October, 1895, Susannah denies that she committed adultery and 'further says that on or about 28th January, 1890, at North Wootton in the county of Norfolk the said Thomas William Gay committed adultery with Elvina BUCKINGHAM that in the months of July and August, 1894, the said Thomas William Gay on several occasions the more precise dates whereof are unknown to the Respondent at a common house of ill fame situate at 11 Austin Street, King's Lynn in the same County committed adultery with a woman whose name is not known to the Respondent. Wherefore the Respondent humbly prays that your Lordship will be pleased to reject the prayer of the said Petitioner and to decree a judicial separation between this Respondent and the said Thomas William Gay That this Respondent may have custody of the children of the said marriage Such other and further relief as your Lordship may seem meet.'

On 10th October, 1895, Thomas William Gay categorically denies Susannah's charges and states 'Wherefore the Petitioner prays as before. Your Petitioner prays that your Lordship will decree 1. That his marriage with the said Susannah Gay may be dissolved 2. That he may have the custody of his children and 3. That he may have such further and other relief as may be just'.

On 10th October, 1895, Susannah is asked to provide evidence of Thomas William Gay's alleged adultery and on 21st October, 1895, says under oath that the evidence she has given is true, but cannot add to her original statement. On the document she gives her address as 5, Union Place, King's Lynn, Norfolk.

On 22nd November, 1895, Thomas William Gay is asked whether he has any further documents 'relating to the matters in question in this cause'. On 7th January, 1896, an 'Order that this cause be tried before a Common Jury' was made at Susannah's insistence.

At the proceedings on the 5th February, 1896, Susannah did not defend her suit and was found to have committed adultery 'with a person whose name is unknown'. Thomas William Gay who was found not to have committed adultery was granted a Decree Nisi, a Decree Absolute followed on 19th August, 1896.

In 1897, Susannah married the 'person whose name is unknown', Robert WARD. He was seven years her junior, born on 9th October, 1875, and unquestionably the father of Lily Maud Gay and Robert Ward Gay. Robert and Susannah had four more children, Florence Elizabeth born 1898, Margaret born 1905, Mary Ann born 1909 and Ivy born 1910.

In the 1901 census, Robert and Susannah are living in Greens Yard, Surrey Street, King's Lynn with their two surviving children, Lily and Florence, and mother-in-law, Susannah Ward, whose age and place of birth, let alone relationship, all confirm her to be Rake and not Ward. In the 1911 census they are still living in Greens Yard, Surrey Street, King's Lynn and state that they have had six children, five living and one deceased viz Robert Ward Gay who died in 1897. In the 1939 Registration, Robert and Susannah are living at 93, Turbus Street, King's Lynn. Susannah died in 1942 and Robert in 1957, both in King's Lynn.

Alfred Rake married Louisa BACKHAM in King's Lynn in 1892. She was born on 15th October, 1893. They had four children, Charlotte Louisa born 13th or 17th February, 1894, Stephen Thomas born 1895, Charles born 20th August, 1897, and Alfred born 1899.

In the 1901 census, Alfred and Louisa and their four children, Charlotte Louisa, Stephen Thomas, Charles and Alfred, are living in George Street, King's Lynn. In the 1911 census they have moved to 56, Birchwood Street, King's Lynn, with their three sons, Stephen Thomas, Charles and Alfred and in the 1939 Registration are still living at the same address.

Alfred died in 1947 and Louisa in 1956, both in King's Lynn.

Elizabeth, the remaining child appears in the 1891 census where she is recorded residing with her mother, Susannah, in Wisbech Road, Wiggenshall St. Germans, Downham, Norfolk. Her father, Stephen, is living in Paynes Land, St. Margaret, King's Lynn, Norfolk. On 31st October, 1908, now calling herself Lizzie, she marries Alfred ARCHER in Saffron Walden, Essex. He was born in Saffron Walden, in 1883.

In the 1911 census they are living at 5, High Street Place, Saffron Walden, Essex.

This would seem an opportune moment to give a brief summary of Thomas William Gay's background and some details of his unhappy ending.

In the 1871 census, Thomas William Gay's father, Richard, is living in North Wootton, Norfolk, with his wife Mary, son Thomas William and three daughters, Louisa, Matilda M. and Ann A. He is recorded as a farmer with 1,500 acres employing 60 men and a number of boys.

Ten years later, in the 1881 census he has a more modest 600 acres employing 25 men, four boys and three women. Richard died in 1890.

After his divorce in 1896 Thomas William appears on the electoral registers for Castle Rising up to and until 1899, but his name is missing thereafter and from the 1901 census.

In the 1911 census he is a patient in the St. Andrew's Lunatic Asylum, Northampton, where he died in 1912.

Further research has suggested another intriguing twist in the Rake family history.

In 'The Rake family of Isle of Sheppey and King's Lynn, Norfolk ' on the 1891 Census Stephen Thomas Rake is recorded residing in King's Lynn and his wife, Susannah, in Wiggenhall St. Germans.

Stephen (Thomas) Rake's household, as transcribed, consists of Frances K.(sic) Seaman, daughter (0), Eliza Mitchell, visitor (12), Edith Seaman, visitor (11) and Fanny Seaman, housekeeper (24). Unfortunately the enumerator has been particularly heavy-handed with his pen and virtually obliterated all the ages. However the 1881 Census records Fanny and Edith, aged 13 and one respectively, as daughters of Charlotte (nee BRIDGES) SEAMAN, widow, living at Chapel Buildings, King's Lynn.

The question is whose daughter is Frances Eliza Rake Seaman born 4th July, 1890, in King's Lynn?

On the 8th April, 1900, Fanny Bridges Seaman marries Alfred Albert CLEMENTS at All Saints Church, South Lynn, King's Lynn, and on subsequent censuses in 1901 and 1911 Frances Eliza R. is recorded as 'stepdaughter'.

On 16th April, 1911, Frances Eliza Rake Seaman marries Edward W. YATES at the Parish Church, St. Margaret, King's Lynn. On the marriage certificate, her father is recorded as Stephen Thomas Rake (deceased).

So both father, Stephen Thomas and daughter, Susannah, had quite blatant adulterous relationships which resulted in children. What attitude the local fisherfolk took to their behaviour would be interesting to know and possibly a subject for further research.

Society member Linda Smith sent us the following extract from the Framlingham Weekly News of December 31st, 1864, which illustrates the way men viewed women in the 19th century.

Under the Debenham heading is the following:

"Since our last Annual Meeting, chess and draughts have been purchased for the Reading Room. The game of chess as we (Gentlemen) all know is a very fine game and introduces us into the highest ranks of society; for here we sit down to play with Kings and Queens, Knights and Bishops. For the benefit of our lady members, we will endeavour to explain the game of draughts."

Do you have any similar comments/articles in relation to Norfolk. If so we would love to hear from you.

Be Prepared For Surprises

Former Norfolk Family History Society trustee and webmaster Mike Dack (MN1167) found some life-changing surprises when he submitted a DNA test. Here he tells us of the surprises that lay in wait for him.

The question is often raised – “Is it worthwhile submitting a DNA test and will it help to confirm information in a family tree?”

My answer to this is – “Most definitely yes, but only if you are prepared to share personal details and prepared for the possibility of totally unexpected results.”

Several years ago, I submitted a DNA test but as the results appeared to list thousands of seemingly unknown cousins, disappointed, I looked no further – that is until October 2018!

Having finally persuaded my sister to submit a DNA test, her results displayed an unexplained match of a 1st cousin twice removed to 3rd cousin in the USA. But the big surprise was myself shown as her half-brother! Immediately checking my own updated DNA matches verified the new half-sister and a missing new cousin. This effectively meant that my loving dad who died at a young 44 years was not my biological father, a secret which my mother took to her grave when she died at 49 years. After researching and documenting the Dack name for more than 10 years, my new challenge had begun!

As Ancestry and MyHeritage DNA results are of a type known as Autosomal, they do not distinguish between paternal and maternal matches, however, re-viewing my very highest DNA matches immediately proved that any of my DNA matches also appearing in my sister’s results could only be from our common maternal line. Therefore, any of my matches that did not appear in both sets of results would most certainly be from my paternal line and these I would need to research further in a quest to find my biological father. Equally, any matches appearing only in my sister’s results would be her paternal line, which I later positively confirmed as Dack.

Contacting my highest and closest DNA matches, who mostly appeared to be from Australia and New Zealand, directed me to a common ancestral family circa 1800 in Guestling, Sussex, namely Benjamin BIRD / Sarah GIBSON.

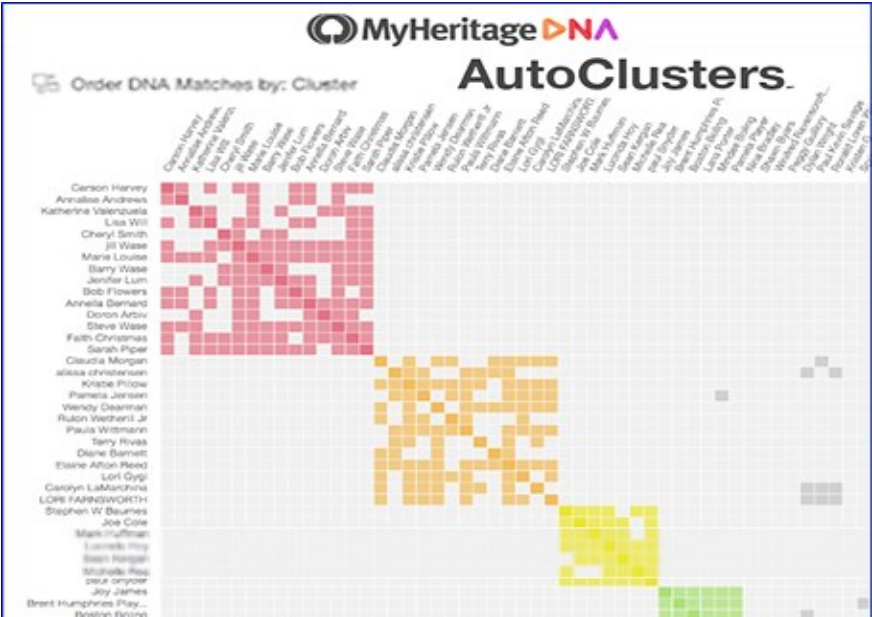
I believed that at the time of my conception in 1940 my mother was living and working in East Dereham, Norfolk. Indeed she was recorded as such in the 1939 register/census, in a building later taken over by the army. Therefore, it appeared that the question was “who came to Norfolk in 1940?” Based on my highest matches I was initially convinced it would prove to be an Antipodean soldier or airman. However, following other high DNA results, this later proved to be incorrect. I now believe it only appeared that way due to a greater interest in their ancestral roots by those down-under.

I then searched for a connection with those Sussex families in conjunction with my DNA matches and I am now sure I have identified my biological father!

The system I used was kindly suggested to me by Sarah Summers, one of my DNA matches in Australia to whom I will always be grateful. The system is known as ‘The Leeds Method’ (details of which can be found on the internet). It involved tabulating the DNA matches of each of my highest matches and then their associated matches, after which a table of distinct families can be generated. In doing this I did not use any cousins with less than 20 cm DNA. It was then a process of normal genealogical research to find when and where those leading groups of families came together as paternal and maternal partners of my paternal line.

