

# *The Norfolk Ancestor*



**SEPTEMBER 2019**



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

# The Norfolk Pimpernel?

A FEW weeks ago I was looking around St Peter's Church in Ketteringham (pictured on the front cover) when I saw an intriguing marble plaque on the wall. It was erected in 1907 by the BOILEAU family and is a memorial to Charlotte ATKYNS née WALPOLE.

It makes some striking claims, suggesting that Charlotte was the daughter of Robert Walpole, generally accepted to be Britain's first Prime Minister who was born at Houghton Hall in Norfolk and that she was friends with Marie Antoinette in France. However, further investigation raises some doubts about the validity of some of these claims.

Charlotte was certainly not the daughter of Sir



**Charlotte Atkins**

Robert Walpole because he died in 1745, 13 years before she was born. Robert Walpole had a son also called Robert but he too died well before Charlotte's birth.

There appears to be no link between her and the Houghton Hall Walpoles. It is now thought that Charlotte was born in County Westmeath and Roscommon in Ireland in 1758. Her father was William Walpole who came from Athlone.

Charlotte became an actress and started her career in Dublin in 1776. A year later she came to London and made her debut at Drury Lane in October, 1777.

After spending time in Bristol and Bath, improving both her singing and dancing, she returned to Drury Lane where she quickly attracted the attention of Sir Edward Atkins of Ketteringham Hall.

Edward and Charlotte were married on the 18th June, 1779, at St James, Piccadilly, London. Charlotte gave up her brief acting career and Edward brought her to Norfolk. They had a son, Wright Edward Atkins in 1780.

Sadly, Charlotte was not readily accepted by Norfolk society. She was seen as a 'common actress' who was an unsuitable bride for Edward. This situation, coupled with Sir Edward's mounting debts made the couple move to France in 1784.



**The marble plaque**

**The story continues on page 30**

**Roger Morgan**

# Norfolk Family History Society

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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

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### 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

### LONDON

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



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# Welcome to your September Edition



ONE of the joys of editing the Norfolk Ancestor is coming across bizarre stories and they don't come much stranger than our cover story in this issue where joint-editor Roger Morgan has delved into the very weird story of a Norfolk woman who it was thought, wrongly as it turns out, was related to the UK's first prime minister but who did have a link with Marie

Antoinette. Once again thank you to everyone who has contributed to this edition and please keep those stories coming. Just a reminder that the society's agm will be held in October and full details are below. There is also a proxy voting form enclosed for those of you who cannot make it.

Peter Steward MN 14801

## Norfolk Ancestor Editorial Team

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

## NORFOLK FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY Annual General Meeting

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October at 12 noon at Kirby Hall**

The AGM Booklet containing the Agenda. Minutes, Trustees' Report and the Accounts are available on the NFHS Website to view or download.

Members wishing to receive a hard copy should write to the Company Secretary at Kirby Hall requesting a copy to be sent by post.

# 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.

## A Walk Round Kirby Hall

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**Many people ask us just what is available at Kirby Hall. Joint Editor Peter Steward decided to take an in-depth look at the shelves accompanied by librarian Ellen Carr.**

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THE first thing you notice on entering the main library at Kirby Hall is its size and the vast array of material available - all neatly compartmentalised for easy access.

I have been a member of the Norfolk Family History Society for over five years since I took on the role of Ancestor Editor and Trustee. In that time I have probably spent about an hour doing my own family research.

So I thought it about time to acquaint myself properly with what is available for both novices and experienced family history detectives. I was joined in my walk around the hall by librarian and fellow





trustee Ellen Carr. Without somebody knowledgeable such as Ellen, the library can be rather daunting, but it doesn't take long to get used to just what is available. It's probably a good idea for the casual visitor to acquaint him or herself with just what is on offer before dipping into the specific areas that interest them.

On entering the library you will be met by one of our many volunteers who will welcome you, log you in and help with any queries. Despite the huge number of records, there is a feeling of space to the library and plenty of desks and chairs. Visitors are asked to use pencils only, laptops, cameras and scanners aren't



allowed but photocopies can be made for a small fee. So just what is available? Well below are just some of the goodies at hand.

Church of England transcripts and parish registers, non conformist church registers (including Huguenot, Catholic, Methodist, Quaker and Congregationalist records), general information about Norfolk, village boxes containing random information about towns and villages in the county, monumental grave inscriptions, county maps, family trees donated to the society, bond certificates, surname details, newspaper cuttings, cash books from Friends' Societies, manorial and land details, society magazines, background books on Norwich, lists of free-men of Norwich, poll tax details, various historic directories, historic phone books, family pedigrees, Norwich absent voters lists, wills, research guides - and so the list goes on.

The above are just a small proportion of what is available - it really is a cornuco-



pia of riches. There are also a few records and books with reference to other counties and some guides on how to get the best from research. One of the most interesting donations of recent years is a mint set of Bloomfields History of Norfolk and the Gentlemen's Magazine from 1731 to 1745. The latter of these is not specific to Norfolk but stands alone as an important documentation of the 18th century, helping keen family researchers to put their ancestors within an historic context.

Of course the records and information don't stop there. Kirby Hall has seven computers with access to Ancestry, Find My Past, and the Genealogist - all free to use. Many older records are available via a microfiche machine.

Ellen Carr is rightfully proud of the breadth and depth of the information at hand - proudly pointing out that much of the material available has been donated. "We are always pleased to accept material that will help others in their research and improve our collections," she said.

If you are really lucky you might find that somebody has done your research for you and produced it in bound family pedigree books.

"If family trees are the bones, pedigrees are the flesh on those bones," Ellen said.

Kirby Hall also has toilets, lockers for bags and a small kitchen with tea and coffee-making facilities. It really is one of the best places in Norfolk to not only search for family details but to find historic information to enhance family search.

I am painfully aware of course that many members of the NFHS live too far away to visit Kirby Hall. But we do have numerous visitors from the USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand etc during the year.

Whether you come from near or far you will be certain of a warm welcome at Kirby Hall and, who knows, you may be able to break down some of those horrible brick walls.



# The Paris Peace Congress 1919

NFHS member Helen Flute remembers her great-aunt Helen Clifford Thomas and her role at the Paris Peace Congress of 1919

My paternal great-aunt, Helen CLIFFORD THOMAS (nee JONES), was a reception clerk in the Hotel Majestic, Paris, during the Peace Congress of 1919. She had connections with Norwich through her ancestors.

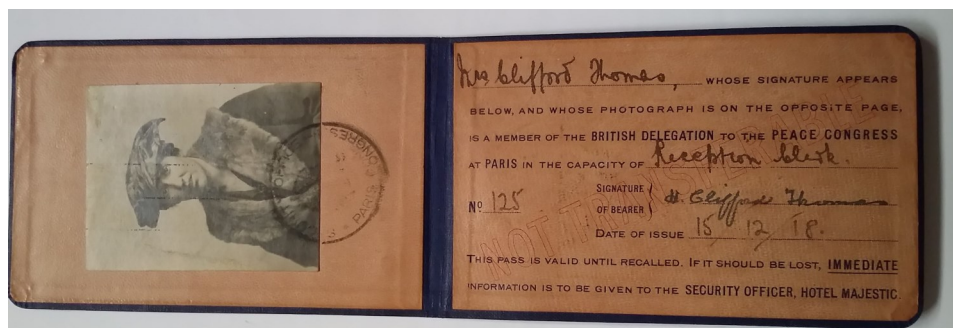
Her great great grandparents, Edmund and Elizabeth STARR married in St Gregory's Church, Norwich (pictured opposite), in 1771, their son John STARR being christened there in 1777.

John married Ann (nee BARTELL) a Londoner, in 1802. They are shown in the 1841 census as living in White Lion Yard, St Martin at Oak. Of their seven offspring, six were christened in Old Meeting House Independent, Norwich.



John and Ann Starr subsequently lived in Star Lane, Long Stratton (a coincidence or because theirs was the only house there at the time of the 1851 census?)

Their youngest daughter, Mary Starr married Richard DARKE, a hosier, in 1847 and they lived over their hosiery shop in the Burlington Arcade, London. The tale goes that their daughters, Jessie and Ada, used to peer out of the window at passers-by and caught the eye of a visiting hosiery traveller, Enos HUNT JONES. Jessie later married Enos and Ada his brother Robert OWEN JONES.



Helen (1882–1977) was the second daughter of Jessie and Enos, granddaughter of John and Ann Starr.

The family story was that she left home on her 18th birthday, not intending to sit at home sewing any longer. She became a hotel clerk/ receptionist in Liverpool.

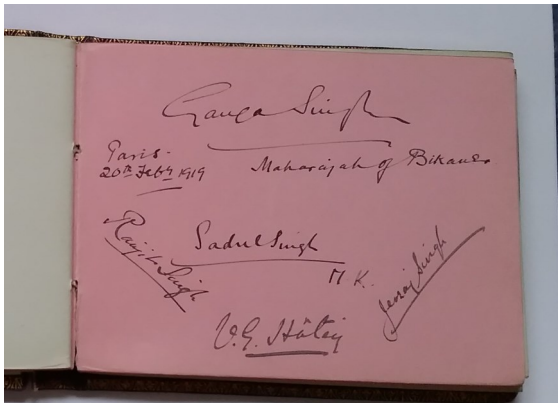
In 1918, she married a widower, Walter CLIFFORD THOMAS, a provision merchant and they lived in Chepstow where he had several grocery shops.

I find it interesting that, in 1919, not only was a married woman employed as a receptionist during the Peace Conference, but that her husband allowed her to go!

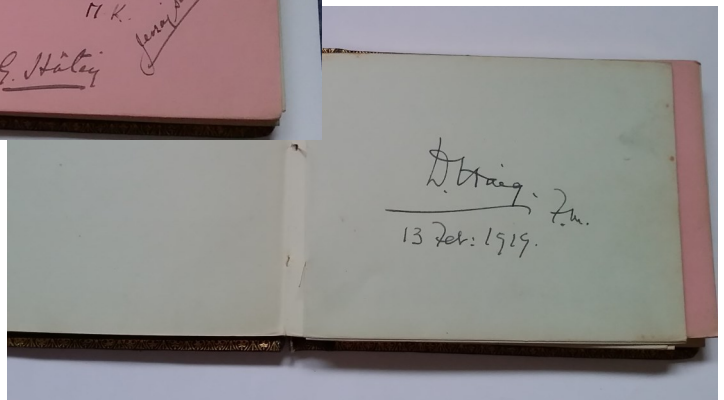


The autographs she collected in a book at the Conference, include signatures of T E LAWRENCE (Lawrence of Arabia), SMUTS, HAIG, BOTHA and Viscount MILNER along with many others, not all of which are decipherable.

**Helen Flute MN 12647**



**Extracts from Helen  
Clifford Thomas's auto-  
graph book**



# A Message from the Treasurer

## **Moving House? Changed your Email/Telephone?**

We are continually being asked to amend members' details. Although an individual change is not time consuming, the number of change requests we receive during the renewal period is high and adds significantly to our workload.

Members are reminded that they are able to amend their own details online. Log into the membership website and select "Amend Details" from the membership drop-down list. Don't forget to click on "update" to save your changes - a confirmation message will appear at the top of the screen.

## **Forgotten your login details?**

Your login details are your membership number followed by the first three alpha characters of your surname - using your email address does not work.

If you cannot remember your password, click on the forgotten password link and a new password will be sent to you. Please allow a couple of minutes before using the updated password.

## **Don't like your allocated password?**

Login as above and select "Amend Details" from the membership drop-down list. Scroll down to the password section. Enter and confirm your new password and click on change - a confirmation message will appear at the top of the screen.

**Carole Taylor**

### **Password**

\* - Mandatory fields are marked with an asterisk.

New Password :	<input type="password"/>	*
Confirm password :	<input type="password"/>	*
<input type="button" value="Change"/>		

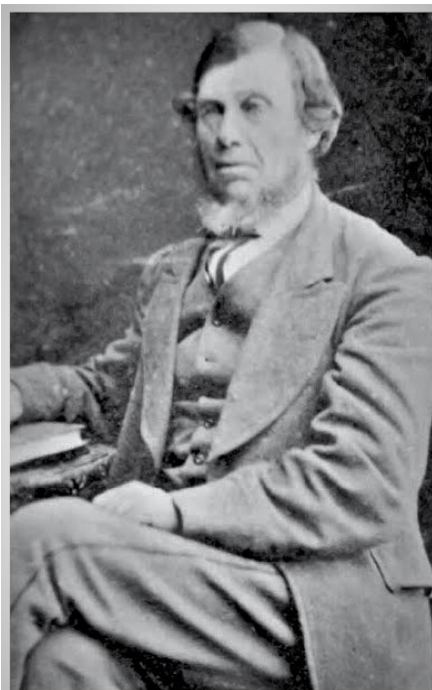
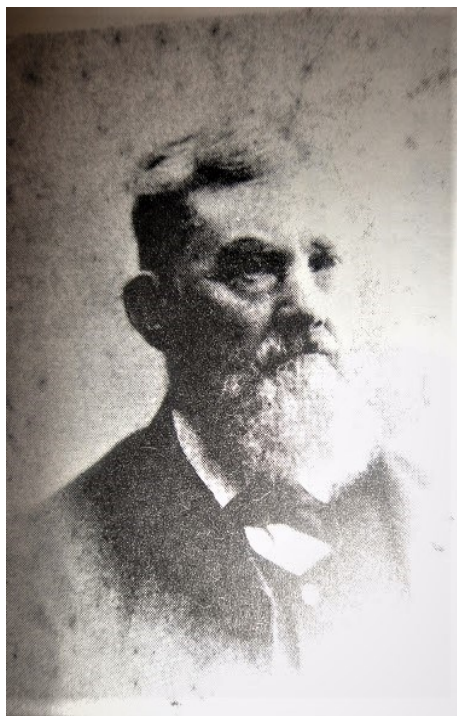
# So Much for Bagpipes.....

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**Janelle Collins tells the story of how she used DNA to Find the Family of  
her ancestor Henry Tuck**

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I HAVE long been fascinated by my maternal ancestors, Henry TUCK and his Irish bride, Catherine FALVEY. The family legend has it that Henry was born on the Isle of Skye in 1810 and my family fully embraced the Scottish connection. One of my uncles and a cousin even bought kilts and learned the bagpipes, joining a local pipe band. Another cousin named her daughter Skye.



The patriarch: Henry senior.

**Photos of Henry Tuck from the Family Reunion booklet**



**The matriarch:** Catherine Tuck



A man in traditional Scottish kilts and sporrans is playing bagpipes outdoors. He is wearing a black jacket, a black kilt with a red and black plaid pattern, and a black sporran. He has a beard and is wearing a black kilt hose. The background shows a grassy field and trees.