A useful tool enabling full download of Ancestry matches into a single Excel CSV file is ‘AncestryDNA Helper’. It is an extension for the Google Chrome browser, it needs to run for two to three hours for full results.

For the Leeds method described above I used Ancestry.com DNA matches, enabling me to identify 40 of those previously mysterious cousins at the top of my DNA matches into families, even if not as precise individuals. As I write this, MyHeritage have introduced an automated application named ‘AutoClusters.’ This appears in my case to cover only the top 100 matches but clearly demonstrates the ‘Leeds’ principle.



<https://blog.myheritage.com/2019/02/introducing-autoclusters-for-dna-matches/>

The MyHeritage database is not as large as Ancestry but, of course, as the person with a close DNA match may have tested only with MyHeritage, it should not be discounted. (NB. It is possible to download the processed 'Raw DNA data' from Ancestry and upload it to MyHeritage but not visa-versa. It was free but may now have some charges applied. It is not necessary to have a family tree on MyHeritage and aliases are permitted). Ancestry are introducing a similar application named 'TruLines', currently in beta format, however, it didn't work well for me so I am hoping it will be improved.

Finally, the good news: After only four months of research I discovered my biological father, not from Australasia as initially expected, but from South East London. He was Harold Leonard BURD, born 1920 in Deptford, London, and was in the British army, the 148th Bedfordshire regiment which was posted to Norfolk in 1940, I currently await Harold's personal army report.

Interestingly, his grand-mother Thirza Bird, née Arnold, appears to have misspelled and changed the family name from Bird to Burd. This appears as a written change made on one birth certificate. Thirza obviously persisted with this as all of her children became Burds, perhaps due to a Dorset dialect?

Not only have I established my biological father but I even have photographs of him, his mother and other family members. These were obtained from his 92-year-old niece living in Australia. I have also successfully contacted other 1st cousins 1x removed, 2x removed and 3rd cousins in Australia, New Zealand, Canada, USA as well as in the UK.

The saddest part of my research was the discovery that that my newly identified father - Lance Bombardier Harold Leonard Burd had died on 12th September, 1944, in the South China seas together with 1,159 other, mainly English and Australian, prisoners of war held by the Japanese.

They were at sea, being transported to Japan, many having already worked on the 'death railway' and in POW camps, when their convoy ship Rakuyo Maru was torpedoed by USS submarine Sealion, finally sinking several hours later. A few survivors after clinging to debris, were picked up by the same submarine when it returned to the area three days later. Watching an online recording from the actual recovery of a lucky few is heart breaking.

So, as you can see, my DNA test has taken me on a journey of surprise, success and sadness during four months of doubt, mystery, intrigue, discovery and great interest - none of which would have been possible without DNA!

Note. An alphabetical roll of honour to all those lost on the Rakuyo Maru can be seen on the internet at <http://www.roll-of-honour.org.uk/B/html/burd-harold-leonard.htm>.

For further historic military research I highly recommend the associated FEPOW website - <http://www.fepow.family/>

New Members and Members' Interests



Compiled by Jean Stangroom

Membership Secretary

Email: membership@nfhs.co.uk

Welcome to the June, 2019, issue of The Norfolk Ancestor.

If you haven't already renewed for this year 2019/2020, now is the time as members who have not paid will be archived in June 2019. Although cheques are still welcome, it eases our administration if members pay online on our website at norfolkhs.org.uk.

At this time of year, we receive many requests from members for password resets as they cannot logon to the website. If you are having problems logging in first please check that you are entering the correct login i.e. your membership number followed by the first three alpha digits of your surname and not your email address. You can request a new password by entering your membership number and clicking on the 'Forgotten Password' and following the link – a new password will automatically be emailed to your registered email address. Once logged in to the website you can amend your password at any time by selecting 'Amend Details' under the Membership tab. This is also the area where you can change your address, telephone number and email address.

Have you registered the surnames you are researching on the Members' Interest page of the website? Select 'Members Interests' under the Membership tab where you can list your interests and obtain details of other members researching the same surname. We have over 3,000 unique surnames listed by over 8,000 members. Please let us know if you have any successes using this facility.

Regards Jean

New Members

The Society welcomes the following new members

17511	Dr	C.	Sadler	UK	17517	Mr	D. C.	Hull	UK
17512	Mrs	G.	Bradley	UK	17518	Mr	W. R.	Burton	UK
17513	Mr	G.	Allatt	UK	17519	Ms	P. J.	Hardy	UK
17514	Mrs	S.	Calver	UK	17520	Mr	B.	Harrowing	UK
17515	Mrs	H.	Payne	UK	17521	Mr	C. J.	Morton	UK
17516	Mrs	J.	Smart	UK	17522	Mrs	L.	Newbury	UK

New Members (Continued)

17523	Mr	C.	Lewis	USA	17575	Ms	K.	Browne	UK
17524	Col	K.	Reynolds	USA	17576	Mr	C.	Middleton	UK
17525	Ms	J.	Smith	UK	17577	Mrs	C.	Lyes	UK
17526	Dr	P.	Kirby	UK	17578	Ms	T.	Nunn	UK
17527	Mr	D.	Bowles	UK	17579	Mr	D.	Fitt	UK
17528	Mr	A.	Kennedy	UK	17580	Mr	C.	Girdlestone	UK
17529	Mrs	P.	Scrivens	UK	17581	Mrs	V.	Jenness	UK
17530	Mr	R.	Ratcliff	UK	17582	Mr	I. P.	Nelson	UK
17531	Miss	H.	Fiddymont	UK	17583	Mr	J. M.	Fickling	NZ
17532	Mr	W.	Bacon	UK	17584	Mrs	A.	Macer	UK
17533	Mr	B.	McGaw	UK	17585	Mr.	K.	Gray	USA
17534	Mr	S.	Craske	UK	17586	Mrs	S.	Roberts	UK
17535	Ms	S.	Kofi	UK	17587	Ms	C.	Kane	USA
17536	Mrs	V. .	Butler	UK	17588	Ms	V.	Cozens	UK
17537	Mrs.	P.	Roberts	USA	17589	Mrs	D.	Harvey	UK
17538	Mr	A. J.	Saunders	UK	17590	Mrs	R.	Purkis	UK
17539	Mrs	E.	Ivemey	UK	17591	Mrs	A.	Nutley	AU
17540	Ms	B.	Kuskopf	AU	17592	Mr	A.	Neale	AU
17541	Mr	P. V.	May	UK	17593	Mr	A. J.	Townsend	UK
17542	Mrs	M.	Fleming	UK	17594	Rev.	D.	Hammons	USA
17543	Mr	R.	Adams	UK	17595	Mr	V.	Howlett	UK
17544	Mr	A.	Thomas	UK	17596	Mr	S. D.	Woodyard	UK
17545	Mr.	D.	Vine	USA	17597	Mr	D.	Savage	UK
17546	Ms.	L.	Stopper	USA	17598	Mr	A. J.	Gunter	UK
17547	Mr	P.	Oliver	UK	17599	Mrs	J.	Byrne	NZ
17548	Mr	N.	Riches	UK	17600	Mr	F.	Heap	UK
17549	Mrs	M.	Stephenson	UK	17601	Mrs	S.	Neville	UK
17550	Mrs	S.	Ludlow	UK	17602	Mr	G.	Kidby	UK
17551	Mr	M.	Tidd	UK	17603	Mr	P.	Cremin	UK
17552	Miss	J.	Reeve	UK	17604	Mr	D.	Lander	UK
17553	Miss	H.	Clark	UK	17605	Mr	R.	Helsdon	UK
17554	Mrs	P.	Hart	UK	17606	Mrs	P.	Valentine	UK
17555	Miss	L.	Footer	UK	17607	Mr	T.	Ralph	UK
17556	Mrs	P.	Rakena	NZ	17608	Mr	D.	Knock	UK
17557	Ms	A.	Jordan	AU	17609	Mrs	A.	Knock	UK
17558	Mr	D.	Nobbs	UK				Burgess-	
17559	Ms	J.	Foote	NZ	17610	Mr	K.	Clements	UK
17560	Mrs	G.	Phillips	UK	17611	Mrs	M.	Gaynor	UK
17561	Ms	M.	Brown	UK	17612	Mrs	F.	Cooper	AU
17562	Mrs	S.	Ainsworth	UK	17613	Mr	A.	Cumine	UK
17563	Mrs	S.	Thompson	USA	17614	Miss	S.	Wright	UK
17564	Mrs	C.	Hammond	UK	17615	Mr	G.	Thackray	UK
17565	Mr	I.	Reynolds	UK	17616	Mr	B.	Heworth	UK
17566	Mrs	C.	Wise	UK	17617	Mr	R.	Burton	UK
17567	Mr	C.	Wicks	UK	17618	Mrs	A.	Moynihan	UK
17568	Ms	V.	Grainger	UK	17619	Mr	S.	Douglas	NZ
17569	Mr	T.	Fish	UK	17620	Mr	S.	Boyce	USA
17570	Mr	P.	Mason	UK	17621	Mrs	C.	Stuart	UK
17571	Ms	B.	James	UK	17622	Mrs	J.	Cunliffe	UK
17572	Mrs	S.	Spooner	UK	17623	Mrs	P.	Mcdonald	AU
17573	Mr	B.	Wickens	UK	17624	Mrs	E.	Bourne	UK
17574	Mr	R.	Clements	UK	17625	Mrs	A.	Park	UK

New Members (Continued)

17626	Miss	D.	Spencer	UK	17678	Mr.	W.	Tacon	USA
17627	Mr	T. E.	Taylor	UK				Neave-	
17629	Mrs	A.	Baker	UK	17679	Mrs	J.	Jones	AU
17630	Miss	J.	Holmes	UK	17680	Mrs	A. M	Robins	UK
17631	Mr.	J.	Emery	UK	17681	Mr	A. S.	Stebbings	UK
17632	Ms.	W.	Rudd	USA	17682	Mrs	M.	Coleman	UK
17633	Mr	G.	Fisher	UK	17683	Mrs	S.	Park	UK
17634	Mr	A.	Green	USA	17684	Mr	P.	Lewis	UK
17635	Mr	R.	Sterling	USA	17685	Mrs	T.	Brooker	UK
17636	Mrs	S.	Tindal	UK	17686	Mrs	R.	Rumbelow	UK
17637	Mr	E.	Ayden	UK	17687	Mr	C.	Craske	UK
17638	Mr	M.	Norman	UK	17688	Miss	L.	Mason	UK
17639	Ms	P.	Pleasants	USA	17689	Mr	T.	Copland	UK
17640	Mrs	J.	Marlow	UK	17690	Mrs	S.	Turner	UK
17641	Mrs	R.	Thomas	UK	17691	Mr	J.	Spencer	UK
17642	Mrs	T. M.	Barker	UK	17692	Mrs	K.	Bowden	UK
17643	Mr	J.	Murray	UK	17693	Mr	M.	Hoskins	IE
17644	Ms	J.	Usher	UK	17694	Mr	K.	Hoskins	IE
17645	Mrs	J.	Hart	NZ	17695	Mrs	J.	Collins	UK
17646	Mrs	L.	Steward	UK	17696	Mr	D.	Poll	UK
17647	Mrs	C.	Burton	UK	17697	Mrs	R.	Browne	AU
17648	Mrs	E.	Driscoll	UK	17698	Mrs	S.	Wyatt	UK
17649	Mr.	R.	Bales	UK	17699	Mrs	R.	Head	UK
17650	Mr	P.	Jolly	UK	17700	Dr	N.	Stacy	UK
17651	Mrs	C. C.	Hunt	UK	17709	Mrs	J.	Sewell	UK
17652	Mrs	P.	Deacon	UK	17710	Mr	M.	Chandler	UK
17653	Mrs.	S.	Hewerdine	UK	17711	Mrs	J.	Holder	UK
17654	Mr	D.	Williams	UK	17712	Miss	R.	Pearce	UK
17655	Ms	F.	Miller	AU	17713	Miss	C.	Garraway	UK
17656	Ms	L.	Hutchins	UK	17714	Mrs	J.	Archdeacon	UK
17657	Mr	L.	Leggett	UK	17715	Miss	J. G.	Brock	UK
17658	Ms	N.	Paggett	USA	17716	Mrs	C.	Westgate	UK
17659	Mr	J.	Obrien	USA	17717	Mr	N.	Dixon	UK
17660	Mr	J.	Reeve	AU	17718	Ms	H.	Wallis	AU
17661	Mr	J. R.	Cable	UK	17719	Mrs.	L.	Hazlewood	UK
17662	Mr	P.	Smith	CA					
17663	Mr	C.	Tubby	UK					
17664	Dr	D.	Newbery	NZ					
17665	Mr	N. J.	Cubitt	UK					
17666	Mrs	D. B.	Arnold	UK					
17667	Ms.	S.	Blanchard	USA					
17668	Mrs	M.	Bosch	USA					
17669	Mr	B.	Heyhoe	UK					
17670	Mr	M. J.	Leggett	UK					
17671	Mr	M.	Woodard	UK					
17672	Mrs	S.	Edwards	UK					
			Feather-						
17673	Miss	H.	stone	UK					
17674	Mr	C.	Sunderland	UK					
17675	Miss	F.	Turner	UK					
17676	Mrs	J.	Pearson	UK					
			Burton-						
17677	Mrs	J.	Craft	UK					

Members Interests

MN	Surname	County	Area	Period
17582,	ANGER	NFK	ALL,	ALL
17645,	ATHOWE,	NFK,	NE,	15C-18C
17634,	AVES,	NFK,	SW,	ALL
17634,	AVES	NFK,	SE,	All
11859,	BAILEY,	NFK,	ALL	19C-20C
16458,	BARKER,	NFK,	SW,	18C-19C
11859,	BARTON,	NFK,	ALL	18C
17582,	BATTRICK,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL
17616,	BIRCH,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL
17702,	BISHOP,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL
17629,	BLOMFIELD,	NFK	ALL,	ALL
17621,	BLOOMFIELD,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL
17636,	BONE,	NFK,	NW,	18C-19C

CN = Central, NC = Norwich & District, NE= North East, NW = North West, SE = South East, SW = South West, YM = Great Yarmouth

Members Interests

17266,BORRETT	NFK,	ALL,	ALL	11590,HODDS,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL
17616,BOWLES,	NFK,	ALL,	16C-18C	17355,HOUCHEEN,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL
17645,BOYDEN,	NFK,	SW,	15C-19C	17598,HOVILL,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL
17636,BREEZE,	NFK,	NC,	18C	17595,HOWLETT,	NFK,	SE,	18C-20C
17577,BRIGGS,	NFK,	NW,	ALL	17582,HOWMAN,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL
17636,BROOKS,	NFK,	CN,	18C-19C	11859,JACKSON,	NFK,	ALL,	18C-20C
11859,BURWOOD,	NFK,	ALL,	18C	17458,JARVIS,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL
17677,CALTHORPE,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL	11859,KNIGHTS,	NFK,	ALL,	18C
17582,CATHCART,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL	17645,LAKE,	NFK,	NE,	15C-18C
3328,CHAPLIN,	NFK,	SE,	17C-19C	17314,LAN,	NFK,	SE,	19C
17381,CLARKE,	NFK,	SW,	15C-16C	17629,LARNER,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL
17381,CLARKE,	NFK,	SW,	15C-17C	11590,LEACH,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL
17582,COLLISON,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL	17629,LEARNER,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL
17598,COLSHIRE,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL	17507,LEEDER,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL
17598,COULCHER,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL	17266,LEFTLEY,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL
17580,COULSEY,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL	11859,LIGHTON,	NFK,	ALL,	19C
17677,CROWE,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL	17100,LINES,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL
17636,DAVISON,	NFK,	NE,	18C-19C	17629,LOVELAND,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL
17677,DE GREY,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL	17636,LUSHER,	NFK,	ALL,	18C-20C
17645,DEWING,	NFK,	ALL,	15C-17C	17636,MANN,	NFK,	CN,	18C
11859,DICKINSON,	NFK,	ALL,	18C-19C	17629,MAYES,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL
11590,DOUGHTY,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL	17576,MIDDLETON,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL
17621,DOWNES,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL	17577,MIDDLETON,	NFK,	NW,	ALL
17011,DRUERY,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL	17636,MILLER,	NFK,	NW,	18C-19C
10774,DUFFIELD,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL	17577,MITCHELL,	NFK,	NW,	ALL
17458,EDMONDS,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL	17582,MOYES,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL
17636,EKE,	NFK,	CN,	18C	17677,NEAVE,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL
17629,ENGLAND,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL	17629,NEGUS,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL
11590,FAKE,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL	17582,NELSON,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL
17598,FALTRAP,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL	17677,NEVE,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL
17577,FISHER,	NFK,	NW,	ALL	17458,NOCK,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL
17677,FLOWERDAY,	ALL,	ALL,	ALL	17712,PEARCE,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL
17677,FLOWERDEW,	ALL,	ALL,	ALL	17458,PERKINS,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL
17677,FLOWERDY,	ALL,	ALL,	ALL	17636,PIGGIN,	NFK,	NC,	17C-20C
17629,FOWLE,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL	17621,PINNOCK,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL
16594,FOX,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL	11590,POWELL,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL
11859,FOX,	NFK,	ALL,	18C	17648,PRATT,	NFK,	NC,	17C-19C
17580,FRARY,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL	17645,PRIEST,	NFK,	NW,	15C-19C
11859,FROST,	NFK,	ALL,	18C	15399,QUANTRIL,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL
17599,FUTTER,	NFK,	ALL,	16C-20C	11859,RACKHAM,	NFK,	ALL,	18C-20C
11859,FUTTER,	NFK,	ALL,	18C-19C				
17598,GARRARD,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL				
17580,GIRDLESTONE,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL				
17629,GODDARD,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL				
17582,GOOCH,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL				
17266,GOWER,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL				
11590,GREEN,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL				
17634,GREEN,	NFK,	NC,	ALL				
17677,GUIBON,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL				
17677,GUIBON,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL				
17577,HAMMOND,	NFK,	NW,	ALL				
13532,HARROD,	NFK,	SW,	ALL				
17577,HARVY,	NFK,	NW,	ALL				
17643,HAZELL,	NFK,	ALL,	18C-20C				
17629,HERRING,	NFK,	ALL,	ALL				

To contact other members researching the same surname.

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

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

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

Rob's Round Up *with Robert Parker*

Bringing you information on what is available to the keen family researcher

Court and Criminal Records collection increases by nearly 700k (1821-1876) on TheGenealogist.

FamilySearch. 25 million new indexed records and 170k digital images across the world. Included are Great Britain, War Office Registers 1772-1935, check out all other new online archives from Australia to United States at <http://ow.ly/T80u30nWs0x>.

GRO. Certificate price increases announced from this February. Birth, marriage and death certificates for England and Wales increase from £9.25 to £11, PDF versions increase from £6 to £7.

London. FamilySearch Centre at The National Archives closed on 23rd March.

Military Records. One million entries for people recorded in the Second World War Casualty Lists (1939-1945) on TheGenealogist.

New York Records. Roman Catholic Parish Baptisms (1787-1916), Roman Catholic Parish Marriages (1819-1916) and Roman Catholic Parish Congregational Records for a number of parishes (1860-1915) on FindMyPast.

Parliament Archives. New website launched at <https://archives.parliament.uk/>

Portsmouth - Portsea Island rate Books (1700-1921), Portsmouth hospital records (1878-1918), Portsmouth Police Staff records (1908-1924), Portsmouth Quarter Sessions, Portsmouth Burials (1831-1902), Electoral registers (1832-1932), Portsmouth Trade Directories (1863-1927) on FindMyPast.

Scotland. 200K births, deaths and marriages (births 1918, marriages 1943 and deaths 1968) on ScotlandsPeople.

Westminster. Published by TheGenealogist as part of their 1910 The Lloyd George Domesday Survey.

West Norwood. 165K burial records from West Norwood Cemetery (Lambeth, London, 1837-2005) on deceasedonline.com

Worcestershire. 144k baptism records in partnership with Malvern FHS on TheGenealogist.

Workhouse Inmates (1861). 14k+ adult inmates named by Peter Higginbotham, resident for 5+ years. workhouses.org.uk

Rob's Round Up is brought to you by Robert Parker. For more information visit his website at <https://myfamilygenealogy.co.uk>

New record sets are identified from the world wide web and Social Media including Facebook and Twitter.

Ambrose Sutton- Saint or Sinner?

We cross the border into Suffolk and the Waveney Valley for the story of a pioneering Salvation Army member who married into a Norfolk family. But was Ambrose Sutton a saint or a sinner? NFHS member Tim Dye investigates.

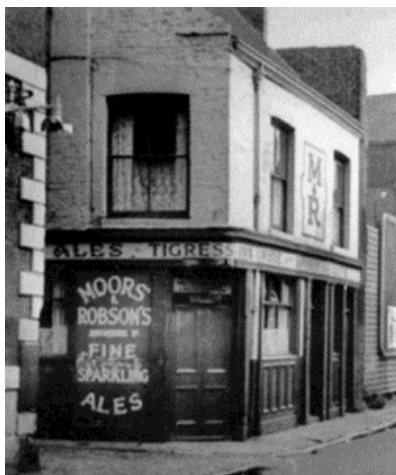
IN 1861 a Miss Georgiana SUTTON, a 22-year-old woman from Mettingham was a general servant at the New Exchange Inn, later the Tigress Inn (pictured opposite), in a less than salubrious area near the docks in Kingston upon Hull. The innkeeper Eli Warren had also originated from Suffolk, so may have been a family friend.

Georgiana became pregnant and returned to her parents' home to give birth on 28th March, 1863, to a son Ambrose, without naming his father.

Young Ambrose stayed in Mettingham to be brought up by his grandparents. His mother continued in service in Kingston upon Hull and, still unmarried, had two more children, one a girl also sent to live with her grandparents.

Ambrose started work as a farm labourer on Prospect Farm, Mettingham, with his grandfather and later joined the Salvation Army. This organisation had been established about 20 years earlier in the East End of London by evangelists William Booth and his wife Catherine. As social reformers reaching out to the poor and destitute, they met with firm opposition from some quarters. Catherine also fought for women to be able to preach in church meetings.