This legend is evident on Henry's death certificate<sup>1</sup> and a biography written by his grandson, Samuel, published in 1963. It starts 'My Grandfather, Henry Tuck, was born on the Isle of Skye in the County of Inverness in 1810, just five years before Waterloo.'<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Death Certificate of Henry Tuck, died 17 March 1890, Births Deaths and Marriages Victoria, 1890/7229.

<sup>2</sup> Samuel Tuck, 'Biography of Henry Tuck', [Victoria], 1963.

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#### THE TUCK FAMILY HISTORY

From evolution of names to Heraldry, we advance to the 19th century when the earliest of our traceable ancestor was born. Henry Tuck was born in 1810 on the Isle of Skye in the County of Inverness.

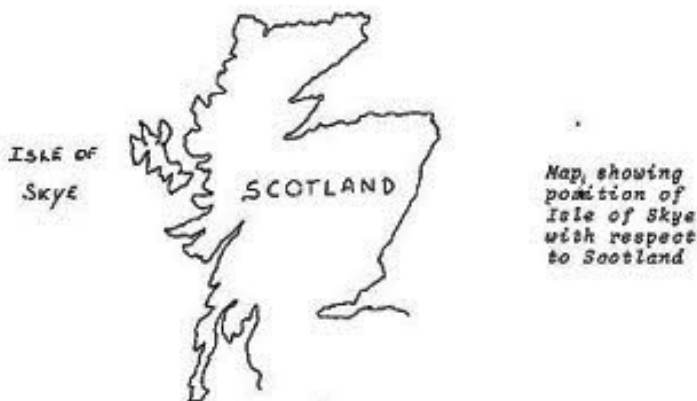


Image from the booklet: Henry Tuck and his Descendants: Family Reunion

7th March 1982<sup>3</sup>

The genealogist in me wanted to find some proof of where Henry was from. Thinking that Skye was the obvious place to start I contacted *SkyeRoots*, who searched their records and came up with nothing, informing me that Tuck isn't a Skye name.

Looking at a heat map of the Tuck surname in the UK I saw that the county of Norfolk has the highest number of people with this surname in the 1841 UK Census. Norfolk looked like the place to resume my search.

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<sup>3</sup>Len Arboit, 'Henry Tuck and his Descendants: Family Reunion 7th March 1982', [Victoria], 1982

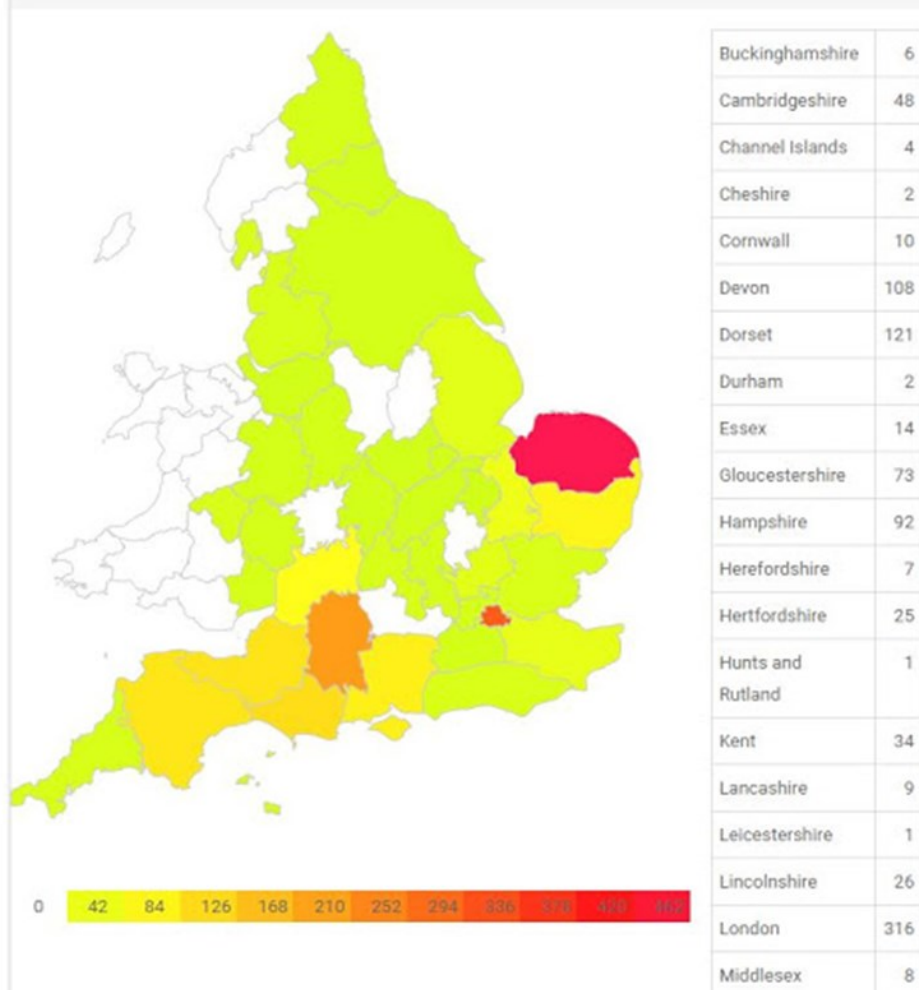


# ***Surname Distribution***

Census frequency by county

1841 1851 1861 1871 1881 1891 1901 1911

## Name Concentrations Within England and Wales

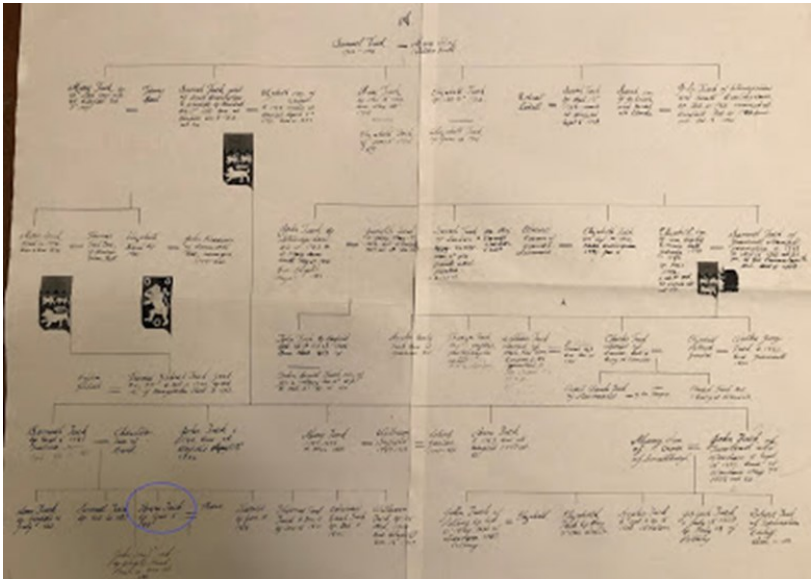


<https://your-family-history.com/surname/t/tuck/>

I found a baptism record on *FamilySearch* in Blofield, Norfolk, that looked promising. All of this particular Henry's siblings' names were also the names my Henry gave his children. His mother has a relatively unusual first name, Christian. My Henry didn't call any of his children Christian, so the chance that this was "my" Henry was still just a chance.

Henry Tuck	
England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975	
Name:	Henry Tuck
Gender:	Male
Christening Date:	05 Jan 1810
Christening Date (Original):	05 JAN 1810
Christening Place:	BLOFIELD,NORFOLK,ENGLAND
Birth Date:	04 Jan 1810
Father's Name:	Samuel Tuck
Mother's Name:	Christian

To find out more about this Tuck family I joined the *Norfolk Family History Society* so I could view their user-submitted trees, as well as access the large library of records. There were a number of Tuck family branches, and I chose the one that included my potential Henry.



This Henry matched the baptism I found on *FamilySearch* and also this Henry could not be found on the 1841 UK Census, or dying before then in the UK, leading me to believe that he could be the man who sailed away to the other side of the world. I created a tree for this Henry, paying attention to the other surnames that were part of his ancestral family. I had a feeling this was the right guy, but how could I prove that this was the same Henry Tuck who came to Van Diemen's Land in 1830?

Enter the brave new world of DNA testing. I am very fortunate to have both of my parents still living and I had tested them sometime before with *Ancestry*. I looked at my mother's DNA matches and searched for the most unusual surname that I could find in Henry's tree, SKEDGE. Unlike with the surname Smith, I knew there wouldn't be many Skedges out there. I had two men come up as a match with the Skedge surname in common, both in Canada. I reached out and luckily, they both replied. Alan is descended from Henry's grandmother's sister, Ann Skedge (b.1762). She married James NORTON and they emigrated to Canada, producing a large number of descendants still living there today. Alan has done extensive work on his family tree, which is how I found Ann and her sister Elizabeth. Our match is only seven centimorgans, which is down the lower end of results. The other match was with my other Canadian relative, Steve. We share 15 centimorgans, which is an even closer match. He is also descended from the Skedge-Norton marriage. He knew of Alan, but they hadn't corresponded, so I was thrilled to be able to introduce them to each other via email.



5th-8th Cousin  
Shared DNA: 7 cM across 1 segments  
6,816 People  
Add to group  
Message re Blofield connection  
9.8.17

Ancestry DNA match with Alan showing 7 cM



S.L.  
Managed by Steve  
5th-8th Cousin  
Shared DNA: 15 cM across 1 segments  
664 People  
Common ancestor  
Add to group  
Blofield connection

Ancestry DNA match with Steve showing 15 cM

Without DNA I would not have been able to prove that this relationship existed. I would have been left wondering forever. Using DNA in this way has helped me break down a 20-year brick wall.

Additional y-DNA testing of a direct male line descendant of Henry has revealed the Tuck name going back many hundreds of years to matches in Norway. The name Tuck being of Old Norse origins must be right after all! Thanks to DNA I have found Henry's family of origin and made friends with distant relatives interstate and across the oceans.

**Janelle Collins**

# The Thorpe Great Railway Disaster

Seeking descendants of those involved in the Thorpe Great Railway  
Disaster of 10<sup>th</sup> September 1874.



Norwich writer and biographer Phyllida Scrivens, author of *“Escaping Hitler”* (2016) and *“The Lady Lord Mayors of Norwich”* (2018), whose articles have appeared in previous editions of *Norfolk Ancestor*, is now undergoing extensive research for her third book *“The Railway Accident That Changed History,”* to be published by Pen and Sword Books in the spring of 2021.

This hybrid book will include the story behind the Thorpe Great Railway Disaster, the aftermath of the catastrophic head-on crash and the resulting improvements in safety, as well as looking in more depth at a number of the victims of the crash, those responsible and those who helped on that rain-soaked night.

Phyllida has already located direct descendants of two of the key figures, Sergeant Robert Ward, a member of Norfolk Militia who died in the accident and Stephen Field, the owner of Field’s Boatyard who helped by taking

many of the dead and dying into his boat sheds on the River Yare, before transportation to hospital.

Phyllida is keen to speak to anyone who may have further information, no matter how insignificant it might seem, about people who were directly affected. Names of special interest include:

**Dr Peter EADE**, survivor who includes a full description of the crash in his later autobiography.

**John PATTESON**, Rector of St Andrew's Church, Thorpe St Andrew – not a victim but closely involved in the aftermath.



**R.W. WHITE**, Norwich dentist who survived the accident.

**Mr William BRANSBY FRANCIS**, Norwich surgeon who died a few weeks later.

**Colour Sergeant Frederick CASSELL** who died alongside his friend Robert WARD, travelling home after a fishing trip on the Broads.

**John William BETTS**, his wife Elizabeth and their six-week-old baby from Mariner's Lane, Norwich.

**Thomas CLARKE**, engine driver from Lowestoft,

**John PRIOR**, driver of the train from London, buried in Rosary Cemetery.

**Rev. Henry STACEY** and his wife Mary Ann from Upper St Giles, Norwich.

**Susan BROWNE**, Seamstress from St Benedict's, Norwich.

**Alfred COOPER and John ROBSON**, the Inspector and Telegraph Operator at Norwich Thorpe Station.

These names represent only a small proportion of the 27 who eventually lost their lives.

Phyllida will welcome enquiries from anyone who may have been researching the individuals and families involved.

Please contact her at [Phyllida.scrivens@icloud.com](mailto:Phyllida.scrivens@icloud.com) or by calling 01603 300212.

Phyllida gave an inspiring illustrated talk to almost 40 volunteers and members at Kirby Hall in July, based on her book "Escaping Hitler," She will be returning to the venue in October to talk about The Lady Lord Mayors of Norwich.



# From Norfolk To Australia

EVERYONE has their special reason for becoming interested in family history. I became interested when I was a teenager for two reasons. The first was because my grandfather named Tasman had come from Tasmania to the north coast of New South Wales, Australia, and none of my friends had a grandfather from there. The second reason involved my mother's uncle being killed by a piano but that is a story for another time and place.

Although this is the first year I have been a member of the Norfolk Family History Society, I have been a member of Casino and District Family History Group Inc since it was started in 1987. I have chosen Norfolk because my two great grandfathers, on my father's side, came from this county. When I saw that a research group was being formed in Casino I told my husband that I would like to join. He replied that I should become a member not realising that I would be one for so many years. At the beginning our group had very limited resources but now we have a wonderful collection and subscriptions to several research sites.

When I began my research I only knew that my grandfather was from Tasmania and that my grandmother had been born in Casino, New South Wales. My grandfather, Tasman Thomas VOUT was the son of Charles Vout and Catherine nee Bryan Vout.

Charles Vout was the son of Joseph Vout and Mary nee ADCOCK, who were married on 18th October, 1803, at St Peter and St Paul in Salle, Norfolk. Joseph, who was the son of John and Mary Vout, was baptised on 11th May, 1777, at St Peter and St Paul, Salle. Mary was the daughter of William Adcock. Charles was baptised at St Peter and St Paul on 24th July, 1812.

He was the fifth son with three younger sisters. I have been fortunate to become friends with descendants of the eldest son, John and the fourth son, Joseph.

Charles worked as a groom. He, aged 20, stole a watch from F. Knight of Warham on the 11th June, 1832. It was a short and clear case so the jury found him guilty. Charles had a former conviction for ass stealing so was sentenced to transportation for seven years. The case was published in the "Norfolk Chronicle" dated Saturday 11th August, 1832, under the heading "Norfolk Assize News."