Thomas HUXLEY attacked the Salvation Army's "religious fanaticism" and the Anglican Church had strong reservations about their forms of worship - one bishop describing them as having "ludicrous stage properties". Accusations of sexual immorality at their meetings



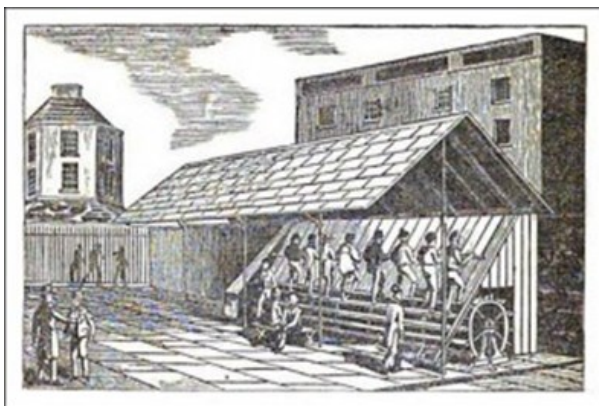
were made but proved groundless. Despite this, in the 1870s small local groups began to attack the Salvationists by throwing rotten food, damaging instruments and flags or even singing obscene versions of their songs at their meetings.

Worse was to come: By the 1880s several local authorities regarded the Salvation Army's open-air meetings as obstructions of public space. Publicans, brewers and hoteliers on the south coast claimed their gatherings with brass bands would damage the tourist trade. More seriously the authorities were beginning to turn a blind eye to more serious violent attacks by organised groups calling themselves the "Skeleton Army".

On the 13th June, 1889, Ambrose Sutton, was one of 32 Salvationists, including 12 band members, who had gathered in Bungay Market Place. Suddenly a horse and cart owned by J.P. COKER, a racing horse breeder of Earsham Park and driven by his groom Edward COE, raced up from Bridge Street and allegedly charged into some lady Salvationists. Twenty-six year-old Ambrose broke from the ranks of the Salvation Army to grab the horse's bridle and stop the cart from being driven over the women. The animal reared when seized and was left for the night at the King's Head as it was not fit to be driven home.

The groom claimed Ambrose had obstructed the highway by grabbing the horse and so Ambrose was summoned. A week later at Bungay Petty Sessions' court the groom denied that if the defendant had not stopped him he would have driven over some women. The defence stated that the cart had touched the women before Ambrose got hold of the horse. This defence was rejected and on June 20th, 1889, magistrates C.F.H COLLISSON and R. D. FRENCH fined the defendant 10s plus 10s 6d costs or 14 days in prison.

An attempt by the defence to obtain a summons against the groom for driving into the group was rejected and the defendant was held in custody. Salvation Army Officers had been told not to pay fines in such circumstances, so Ambrose was taken to Ipswich jail and put on the treadmill. Public interest in such incidents was high, including one on 24th June when 600 Salvationists marched down the Strand in London and had their banners broken by the police.

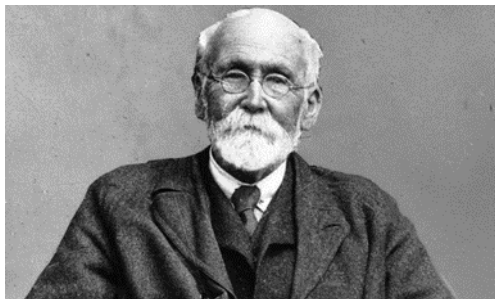


including one on 24th June when 600 Salvationists marched down the Strand in London and had their banners broken by the police.

Suffolk MP Francis STEVENSON first queried Ambrose's imprisonment to the House of Commons with no result. Three days later it was raised again, this time by another social reformer Joshua ROWNTREE, the noted Liberal MP for

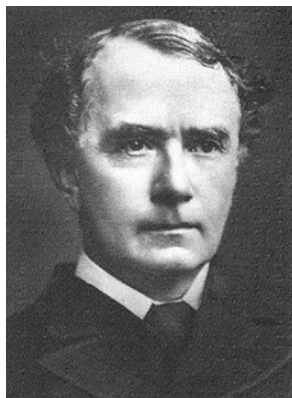
Scarborough and an active Quaker. In Parliament on 5th July, 1889, Hansard records him challenging Sir Henry Matthews, the Secretary of State for the Home Department and a staunch Catholic, as follows:

"I beg to ask if it is correct that Ambrose Sutton, a member of the Salvation Army who was sentenced to a fine of 16s 6d including costs for obstructing the highway was put to hard labour, and underwent five hours on the treadmill each day, in addition to picking oakum? and if Ambrose Sutton was in weak health, suffering from a complaint which caused him to vomit a quantity of blood;? and if such punishment was authorised by the sentence inflicted? and if inquiry will be made into the fitness of such punishment pending his appeal?"



Sir Henry Matthews replied:

"From 21st of June Ambrose Sutton was put to hard labour on the tread wheel for five hours instead of the usual six hours each day for four days. The remainder of each day he was employed on oakum-picking. On 28th June an appeal was received at the prison and the prisoner discharged on entering into recognizances and no evidence beyond trifling ailments on 26th and 27th June, on which days he had no labour provision is made for the cessation of hard labour under the medical officer's advice."*



Joshua Rowntree then asked:

"Is it usual to pass a sentence of hard labour in default of the payment of a 10s fine?"

Sir Henry Matthews replied:

"I can hardly say that it is usual, but it is very common."

Sadly violence against Salvationists became widespread as many local authorities refused to prosecute those who disturbed or attacked them. In 1892 Parliament finally intervened and gave legal support to their open-air meetings.

Ambrose recovered from his ordeal and, in 1891, married a Norfolk girl called Anna RUNNICLES. They had three children (Eva, Jessie and Ambrose junior) and went to live in Bungay where Ambrose got a job as a carter for a corn merchant.

He should have stuck to carting corn as in 1915 he was summoned for moving a

pig from Bungay to Beccles without a licence!

Ambrose William Sutton died in June 1939 aged 76.

Tim Dye MN 16509

NOTES

* *Recognizances: a bond by which a person undertakes to observe some condition, especially to appear when summoned.*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Hansard

Wikipedia

Getty Images

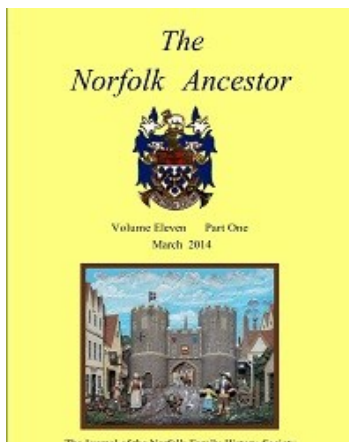
The Ipswich Journal archive

The East Suffolk Gazette

Ancestry website www.ancestry.co.uk

Salvation Army website www.salvationarmy.org.uk

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VOLUNTEERS' CORNER

NORFOLK Family History Society is operated by volunteers and the Trustees would like to thank them all for their hard work in ensuring the success of the Society. New volunteers are welcome at any time – contact

volunteers@nfhs.co.uk

This quarter we welcome the following new volunteers: Heather Etteridge, Cheryl Joy, Tony Rose, Rodney Spelman, Jenny Childerhouse, Denise Sullivan and Robert Browne.

The Society is sad to announce the death of Barbara Walker (21/06/1932 – 26/01/2019) member number 2342.

Barbara joined the old Norfolk and Norwich Genealogical Society in 1989, working as a library volunteer at Kirby House. In 1993 she became Publicity and Meetings Organiser in Norwich, initially sharing the role with John Cockings and then David Hipperson, until she took on sole responsibility which she carried out for 15 years. During that time, she was also joint membership secretary for two years before taking up the role full time for a further two years.

Barbara was one of the founders of the Norwich branch and acted as its chairman from 1994 until Roy Scott took over in June, 1997. They swapped roles after the AGM in 1998 when Roy became membership secretary and Barbara returned as chairman of the Norwich branch until she retired a decade later in June, 2009, due to ill health. She had been the main organiser for nearly 15 years and continued to attend the Friday branch talks for several years afterwards. Barbara helped initiate the programme of speaker meetings and member-help-evenings, both with refreshments, quizzes, mini-tours around Norwich plus a Christmas social. She never failed to submit a report to The Norfolk Ancestor about the branch meetings on a wide range of speaker-topics and was unfailingly friendly, helpful and hard-working.

Volunteers Needed

TREASURER:

The role entails:

- Ensuring the charity keeps proper records of accounts.
- Regularly reviewing the charity's financial performance and making recommendations re banking/investments to the Board of Trustees.
- Ensuring robust financial controls are in place.
- Liaising with the charity's independent examiner.

- Reporting on financial matters to the members via the Trustees Report.

It is a requirement of the role that the treasurer becomes a Trustee of the Society. The incumbent will have a good working knowledge of Word and Excel spreadsheets. The Society uses Sage Accounts and full training will be given if necessary.

ASSISTANT TO THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

The membership secretary plays an important role in the Society as he/she is responsible for maintaining our membership records, entering renewals and new members. He/She is also responsible for providing lists of information for the Norfolk Ancestor and creating mailing lists to members.

The job of membership secretary has grown in the past few years and we feel that an assistant will help share the workload.

If you are interested in any of the above roles please contact

treasurer@nfhs.co.uk.

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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. This is free of charge.

Geographical Correction

WHILST reading last December's issue of The Norfolk Ancestor I found an error on page 25 in Wacton Parish Registers Update. Cramlington, Yorkshire. is referred to but in fact is Cramlington, Northumberland, which is now a town, then a village, around 10 miles north of the then City and County of Newcastle upon Tyne.

Ken Howe MN 15578.

History is Fun

I do find The Norfolk Ancestor interesting reading and my congratulations to all involved. In particular, I always find the South Norfolk Group reports of particular interest and I can appreciate the amount of work undertaken in compiling these reports.

I belong to three family history societies and Maidenhead U3A FH Group. I am always pleading with my fellow researchers to write up the results of their research into a readable form that can be understood by family members without the need for deep analysis to understand it. In our U3A group I am the only one to have gone so far to have written my history up in a book form, giving social and general history backgrounds where I can, related to the various generations in my family history as well as noting deaths caused by plagues, etc. A lot of hard work but great fun handing out copies of the book to cousins as well as close family members.

Many thanks for all the excellent work done.

Brian Schirn, MN. 6022

More on John Norman

WE have been contacted by Barbara Smith who has asked us to clarify the following points from our recent feature on John Norman.

Paragraph One – I don't know where John Norman was born but he was baptised at St Giles church on 20th April, 1657. I verified this from your records at Kirby Hall when I visited in September. John Norman did have connections with St Peter Parmentergate having been a church warden there.

Paragraph Three - John Norman married Ann Mace in Norwich Cathedral in 1713. She died in 1714 during John's term as Mayor and was interred at St Peter Permountergate. Ann Mace was not a widow, she was the daughter of Thomas Mace.

Grandfather Helped with Emigration

MY enquiry is whether anyone has knowledge of how to trace some aspects of my grandfather, John William CLARKE, born 1858 and resident in the Norwich and later Salhouse area, who had a responsible civic position as "Police Court Missioner". He was supposedly active in helping Norwich people emigrate to new lives in Canada (1908-13 period), working with personnel at the firm Colmans of Norwich (I believe). He even sponsored the sending of three sons to Canada, brothers of my own grandfather. Are there records in Norwich City archives? I have asked Unilever (keepers of Colman records), but they have not been able to assist, with the verbal history passed along within the family.

Philip Clarke MN 11522: pd.c.itworks@btopenworld.com

Memorial Query

WHILE pottering around Lancaster Cemetery looking for memorials which mention First World War casualties, as opposed to actual war graves, I noticed a headstone which reads:

In loving memory of Rachel Galliene fourth daughter of the late Rev John Galliene Bichard Vicar of Surlingham, Norfolk. Born March 22nd 1848, Fell asleep in Jesus May 28th 1917.

Also of Elizabeth Wakeford Bichard his youngest daughter. Born June 5th 1852 Fell asleep May 9th 1919.

I have no idea how they ended up in Lancaster, I thought these might be of interest to NFHS members.

John Gedge MN 17053

Lessey Family Research

I live in Berkshire so it is difficult to visit Norfolk very frequently. I am following my wife's ancestors in Norfolk, so far, back three generations to Samuel LESSEY ~1776 -1849 in Great Yarmouth. The Lessey family is extensive and it is proving difficult to confirm links, made more difficult by several spelling variations and (as I was told in Kirby Hall) LESSEY could also be heard as LACEY or LACY with a Norfolk dialect.

I have set up an Excel spreadsheet, which now has over 500 entries back to 1502. I believe Samuel's father was Ambrose and his mother Mary DEW married 1770 in Hunworth. Mary Dew seems to be a very common name in that area and I am trying to determine which is the correct one. There are three Mary DEW

baptised in Wiverton.

17/12/1749 F John M Mary.

23/12/1749 F John M Est(h)er.

03/06/1751 F Thomas M Mary.

I have found a marriage between John DEW and Est(h)er Strangro(o)m 20/10/1749 Cley next the Sea. In the original parish record her surname is spelt Strangrom.

Coincidentally the next entry in the parish record is Margaret Strangroom marrying Wm. Rowland 08/11/1751

Is Esther in your tree, if so, have you followed the daughter Mary to a marriage?

Hopefully, this would confirm whether or not I can eliminate this Mary DEW.

David Wooldridge MN 13338

DIANA SPELMAN BA

Norfolk Research Specialist **(since 1982)**

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



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VOLUNTEERS

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

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

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.

Group Reports

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

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

London: Mary Fisk, Flat 3, Butterfield House, 7 Allen Road, London N16 8SB
Email: mary975@btinternet.com (home) and ms28@soas.ac.uk (work).

London Group

We have our programme at the Society of Genealogists booked up until October, 2020.

Meetings will be between 2 and 4 pm as usual with refreshments provided afterwards in the common room. If you are in the London area please do come along. Scheduled events are as follows:

Saturday October 19th, 2019

Anthony Marr will give his talk "Hatch, Match and Despatch" which he describes as a 'general introduction to really understanding the records of civil registration – and the complex set of rules that govern the way the information is recorded'.

If you have any "problematic" certificates that you would like to discuss with Anthony, please bring them along.

Saturday March 14th, 2020

Talk by Ian Waller – topic to be confirmed.

Saturday October 17th, 2020

Members' Day

A report of the talks at our Members' Day on March 9th, 2019. will be included in a future edition of Norfolk Ancestor.

Mary Fisk

Surnames and Victorian Prisons

Reports by Jenny Jenkins

IN February the Diss Group enjoyed two presentations. On 12th February Charlie Haydock talked to us on the 'History of Surnames. Charlie is a historian and author and one could add entertainer to his credentials as it was a very amusing evening. The surnames we know today have their roots far back in history but we can still see traces of them if we are aware what to look for. Following the departure of the Romans, Britain was occupied by the Anglo Saxons, Fresians, Jutes and then the Vikings. Surnames did not exist but people had to be identified in one way or another, therefore nicknames were used which related to their place of residence, trade or physical appearance. The Vikings were particularly keen on warrior and folklore names which denoted strength like Wolf, Boar and Elf which was a tall fair warrior. Wolf has morphed into Wolsey and similar. These names would be embossed on their helmets.



It was all about recognition. The name Armstrong speaks for itself as does Thatcher. All the children in a family would have a different nickname according to their appearance or other factors. Confusingly a person may not have kept the same name throughout his life. Many names were locative and peculiar to a certain county, which we still see today. Often somebody's name would change because of altered circumstances. A good example of this is the name Thorndyke which means 'dweller by the thorny ditch' and Crick 'dweller by the creek.' A change of dwelling could promote a change of name. Moving forward a few centuries, the Normans arrived and they brought an end to this chaotic form of identification by making hereditary names compulsory because it was important in the inheritance of land and property. Charlie pointed out that Normandy had been occupied by the Norsemen, hence the word Normandy and the roots of their language as well. After their arrival the English gradually added 10,000 words. Apart from the spoken word the structure of the written word was also evolving and there were many variations to describe the son of somebody. If 'ette' appeared at the end of a name it meant 'little' or 'son of' in Norman French. The name Pritchard refers to the son of Richard. In Ireland an O in front of a name is for grandson. Apparently the letter W was peculiar to England and Wales. G was pronounced as a Y. Later Protestants and Catholics would have a different pronunciation of H. These are just a few examples of a huge subject. Charlie had requested Betty Morley to forward him a list of surnames of interest to our mem-

bers so it was interesting to have an on the spot expert to give us a definitive explanation. I was fascinated to learn that my own maiden name Ruddock is Old English and refers to a robin or redbreast, thus a nickname for a warrior with a red breastplate or someone who behaved like a robin. I think I quite like the latter meaning. In the course of Charlie's career he has given many presentations and he related some amusing anecdotes concerning people's reactions. At one meeting a young man— a Cockney- refused to believe that any of his ancestors came from anywhere other than London. He was very vocal on this point as Charlie demonstrated, to much laughter. The surname in question was Lavenham. Another episode that stuck in Charlie's mind was when he was giving a talk to a Women's Institute group.

He was a trifle reticent in divulging the meaning of one lady's name because she appeared to be very straight laced. However, when he gave in and told her that her name meant 'someone who was a libertine' she thought it was wonderful. It is amazing to think that something as simple as a name has so many origins and forms and how lucky we are that historians like Charlie keep the subject alive in their books and presentations.

On the afternoon of 19th February a number of members met at The Lophams Village Hall in the afternoon for a talk by Mike Wabe, attired in the uniform of a gaoler for his talk 'Life and Death in a Victorian Gaol.' Going to gaol was not a pleasant experience as the emphasis was on punishment to dissuade offenders from a life of crime. However the lure of three meals a day however sparse and basic and being able to wash did encourage some to reoffend. Mike quoted the example of one man who was unable during the time of his incarceration to finish reading the Bible, which was given to all prisoners. He was desperate to do so and reoffended just for that purpose! Men and women were treated equally with regard to their sentencing although separated.

After sentencing the guilty were taken straight to gaol. It was preferable for that to happen early in the morning because then the bath water was clean. As it wasn't changed until next morning one can only imagine what it was like by the end of the day. The cell contained a mattress, a bucket with a lid which doubled as a stool and a cup and plate which had to be thoroughly washed after use. The prisoner was issued with a clean uniform and brushes to keep nails and hair clean as well as a face mask called a peak which they had to wear if outside the cell. They were not allowed to speak. All prisoners worked. The women were deployed in the laundry while the men were put to hard labour which could be on the treadmill or turning a crank or there was shot drill. This entailed moving a pile of 35lb metal balls from one side of the yard to another. Another task was picking oakum. The process of unpicking 3lb of rope a day released oakum fibres into the atmosphere and had similar effects on the lungs as inhaling asbestos. The diet was poor. Breakfast was 8oz of bread and a pint of tea, dinner was poor quality meat with vegetables, accompanied by bread and tea. At the end of the day they received 6oz of cheese and 6oz of bread with cocoa. Punishments

were harsh. Those being flogged could receive up to 36 lashes. Mike had brought with him a selection of restraints and manacles, some for the hands, some for the feet and some cruel devices which constrained both, severely limiting movement. Hangings had originally been executed by a process known as 'The Short Drop.' This method was not ideal. Death was effected by strangulation and although a victim would become unconscious within a few seconds they could remain alive for up to 20 minutes. It was not ideal and distressing for the staff but this practice persisted until 1874 and the appointment of William Marwood. He perfected the Long Drop after rigorous testing with ropes and bags of sand which led to a table based on height, weight and physique. This method broke the neck and death occurred instantly. It was used for over a hundred years. Mike also spoke about the technical aspects of the procedure, the construction and operating of the trapdoor and the rituals observed in the last

LEAVE NO STONE UNTURNED

IT was a pleasure to welcome back John Vigar to speak to the Diss Group on 12th March. This time his topic was 'No Stone Unturned' in which he encouraged us to cast our eyes around when we are searching graveyards for our ancestors as you never know who else might be interred and commemorated nearby. John has made many discoveries of his own. His first character was Jerome K. Jerome, the famous author who lies in the graveyard at St. Mary's Church in Ewelme, Oxfordshire. It wasn't an easy path to fame for Jerome who was born into a prosperous family in Staffordshire in 1859. He had a good education as a boy but the family descended into poverty after the flooding of his father's coal mine. The young Jerome began his working life in a railway ticket office but had aspirations to be an actor. However, success on the stage eluded him and he frequently found himself sleeping rough in church porches and hedges so he decided to try his luck in journalism. His first job was as a lowly freelance pennyliner, which meant he got paid by the line, but things started to improve when he got a job as an agony aunt known as Aunt Fanny. Fortunately he knew enough women to consult over the mainly female problems that arrived in the newspaper's mail box. He doggedly dabbled with various literary projects but was unsuccessful until the publishing of 'Three Men in a Boat.' He never looked back. Incidentally he had been baptised with the middle name Clapp but he had changed it to Klappa in honour of a Hungarian friend. Jerome died in 1928.

Florence Nightingale's father was a diplomat and the family were in Florence when she was born. She went against her father's wishes when she decided that she wished to become a nurse. The determined Florence was not to be deflected from her ambition and as everybody knows she revolutionised nursing. When The Crimean War broke out she was able to gather support and money because of her position in society. The Times started a Crimea War Fund in 1854 at her instigation. Angela Courtis of the wealthy banking family was a wealthy philanthropist and proved to be a useful friend. Apart from her donations of money she also had a huge wooden dryer with a combined heater shipped over to Scutari, which bore a plaque stating 'Wet clothes will give in.' John showed us a picture of the enormous contraption. When

Angela was 60 she married her 29-year-old American secretary and was cut out of the family money. Florence died in 1810 and is buried in the churchyard at East Wel-
low in Hampshire where a monument with a simple inscription marks her life. When John introduced his next character he said that of all the people in history that he would like to have been, Bess of Hardwick was a strong contender. Bess became immensely wealthy by marrying well four times. She was also famous for building the magnificent Hardwick Hall, a feat immortalised with the words 'Hardwick Hall more glass than wall.' A shrewd business woman who had her fingers in many profitable enterprises including a glass factory, Bess carried on until she was in her early 70s. She was denied a peaceful old age because her remaining years were clouded by worries about her granddaughter who, being connected by blood to Mary Queen of Scots, James 1st and Charles 1st was a political pawn. An innocent victim of the machinations of powerful people, she died a prisoner in The Tower of London aged 39. Bess passed away in 1608 and was buried in All Saints Church in Derby which has since been elevated to the status of cathedral.