Charles was received on the hulk, "Hardy" on 26th August, 1832. He left Portsmouth on 17th November, 1832, aboard the "Andromeda," carrying 186 male prisoners, with Ben GALES as Master and David BOYTER as Surgeon. They arrived in Sydney on 11th March, 1833, after 114 days. On board were Lieutenant and Mrs LONSDALE and Lieutenant ARMSTRONG of the 21<sup>st</sup> Regiment. The guard consisted of 29 rank and file. There were five women and six children who were family members of the 21<sup>st</sup> Regiment. Mr Israel CHAPMAN and his

wife were steerage passengers. The ship also carried goods for the government stores and newspapers. According to newspapers of the time, the troops were landed on the morning of 13th March and marched to the garrison while the convicts were landed and mustered on 26th March. The convicts probably were sent to the Hyde Park Barracks, from where they went out to work during the day, returned for meals and to sleep at night. Between 1831 and 1848 a court, solely for convicts who were charged with extra offences, was established here and they appeared before the magistrates. It is interesting to note that the treadmill was also in this area.

In the records, Charles is described as being 5ft 7in tall and having a ruddy complexion, brown hair and dark eyes. He was a Protestant who could read and write. It was also noted that Charles had a slight scar across the middle, fourth, and small finger of his left hand.

It was not long before Charles was in trouble in his new country. On 14th May, 1833, he was sentenced to seven days on the treadwheel for being insolent. This would be the first in a long list of crimes and punishments.

On 23rd September, 1833, Charles was punished for absconding from Mr Charles Thompson for the fifth time. His punishment was 50 lashes. In the "Report from the Select Committee on the Transportation together with the Minutes of Evidence, Appendix and Index, Ordered by the House of Commons to be printed, 14th July 1837" Charles is listed. His name comes under "Return of Corporal Punishments inflicted by Sentence of the Sydney Police Bench, from the 4th to 30<sup>th</sup> September, 1833, in the presence of E.A. Slade, J.P., Superintendent, Hyde Park Barrack." The article reads "Charles Vout, Andromeda, absconding, 50 lashes. This man was never flogged before; he cried out and flinched at the punishment; the skin was lacerated at the 10<sup>th</sup> lash; the blood appeared at the 25th lash, and ran freely at the 40<sup>th</sup> lash. Twenty five lashes would have been sufficient punishment. This man was severely punished." After the punishment Charles was sent back to his employer.

The crimes of absconding, disobedience, misconduct and theft and punishments by treadwheel, irons and lashings continued. In 1841 records show that Charles was assigned to George FURBER, a farmer at Coote Valley, West Maitland, NSW.

On 6th September, 1841, Charles and another man were before the Criminal Court for breaking into a house and threatening a husband and wife, stealing and mistreating the wife by holding her near the open fire. The two men were identified a short time after the crime. They were found guilty and sentenced to life at a penal settlement.

Charles was now on his way to Tasmania, travelling there on the "Sir John Bynge" arriving on 25th September, 1843. In charge of the brig was Captain TALLEN. It carried three passengers, as well as Ensign YOUNG, one sergeant,



14 rank and file of the 50<sup>th</sup> Regiment and 54 prisoners of the crown. Charles was listed as a labourer and carpenter and it was noted that he had a scar under his wrist and marks of punishment.

A change of address did not mean a change in behaviour for Charles. In March, 1845, he was at Port Arthur and absent from his place of work without authority so was given one month hard labour in chains. He was sent on two months' probation to Bridgewater Station. In June, 1846, Charles was found guilty of assaulting Frederick J. PARKER, being armed with a gun and stealing property and a watch. A death sentence was recorded but this was changed to transportation for life so Charles could never return to England. "Norfolk Island 10 years" is noted but I have no information regarding that. Just a few weeks later he was charged with misconduct for breaking into the cabin of the schooner, "I Don't Know" on her way from Hobart to Port Arthur. Charles was sentenced to hard labour in chains for six months. His crimes and punishment continued in 1847 and 1848.



As the saying goes, "There is good in everyone." and so it was with Charles who was commended for meritorious conduct at the bush fire that swept the North West Bay in 1853. In that year also there is a note that the unexpired portion of the Norfolk Island extension was remitted. Charles was given a ticket of leave on 19th June,

1855, and was recommended for a conditional pardon on 22nd July, 1856. Finally Charles, aged 44, obtained his conditional pardon on 9th June, 1857, after setting foot in Australia 24 years earlier.

Happier times were ahead for Charles as he married Catherine BRYAN on 24th December, 1855 at St John's United Reform Church of England and Ireland at Newton Hobart. Catherine, a 22-year-old Catholic Irish lass, was the daughter of Lawrence and Bridget Bryan of Kilkenny. She had arrived on the "Caroline Middleton" from Liverpool on 29th September, 1854. Catherine was employed as a servant at Sandy Bay by Mrs RUSSELL who had agreed to pay her 15 pounds per annum, to be paid quarterly. Charles was listed as a carpenter on the marriage certificate.

Catherine and Charles had 10 children, six sons and four daughters. Sadly their first son, Charles died as a young child but their next child, another son, was

also named Charles as was often the custom. My grandfather was the youngest son but second youngest child. When the children's births were registered, always by their mother, their father's occupation was always given as "carpenter".

In 1858, Charles built the family home on one acre of land at 38, Wellesley Street, (corner of Wellesley and Washington Street), South Hobart. The house, that is heritage listed, is a timber cottage. When my husband and I visited Tasmania in 2011, my wish was to see the house and perhaps be lucky enough to be invited in. When we arrived at the address, the front door was closed and the blinds drawn. I tried my luck and soon the door was opened. I told my story and was invited in, where I walked on the original floor boards, held in place by the original nails, saw the original locks that closed the doors and touched the big fire place with its hooks that would have held the pots that cooked meals for the family. It was a wonderful experience.

From newspapers of the day, available on Trove, I have learnt that Charles tendered for building work. Would you believe that the tenders he won were mainly for police buildings! In June, 1859, Charles's tender of £64 was accepted for repairs to the house of correction and gaol for females at Cascade. Charles was again successful, in October, 1859, with his tenders of £260 for the watch house at Cressy and £160 for the one at Emu Bay.



In August, 1861, Charles won with the tender price to build Police buildings at Deloraine. The price was £982.5.0, fencing £3.10.0 per rod, large gate £7.10.0 and small gate £2.10.0. The Gazette of August, 1864, shows that Charles's tender for general repairs to Police buildings and Chief Constable's quarters at Three Point Road at £105 had been accepted. A letter to a paper in July, 1866, indicates that two other tenderers were upset that Charles had won with a tender of £430.12.0; £20 for extras and £2.10.0 per rod for fencing for Police buildings at Table Cape. It seems that the men believed Charles was a "favoured" individual. Maybe he was a better tradesman!

On 21st August, 1884, Catherine died aged 48 at her residence. Her funeral was held at St Joseph's Catholic Church. My grandfather was just 12 so his older sisters had to help care for him.

Charles died from asthma and bronchitis at his home on 24th July, 1897. His

funeral left his residence on 26th July and he was buried beside Catherine at Queensborough Cemetery, Sandy Bay.

The descendants of these two people, from Tasmania, where some still reside, have spread throughout Australia and they have pursued most occupations and professions.

My other great grandfather was George Henry MARGETTS. I do not have definite details regarding his ancestry. His death certificate states that his place of birth was Norfolk, England and his father was Stephen. However I have seen research and have done research myself that points to his parents being Henry and Harriet nee Baldwin Margetts who were married at St Stephen, Norwich, on 11th December, 1825. After George Henry married, he had a son, George Henry, who had a son Henry Baldwin. Could this be family history or just coincidence!

If my assumption is correct George Henry was baptised on 20th February, 1831, at St John the Baptist Church, Lakenham, Norfolk. In the 1841 Census, Henry, Harriet, their children, Harriet, Stephen, George, Ellen and Mary and John Baldwin lived at West End Place, Lakenham. In the 1851 Census Harriet, a widow, was living with Richard Baldwin, her father, John Baldwin, her brother, and her children, at Grove Place, Upper Surrey Road, Lakenham. George was listed as a sub librarian. This will be of interest later.

I do not know when George arrived in Australia. He married Catherine Kealy on 21st January, 1864, at Glenelg, near Warwick, Queensland, according to the rites of the Church of England. George, who was in his early 30s, was listed as a storekeeper and Catherine was a servant. She had come from Kilkenny, Ireland, with her parents Michael and Elizabeth nee Wall Kealy and her siblings. The family arrived on the "Warren Hastings" that sailed from Southampton and arrived in Moreton Bay. Brisbane on 28th April, 1863.

George and Catherine had five children in Queensland, five children registered at Inverell NSW, and my grandmother, Elizabeth, born on 6th August, 1880, in Casino NSW, so there were seven sons and four daughters. When Michael, one of the sons whose birth was registered at Inverell, was born on 17th May, 1875, his father was listed as a carrier at Middle Creek, Inverell. At that time there were tin mines in that area.

Sometime between late 1878 and 1880, George, Catherine and family came to Casino NSW. When Elizabeth was born her father was a labourer living at South Casino. George became the District Court Bailiff at Casino, being appointed on 1st January, 1882. As well he was appointed Inspector of Nuisances at the same time. He continued in these rolls for 23 years. On George's retirement in February, 1906, the Police Magistrate made a presentation to him of a marble clock, suitably inscribed, on a silver plate, on behalf of the magistrates and solicitors as George had carried out his duties faithfully and had earned the respect of everyone.

After suffering from Influenza and Bronchitis, George died from a heart attack on 11th September, 1906. The next day, following a service at 3 pm in St Mark's Church of England, he was buried in the Anglican section of the West Street, Casino cemetery.

Newspaper reports following his death, tell that George had also been custodian of the School of Arts in Casino for over 25 years. The secretary had closed the library and reading room on the day of the funeral and sent a wreath to the Church. Members of the committee of the School of Arts arranged for members to contribute to a fund to purchase something to honour George's memory.

On 25th February, 1907, an enlarged portrait of Mr G.H. Margetts was hung on the eastern wall of the reading room and a replica was presented to Mr G. H. Margetts Jnr for his mother. In responding, Mr Margetts thanked the committee and said that he thought the members could not have pleased the family more than presenting the portrait to them. There is still a library in the School of Arts today from where I borrow my books, fortnightly.

When his sons applied for probate in February, 1907, George Henry was listed as Librarian. Remember in the 1851 Census, George, aged eighteen was listed as "Sub Librarian".

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Catherine died on 25th May, 1912, and, although the service was a Catholic one, she was buried beside her husband in the Anglican section of the cemetery. She had been a highly respected citizen, known for her kindness in time of illness, for 32 years.

My grandparents Tasman Vout and Elizabeth Margetts married at Billinudgel NSW on 1st February, 1904, so I would become a descendent of two Norfolk families. I am the eldest child of Frederick Tasman Vout, the younger son of Tasman and Elizabeth. My nephew, Paul Tasman is fascinated that I knew the son of a convict as I was ten years old when my grandfather, whom I remember clearly and lovingly, died on his birthday in 1948.

Elizabeth, with whom I had a wonderful relationship, died on 3rd January, 1962 so Tasman and Elizabeth are buried in the Catholic section of the West Street Cemetery.

Descendants of the Margetts and Vout families still live in and around Casino.

I would appreciate any contact from family connections or corrections to my story.

**Patricia McDonald MN 17623   gfpa12@bigpond.com**

# A Gallipoli Diary

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**Lieutenant Charles Earsham Cooke MC was only 21 years of age when he died in the First World War. Charles left a legacy, however, in the shape of a series of diaries which we will be publishing extracts from in the next few issues of Norfolk Ancestor. The diaries give a unique insight into fighting in The Great War as Charles pulls no punches. The diaries have been given to us with permission to reproduce by Charles nephew Richard Cooke who begins by setting the scene for the diaries with a history of Charles**

---

MY uncle Charles Earsham COOKE was the elder son of Frederick and Emma (Brentnall) Cooke. He was born in Nottingham, and at the age of four the family moved to Pontefract where his father took over the running of W J Robson and Co Ltd, Maltsters.

Charles Earsham's grandfather farmed at High House, Litcham, and was noted for his breeding of Hackney horses, selling one called Cadet to America for £3000 in 1882. The name Earsham was adopted by the family in 1836. It came from their Turner relations of Caston/Old Buckenham/Great Ellingham, Norfolk.

Charles Earsham was a member of the 1st/9th Battalion Manchester Regiment which saw action in Gallipoli. He kept a diary from May 7th to September 2nd, 1915.

The fighting from August 7th to 9th at The Vineyard, Helles Section, was led by Lt W T Forshaw and Charles Earsham who was by this time a 2nd Lieutenant. It resulted in the former being awarded the VC and the latter the MC.

Charles Earsham was invalided home with "fever", recovered, and re-joined the Regiment in April 1916. The Regiment went to France in February 1917. On

May 6/7th Charles Earsham was wounded whilst establishing a rifle pit trench on the Quinnemont Farm Road, near Ronssoy, east of Peronne, Somme. He was taken to hospital in Rouen on May 7th and died from wounds to his legs on May 24th. His parents were able to visit him in the Red Cross hospital. His grave is in the St Sever Cemetery, Rouen.

After a number of days on board ship with little happening we take up Earsham's diary with the entry on May 8th:

**May 8th** - Soon we heard shell fire and gradually we got into a large fleet of transport and battleships as we drew near to the end of the Gallipoli Peninsular. I should say that never has the land been so bombarded from the sea. Queen Lizzif, Swift Suzie, all of battleships and batteries on land, letting fly at once. I went up above on the bridge and saw it all: The Turks were in trenches about 3



miles or so away (not less) and we were firing at them. We slept on board and got the order to disembark at 5 pm.

**May 9th** - We landed in the morning and we got shelled. It is a curious sensation at first to have shells bursting about you, but the only damage it did was to kill two men in the Lancashire Fusiliers, about 50 yards from us.

**May 10th** - We dug ourselves into a bivouack and left again at night for the second line of trenches on our right, behind French and Sengalese, their native troops are most unreliable. All the men who have been up to the firing line, all say the reserve is worst because of the number of spent bullets and high ones also snipers ..... It was a sensation to be under rifle fire for the first time. Also one sniper, of which the place abounds, got in a tree, we think, and infiltrated our trench; bullets whizzed all night, however no casualties in ours but one shot in the leg by shrapnel in C Coy.

**May 13th** - My unlucky day. Have been improving our dugouts. Nothing doing. Have felt rather rotten with diarrhoea. One sentry snipped during the night, shot through the head. Two wounded. Firing line only 100 yards away...Shells and bullets whizzing overhead all day. I am going on guard. Can see firing lines easily from here with glasses. Many have been killed and wounded already....You must understand that we did not arrive here until a fortnight after the first landing. From what we heard it must have been simply terrible, the landing, as the cliff is quite high and sheer and there is only one place to land. The Turks had a tremendous lot of barbed wire entanglements in the water and our men landed they dragged the wire up with our fellows on top and shot at them. The Dublin Fusiliers and Koss's were almost decimated. Up to two days ago there had been 19,000 casualties, about 10,000 a day. The Germans say the hill will never be taken. The aeroplanes say that the top is concreted or cement. The French at present are on our right. The rest are scattered about.