John said that the iron work in All Saints is the finest he has ever seen. Bess, true to form, had commissioned a splendid tomb with her figure carved in alabaster on a plinth with a space left in the inscription for the date of her death. It was duly added at the cost of one shilling and sixpence. Her husband, The Earl of Shrewsbury had made no such provision for himself and his date of death wasn't added until the present Earl arranged for it to be done 30 years ago. When the carver questioned the competence of his 17th Century predecessor, pointing out that one of the fingers had an extra knuckle, the Earl proffered his own hand with a smile. He had the same anomaly.

In 1803, Joseph Paxman was born into a humble farming family. He was employed in various gardening jobs but, when working at the Royal Horticultural Society gardens in Chiswick, he was noticed by the Duke of Devonshire who was impressed by his work and took him on as his head gardener. The Duke had a giant water lily which did not flower. He consulted his new head gardener who said the lily needed a micro climate to flourish and to this end Paxman designed and built a greenhouse with a distinctive rib and furrow roof. The Lily bloomed two years later. He built a huge conservatory to a similar pattern and then designed one of his major works, a towering gravity-fed fountain, a record-breaking feat of engineering for the time. Being twice the height of Nelson's column it required the creation of a huge feeder lake for which 100,000 cubic yards of soil were excavated close by.

In 1851 Paxman heard that all the plans that had been submitted for the design of the main hall for the Great Exhibition had been turned down, over 200 of them. He put forward his plan for a magnificent building of cast iron and plate glass and it was accepted. It is said that a quarter of the population attended the event. After the exhibition there were still debts outstanding so Joseph formed a company to purchase it and pay off the debt. It was rebuilt on land behind his house at Sydenham. The village of Edensor was built on the land of the Chatsworth estate but the Duke thought it was a bit of an eyesore as it spoiled his view. It had to be moved and in 1838 Joseph was put in charge of the six year project to move and rebuild the village, complete with its church. He became a reasonably wealthy man because, although he remained as head gardener of the estate, he was becoming recognised for his groundbreaking

designs and was at liberty to take on whatever commissions he wished. On his death in 1865 he was buried in St. Peter's Church in Edensor.

Apparently the fact that an MP could not be sent to prison in the 1800s influenced Benjamin Disraeli's choice of career. As a bright young man of Italian-Jewish descent he struggled to make money and had ambitions greater than being a solicitor's clerk. An unwise investment in South American mining shares left him in debt but he was lucky in his friends because Lord Bentinck sponsored him and loaned him the money to buy a country estate in Buckinghamshire and he married a wealthy widow some years older than him. Disraeli was very much the dandy and popular with women. He also published a number of novels. When Bentinck died the loan was called in, but another wealthy woman came to his financial aid on the proviso that she would pay off his debt if when she died she could be buried with him. It was agreed. He used her fortune to extend his house. One wonders what his wife Mary Ann thought. However, she died before Disraeli, who died in 1881. They are interred in the churchyard of St. Michael and All Saints Church in Hughenden in Buckinghamshire.

In Hempstead in Essex John came across William Harvey, a 17th Century physician, born in Folkestone, Kent, who had attended both James 1st and Charles 1st. It was Harvey who discovered that blood was circulated around the body, pumped by the heart. He published numerous papers on his scientific findings and travelled throughout Europe to speak to the medical experts of the time. John related a funny anecdote concerning Harvey's belief that the male sex is superior to the female. To demonstrate this Harvey used a pair of parrots and was writing a paper on the subject. When the presumed male bird died, he discovered it was a female. That paper was never published but nevertheless he was widely respected for his contributions to medicine and his memorial was paid for by The College of Surgeons.

Another colourful character was Francis Dashwood, Earl of Despencher. One usually associates his name with the notorious Hellfire Club but Francis was much more than that. He rewrote the prayer book. He became Chancellor of the Exchequer as well as being Post Master General, at which time he instigated the postal service. As a young man he had taken The Grand Tour and was greatly impressed with Italian architecture. When a friend died, leaving him the sum of £500 for an arch, grotto or temple Frances lost no time in building an extraordinary mausoleum. He also transformed the house and garden on his West Wycombe estate by remodelling them in the Italianate style. The tower of the church of St. Lawrence, he capped with a golden ball. Another friend, a poet, left him his heart which he kept in an urn, displayed with other artifacts near the church but this odd gift was swallowed by an Australian tourist. Francis died in 1781 and is buried in the mausoleum he designed on the estate.

Lastly came Lady Castlemaine, mistress of Charles 2nd. Barbara Palmer, Duchess of Cleveland, had born Charles five children and although there were always others, she had been with him a long time and was recognised by all at court although some resented her influence. In 1670, Charles created her Baroness of Nonsuch. She was a beauty by all accounts but when her looks began to fade, Charles turned to one much younger. Lady Castlemaine went to Paris to lick her wounds. When she returned four years later she was reconciled with the King. She was buried in the cemetery at Chiswick after her death in 1709.

Genealogists and Psychological Inheritance

THE strands of building a family tree are many and varied. Now there is even more to genealogy. Author Helen Drabble-Parker takes us through some of the influences we experience even before our birth.

YOU'VE painstakingly built a family tree, explored where your ancestors lived and delved into social history, but have you considered your grandparent's psychological inheritance? When we consider inheritance we usually think of money, property or sentimental keepsakes. But we know from research that even before our birth we are influenced by the mental, emotional and behavioural patterns of our mother, the family around us and those who came before. This phenomenon is known as psychological inheritance.

This emotional genealogy refers to the traits, reactions and patterns of behaviour that are passed down through the genes and persist over time. We, like our ancestors, carry them with us, from situation to situation. The traits unwittingly handed down in our family lineage can be positive or negative. For example, even if we were nurtured in a toxic fashion, we might still be endowed with optimism, gratitude, a love of nature, resilience, intelligence, talent, kindness, a spirit for adventure, humour, the ability to forgive and the capacity to love. On the other hand, we might have inherited patterns of anger, trauma, cruelty, avoidance, violence, fear or dissociation, even if our family environment is supportive and warm.

If these negative traits are not acknowledged and addressed, we run the risk of passing them on to future generations, through our genes.

How Does Psychological Inheritance Happen?

Scientists are becoming increasingly aware that diet and chemicals in our environment can influence our genes; these influences are known as epigenetic changes. However, recent studies show that in addition to physical toxins, abuse, neglect, addiction and other severe stress can result in more than toxic memories. Health and medical journalist and author Dan Hurley explains:

"Like silt deposited on the cogs of a finely tuned machine after the seawater of a tsunami recedes, our experiences, and those of our forebears, are never gone, even if they have been forgotten. They become a part of us, a molecular residue holding fast to our genetic scaffolding. The DNA remains the same, but psychological and behavioural tendencies are inherited."

Why Does It Matter?

If negative experience is not transformed into something healthy and positive, the symptoms of that experience are transmitted to the next generation – and

the next. In his book “It Didn’t Start with You,” award-winning psychologist Mark Wolynn tells us that the source of unexplained depression, anxiety, fears, phobias, obsessive thoughts and certain physical symptoms can be traced back to genetics. Some scientists refer to such symptoms as secondary post-traumatic stress disorder. And there is a growing body of evidence that we inherit (and pass on) the negative feelings of our family of origin, even if it is not our parents that raised us.

To understand my grandfather Walter Parker, born in Upwell, Norfolk, in 1885, I turned toward various psychological theories to shed light on his emotional inheritance. As I examined family stories and the records used by genealogists, I uncovered an intergenerational legacy of loss, anxiety, depression and trauma. As in many families I also discovered an alcoholic. In Walter’s life it was his mother.

Despite the psychological inheritance Walter received, his parents and community taught him the skills he would need to get by in adult life. As children, Walter and his peers knew they were needed. They understood their chores, foraging, fishing and earnings contributed meaningfully to the well-being of their working-class family. As difficult as living with an alcoholic mother was, Walter’s competencies and resilience grew and, with this knowledge and assurance, he was able to strike out on his own, to build a new life for himself from scratch, beyond what he had inherited.

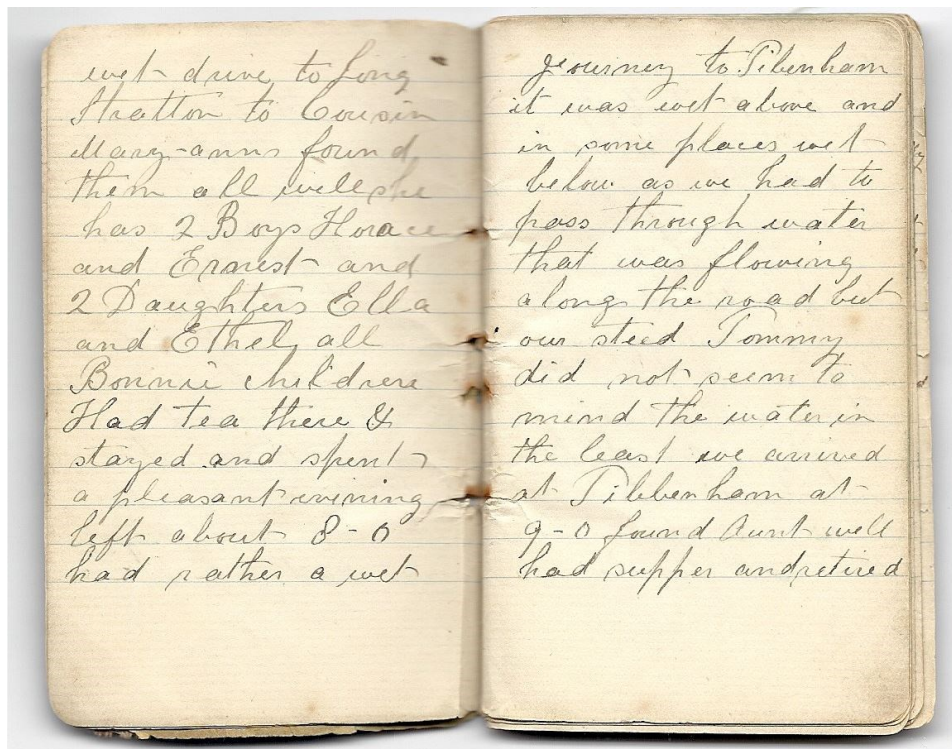
The Good News

The good news for my grandfather Walter is the good news for all of us. Our psychological inheritance need not define how we live out our lives. The cycle *can* be broken. We cannot know our ancestors’ psychological inheritance; but by using psychological research we can examine the records available to us and speculate in an informed way. We can honour those who came before and acknowledge what they endured so we could live.