**May 16th** - A most terrific shelling of shrapnel by the Turks all day and half the night. Luckily most of it passed us and killed many men and horses on the beach...One of our men digging in his dug-out got shot with shrapnel bullet clean through the thigh.

**May 17th** - A bullet shot round you, but quite enough to kill you went clean through between Tommy Hyde and myself or just over us while we were breakfasting on an old ammunition box (we cannot have been more than a yd apart) and buried itself in a bank a few yards away.... The Turks attacked the French last night....Another man killed, shot through the heart. Bullets whizzing about today. I am out digging tonight.

**May 18th** - Arrived back from digging about 7.30 am after an awfully cold night without a great coat, in a trench about one yard wide, four of us squashed tight together to keep the cold out as well as we could.

More extracts from the diary in December's Norfolk Ancestor.



# The Norfolk Pimpernel cont.

(Continued From Inside Front Cover)

THE evidence for what happened next is sketchy at best, with much of it coming from Charlotte herself. Doubts have been raised about the voracity of her accounts. Information obtained from letters addressed to Charlotte in the office of a Paris lawyer has been used in the past to verify her story. However, it is well known that she had a habit of writing letters from eminent persons to herself.

The story goes that the Atkyns were readily accepted into French society and made friends with influential people in the French court. Allegedly Charlotte was introduced to Marie Antoinette and became enchanted by her.

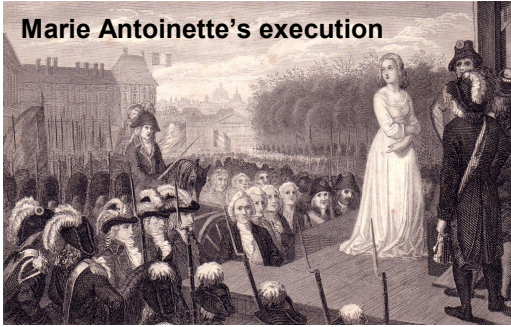
In 1789, the French Revolution broke out and Charlotte and her husband moved to Lille in Northern France. The Atkyns shared their time between Norfolk and France and Charlotte strengthened her contacts with French émigrés. It was even suggested that she was recruited as a spy and agent by her 'royalist French lover'! King Louis XVI was guillotined in January 1793 and fears for the safety of his queen and son, the Dauphin, increased. She was imprisoned in the Temple Tower and later separated from her son Louis XVII. She was put under constant surveillance and had little or no privacy.

Charlotte claimed to have made elaborate plans to rescue Marie Antoinette. One of these involved bribing the guards handsomely in order to speak to the queen. Whilst visiting her in prison she would exchange clothes with her so that she could take her place. The queen apparently would never abandon her children or allow anyone to sacrifice their life for hers. This story may not be true but Charlotte did spend much of her large fortune to bribe officials, pay messengers to travel between London and Paris and to charter a ship to wait near the coast in order to pick up possible fugitives.



Marie Antoinette was tried and found guilty of depletion of the national treasury, conspiracy against the state security and high treason and was condemned to death. She went to her death under humiliating circumstances. She was forced to change her clothes in front of her guards, her hair was shorn, her hands were tied behind her back and she was put on a rope leash. She was driven to the guillotine in an open cart suffering the insults and jeers of the crowd which took over an hour. She was executed at 12:15 pm on 16<sup>th</sup> October, 1793. Famously, her last words were to apologise to the executioner for stepping on his foot while climbing the scaffold. Her body was thrown into an unmarked grave and covered

## Marie Antoinette's execution



in quicklime. The fate of the Dauphin was much less clear. History tells us that the sickly would-be king died of tuberculosis at the age of 10 in 1795, his illness having been made worse by the poor conditions in which he had been held. However, Charlotte was convinced that her money had in some way helped the real Dauphin to escape after swapping places with another unfortunate

child. Several imposters attempted to claim his identity over the years.

Strangely the surgeon who carried out the autopsy on the boy's body decided to remove the heart. He placed the organ in a jar of alcohol to preserve it. After boasting about this to his students, one of them stole it. After the passage of time the alcohol slowly evaporated and the heart was mummified. When the student died of tuberculosis himself his widow returned it to the doctor. He tried to give it to the French Bourbon family but, due to arguments, it ended up with the Spanish Bourbons.

In 1814 following the exile of Napoleon, the Bourbon dynasty was restored and King Louis XVIII returned to the throne. He soon ordered the exhumation of his older brother, Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette. Their graves

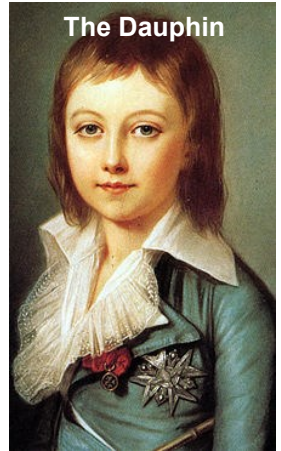
were eventually found and what little remained of their bodies was given a proper burial alongside the other French royals inside the Basilica Cathedral of Saint-Denis in a northern suburb of Paris. The queen's body had been identified from a garter that she had made for herself which had been placed inside her coffin. The king's body was harder to identify as there was nothing to prove that it was his.

## Saint-Denis Basilica



The mummified heart of the Dauphin arrived at the basilica in 1975 and was placed in a crystal urn in one of the chapels. In 2000, it was subjected to modern DNA testing and the results compared to those obtained from a lock of Marie Antoinette's hair. Scientists concluded that the child was a Habsburg and, since only one member of that family had been held at the Temple at the time, he must be Louis XVII. This persuaded the French government to approve the heart's transfer from urn to crypt. On Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June, 2004, it was placed near the grave of the boy's

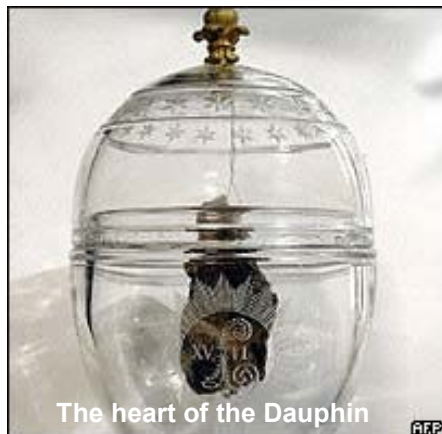
## The Dauphin



parents. Edward Akyns died young (36) in 1794 and Charlotte lived on alone at Ketteringham Hall. She may have gone to France again to attempt further rescues of the remaining family, but if there were any attempts they were unsuccessful. But, she continued to promote the émigré cause and mortgaged Ketteringham in 1799 to raise funds for this purpose.

All was quiet until another matter arose into which she threw herself with her typical vigour. In the Norwich election of 1806 she campaigned enthusiastically on behalf of the Tory party and its candidate Colonel John WODEHOUSE. The Whig candidates were Thomas COKE and William WINDHAM. With another lady, Mrs Bernie, Charlotte rode around Norwich in a carriage, dressed in the Tory colours of pink and purple, canvassing and calling out “Vote for the Colonel!”. Things turned nasty. The Whigs denounced the two women as Amazons, “brazen-faced widows”, and “saucy and over-bold witches.”

Since both ladies had once been actresses, a good deal of sexual innuendo and general mud was also thrown at them. The Whigs even went so far as to dress two local prostitutes in their own colours and have them ride around Norwich the next day, pouring scorn on the Tory ladies. After the restoration of the French monarchy in 1814, Charlotte petitioned unsuccessfully for reimbursement of more than £30,000 which she claimed to have expended in the Bourbon cause. In 1823 she gave Ketteringham Hall to her sister-in-law, Mary Atkyns, in return for an annuity, such were Charlotte’s reduced circumstances.



Then, about 1830, Charlotte moved permanently to Paris, where she died on 2nd February, 1836, with her loyal German maid by her side. Charlotte was buried somewhere in Paris in an unmarked grave, knowing that her fortune had all but gone having remortgaged Ketteringham and spent the modern-day equivalent of £15 million during her reign as a female Scarlet Pimpernel. The hall was bought by the Boileau family

and Charlotte’s dying wish to have her body returned to Ketteringham never came to fruition.

**Roger Morgan MN17267**



Compiled by Jean Stangroom

Membership Secretary

Email: [membership@nfhs.co.uk](mailto:membership@nfhs.co.uk)

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

I have decided to resign from my posts of Chair and Membership Secretary due to ill health. I will stay on as a volunteer but my role will be limited.

I have enjoyed my time being an officer of the society and I believe I have left it in good hands and I look forward to getting back to my own research.

I would like to thank everyone for their support over many years.

Regards Jean

EDITOR'S NOTE - We will have a full appreciation of Jean's roles within the Norfolk Family History Society in the December edition of Norfolk Ancestor.

## New Members

The Society welcomes the following new members

17720	Mr B. Harkison,	UK	17735	Mr D. C. Groom,	UK
17721	Mr H. C. Burt,	UK	17736	Mr R. Moulton,	USA
17722	Mrs D. Mackley,	UK	17737	Mrs S. England,	UK
17723	Dr D. M. Thomas,	AU	17738	Mr A. Riches,	UK
17724	Mr M. Paine,	UK	17739	Mrs P. Smith,	UK
17725	Mrs J. Sampson,	UK	17740	Mr D. Fenner,	UK
17726	Mrs S. Glasson,	AU	17741	Mr D. Williamson,	UK
17727	Mrs C. Butler,	UK	17742	Mr S. Chubbock,	UK
17728	Dr S. Richardson,	USA	17743	Miss J. Ions,	UK
17729	Mrs E. Ribbans,	UK	17744	Mr D. Wade,	CA
17730	Mrs E. Simak,	UK	17745	Mrs A. Hart,	UK
17731	Ms B. Anderson,	UK	17746	Mr M. Mann,	UK
17732	Mrs S. Cater,	UK	17747	Mrs H. Sansom,	UK
17733	Mr K. Coates,	UK	17748	Mrs M. Wells,	UK
17734	Miss J. London,	UK	17749	Mr V. W. Broad,	UK

## New Members (Continued)

17750	Mr L. Taylor,	UK	17790	Mrs B. Gibbins,	UK
17751	Mrs R. David,	UK	17791	Mr M. Gamble,	UK
17752	Mrs D. Lister,	UK	17792	Mrs A. Alborough,	UK
17753	Mr A. Pye,	UK	17793	Ms S. Carrick,	IE
17754	Mr E. J. M. Hepper,	UK	17795	Mrs H. Lewis,	UK
17755	Mr R. Schouten,	NI	17796	Mr G. Leighton-Hall,	UK
17756	Mr A. Larwood,	AU	17797	Mr R. Voegeli,	UK
17757	Mrs P. Wieffering,	SA	17799	Mr C. George,	CA
17758	Mrs P. I. Haswell,	UK	17800	Mr P. Coffey,	UK
17759	Mr B. Hopkinson,	UK	17801	Mr K. Sexton,	NZ
17760	Ms L. Griffiths,	UK	17802	Mrs L. Gates,	UK
17761	Ms I. Hall,	UK	17803	Mr A. J. Costello,	IE
17762	Mr M. Smith,	AU	17804	Mrs M. Flannery,	NZ
17763	Mrs C. Tulip,	UK	17805	Ms H. Burrows,	UK,
17764	Mr D. Van Bart,	NL	17806	Mr P. Cushing,	UK
17765	Mrs A. Taylor,	UK	17807	Mrs L. Hewitt,	UK
17766	Ms J. Peck,	AU	17808	Mr E. J. Hewitt-Symonds,	UK
17767	Mr N. Featherby,	UK	17809	Mrs R. Norris,	UK
17768	Mr A. F. Bridgeman,	UK	17810	Mr S. Cotten,	UK
17769	Ms J. Sheldrake,	UK	17811	Mr P. Pidock,	UK
17770	Mr T. D. Pigney,	UK	17812	Mr T. Drapes,	AU
17771	Mr R. Kehoe,	AU	17813	Miss M. Newell,	UK
17772	Mr K. Folkard,	UK	17814	Mr P. Cramp,	AU
17773	Mrs G. Welsh,	UK	17815	Dr P. Louch,	UK
17774	Mr S. Franc,	USA	17816	Mr G. Ackley,	USA
17775	Mr L. Sale,	UK	17817	Mr A. Rancie,	AU
17776	Ms F. Garrigan,	AU	17818	Mr D. James,	UK
17777	Mr R. Keith,	UK	17819	Mr R. Hill,	UK
17778	Mr C. Nagel,	NZ	17820	Ms W. Goodwin,	AU
17779	Mr C. Ellis,	CA	17821	Mr R. S. Shreeve,	UK
17780	Mrs E. Clifton Perry,	NZ	17822	Miss K. Bailey,	UK
17781	Mrs A. Welch,	UK	17823	Mr C. Billeter,	USA
17782	Ms C. Towers,	NZ	17824	Mr M. Olley,	UK
17783	Ms H. Lumsden,	AU	17825	Mr W. Cumming,	UK
17784	Dr D. Leak,	UK,	17826	Mrs M. Stoker,	UK
17785	Mr D. Bunkell,	UK	17827	Mr D. Buisson,	UK
17786	Mr J. Lowe,	AU	17828	Mr A. Turner,	UK
17787	Miss A. Dwight,	UK	17829	Mrs M. Budge,	UK
17788	Mrs A. Smith,	UK	17830	Mr A. Rowbottom,	UK
17789	Mr B. Burrows,	UK	17831	Mrs J. Henderson,	AU

## New Members (Continued)

17832	Mrs J. Greiner,	UK	17837	Mrs V. Stokes,	AU
17833	Mr R. Vickers,	UK	17838	Mr D. Judd,	UK
17834	Mrs J. Gilbert,	UK	17839	Mr N. Reddan,	AU
17835	Mrs G. Sherratt,	UK	17840	Mr G. Hewitt,	UK
17836	Mr J. Ritsema Van Eck,	NL	17841	Ms G. Browne,	UK
			17842	Miss K. Voisey,	UK