Helen Parker-Drabble is the author of “Who Do I Think You Were? A Victorian’s Inheritance.” She is a life-long explorer of social history and weaver of factual family tales, with a diploma in counselling. Fascinated by psychological theory and the stories we develop to make sense of ourselves and our family, Helen’s original quest was to understand her Victorian grandfather, Walter Parker.

*Family history doesn’t survive unless it’s in print, which is why Helen set out to write an engaging and accessible biography that would not only explore working-class Victorian life in an English village through the eyes of her grandfather, but could motivate and encourage other family historians struggling to pass on what they have painstakingly discovered. The result, in part, is an exploration of transgenerational legacy of loss, trauma, anxiety and depression. Helen is now not simply a genealogist, but a geneatherapist, investigating the roots of inherited traits, bringing them into the light and seeking to heal (and help others learn to heal) future generations. Helen can be contacted through her website www.helenparkerdrabble.com or on Facebook: *factual tales*.*

Diary of a 19th Century Visit



Eighteen-year-old Ellen Dade kept a diary in 1894 of her visit to great aunts and uncles and their offspring in Fornsett, Tibenham, the Pulhams, Starston and across the border into Suffolk at Stuston. Ellen travelled by train, pony and trap and on foot and was keen to record journey times between the towns and villages along with other observations. Norfolk Family History member Jennifer Bangs sent us the following accounts of that journey.

William DADE (1814-1896) was born in Palgrave, Suffolk, one of ten children. In the 1840s he and two of his brothers: George (1816-76), Henry (1818-84), then later also Daniel (1829-68), migrated northwards into the Fens, presuma-

bly in search of agricultural work. William settled in Murrow, Cambridgeshire but must have kept in touch with his parents and the siblings he left behind because in July, 1894, his granddaughter Ellen Dade (1876-1930) visited some of them - her great aunts, uncles and cousins who were now living close to the Norfolk/Suffolk border along the Waveney Valley.

She wrote about her visit in a small notebook which was found about a century later among some family papers. Ellen Dade was my great aunt, sister of my grandfather Harry Dade (1874-1957).

In her 'diary' her punctuation was sparse so I have added some to make more sense. The spelling and grammar are variable – most of which I have left as it is in the original.

July 11th 1894 Started on a tour

Nelly Dade the writer started from the Murrow Station at 7.25 for Lynn arrived at Lynn about 8.30 train late. Walked about Lynn saw some of the Lynn people some of them appeared in a hurry some of them quietly walking along the writer among the latter number.

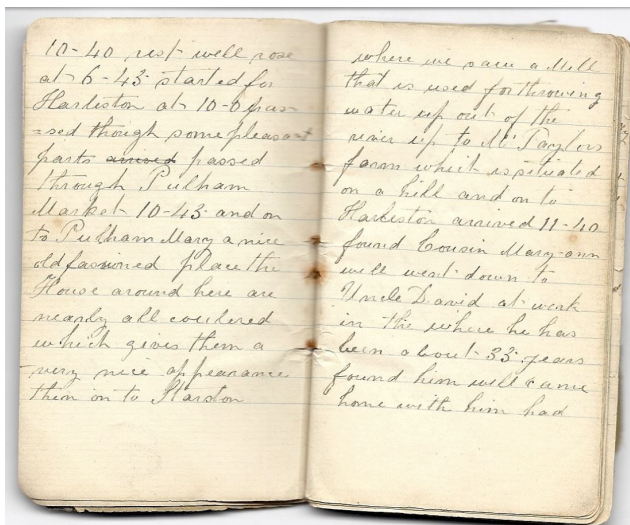
Started from Lynn 9.37 passed through a pleasant part but things did not look at their best owing to the very heavy rain that has visited that part of the country. Arrived at Wymondham about 11.28 train due to start for Fornsett 11.32. Started 5 minutes late arrived at Fornsett about 12.10. Found Uncle Walter (Dade) waiting for us, had a rather wet drive to Long Stratton to cousin Mary-Ann's (PYMER) found them well she has two boys Horace and Ernest and two daughters Ella and Ethel all bonnie children. Had tea there I stayed and spent a pleasant evening left about 8. Had a rather wet journey to Tibenham it was wet above and in some places wet below as we had to pass through water that was flowing along the road but our steed Tommy did not seem to mind the water in the least we arrived at Tibenham at 9. found Aunt well had supper and retired 10.40.

Tuesday

Rest well rose at 6.45. Started for Harleston at 10 passed through some pleasant parts, passed through Pulham Market at 10.43 and on to Pulham Mary a nice old fashioned place. The houses around here are nearly all coulered (sic) which gives them a very nice appearance, then on to Starston where we saw a mill that is used for throwing water up out of the river up to Mr Taylor's farm which is situated on a hill and on to Harleston. Arrived at 11.40 found cousin Mary-Ann well went down to Uncle David (Dade) at work in the (place) where he has been about 35 years, found him well. Came home with him had dinner at 1.20 went for a walk went down the Waveney Valley and Oh What a beautiful sight opened to view the waterfall put me in mind of the falls of Niagara only of course on a smaller scale. Round by the low road in to Harleston down to the Garden everything looked well, home to tea. Waited until 8 to see if cousin Harry (Dade) would come but he did not so started, had not got far on the road when

on hearing a bicycle bell sound saw Harry coming along at racing speed. Caught us on the railway bridge was very glad to have seen him as we had not met for years bid him goodbye and started on the way once more. The shades of evening was fast closing in but cheered by the Bells of Pulham (St) Mary pounding in the stillness of the evening. Began to rain a little, on through Pulham Market, a little more rain and still darker. Arrived home

10.20 had supper and went to bed after spending a very nice day.



Wednesday

Arose in the morning 6.44 had breakfast of course. Went with Uncle to look at some young beast belonging to Dennis (Trudgill). Went on to see Dennis he and his family well, went to look at the crops they look fairly well, the mangolds rather above the average. His Horses look well also his cows. A little more rain not much. Started with Uncle Walter for home. Have had a good dinner a thing that is really necessary to keep up ones strength. Now 3.10 starting for Cousin Ellen's for tea arrived 3.30 Dennis has 3 Children all Boys the oldest Walter a fine bright looking curly headed boy & Wesley the second a fine boy 3 years old next September, and the youngest about 10 months named Harry. There was a little more rain but the weather looks better, had tea 5.10 stayed until 8.50 walked home, the distance about 1 mile, all the way the road is on the descent. Arrived at Uncles 9.50 had supper went to bed and rested well.

Thursday

Rose at 6.30 finished Breakfast at 8 it really looks like being finer today. Went to see that Dennis 3 little beast was allright and as Uncle is going down to Ellen's to Churn I am going with him. Arrived at Ellen's at 9.20, looked at Dennis field of Beet, the day is nice and fine. Uncle Churned for Ellen, got Butter in about $\frac{3}{4}$ of an hour. Ellen got about 11 score and a $\frac{1}{2}$ eggs in last week but of course they keep about 50 hens. Started with Uncle for home, was passing a Gentlemans garden where I saw some Bees Flying about and of course I could not resist the temptation of walking up to the gate to have a look. The Gentleman saw us and invited us inside but the little insects did not seem to appreciate the intrusion so

we did not stay long. I have heard tell of people having a bee in their bonnet I very soon had one or two in my hair, the gentleman took them out one them appeared more determined than the others, stung uncle on the side of the head. I am going to see the Gentleman at 3.30 to have some talk about Bees after Dining. About 12.30 went to have a look at Tibenham Church what a grand old place there is a nice organ, went with Uncle up to the Bellchamber there are 6 Bells very large ones never having seen a set of Bells I stayed and had a good look. I just tapped one of the bells and it sounded as though it could hear one miles away, went up higher out upon the roof and had a good look around the village looked very nice from the Church. It is an old fashioned place built principally of clay and then washed over with a pink wash giving the houses a very nice appearance, the village lies in a valley.

There are 4 roads all leading down into the village, came down from the Church tower there are 101 steps. Was time to go to take Bee lessons so went across the footpath sat on a stile a few minutes and looked down upon the village, it was a buitiful (sic) view, I was one field from the village and the Chimneys appeared to be as low as where I stood, it was a buitiful (sic) sight but having other engagements had to pass on.

Saw the Beemaster had a good look round his apiary found the Bees very busy getting honey on the sections, went with the Gentleman to transfer a swarm from skep to hive. Of course I had a hand in it, performed our duties satisfactorily, bid the Gentleman good evening and went on to Dennis to tea. At about 6.35 after tea had a walk, came back, Dennis and Ellen walked down to Uncles with us. Went in 9.40 having spent a very pleasant day, went to bed and after closing my curtains went to sleep slept well.

Friday 5.23

It looks like being a fine one, are going to Stuston to see Uncle and Aunt (Eliza and Noah Elsey) and cousins that live there. Aunt Mary has been very not well in the night but is much better now. Started for Stuston 9.0 passed, through Diss 10.30. Diss is a very pretty little town very hilly. Reached Stuston 10.45, found all well. Had a walk over the Common, it is a very pleasant place here and there are Gravel pits which look rather dangerous. There are a number of Horses and Cows on the Common. Left all well 5.30, passed Diss church 5.55. Called at Ellen's for some flowers given to Nelly by a friend, bid Ellen good bye and after a very pleasant drive arrived home 7.25.

Saturday 5.55

Has been a little rain hope it will be fine, are going home today. Hope we shall find all well. Left Tibbenham for Forncett.

(Her account ends here)

Writing Up Your Family Tree

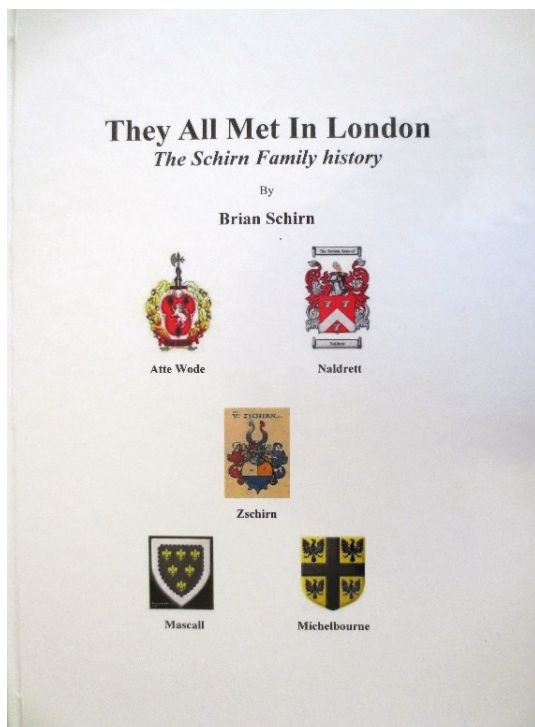
FAMILY history research can lead to many sleepless nights. How do you cope with all the family strands and the thousands of people that seem to populate your tree overnight? How do you make some order out of the chaos and just what do you do with all those scraps of paper and records you have accumulated over the years? Norfolk Family History Society member Brian Schirn decided it was time to put some order to his genealogical life. Here he tells us how.