## Members' Interests

16458,	BARKER,NFK,	YM,17C-19C	16471,	HIGH,NFK,	ALL,ALL
16458,	FURNEBY,NFK,	NC,18C-19C	16991,	BURGESS,NFK,	NW,18C-19C
17724,	PAINE,NFK,	SE,ALL	16991,	FULCHER,NFK,	NW,18C-19C
17724,	PAIN,NFK,	SE,ALL	16991,	FULLER,NFK,	SW,18C-19C
14823,	SCARFE,SFK,	ALL,15C-17C	17623,	MARGETTS,NFK,	ALL,ALL
14823,	RUSH,SFK,	ALL,ALL	17623,	VOUT,NFK,	ALL,ALL
13145,	YOUNGMAN,NFK,	ALL,ALL	13879,	BARBER,NFK,	NE,ALL
1426,	REYNER,NFK,	ALL,16C-19C	3586,	COOKE,NFK,NC,	18C-19C
1426,	RAYNER,NFK,	ALL,16C-19C	10643,	LOYNES,SFK,	ALL,ALL
1426,	MINISTER,SFK,	ALL,16C-19C	10643,	LOINES,SFK,	ALL,ALL
1426,	ALDEN,NFK,	NC,15C-19C	10643,	LINES,SFK,	ALL,ALL
17747,	PETTITT,NFK,	ALL,ALL	14806,	SPOONER,NFK,	NE,ALL
17747,	PETTITT,NFK,	NC,ALL	16800,	PARSON,NFK,NW,	18C-19C
17747,	PETTIT,NFK,	SW,ALL	16800,	SKILLINGS,NFK,NW,	18C-19C
17294,	FULLER,SFK,	ALL,ALL	17126,	BRIGGS,NFK,	NC,16C-19C
17294,	FELGATE,SFK,	ALL,18C-20C	17126,	LAZELL,NFK,	NC,16C-19C
17294,	BARNARD,SFK,	ALL,17C-20C	17126,	LAZELL,NFK,	NC,16C-19C
17294,	BARNARD,NFK,	NW,19C-20C	17690,	BUGG,ESS,	ALL,19C
16014,	EASTGATE,LIN,	ALL,ALL	17690,	DYBALL,NFK,	ALL,18C-19C
17130,	FOWELL,NFK,	ALL,ALL	17690,	FARRER,NFK,	NC,19C
16421,	GEORGE,NFK,	ALL,17C-19C	17690,	GOULD,NFK,	ALL,19C
16421,	PAINE,NFK,	ALL,17C-19C	17690,	LONG,NFK,	ALL,19C
16421,	PAYNE,NFK,	ALL,17C-19C	4440,	FAKE,NFK,	ALL,ALL
17414,	BRAY,NFK,	ALL,ALL	16038,	JARRETT,NFK,	ALL,ALL
17760,	LOVETT,NFK,	ALL,15C-19C	16693,	BORRETT,NFK,	ALL,ALL
17782,	CHAMBERS,NFK,	NW,17C-18C	16693,	PYE,NFK,	ALL,ALL
17779,	ELLIS,NFK,	ALL,ALL	16693,	SOFTLEY,NFK,	ALL,ALL
16471,	BURROWS,NFK,	ALL,ALL	17619,	TENNANT,NFK,	NC,18C-19C
16471,	CASTON,NFK,	ALL,ALL	17661,	CABLE,NFK,	ALL,ALL
16471,	CAUSTON,NFK,	ALL,ALL	17661,	KETT,NFK,	ALL,ALL



## Members' Interests (Continued)

17661,	PASTON,NFK,	ALL,ALL	17773,	KERRY,NFK,	ALL,ALL
17661,	STARKINGS,NFK,	ALL,ALL	17773,	LIVOCK,NFK,	ALL,ALL
9076,	DAVISON,NFK,	ALL,ALL	17773,	PLATFOOT,NFK,	ALL,ALL
12154,	CURTIS,NFK,	ALL,ALL	17773,	PROUDFOOT,NFK,ALL,ALL	
12154,	EMERSON,NFK,	NE,ALL	17773,	REEVE,NFK,	ALL,ALL
12154,	HAVERSON,NFK,	NW,18C-20C	17773,	SHAW,NFK,	ALL,ALL
12154,	HOLLAND,NFK,	SE,ALL	17820,	SALTER,NFK,	SW,ALL
12154,	MACE,NFK,	NE,ALL	17820,	SIRE/SYER,NFK,	SW,ALL
12154,	TOOLEY,NFK,	YM,ALL	17197,	VOUT,NFK,	ALL,15C-19C
14972,	DADE,NFK,	ALL,ALL	17590,	PALMER,NFK,	NC,ALL
14972,	TRUDGILL,NFK,	ALL,ALL	17826,	KING,ESS,	ALL,18C-20C
753,	PARMITER,ALL,	ALL,ALL	17826,	BRAME,NFK,	ALL,18C-20C
753,	HARROD,NFK,	ALL,ALL	17826,	BREAM,NFK,	ALL,18C-20C
753,	TEASEL,NFK,	ALL,ALL	17826,	DYE,NFK,	ALL,18C-19C
753,	WOLSEY,NFK,	ALL,ALL	17826,	KETTLE,NFK,	ALL,18C-19C
753,	WOODWARD,NFK,ALL,ALL		17826,	PAYNE,NFK,	ALL,18C-19C
14869,	BREESE,NFK,	ALL,ALL	17820,	SIRE,NFK,	ALL,ALL
14869,	BREEZE,NFK,	ALL,16C-20C	16860,	DIGGINS,NFK,	ALL,ALL
16257,	WANT,NFK,	SW,18C-20C	17510,	ARMES,NFK,	ALL,ALL
16900,	GREGORY,NFK,	ALL,18C-20C	17510,	BURCH,NFK,	ALL,ALL
16989,	CHAMBERS,NFK,	YM,ALL	17743,	GRAVER,NFK,	NW,17C-19C
17758,	HASWELL,ALL,ALL,15C-20C		17743,	SNELLING,NFK,	NW,18C-19C
17758,	HOLLIDAY,ALL,	ALL,ALL	17826,	SEXTON,NFK,	NC,ALL
17758,	GREEN,CAM,	ALL,ALL	8745,	TESTING,NFK,	ALL,ALL
17758,	CAUNT,LIN,	ALL,ALL	17868,	COTTERELL,NFK,	ALL,ALL
17758,	GREENGRASS,NFK,ALL,ALL		17868,	FISHER,NFK,	ALL,ALL
17758,	LAWRENCE,NFK,	ALL,ALL	17868,	FROGLEY,NFK,	ALL,ALL
17758,	MINNS,NFK,	ALL,ALL	17868,	GAGE,NFK,	ALL,ALL
17758,	MINNS,NFK,	NC,ALL	17868,	GEDGE,NFK,	ALL,ALL
17758,	RISING,NFK,	ALL,ALL	17868,	NORKET,NFK,	ALL,ALL
17758,	ROBERTS,NFK,	ALL,ALL	17868,	RUSH,NFK,	ALL,ALL
17758,	SEE,NFK,	SW,ALL	17868,	THOMPSON,NFK,	ALL,ALL
17758,	THOMPSON,NFK,	SW,ALL	17868,	THURSTON,NFK,	ALL,ALL
17773,	BACKLOG,NFK,	ALL,ALL	17868,	TILLET,NFK,	ALL,ALL
17773,	BUNN,NFK,	ALL,ALL	11405,	WHITING,NFK,	ALL,ALL
17773,	GALL,NFK,	ALL,ALL	17869,	ROPER,NFK,	SE,17C-19C
17773,	HARDINGHAM,NFK,ALL,ALL		17869,	GAYMER,NFK,	SE,17C-19C
17773,	HART,NFK,	ALL,ALL	17687,	OVERTON,NFK,	NE,ALL
17773,	JESSUP,NFK,	ALL,ALL	17878,	WESTON,NFK,	ALL,ALL



# Rob's Round Up *with Robert Parker*

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

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Australia. 45K Will and Probate records on FamilySearch.

Canada. FamilySearch announces the online launch of the Historical Canada 1926 Census of the Prairie Provinces; two million names online.

China. Bristol University launched it's new China Families website; chinafamilies.net.

England and Wales. FindMyPast selected as The National Archives Commercial Partner for the 1921 Census Release online.

Express and Star Photo Archive available online: <https://photo-archive.expressandstar.co.uk/>

FamilySearch (February records update): <http://ow.ly/Wdei30oSJhF>.

France. Two million plus indexed records for Vienne, Civil Registration, 1792-1913 on FamilySearch.

Hampshire. Two million indexed parish registers, 1538-1980 on FamilySearch.

Hampshire. Three million transcribed parish records on FindMyPast. Register images for more than 50 parishes in Portsmouth and the surrounding area are available online.

India. FindMyPast adds over 2k additional British India Office Deaths and Burial records.

Iowa, USA. Four million indexed records; Persons subject to Military Duty, 1862-1910 on FamilySearch.

Jewish. JewishGen has added 16k new records, plus 29k new photos to JOWBR (its online burial registry; [jewishgen.org/databases/cemetery/](http://jewishgen.org/databases/cemetery/))

Mexico. Ancestry.com has made a huge update to their genealogical records collection for Mexico

Norway. Census record collections 1891, 1900 and 1910 on MyHeritage

Scotland. ScotlandsPeople have added 1940 valuation rolls; 60k of images; 2.8 million entries. Complete collection spans 1855-1940.

Spain. 168K records from Diocese of Cartagena, Catholic Church Records, 1503-1969 on FamilySearch.

Recommended twitter account to follow The Ancestry Detectives; @theancestrydete . Family Historians / Genealogists. Bringing you the latest news in the world of #Genealogy #FamilyHistory #FamilyTree - Tweets from chief sleuth, Fiona.

**Rob's Round Up is brought to you by Robert Parker**

**<https://myfamilygenealogy.co.uk>**

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

## Railway News Needed

WE have been contacted by Lucy Joyner from Channel Five about the second series of "Walking Britain's Lost Railways" which will feature former Norfolk lines. "I am writing to you with regards to the second series of the Channel Five programme Walking Britain's Lost Railways and the railway history of Norfolk and in particular the old railway line from King's Lynn to Great Yarmouth. The programme sees presenter Rob Bell (pictured below) walk along the route of railway lines that were closed around the time of the Beeching cuts in the 1960s.

"Along the route he discovers the history of the railway lines as well as the people and places that sit alongside them. We are currently planning a route from King's Lynn to Great Yarmouth and are keen to speak to people who may have knowledge of this line and the history of places along it.

"I appreciate you are a family history society but I just wondered whether any members also had an interest in the railway history and might be able to help out. I am initially looking for people to have a chat with over the phone about this," Lucy said. If anyone has information that they feel would be of interest, Lucy can be contacted on 0203 761 474 or via email at

[lucy.joyner@RumpusMedia.co.uk](mailto:lucy.joyner@RumpusMedia.co.uk).



# Focus on Volunteers

In the second of our new series to introduce some of the volunteers who give their time and energy to make the Norfolk Family History Society one of the top genealogical resources available, we meet trustee and treasurer **Carole Taylor**

I WAS born, in the early fifties in Norwich. I initially lived in Philadelphia Lane (or 'filthy-dirty' lane as it was known) with my parents and older sister but, after it was condemned in the late fifties, we moved to the Heartsease in Norwich where we enjoyed the luxury of an indoor bath and toilet for the first time.

My schooling started at Philadelphia Lane Infant School which, at the time, was the smallest school in Norwich. Those early days were spent playing in the street or in Waterloo Park. When we moved I attended Heartsease Infant School and, after passing the eleven-plus, went to the Blyth Grammar School which was an all-girl school. A beret was part of the school uniform which had to be worn off school premises when in school uniform ( the 'punishment for the crime' was to wear your beret all day in school). Teachers also used to make us kneel on the floor whilst they checked the length of our skirts - if the skirt touched the floor it was fine but if it did not reach the floor a letter was sent to your parents. We became adept at knowing when to roll the skirt up and when to let it down!



I had no desire to go to university and decided I wanted to be an accountant. It was easier said than done as, in those days, employers were unwilling to employ and commit to a five year training plan for females who, they believed, were likely to get married and leave to have children. There were no real CVs in those days so any application letters which were written I simply signed as C. Taylor. I was also told to buy an interview outfit which was more demure than the mini-skirts I favoured at the time.

I recall one interview where they took one look at me and told me I was unsuitable for the job and sent me on my way. Eventually Norwich Union (or Aviva as it is known today) took a chance on me, but made it clear that they would be watching my progress before they decided to take on any further females in this role.

Trainee accountants were given one day off a week to attend college and it was noticeable that in the first few years I was the only female on the course. Fortunately, I did not let them down and qualified in 1975 and became the first female accountant to qualify world-wide in Norwich Union.

The same year another lady qualified as the first female actuary at NU so, to mark the occasion, we were both invited to tea in the Lord Mayor's Parlour, as the then incumbent was also female, Joyce Morgan. I was only the third female at NU to take maternity leave.

In 1974 I married Roy and moved to Wymondham where he worked in his family's Saddlery shop. I used to do the accounting for the business in the evenings and help him out at weekends at various county fairs and shows.

I first became interested in family history after my parents died and joined NFHS in 2003. Like a lot of people I regret not asking my parents and grandparents about their history and families as it did not seem that important at the time. Perhaps if I had asked more questions some of the dead-ends in my family trees might have been resolved. Most of our grandparents (Hindry, Palgrave, Stangroom and Taylor) were born in Norfolk, but others were from further afield (Slade - Lewisham, Green - Nuneaton).

After early retirement at the end of 2005, at which time my husband also sold his business, I took a year out to relax but felt that I needed something to keep my mind focused. I became an Age UK Money Matters Volunteer helping elderly people keep their finances under control and ensuring they were receiving the correct benefits. At one time I had nine clients but, today, I am winding down and the current client will be my last.

Also in 2003, Jean Stangroom (my cousin's wife and NFHS Membership Secretary) told me the Society was looking for a new treasurer and would I be interested? I felt it was a role I was suited to and, being at Kirby Hall, would help me further with my family tree.

I have been involved in many projects during my time at Kirby Hall; introducing a membership database which not only caters for members but also Gift Aid; helping with the set-up and implementation of the first NORS; implementing links between the new website and the membership database to reduce the manual effort in processing renewals and helping to implement last year's new Data Protection rules. I would highly recommend becoming a volunteer at Kirby Hall as it is very satisfying and brings you into contact with many friendly like-minded people.

In our personal life, we have a daughter, son-in-law, grandson and granddaughter and look after the grandchildren one day a week. We play outdoor bowls in the summer and indoors in the winter. I also go to aquafit, Zumba toning and a Zumba Gold exercise class weekly. We have also been lucky and visited many countries since we retired and seen some wonderful sights.

# Snippet From The Transcripts

The following is taken from the parish marriage register of St Mary Coslany, Norwich.

By banns. 09.09.1789 James SMEDLEY otp. bachelor to Sarah BARTON otp widow.