I started my ancestor research in the early 1970s when I worked close to the Public Record Office in Chancery Lane, London. I was sure that I would hit a number of brick walls along the way so I decided to research all the surnames of each generation. After working for some years from a few sheets of foolscap showing the family connections I decided to use Family Tree Maker software (FTM) to manage the accumulated information.

So 40 years later and with nearly 2,000 names on file I decided that I needed a 'user friendly' data format if I wanted anyone else to digest the fruits of my labours, especially since a large number

of ancestral names would be unfamiliar to readers, albeit family members. The outcome was a bound volume of 124 pages detailing my wife's ancestry and a second volume of 355 pages containing my own ancestral history.

Layout: Each book started with the paternal ancestral line since this is the one line with the same surname throughout, starting with the earliest record (even though research was, of course, done working backwards). I then followed each surname, first on the paternal line and then on the maternal line down each generation. Separate chapters were allocated for each surname (unless there were only one or two generations associated with a particular name). The name lines of the various ancestors do, of course, end with a female taking her husband's name.



Each chapter began with a Pedigree Chart (produced using FTM) so that family lines in that chapter could be easily referenced and I started each chapter stating the number of generations between the earliest individual of a named family and myself to convey some idea of the span of time.

I decided not to quote the official document references to avoid being too repetitive and breaking up the narrative.

Putting the data within context - Historical events have had an influence on the lives of our ancestors, especially the Industrial Revolution, so I included relevant historical background at the appropriate ancestral stage.

The different stages of the Agricultural Revolution had a significant effect on the majority of my rural ancestors and descriptions of the intensifying of mechanised agricultural methods helped to explain why so many moved from the countryside to the cities, particularly in the 18th and 19th centuries. Hence the title of my book "They All Met in London."

Putting a generation within an historical context helps to describe the period in which they lived and I often mentioned the name and included a picture of the monarch at the time, especially when going back before the Victorian era. Other events, such as the Commonwealth Period under Cromwell and the Black Death, help to explain gaps in parish records or a high mortality rate within a family.

Whenever I found a number of deaths within a short period or family members dying young, I checked to see whether this was at the time of an epidemic. A very useful website giving an epidemics timeline is that produced by Keighley and District FHS '<http://kdfhs.org.uk/index>' (probably best found via Google).

Photos and Pictures - The more photos and pictures you can associate with your family tree then the more interesting the book.

Family Photos: It is a great opportunity to dig out family photos of previous generations. Asking other members of the family can produce photos not seen before.

Towns, Villages, Workhouses, etc - The web is a great source for finding old pictures of places where ancestors lived, including workhouses and prisons.

Armed Forces Service: Both of my grandfathers served in the army in World War One, first at Gallipoli and then Palestine and I devoted a number of pages describing their service in the Essex Regiment. Having found their battalion from the Medal Rolls, I then researched the relevant war diaries (many of these are now available on line). I also purchased a couple of second-hand books (found using 'www.abebooks.co.uk') that had much more detail and maps of the battalion's campaign service.

Occupations: Both pictures and descriptions of various occupations help to put flesh on the bones. One of my ancestors was a London policeman in the

1840s, thus an original 'Peeler', and so I included a picture of a 'Peeler' of that period. I obtained his police service record from the Public Record Office, Kew, and thus was able to describe where he undertook his service in Soho.

Wills, Parish Records, Census Returns and other documents:

Examples of different documents help to illustrate events, particularly for readers who are not familiar with census returns or old parish records.

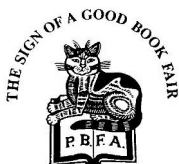
Publication - It is possible to spend a small amount on a publication, e.g. by using plastic ring spines, or a larger amount by having bound hardback copies printed.

I used FTM software to do the initial layout of the book and then exported it to Desk Top Publishing Software to finalise the sizes of the pictures and layout. A number of bound copies were produced using an online 'self-publishing' website (the book contents being sent to them as a pdf).

Have a Party!

Producing a book was a great excuse for having a family get-together, including cousins who I rarely see, who were lured by the promise of receiving a copy of the book.

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

ancestor@nfhs.co.uk

Photographs

Photographs are always welcome, they liven up the layout. Preferably send in your photographs by email as a **JPEG** attachment (**Please scan at 300dpi if possible**). Photocopies do not always reproduce well as they need to be scanned into a computer and they lose clarity in the process. If you send in an original photograph please state whether you wish it to be returned to you.



Ancestor Bookshelf

A Detailed and Impressive Account

A New History of Aylsham Public Houses by The Aylsham Local History Society. ISBN 978-0-9573488-0-6

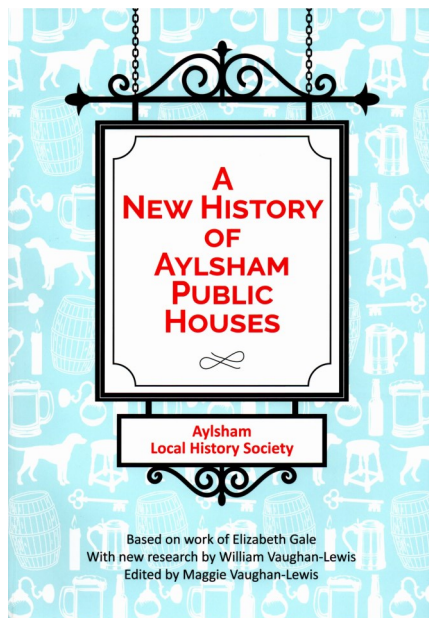
This A4 sized paperback based on the work of Elizabeth Gale includes new research by William Vaughan-Lewis and is edited by Maggie Vaughan-Lewis.

This is an incredibly detailed study of the pubs in this Norfolk town. The index of people and places alone covers 13 pages. There are maps and charts as well as many photographs of old pubs and in some cases, where the pub no longer exists, of what has replaced them.

There are details of the landlords and their families as well as information about the owners. The book also explains that as early as the 17th century the town had at least 17 inns or ale houses, which are plotted on a map and it goes on to explore the way things changed as a result of Licensing Laws and changes in brewing.

There is a detailed list of local breweries and who owned them. If you have an interest in the town of Aylsham, pubs or brewing or just want to see how to produce a well-researched history of such establishments, then this is a book for you. We now have a copy on the shelves of our library which was kindly donated by the Aylsham Local History Society.

Ellen Carr



Norfolk author and member of the NFHS Nathan Dylan Goodwin has been featured in our book section on a number of occasions in the past. He has a new story out - "The Asylum" which is a short prequel to his first book "Hiding the Past." The story currently sells for 99p on Amazon but Nathan is offering NFHS members a free digital copy via his website at www.nathandylangoodwin.com.

Ancestor Bookshelf

In For The Long Haul The First Fleet Voyage and Colonial Australia: The Convicts' Perspective by Annegret Hall. ESH Publications, Australia. ISBN 978 0 9876292 0 3 (paperback)

Annegret Hall has a rattling good yarn to tell and she relates it with the perfect mixture of dramatic intensity and academic enthusiasm.

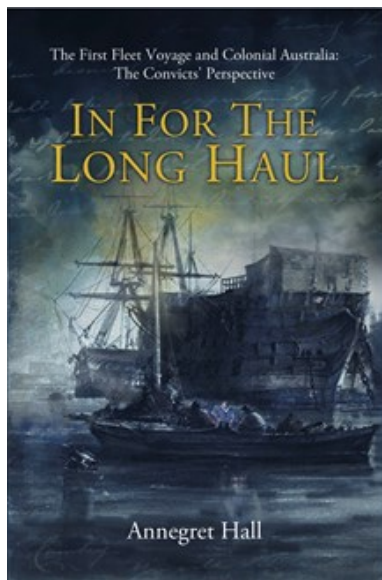
The book is successful on a number of levels. Firstly as an impressive story in its own right about redemption and the human spirit and secondly as a detailed history of the period.

Particularly impressive is the way the author interweaves historical documentation within the framework of a crazy story. It was almost by chance that Elizabeth Pulley and Anthony Rope were thrust together. Under different circumstances both could have been hanged as common criminals in the UK. Their reprieve and transportation to what became Australia is the kind of story that myths and legends are made of and the author skilfully weaves the myriad strands together.

This is an important historical story that was bursting to be told and Annegret Hall has made it a very personal one that has had so many repercussions across the ages.

It paints a vivid picture of the young days of a country with all its struggles and the way so many convicts turned their lives around and became almost model citizens and of course became the ancestors of so many Australians living in the country and throughout the world both today and within the framework of future generations. For a special article written by Annegret for Norfolk Ancestor please see page 21.

Peter Steward



Please note the Norfolk Family History Society does not sell books reviewed on these pages. They are available from good bookshops and online from stores such as Amazon.

Norfolk Family History Society

Let Us Know What You Think



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

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

We look forward to hearing from you.

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

<http://www.norfolkfhs.org.uk>

Full Colour Experience

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

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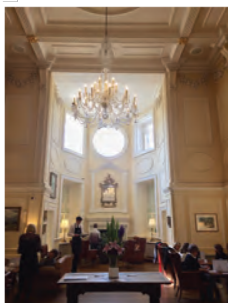
**Or by post to the appropriate person at
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Norwich Assembly House

THE present Norwich Assembly House was built on land that was granted to John Le Brun in 1248. He founded the hospital of the Blessed Virgin Mary. In 1278 Le Brun became the Dean of what was to become a secular college. The College of St Mary's in the Field became an important part of the community and formed a bridge between the cathedral, the people and the city. Its chapel was larger than the church of St Peter Mancroft. Before the Guildhall was built, the chapel was used as a meeting place for the city. In 1544, during the dissolution of the monasteries, the The Music Room chapel was surrendered to Henry VIII and two years later it was demolished. The area around it was known as Chapply Fields (now Chapelfield). Parts of the building live on in the current building and there is a Medieval crypt under the Music Room. The bells still survive in the church of St Lawrence.



In 1569, the estate passed to the CORNWALLIS family from Suffolk and then to the HOBARTS in 1609. There was a close alliance between the Guildhall and Chapply Field House. In 1753 John Hobart, Earl of Buckinghamshire, granted a 500 year lease to several alderman who, in 1754, signed a deed of covenant to form an entertainment centre for assemblies, cards, plays and bowls. The new buildings were designed by Thomas Ivory who also worked on the Octagon Chapel. The assembly rooms were opened in July, 1755, and



they looked very much like they do today. After 100 years of use it was closed down in 1856 and the estate was broken into lots and sold. The west wing was bought by Frank Noverre who built a ballroom which later became a cinema. The rest was taken by freemason Benjamin Bond Cabell who used it as a masonic lodge. When Benjamin died in 1876 his cousin sold the rooms to a company who promoted the Girls Public Day School Trust. For 57 years it operated as Norwich High School for Girls. This moved in 1933 and the rooms became a warehouse. During WW2

the War Office used it as a camouflage school. After the war Norwich shoemaker Henry SEXTON bought the buildings and gave them, and funds for their res-toration to a trust for use as an Arts Centre. Now it operates as a vibrant meeting place, an exhibition centre, a restaurant, a wedding venue and a luxury bed and breakfast.

Roger Morgan MN 17267

Then and Now



These two pictures show the Norwich Assembly House in Theatre Street. The top one dates from 1935 and the bottom one from 2019. To read about the history of the Assembly House turn to the inside back cover.