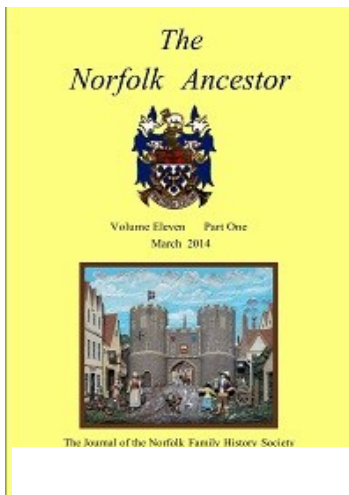
"The entry was made while the Minister waited for the couple the man being a soldier did not appear till after 12 o'clock - then postponed till morning and it was discovered that the woman had Another Husband"

**SUFFOLK Family History Society's annual fair will be held on Saturday 14th September from 10 am to 4 pm at the University of Suffolk, Waterfront Building, Neptune Quay, Ipswich, IP4 1QJ**

**Admission is free and there is parking nearby. More information is available on the website:**

**[www.suffolkfhs.org.uk](http://www.suffolkfhs.org.uk) for more information.**

## **ADVERTISEMENTS in *The Norfolk Ancestor***



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for their support**

# Membership Secretary Needed

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 – if you are interested in helping us please contact: [volunteers@nfhs.co.uk](mailto:volunteers@nfhs.co.uk). **We are currently looking for a 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. If you are interested in this post please contact [treasurer@nfhs.co.uk](mailto:treasurer@nfhs.co.uk).

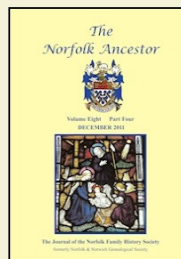
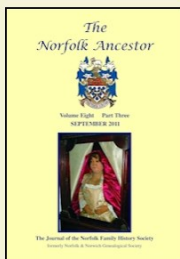
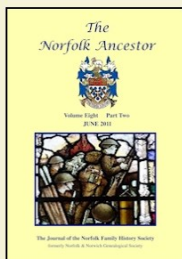
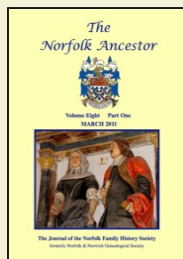
## Heritage Open Days

THE Norfolk Family History Society will once again be opening the doors of Kirby Hall during Heritage Open days in Norwich.

Our library will be open to the public on Saturday September 14th, Tuesday September 17th, Wednesday September 18th, Thursday September 19th and Sunday September 22nd from 10 am until 4 pm.

If you have the time come and say hello and see what's available. Our knowledgeable volunteers will be on hand to assist you.

## Scanned Ancestor Copies



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



## 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](mailto: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.

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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.**

## **Robert Grimer, 1772-? Gent of Mere House, Seething.**

TRACING my mother's family name of GRIMMER has been interesting, surprising and frustrating. As readers will know name spellings change and we soon found 'Grimmer' was 'GRIMER'. We also found a Grimer family tree in the Norfolk Record Society publication East Anglian Pedigrees – Grimer of Mundham. Careful, and of course, necessary evidencing linked the family into that pedigree. Robert's father was also a Robert (1740-1795) and described as "Gent of Mundham" the neighbouring village. His father was another Robert (1690–1759) this time described as "Gent of Seething". Both these latter two Roberts have memorial inscriptions in St Peter's Church, Mundham.

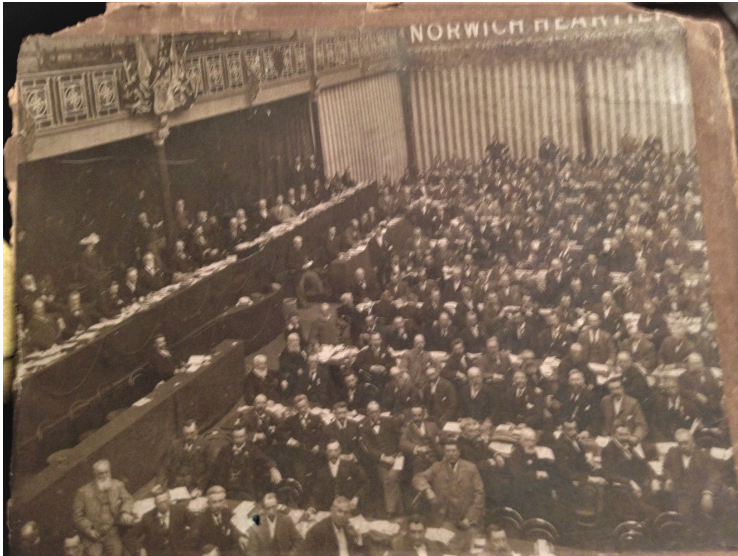
It is clear then that at this point the Grimers were eminent members of society. They were farmers and farmed land both locally and at Thorpe next Haddiscoe. Robert (1740-1795) left a ten page will that I am working my way through. The main beneficiary was his only son, Robert 1772-?, although his three daughters were well looked after I believe. This Robert lived at Mere House, Seething, and farmed the associated land. His marriage to Honor CRABBE produced four sons and a daughter. After Honor's death in 1816, Robert fathered a daughter, Eliza, with a younger local woman, Harriet YALLOP, whom he later married (1828) when Eliza was two/three years old. In the interim, Robert had come to some legal arrangements with Harriet's father William Yallop regarding financial support. The Seething 1841 census has, Robert 65, Harriett 40 and Eliza 15 listed as a family. Thereafter the trail of Robert and Harriet runs cold. Eliza was married in 1844 to a William FOREMAN in Yarmouth and the wedding certificate has them both shown as minors. Neither Robert nor Harriet's name appears on the certificate as witnesses to the wedding.

Records suggest Mere House and Farm were sold in 1843 although another source suggests 1846. Either way, and the reason for the frustration I referred to above is that we have no trace of the deaths of either Robert or Harriet in UK records. This suggests that we now need to plough through emigration records unless anyone reading these notes can think of other possibilities or can suggest the best approach to emigration records. We now have a lot of information about the family but this little 'loose end' regarding what happened to Robert and Harriet is a niggling omission.

**Pete Hewitt MN 17159** [pete.carole@btinternet.com](mailto:pete.carole@btinternet.com)

## Mystery Photograph

This photo was found in an attic in Poole, Dorset. Can you help to identify the occasion or venue? Any ideas, please let me know.



Ellen Carr MN9159 Librarian [librarian@nfhs.co.uk](mailto:librarian@nfhs.co.uk)

## Deopham Green Football Team



Dear Peter

Re: Norfolk Ancestor March 2019 "Wartime Deopham Green"

Jennifer Davey, one of the Diss members, has given me this photo of Deopham Green Football Team 1947, which she has found among a pile of family photos. All the names (bar one boy and one man) are written on the back. Stanley DYE

is the one with the cross on the front. I think either Roger Morgan, who wrote the piece, or his friend Trevor Dye would be interested to have this photo.

**Betty Morley**

**Footnote:** The photo was passed on to Trevor Dye who was delighted to receive it and will show it to his uncle Stan.

## **Lancaster Memorial Update**

Rachel Gallienne BICHARD (1848-1917) and her sister Elizabeth Wakeford BICHARD (1852-1919) were both born in Alderney, Channel Islands, where their parents were resident by 1848 having moved from Guernsey. John Gallienne BICHARD, their father, had an interest in the newly formed Seamen's Mission and took his family to Mauritius where he was ordained in 1859 by the Bishop of Mauritius, earlier Vicar of Alderney.

Reverend John Gallienne BICHARD and family had travelled back to Alderney by 1871 then moved to England. In 1888 he was appointed Rector of Surlingham, Norfolk. Two of the BICHARD daughters married and settled in Lancaster.

During 1891, the eldest daughter Harriet Machon SWAINSON nee BICHARD died and the two unmarried daughters, Rachel and Elizabeth BICHARD, moved to Lancaster to help their brother-in-law care for the Swainson children. Both sisters remained resident in Lancaster until their deaths.

Reverend John Gallienne BICHARD died on 18th June, 1894, at Surlingham, Norfolk.

**Jane Davey MN 2300** E-mail: [JMD@cwgsy.net](mailto:JMD@cwgsy.net)

## **Old Bible**

Dear Editor,

I have an old bible with the inscription in the front James WORFOLK born Brotherton, 1839. It is nothing to do with my own family research apart from the fact that my 7x Great Grandmother was in service at Brotherton Hall near Leeds.

I have tried to find James Worfolk's family in that area to no avail. I understand Worfolk has genealogical links also to Norfolk and wonder if you would inform your members about this Bible please as it really ought to go to a good home where there is connection to it. Would you be able to put details into your newsletter please?

Regards,

**Carol Dougherty email - [carol.dougherty@btinternet.com](mailto:carol.dougherty@btinternet.com)**

## Churchyard Correction

Dear Peter

You have probably already been informed that the portrait on page 10 of the last magazine (March 2019) is not of Thomas Churchyard but of Henry Howard, Earl of Surrey executed in 1547.

Regards  
**David Pitcher**

## Psychological Inheritance Revisited

Dear Peter (if I may)

I am a new member and yesterday sat down to read my first Norfolk Ancestor. It's a great read. Plenty of variety and coverage is thorough, including an excellent piece about being prepared for surprises of the DNA kind.

But what stopped me in my tracks was the piece on psychological inheritance. My tree has dotted in it two or three people who would be identified today as having 'mental health issues'. A friend of mine has mentioned to me that unless such issues are known about and openly acknowledged, the condition can pass on to others. Helen Drabble-Parker's article asserts this in a more scientific way.

I mention all of this because my own ancestry includes a 4x great grandfather who murdered a 4x great grandmother. The murderer was found not guilty on account of mental instability, and generally accounted a good man. The date of the murder was 6th June - yesterday's date as I write this - and the couple had been much in my thoughts, so bravo to Norfolk Ancestor for highlighting this very subject.

Thanks again.

Sincerely,

**Andrew Cumine. E-mail - [Andrew.cumine@gmail.com](mailto:Andrew.cumine@gmail.com)**

Editor's Note - Many thanks for this snippet Andrew. We like to include a good variety of articles in Norfolk Ancestor with the aim of being entertaining and informative. We are very grateful to everyone that submits articles. Please keep them coming and share your research with other members.



# **The Tripps of Norfolk**

Dear Editor

In the June edition of the Norfolk Ancestor, we noticed that Rosalind Tripp had donated the "TRIPP Family" resources from the archive of her late father, John. John Tripp was the first person we contacted through the Norfolk Family History Society, regarding my wife's connection to the Tripp family (her great-grandmother, Alice Maud). We exchanged many letters and John was a goldmine of information.

He was extremely generous, mailing us photos of gravestones and his amazing documentation of the Tripps of Norfolk. I recall that, after our first letter to him, he said "I am your mother's ninth cousin". We have all our correspondence starting in 2001 and, after looking at it again, I am astounded at his knowledge and his willingness to share it.

Even with all the tools we have available to us online today, I think that we have only ever found one tiny error in the many pages of closely typed trees. John provided us, and probably many others, with excellent, unbelievably accurate information and stories, and we are delighted to know that his archive has found a home at Kirby House. Our condolences to his family.

**Alan (and Helen) Billing, Canada – MN 7339 e-mail - [ha.billing@sympatico.ca](mailto:ha.billing@sympatico.ca)**

## **Herbert Thomas Chapman**

Hello

Re: Article on Herbert Thomas CHAPMAN - Eaton Cemetery.

I have just read the June Norfolk Ancestor and to my absolute delight read an article by Mary Mitchell, MI Coordinator. She had uncovered a grave belonging to my husband's grandfather and one of his wives in Eaton Cemetery. We live in Birmingham and my husband Terry Chapman lived, until 50 years ago along with his late family, in Norwich.

I have been researching his family history for years and made the journey to Eaton Cemetery as he could remember as a small boy going to his grandfather's funeral. The weekend I visited I searched high and low for the grave. I also looked in the churchyard graves.

It was absolutely great to see a picture and the actual words written for me to add to my research. I'm now a little old to be 'popping' across to Norwich so this was a very much appreciated find.

Can I ask please that my thanks are passed on to Mary Mitchell for her efforts and ask if there are any more photos I could have as emails. It would be much



appreciated as I am looking for the grave of his third wife Beatrice who died before Herbert Thomas Chapman

**Janette Chapman MN 12127**

## Taylor/Snelling

Dear Editor



I believe the subject of the first photo above may be my great-grandfather James Thomas TAYLOR (1864-1951).

The photo is undated and the location not identified, but anecdotal evidence suggests a date c. 1930 and a location in either King's Lynn or Hunstanton.



James lived in Lynn throughout his life, as did his daughter, Elizabeth Ann SNELLING (nee TAYLOR) (1899-1933), who was my great-aunt. I believe she may be the subject of the second photo, its reverse being in the form of a post-card, issued by Jasper J Wright of East Anglian Studio, 125 London Road, Lynn. My guess is that the picture dates to c. 1907 – 1910.

Any help from members in providing or aiding definitive identifications would be greatly appreciated.

**Ken Lane MN 16825.** email: [Ken\\_Lane@talk21.com](mailto:Ken_Lane@talk21.com)

# Group Reports

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

**Diss Group:** 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 Society of Genealogists' 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

## **REPORT ON OUR MEETING ON 9<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2019**

We held a Members' Day on 9<sup>th</sup> March, with a rich and varied range of topics presented. The transcripts below are based on notes provided to me by the speakers.

Topics covered included pensions to English Civil War veterans as a documen-

tary resource, a family's relocation from Norfolk to Kent and their subsequent travels, border rivers of Northumberland and their connections to families in Norfolk and Suffolk and a tragic case of a recurrent malady affecting many of the offspring of one particular family.

## **LES CROME**

### **Pensions and relief for Civil War soldiers and widows under the Restoration**

Les came across public records relating to petitions for pensions and relief provision to veterans of the English Civil War and their widows during his search for ancestors of John LOADER (died in Dorset in 1695), who was the father of Les' known ancestor, William LOADER, of Spetisbury in Dorset (1677-1715).

Les has been unable to find a marriage for John LOADER, but a record was found of the baptism of what seems to be his only son, William, in 1677. Les decided to work back with a hypothesis that John's father was also called William.

There were two William LOADERS born in the contiguous parishes of Hazelbury Bryan and Pimperne at the "right" time to make them the possible father of John, although in neither case was there a record of the marriage or burial of either man in the respective parishes.

There was John, son of William LOADER Junior, born in 1655 in Hazelbury Bryan, and John, son of William LOADER, baptised in Pimperne in 1642 – and unfortunately no other evidence to take this line of investigation further.

Les searched Ancestry for any records relating to men called William LOADER in 17<sup>th</sup> century Dorset and found an entry in the Dorset Quarter Sessions, held in Blandford Forum, in January 1665.

Among the list of pensioners described as "Indigent souldiers" [sic] within the Blandford Division of the County, who were presented for consideration, was a William LOADER of Hazelbury Bryan. It is also apparent that the document refers to soldiers who fought in the Royalist army, rather than the Parliamentary forces.

Les returned to the parish records for Hazelbury Bryan and found a William LOADER Senior (described as such in the parish register), who married in 1619 and died in 1665.

His son was William LOADER Junior, baptised in 1619 – and both men signed the Protestation Oath in 1641-1642 to support Parliament. The men seem to disappear from the record until September, 1649, when a series of baptisms and births for the children of William LOADER Junior and his wife appear, with the last baptism being in 1660. There is no record of William Junior's marriage or burial in Hazelbury Bryan, nor that of the marriage or burial of his son, John.

Les concluded that William Junior, possibly the father of his ancestor, John, was

absent from Hazelbury Bryan during much of the 1640s – the period of the First Civil War, and that he had served in the Royalist army, in spite of having sworn to support Parliament against the King.

To fill out this picture, Les looked into the background of the petition and additional relief to the soldiers who had served in the Royalist Army and their families. “Petitions” refers to the applications ex-soldiers or their widows had to submit in order to obtain a grant of a pension.

Fortunately, there is a searchable research project online called CivilWarPetitions, which records the petitions and data on payments made to individuals. Not all counties are online yet, but the site covers both soldiers of the Parliamentary Army in the 1640s and 1650s, before the Restoration, and soldiers of the Royalist Army from the 1660s. The parish of abode and date of petition or payment would be listed for each individual, whether ex-soldier or soldier’s widow.

Les found out the background to the Act - fully entitled “*An Act for the relief of the poor and maimed officers and soldiers who have faithfully served his Majesty and his Royal father in the late wars*” - through the National Archives. It was enacted in 1662 and, according to the text (via British History Online at the University of London’s Institute of Historical Research), it made provision for the payment of annual pensions, with an upper limit of £20, and how this was to be funded at a local level (hence these are local, rather than national archives).

The most complete surviving records of administration are for the city of Bristol, which was besieged in turn by both Parliamentary and Royalist Armies.

Les was unable to find any record of William LOADER’s petition in Dorset, but this may be because the original has not survived. There may be other records relating to him in the Dorset Quarter Sessions that have not been indexed for Ancestry.

Les provided us with copies of the original documents from the Quarter Sessions Order Book (General Sessions held at Blandford) and transcripts, to help us decipher the 17<sup>th</sup> century Secretary Hand.

## **FRAN ROGERS**

***The Chittock family: briefly in Kent (based on her article previously published in the North West Kent FHS Journal (Vol.14, no.3)***

Fran Rogers’ ancestors were wide-ranging within the UK. A few family members were born in Deptford (Kent) but most were long-based in London. Before that, they had come from Ireland, Sussex, Yorkshire, Suffolk and Norfolk.

Her talk, based on the article in the North West Kent FHS Journal, focussed on her CHITTOCK ancestors, who had links to Norfolk.

Susan CHITTOCK (formerly CAMELL, nee STEBBING) was buried at St. Paul’s Cray, Kent, in 1821. Her second husband, Benjamin CHITTOCK, had farmed in

Garboldisham (Norfolk) and latterly at Brampton in Suffolk. Benjamin was buried at Garboldisham in 1790, and his son, also Benjamin (born 1764), had taken over the farm. The CHITTOCK family relocated to Kent some time after that. Fran found that Benjamin Chittock (1764-1844) appears in the St. Paul's Cray Rate Books between 1817 and 1831 (these start in 1817), but she has, as yet, been unable to trace the actual property.

Susan's gravestone in St. Paulinus' Church at St. Paul's Cray reveals that she was aged 98 when she died on 30<sup>th</sup> November, 1821, and had been the youngest daughter of the Rev. Dr. STEBBING of Gray's Inn. Buried alongside is her son Benjamin Chittock and his wife, Sarah Richmond Chittock (nee WALES).

By 1841, Benjamin and Sarah had left Kent, and are in Essex on census day, living close to their son, George Henry Vandeput Chittock of Salisbury Hall, Walthamstow.

Susan had married her first husband, Robert CAMELL, in 1753. They had a son, also called Robert, in 1755. Robert senior died in 1761, but in his will, he left money for his son's education. Robert Camell junior became a surgeon and apothecary. He maintained contact with his Chittock relatives and left money to Benjamin's unmarried children (George, Charlotte, Edwin and Frederick) in his own will of 1833.

George, Charlotte and Edwin all married later that year, 1833, in Chigwell, Essex. Charlotte married Robert ROGERS, and Fran is descended from her. George married Elizabeth Mary Ann Wales and Edwin married Mary Ann HARDSTONE.

The Hardstones were a local family in St. Mary Cray. They are recorded in the area from the mid-1700s and were farmers and wheelwrights.

The 1841 census shows that Edwin Chittock was then the Governor of St. Mary Cray Workhouse, and that Mary Ann was the matron. She died in February, 1850, aged 42 and Edwin moved away to become the Master of the West Ham Union of Workhouses, which had been praised in a White's Directory of 1848 – *"they are better fed, and the aged have more indulgences, than those in many other Workhouses. The establishment is admirably conducted and the rooms spacious, clean and well-ventilated."*

Tragically, as reported in the Stratford and West Ham Newspaper, Edwin was struck by a Hansom Cab while crossing Long Acre in Central London on 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 1868. He died of his injuries a few days later in Charing Cross Hospital.

Benjamin Chittock's youngest son, Frederick Camell Chittock, married Rachel MASTERS in Shoreditch in 1837, and had four children. Rachel died in 1844, and Frederick married Sophia BARTON the following year. He had a cheese shop on the High Street in St. John's Wood, and he and Sophia had three more children before emigrating to New Zealand in 1857, where they settled near Dunedin and became farmers. Frederick and Sophia had three more children,

born in New Zealand.

Frederick's eldest son, also Frederick, did not join the family in New Zealand. Born in Bexley Heath in 1838, he joined the Army and served in the Crimea, including the battles of Alma and Inkerman. He served in the Royal Artillery as a Gunner and was promoted to Bombardier in 1861. He served in Gibraltar, Halifax (Canada) and Barbados, but injured his back falling into a ditch at a fort in Bermuda in September, 1870. This had long-term effects on his health. He was discharged from the RA as unfit for duty on 30<sup>th</sup> May, 1871, and died in Marylebone, in London, in 1877, aged only 38.

To bring all the children of Benjamin Chittock who were born in Garboldisham and Brampton together: -

Benjamin (1796-1870) – married a farmer's daughter and continued to farm at Blo Norton, only five miles from Garboldisham.

Sarah (1797-1891) – married a miller and merchant, and lived at Beccles in Suffolk.

Catherine Rhoda (1800-1873) – married a fish-curer and tallow chandler from Lowestoft.

George Henry Vandeput (1803-1881) – became a farmer. He lived at Salisbury Hall, Walthamstow, and later St. John's Wood, in London.

Emily Mary (born 1805) – married widower John HAMMOND in 1825, at St Mary-le-Bow, London.

Charlotte (born 1807) – married a linen-draper and commercial traveller and lived mainly in London.

Louisa (1808-1884) – married a house agent's clerk and lived in Marylebone, London.

Edwin (1810-1868) – married and lived in St. Mary Cray and later in Leyton, Essex.

Frederick Camell (1814-1898) – married and lived in Bexley Heath and St. John's Wood and emigrated to New Zealand.

Fran would be eager to have any help, ideas or information on why the Chittock family, established in Norfolk from the early 1700s, should mostly move away to settle in Kent and elsewhere.

## **SUSAN PORRETT**

Susan's talk focussed on her LEATHERDALE ancestors and the family's origins in Northumberland.

The trail started with Mary Ann Leatherdale, born in Chappel, Essex, in 1824. Her grandfather, Thomas Leatherdale, a farmer, had come to the parish in the



late 1770s and was the first of the family in Essex. Susan's research suggests he was baptised in Kelsale, Suffolk, in 1750, the son of another farming Thomas Leatherdale. The earliest direct ancestor of the Kelsale family would appear to be Robert Leatherdale (LYTHERDALE) of the now lost parish of Hasilwood, just outside Aldeburgh, whose children were baptised there in the 1580s.

The surname is not East Anglian in origin. A form of the name appears in the 13<sup>th</sup> century in a Northumbrian Assize Roll, with the mention, in 1275, of one Gilbert LYDERSDALE (or "of LITRESDAL") who probably came from Liddesdale on the borders between England and Scotland.

Northumberland was a notoriously wild and lawless area, infamous for the activities of the cattle-thieving reivers as well as plunder, arson and murder. In 1525, the Bishop of Durham, Thomas WOLSEY, had laid an interdict on all the Tyndedale churches because of the Godless behaviour of the inhabitants. A muster, taken in 1538, found 391 men in the Simonburn district who were "able with horse and harness". They were also openly described as "North Tyndedale Thieffs"! Among them were five Leatherdales and five Leydalls (the latter probably also a variant on the name).

So how did the Leatherdales work their way south into East Anglia? Susan has found evidence in two Prerogative Court of Canterbury Wills – that of James Leatherdale, of King's Lynn, Norfolk (a drover), dating from 1589, and that of his natural son, John Leatherdale, also a drover of King's Lynn, in 1602.

Droving, and the "cattle business" would have been familiar to the descendants of reivers, and this must have been what brought them south.

James, a widower, asked to be buried at Wiggenhall St. Mary Magdalen, near to the body of his wife. They had had two daughters – Mabel, who married William MUSKETT, and Jane, who married John HEBLEWHITE.

The Wills of both the Leatherdale men mention relatives in Bellingham, North Tyndedale, where, as John's Will states, their ancestors had enjoyed tenant rights of a farm called Wikeparke or Wideparke (Woodpark by the 20<sup>th</sup> century) which was owned by one Edward CHARLTON "commonly called the Lorde of Heselesyde" – a family of notorious reivers.

Other Northumbrians mentioned in the will include George THOMPSON of "Stobylee in Tyndall" who is bequeathed the "dun nagge that I left with Jarry MOORE if the nagge be alive".

John also reveals that another John Leatherdale, now deceased, lived in Coningsby, Lincolnshire, and that five ewes and five lambs have been left with one George BELL of East Kirby (also Lincolnshire). These parishes are on or near the main droving route from the North to East Anglia – so at least one other member of the Leatherdale clan had moved down from Northumberland in connection with droving. John Leatherdale left no children himself, so Susan has been unable to establish how he relates to her ancestor, Robert Leatherdale of

Hasilwood in Suffolk.

From the early 18<sup>th</sup> century, Leatherdales appear in Norfolk again. They seem to have been cousins of the Kelsale family. Some of the Essex Leatherdales emigrated to Ontario in the 1850s, including Mary Ann's parents, who are buried in Ontario and have left descendants across Canada.

**Footnote:** Other Norfolk individuals mentioned in the Will of John Leatherdale (1602) are:

John CREMER (SKRYME), yeoman of Snettisham – friend and executor of John Leatherdale, who, in order to pay all the bequests, was left a malt-house, orchard and 12 tenements in King's Lynn "at a place near Baxter's Bridge."

CREMER was also to allow one John JOHNSON "to have the house wherein he now dwells in Spinners (Spinners?) Lane for life at a rent of 20 shillings a year."

Thomas WELLS, of Wiggerhall St. Mary Magdalen, was John Leatherdale's "man". He was left money, "apparel" and "a stack of fodder on land belonging to Maister OXBOROUGH Esquire".

The children of John JAMES were left five shillings each. (John Leatherdale seems to have been childless, and is generous in bequests to children of his friends).

Thomas GODDARD of King's Lynn was a legatee and a witness.

John TAYLER, Edward TOWNLEY and the aforementioned John Johnson were also witnesses.

## **DOMINIC BRUCE**

Dominic entitled his talk "The sadness and the madness of the YALLOP family" and spoke of the tragic evidence he had discovered of the afflictions suffered by the children of George and Elizabeth Yallop in the latter years of the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

George and Elizabeth had 12 children.

Maria died at 16 and Horace of diphtheria at the age of 30.

Of the remaining children, only Harriet (who married a Charles FIELD and died in 1907), Jane (Dominic's ancestor, who died, aged 84, in 1932) and Frederic, (who joined the army, fought in the Boer War and also died in 1932), seemed to have lived relatively untroubled lives.

The remaining Yallop siblings were beset by recurrent manias and symptoms of mental instability – which provoked discussions among the group as to what could possibly be the trigger for such a condition within the specific family group,

mostly manifesting in later adulthood. Could it possibly be some inherited disease or genetic malady?

**George** suffered from “recurrent mania” and spent time in the Hellesdon asylum. He was finally discharged in 1909 but died the following year.

**William** married Emily Hase COCKER. He stabbed his younger brother Horace in the leg during an argument (“acquitted”) but later committed suicide in 1897.

**Caroline** married twice, and was twice admitted to Thorpe Asylum, suffering from “mania”.

**Jonathan / John** drowned himself in the River Yare in 1896, being observed by a train driver as calmly taking off his clothes and walking into the water. (He was living close to his brothers, William and Horace at the time of his death).

**Alice** was admitted to Hellesdon Lunatic Asylum, where she worked as a laundress, and died there in 1909.

**Edward**, Frederic’s twin, died aged 28 of TB, but had also spent some time in a mental asylum.

**Alfred** joined the army (First Battalion Norfolk Regiment) but fell ill with an “ague” in Allahabad in 1893. He was committed to a mental health facility and remained in various institutions until his death in 1919, aged 48, in the Buckinghamshire county asylum.

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## Diss History Group Meetings

Coming meetings of the Diss History Group are:

September 10th - TBA

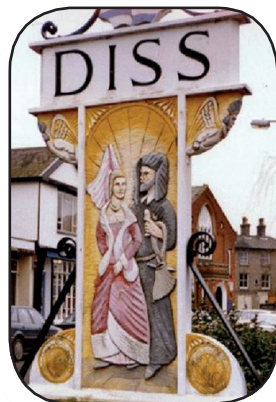
September 17th - Rich Man, Poor Man, Oddballs and Rascals with Sheila Wright.

October 8th - A Jolly Good Chap-Pte Frank Smith of the East Kents with Steve Smith.

November 12th - Norfolk signs with Andrew Tullett

December 10th Members’ Meeting

At the Diss History Group meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> May, Betty opened the proceedings with an update on the recent changes to the status of the group before introducing Nick Barratt to talk to us about the future of family history. Nick is a well-known author, broadcaster and historian and was also the



# Reports From Diss History Group

genealogist consultant on the early series of the BBC programme 'Who Do You Think You Are' so we had a large appreciative audience.

In a way, interest in family history started during the Tudor period when there was a requirement for land ownership to be assessed and valued for legal reasons. Heralds were dispatched to travel around the country to check the status of landowners, which involved looking into their ancestors. It gave those who could chart the history of their family over centuries a reason to think themselves superior to those who had been able to purchase their estates because of an upturn in the family's fortunes.

This was definitely a kick in the teeth for the nouveau riche. However, ancestor tracing didn't really become of much interest to the general public until Victorian times and then only to those of a certain level of society.

The 1970s saw the formation of family history societies but it wasn't really a mainstream interest until the first series of 'Who Do You Think You Are' hit our screens in 2004. It made people realise that even the humblest of families had a story to tell and that those stories could be accessed on the internet. Nick pointed out that most of the information available on the numerous Family History sites is provided by us and not always accurate.

Ancestry and all those other companies out there actually own our data and that data pool is diminishing. The 1931 and 1941 census records were destroyed so after the 1921 census becomes available what options will there be? Nick said that in 20 years there will be more dead people on social media than living and raised the question of how safe is the data which is stored in the cloud. It is a very important question and one that cannot be answered so it is incumbent upon ourselves to create our own personal family archive by keeping diaries, telling stories and writing them down as well as preserving photographs with the names of the subjects. I'm sure most of us have old photos of people we cannot identify.

Family history is not just a navel-gazing exercise about creating a list of names and dates. Our research puts the flesh on the bones of our ancestors and gives us a window into their world, whatever class they were from, and a glimpse of their celebrations and sorrows, triumphs and tragedies. What a valuable legacy.

It is proven that the knowledge of one's family history can be a grounding process. Nick cited the case of a disaffected lad named Declan. Declan's father was Irish but never disclosed anything about his childhood. One day Declan managed to extract some information out of him after his father confessed he didn't like talking about it.

# Reports From The Diss History Group

He had witnessed a shooting during the troubles and he didn't want to resurrect his memories of that violent time. Declan, however, was insistent that he wanted to know more and finally managed to persuade his father to return to Ireland and revisit his youth. The result was that the young Declan became totally fascinated and immersed in the subject. He then went on to produce a film which was screened at the British Film Institute, won an award and has never looked back. Declan went on to university and became a film maker.

Apparently prisoners who have had the opportunity to learn about family research have a much lower rate of reoffending. This is explained by the fact that firstly the process is a useful aid to improving literacy. Secondly, if one finds an ancestor worthy of respect, a person to look up to, it has a positive psychological effect in that it engenders a desire to emulate them and thus becomes a force to turn their life around.

Some years ago, the churchyard in Ryde was repeatedly vandalised by local youths so a project was set up to record and digitise the inscriptions and as a result local people became interested and a Social Heritage Group was formed.

A grant enabled them to embark on restoring the chapel and setting up a Graveyard Classroom to involve the younger generation. They held events and exhibitions while children were encouraged to talk to older people to learn their stories. The vandalism stopped.

In the last few years there has been another source available to family historians - DNA. This science is improving all the time and can be very useful for locating those who share our DNA if we are on a family history site that does this. Of course, there is a downside as some have discovered illegitimacy within their family, perhaps more closely than they would have liked.

I am personally interested in the stories of people who were foundlings who, with the aid of a DNA detective, have been able to discover where they came from and in many cases their family. This new science has given them closure and how wonderful is that?

At the close of the talk Nick said that he doesn't think that Family History will ever be taught in schools or colleges but he thinks it will become recognised for the value it can give to people and communities. An undisputable benefit to society. It was a brilliant talk followed by tea and biscuits while Nick answered many of our questions.

**Jenny Jenkins**

# Ancestor Bookshelf

## Ruins and Follies of East Anglia

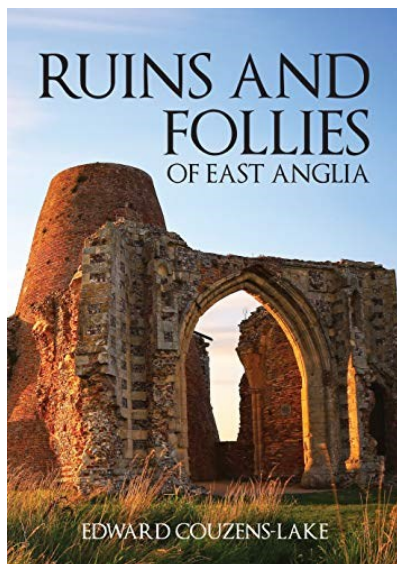
By Edward Couzens-Lake. Amberley Publishing. ISBN 978 1 4456 7298 4.

A fascinating book that will help researchers into Norfolk history to understand some of the idiosyncrasies of our county.

This well illustrated book produces some surprises - mixing the obvious follies at Norwich, King's Lynn and Hunstanton with some that might be a surprise - such as a shipwreck at Harwich and abandoned holiday camp buildings at Hemsby.

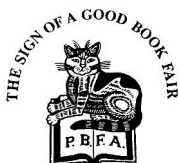
It's an affectionate and atmospheric view of the eccentric featuring 45 diverse sites.

**Peter Steward MN 14801**



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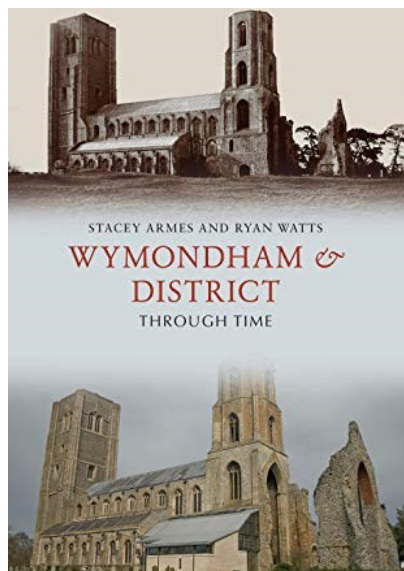
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# Ancestor Bookshelf



## Wymondham and District Through Time

By Stacey Armes and Ryan Watts. Amberley Publishing. ISBN 978 1 4456 6506 1

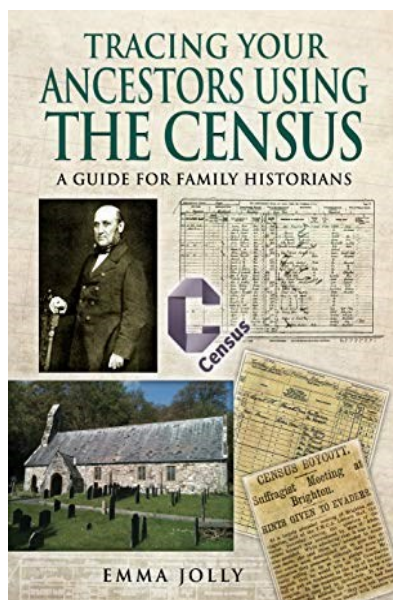
This is a must have book for people with connections to Wymondham and the surrounding villages. The authors have strong local connections, having lived and worked in the region for many years. The book is packed with lots of 'then and now' type photographs printed side by side. These are interspersed by short pieces of informative text which give the historical backgrounds to the pictures. It illustrates the changes to Wymondham over the last century by comparing the old with the new. It is certainly an entertaining read full of images and anecdotes for the reader to enjoy.

**Roger Morgan MN17267**

## Tracing your Ancestors Using the Census

By Emma Jolly. Pen-and Sword. ISBN 178159 061 3

This book gives a comprehensive account of every UK census since 1841 and the historical context of each one. It points out the problems you may experience in identifying the right family or individual and suggests other online and local resources which are available to help with your research. It is full of advice on how to get the most from census records. The author is clearly an expert in her field and the book is written in a very readable way. It should prove to be a useful tool for people researching their family tree from census information.



**Roger Morgan**

# Ancestor Bookshelf

## A History of Norfolk

by Chris Barringer. Carnegie Publishing Ltd.  
ISBN 978 1 85936 233 4

CERTAIN books ooze charm and class in equal measures and this is certainly one of them.

The Late Chris Barringer has produced a lavish history of Norfolk from the county's earliest days up to the 21st century and what a story it is.

This book is populated with stories about people and places and a wonderful array of photographs.

Chris was not born in the county, but came to love it and its idiosyncrasies as an adopted son. Chris was at heart an academic, but one who could communicate his love of history and, in particular, the Norfolk countryside and that comes out in abundance in the text of his "History of Norfolk."

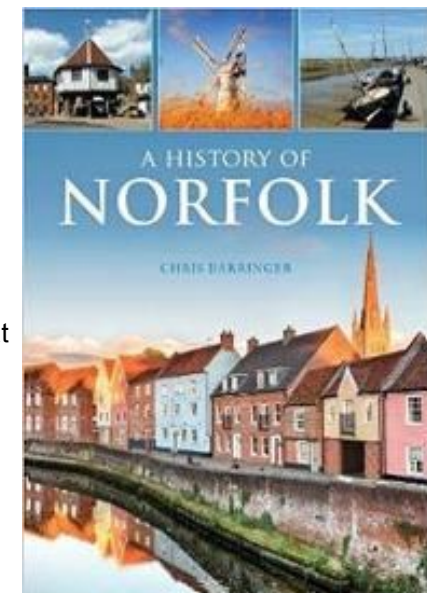
The book runs to over 450 pages and is probably best summed up in the author's own words in his conclusion:

"This book has given an overview of the story of Norfolk and its people, a journey which started almost a million years ago on the foreshore at Happisburgh. It finishes in the early 21st century with many changes looming on the horizon."

In Chris' hands this story moves effortlessly from archaeology to road systems, people to places and the building of great houses, sweeping parks and large estates. Chris Barringer documents it all in a beautifully easy style.

It has been heralded as his last and greatest work and for once that is a statement that just cannot be challenged. It is as comprehensive as it is readable and is an indispensable volume for anyone with roots in our county who wants to find out more about its history and customs,.

A History of Norfolk by Chris Barringer is priced at £25 and is available from good booksellers or direct from the publishers on 01524 840111 or by visiting [www.carnegiepublishing.com](http://www.carnegiepublishing.com).



**Peter Steward**

# Ancestor Bookshelf

## **Pictures of the Past - A History of the Small Mid-Norfolk Villages of Brandon Parva, Coston and Runhall. By Mary and Terry Miller**

Many family history-related books are borne out of a labour of love and that is certainly the case with this slim volume which has been put together by husband and wife team Mary and Terry Miller.

Many people will be unaware of the three villages. So to give some geographical context - they are situated midway between Dereham and Wymondham.

Throughout their history the trio have been closely connected and that gives this history a rounded feel.

Two of the villages - Brandon Parva and Runhall - were mentioned in the Domesday Book and Coston is of medieval origin. So there's plenty of history here.

The book is divided into a number of sections including the churches, clergymen, farms and their farmers, the mills, the schools and amenities.

Having dealt with the historic basis, Mary and Terry turn their attention to more oddities such as witches, crime and village celebrations. They also bring their story up to date with 20th century events and a roll of honour from the First World War.

The volume also includes illustrative maps, photographs and posters and acts as an excellent introduction to anyone researching ancestors from the three villages.

**Peter Steward**

**Please note that we do not sell copies of books reviewed from Kirby Hall. They are available from booksellers or online.**

### **DIANA SPELMAN BA** **Norfolk Research Specialist** **(since 1982)**

**Medieval to Modern**  
**Family & Local History**  
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# GUIDELINES FOR SUBMITTING ARTICLES

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

Articles should preferably be typed. **Please keep articles to 3 pages maximum - 1200 words approx.** Electronic versions are most helpful.

All material from **regular contributors** for inclusion in the **December 2019** issue should be sent to the Editor at Kirby Hall or e-mailed to him **NO LATER** than **12th October**. Our thanks in advance to all those who submit material for publication.

## Notes and Queries

We welcome Notes and Queries, offers of help and items of information and general interest. Entries as brief as possible please, preferably less than 150 words. **Membership number and email address should be included.**

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

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

or by email to:

**ancestor@nfhs.co.uk**

## Photographs

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



# Norfolk Family History Society

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With your help we can make the magazine more vibrant. We would welcome any comments (good or bad). They can be sent to the editor via e-mail at the contact address on page 66 of this edition or can be sent to him at Kirby Hall.

We look forward to hearing from you.

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

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

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Or write to: Norfolk Family Search  
14 Silver Street, Norwich, Norfolk, NR3 4TT, United Kingdom

# NFHS contacts and how to contact them

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



# St Giles Church Norwich

THERE has been a church on the site since before the Normans came to Norwich but that building does not exist today. St Giles Church as it now stands, originated in 1386 when money was donated for it to be built. The tower was finished by 1424. The church stands on the highest point within the old city walls and the tower is the tallest of any church in the city or county. It is estimated that the floor of the nave is at the same height above sea level as the famous roof bosses of the Anglican cathedral in Tombland. In 1549, the tower was selected as a suitable site for a cresset or fire beacon (the old wrought-iron basket is still carefully preserved in the church). In more recent times its favourable position rendered it convenient for semaphore signalling practice by soldiers from Britannia Barracks.



Fire beacon

The church was restored between 1866-1867 by Diocesan Architect Richard PHIPSON. The interior is almost entirely Phipson's work, a Victorian church within a medieval shell. There are two brass lecterns in the church, which take the form of eagles. One of these is a rare 15th century example, the other from the 19th century. St Giles Church also has a number of fine memorials to departed parishioners. (St Giles Street was formerly the street where the doctors of Norwich lived). Among these is Thomas CHURCHMAN (1702-1781), who left £1300 to charity when he died.



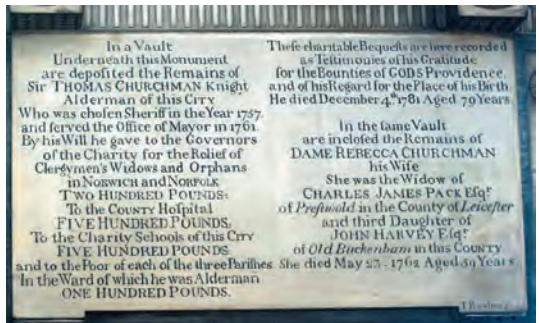
Eagle lectern

Churchman was mayor in 1761. He lived at Churchman House, site of the former registry office opposite Kirby Hall. St Giles' is particularly noted for its peal of eight bells, which were all cast in Norwich between 1410 and 1738. They were photographed in April 1932, when they were lying in the churchyard before being rehung. They had been taken down for retuning when the bell frame was rebuilt; the original Eagle lectern beams having been ravaged by the death watch beetle. The peal is rung every

Sunday morning before the 10.30 am service.



The bells in 1932



Churchman memorial



# Then and Now



The picture opposite is of a Norwich church which will be very familiar to visitors to Kirby Hall as it shows Saint Giles which stands opposite the Norfolk Family History Society's Library. It was taken in 1931 by renowned Norwich photographer George Plunkett. Notice the tram lines and overhead wires which used to run down St Giles Street past the Guildhall to Norwich Market Place.

The second picture was taken in the spring of 2019 and shows the striking annual display of Wisteria which lines the churchyard.

The tram lines and wires have long gone.

To read more about the church and its history turn to the inside back cover.

